# Gymnastics captain chosen on leadership and attitude

UNL gymnastics coach Francis Allen said he could use more people like Kirk Fridrich on his team.

Fridrich, a junior from Lincoln, was unanimously chosen captain of the Husker's squad this year by Allen, assistant coach Jim Howard and student assistant Seymour Rifkind before the first meet of the season.

Fridrich said he thinks he was chosen because Allen "trusts me. If there is something to do, like driving (to meets), he tells me to do it.

Allen said, "We chose him because of his leadership abilities, work habits and attitude."

For the first two years at UNL, Fridtich competed as a high bar specialist although he was recruited as an all-arounder.

Fridrich filled in for sophomore Rich Brindisi as the fourth all-arounder on the team this year. Brindisi jammed his neck earlier this season.

"He is our backup man," Allen said. "It was close between Brindisi and him anyway. It was a question of who to use in the first place and who would be a special-

Fridrich's highest scores are a 48,50 in the all-around and a 9.35 in the high bar. He tied for third in the high bar with a 9.25 in last Saturday's loss to Oklahoma

"I practice the all-around so I enjoy it," Fridrich said. "It is fun. When you only compete in one event, it is a pressure situation. A lot of events keep me loose better and I look forward to each event.

Allen said Fridrich was a "darned good

high bar man" and was becoming one of the best in the country before becoming an all-arounder.

The event is the best one for UNL. With Mark Williams and Steve Parks, UNL has one of the best high bar squads in the country, Fridrich said.

Fridrich said he became interested in gymnastics through an eighth-grade gym

"It was a hard class, but I caught on to it," he said. "A couple of guys in high school helped me out and told me where to go for help."

In junior high school, Fridrich said he tumbled and competed in the high bar but there was a push to compete in the allaround at Lincoln Southeast.

"I haven't stopped practicing all-around since," he said. "When I was a junior, I was small and light, but over the summer, I grew to about the maximum size a gymnast can be without running into trouble."

Fridrich who stands 6-feet 1-inch said he was too involved in gymnastics to quit just because he grew a bit.

Fridrich said he hopes to qualify for nacionals and be a part of a national championship team next year. The zoology major also hopes to be accepted to dental school next year.

"I didn't apply this year, partly because of gymnastics," he said. But he added that school is most important to him.

With gymnastics and school, Fridrich does not have time for much else, he said.

"I don't have time enough for hobbies," he said. "I do gymnastics, study and sleep. When I get up, it is gymnastics again. And on the weekends, there are meets."



Photo by Ted Kirk

puzzle.

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specializes in the high bar and also performs in the all-around competition this уеаг.

## sports shorts

Linda Janssen led the UNL women's basketball squad to its second consecutive victory Tuesday night when UNL defeated Iowa State University, 65-57.

Janssen, who hit 10 of 15 field goals, scored 21 points while Laura Tietjen pumped in 15 points.

UNL, which now owns an 11-17 record, will travel to Omaha Saturday to play the University of Nebraska at Omaha to determine the state's representative to the regional tournament.

The UNL Recreation Department asks that all students and faculty members bring their UNL identification card when using the handball courts.

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Edited by Eugene T. Maleska CIOSSWOID

shopping center

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- 34 At loose -
- 36 Aerial mosaic

- 32 Russian sea

- personified 51 "Utopia" visionary 52 Glacier in

50 Rumor

Alaska "Ma, He's Making Eyes