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UNL rodeo club and team are bucking for success

By Kevin Field

With six top rookies from around the state, the UNL rodeo club and team are confident they will improve their record this year. Last season, the team won one trophy.

The six incoming freshmen were awarded scholarships from the club after the club received funds from a private donor last year, according to the club's advisor, Jim Stubbendieck. This is the first year the club has awarded scholarships and that has put UNL on an equal level with other schools in the recruitment area.

The six rookies will compete with five returning members for the spots on the six man-three woman traveling squad. Those team members will compete for point totals against other schools for trophies. Generally, 10 to 12 schools compete in one rodeo.

"We have lost many talented kids to smaller schools where rodeo is a major sport," Stubbendieck said.

Bob Iske, the club's vice president and the captain of the team, is optimistic about the future. In the past the team had to get people that were already here to compete on the team, with the current recruitment possibilities, he said he thinks the team can be built up to a competitive level.

Freshmen receiving scholarships this year are, Billy Gallino, of Valentine; Gigi Landis, of Arthur; Billy O'Conner, of Keystone; Randy Adams of Crete; and Paul Cleveland, of Hyannis. Gallino and Landis were each champions of the Nebraska State High School Rodeo Association last season.

THE TEAM will compete in 15 rodeos

throughout the year, including one sponsored by the UNL team in the early spring. The first rodeo of the season will take place this weekend in Dickenson, N.D.

Most of the money needed for various expenses is raised from the spring rodeo or comes from private donations. Expenses are high, according to Iske.

"Traveling to and from rodeos takes a big chunk of money and maintaining the team's practice arena eats up the rest," he said.

Most of the team members practice everyday at the arena north of East Campus and the public is welcome to come and watch, Iske said.

The popularity of the rodeo, especially in this area, has been increasing in the past few years according to Mike Peterson, the team's president. Many major companies are beginning to sponsor rodeos, especially beer and tobacco companies, he said.

"The rodeo has a lot of action, wild and fast action, and that is what people like to see," Iske said.

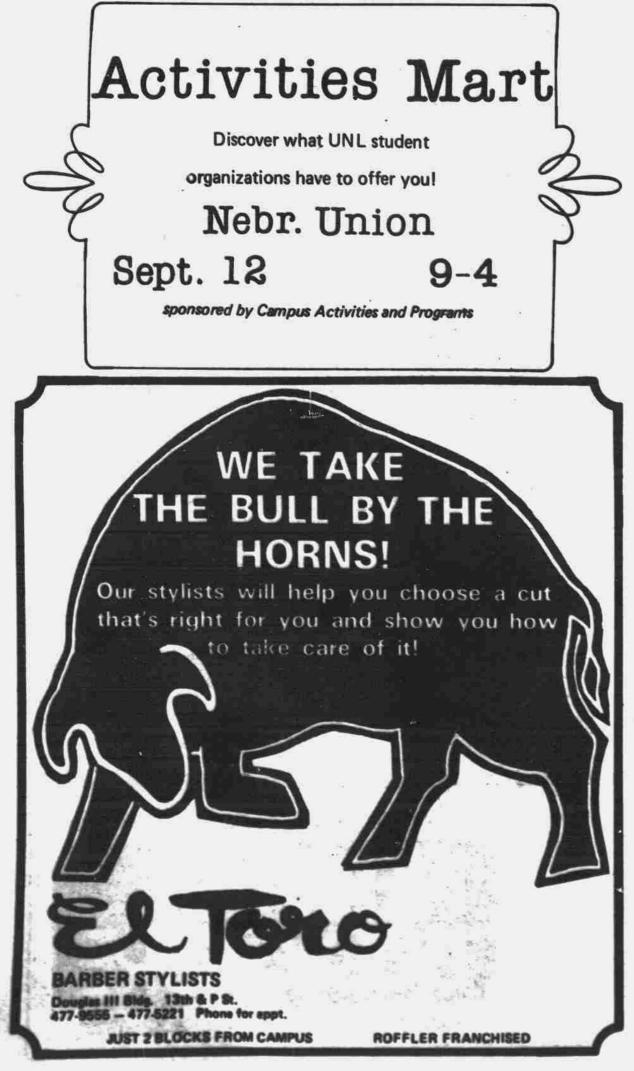
The chance for injury is also great. "I don't know anybody that has rodeoed that has not been injured," said Iske.

THAT IS PART of the game, he said. "Injuries happen here just as they happen in many other sports," he said.

Both Iske and Peterson have been involved in rodeo for a number of years and both have been injured.

Many of the events in rodeo originated on the ranch or in the open range, Iske said. The saddle bronc is considered the classic event and evolved from the need to break wild horses quickly, Iske said.

Events such as team roping and bull dogging, resulted from the need to control animals on the open range, he said. In bull dogging, the cowboy dismounts from his



horse at a fast pace and wrestles a calf to the ground by the horns and then ties him up.

Perhaps the most challenging, if not practical, event is the bull ride.

"A 150 pound man against a 2,000 pound bull is quite a challenge," Iske said. In that event, the cowboy must ride the bull with one hand free for a specified number of seconds.

The rodeo is not just for the cowboys, either. The popularity among women is increasing, especially in Nebraska, according to Patty Lutter, captain of the women's team. More than forty percent of the club is made up of women, said Stubbendieck.

The cowgirls compete in goat tying, barrel races, and the break away calf roping events.



Photo by Tom Gessner

Rob Gaebe (right) prepares to leap from his horse and grab the bull by the horns in rodeo club practice Monday night. At left is Bart Daly.

Organist conference to feature Albright

"Creativity and the New Organ" is the topic of a Conference being sponsored by the UNL School of Music Thursday, Sept. 20 through Saturday, Sept. 22.

It will feature on of America's most distinguished young composers and performers of organ music, William Albright, and an interpreter of modern organ music, Gerd Zacher.

The conference is designed to offer insight into the creation and interpretation of late 20th century music, through lecture-demonstrations, master class, joint public recital and panel discussions conducted by Albright and Zacher.

Those interested in attending the organ convention should contact George Ritchie at UNL's School of Music.

The joint organ recital, which begins at 8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 21 at the Kimball Recital Hall, 11th and R streets, is open to the public as part of the Kimball Hall Recital Series.

Concerts, recitals scheduled

The UNL School of Music will be presenting more than 50 events featuring students and faculty members throughout the 1979-80 school year.

The events, which range from faculty or student recitals to concerts by large and small ensembles are open to the general public, and most are free. Most will be held in Kimball Recital Hall, 11th and R.

During the school year, there will be nearly 15 faculty recitals and seven other programs displaying faculty talents as composer or ensemble performer.

School of Music students, both vocal and instrumental, will participate in large group presentations. The University Orchestra debut will be Sunday, Nov. 4,

followed by the Concert Band a week later on Nov. 11. The University Singers will appear Sunday, Nov. 18. All of these presentations begin at 4 p.m.

December will be an active month for music appreciators, with 10 events scheduled during its first 20 days. Ensembles and choirs will be featured, several presenting Christmas music. The climax of these concerts will be the Messiah Sing at 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 17.

Second semester also will feature diversity. Five faculty recitals are planned in February, along with appearances by the Symphonic Wind Ensemble, Jazz Lab Bands and UNL vocal students.

