



Brian Kohlscheen of Holdrege shows the agony of defeat in last year's state basketball tournament. Kohlscheen missed a shot in the final seconds of the Class B finals as Aurora beat Holdrege 53-52. Photo by Ted Kirk

## No champion cagers return to state basketball tournament

Sixteen games at four Lincoln locations will tip off the 1977 edition of the Nebraska State High School Boys Basketball Tournament today.

However, there will be no returning champions in the 67th annual tournament, which runs through Saturday.

Omaha Creighton Prep, Aurora, Geneva and Nelson, last year's state champions in Class A through D, respectively, were eliminated in district play.

First round games in Class A match Hastings, 17-3, against Papillion, 16-4, and Omaha North, 19-4, against Omaha Burke, 14-8, in games in the UNL Sports Complex this afternoon.

Class A games tonight at the UNL Sports Complex feature Grand Island, 20-1, against Lincoln High, 11-10, and Omaha Central, 15-6, against Omaha Benson, 16-5.

Class B games at Pershing Auditorium today will pair Gretna, 15-5, and Seward, 19-2 and Ord 17-5 and Fairbury, 19-3.

The other class B games tonight at Pershing have Omaha Ryan, 17-3, playing Kimball, 18-4, and West Point Central Catholic, 13-10, playing Lexington, 20-1.

Class C games, scheduled for Lincoln High's Johnson Gym this afternoon, match Tekamah-Herman, 19-4, against Norfolk Catholic, 18-5, and Grant, 18-5, against Pleasanton, 17-3.

Evening games in Class C include Utica Centennial, 15-5 and Howells, 22-2, and Omaha Holy Name, 19-4, and Fairfield Sandy Creek, 16-4.

First round games in Class D today will be played at Lincoln East High school and pair Hildreth, 21-1, and Homer, 16-4, and Adams, 24-2, with Polk, 18-4, in the afternoon.

The evening games in the Class D match Cambridge, 19-3, and Maxwell, 20-3, and Dalton, the only undefeated team in the tournament at 19-0, against Clearwater, 15-6.

Games today are scheduled for 12 p.m., 2 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m.

## Infamous stadium grass going to highest bidders

"Wanna' buy some grass?"

Yes, the UNL Athletic Dept. is taking bids on the infamous Memorial Stadium Astro Turf, according to Bob Devaney UNL athletic director.

"We had some people interested in buying some of it (the Astro Turf) already," Devaney said. "We would like to sell it in large quantities."

Devaney said the Astro Turf will be replaced by a similar and improved brand of Astro Turf.

He said the new Astro Turf will be laid in the first week of May.

Besides receiving new Astro Turf, the stadium also may be expanded but not in the immediate future, Devaney said.

The NU Board of Regents approved an Omaha architectural firm last month to develop a plan for an 8,000-seat expansion to Memorial Stadium.

The regents approved the hiring of Henningson, Durham and Richardson, but have not yet decided on how to pay for the proposed expansion. Devaney said the regents will discuss the proposal again March 19.

"Even if we had the money now," Devaney said, "there wouldn't be an expansion between now and next season."

Omaha Regent Kermit Hansen proposed the board charge \$440 for the guarantee of being able to purchase season tickets for the new seats for the next 10 years. The money would be used to finance the expansion and would be paid in four increments from March 1977 to March 1979.

Hansen said a 90 cent to \$1.10 surcharge on every ticket holder for every game for the next 10 to 15 years could be an alternative plan.

## sports

### Regional women gymnasts to compete in championship

By Rob Barney

The two-day women's region 6 gymnastics championship gets underway at noon today at the UNL Coliseum.

There will be three sessions today. From noon until 2 p.m. individual all-arounders and specialists will compete.

Starting at 2:00, session two begins. UNL is included in this four team bracket. The other three teams in the bracket are South Dakota State University, Minot State College, and the University of Iowa.

Session three begins at 4:00. The top four teams in the region according to score, compete in this bracket. They are Southwest Missouri State University (SMSU), Grand View College, the University of Minnesota, and Iowa State University (ISU).

According to UNL women's gymnastics coach Judy Schalk the brackets were determined by the team's average score in its top four dual meets of the season.

SMSU compiled the highest average, 142.425. ISU had the lowest average of the top four teams, 128.0125. UNL's average is 127.305.

#### Comparable scores

"It would have been nice to get Minnesota, Iowa State, Iowa and Nebraska in the same rotation," Schalk said. "Our scores are comparable. There is probably nobody in the field that can outclass Southwest Missouri State and Grand View."

The top team finisher, if it scores 134 points, qualifies for the national meet April 1 through 2 at Brown University, Schalk said. She also said if any other team scores 134 points or better it would be considered for an at large berth at the national meet.

Friday's competition starts at 7:00 p.m. Individuals placing in the top 10 of certain events today will compete.

For an individual to qualify for the national meet, she has to be the top all-arounder at the regional meet (excluding members from the championship team), and score 34 points, Schalk said.

"Tammy Driscoll and Crissy Robert-

son will be our top challengers for the top all-around spot," Schalk said. "Our goal is to finish fourth in the meet ahead of Iowa State and possibly third ahead of Minnesota."

#### Good chance

Despite being in the second bracket Schalk said UNL has a good chance of finishing ahead of those two schools.

"We may possibly have an advantage being in the second rotation," Schalk said. "The scores are lower as a whole in the second rotation but the top teams in the second bracket have a chance to score higher than the bottom teams in the top rotation."

UNL closed out its dual season last Friday with a victory over South Dakota State.

Robertson and Driscoll finished first and second in the all-around. The week before, the Huskers scored over 130 points, their highest score of the season, at the state meet.

"We achieved the goal I anticipated at the start of the season, scoring 130 points," Schalk said. "And the entire team qualified for the USGF (United States Gymnastics Federation) state meet March 26-27."

#### Qualifiers compete

She said three of the qualifiers will compete at the meet: Driscoll, Robertson and Peggy Liddick.

The end of the season also marks the beginning of the recruiting season. Letters of intent for women's sports were sent Monday.

Schalk said she is confident in getting Beth Brown's signature. Brown, from Omaha Northwest, was the all-around champion at the state meet.

Schalk said she is planning on going to Milwaukee next week for the Wisconsin state meet. She is hoping to sign Nancy Waalkes to a letter-of-intent. Waalkes was a teammate of Robertson's at Brookfield High School.

"She's not committed, but she wants to come here. Her parents don't want her to come this far for school," Schalk said.