

# sports

## UNL track team takes second in Big Eight meet

By Shelley Smith  
Sports Editor

Husker pole vaulter Randy Raymond said he knew breaking 17 feet was just a matter of time, but admitted it probably could have happened sooner if he had listened to his coach.

Raymond had been attempting the height ever since he began vaulting indoors, but could get only as close as 16-8.

Saturday, however, Raymond took a little coaching to heart and cleared 17 feet on his second attempt. He placed second in the event and helped Nebraska capture second place in the Big Eight Indoor Track Championships at the Bob Devaney Sports Center behind consistent track power Kansas.

Raymond's second place finish, and the fourth and sixth place finishes by teammates Mark Newton and Kyle Anderson respectively, gave Nebraska 13 points in the pole vault—the most points scored by the Huskers Saturday in one event.

As predicted by Big Eight coaches, Kansas, fielding a team without two of its top sprinters, won its 14th title in 22 years.

Deon Hogan, who runs the 60-yard dash, the 300-yard dash and a leg on the mile relay team, pulled a hamstring in Fri-

day night's 60-yard preliminaries. Stan Whitaker also pulled a hamstring in the 440-yard trials Friday night and was unable to compete in the relay Saturday.

### Mickens stars

However, Lester Mickens, who was named the outstanding performer by the Lincoln Journal and Star last year, paced the Jayhawks by breaking his own Big Eight Indoor record in the 440-yard dash, and running the anchor lap for Kansas' winning mile relay team.

Mickens, who had back-to-back Big Eight Indoor championships in the 600-yard dash, broke the Big Eight record in the 440 during the preliminaries Friday night. Saturday, he bettered the time by almost .6 seconds to 47.49.

Teammate Mike Ricks won the 600-yard dash, breaking Mickens' record of 1:09.14 and posting a 1:08.9.

Nebraska finished second without points from any Husker first places. Defending 880-yard run champion Scott Poehling, who was the Huskers' best hope for a gold medal, finished second in the event and second in the mile. He also ran a leg on the Huskers' mile relay team which finished third.

Poehling had not run the 880 yet this

season, and had competed in the mile in only one meet. He had been training in the 1,000-yard run, and had posted the Big Eight's fastest time in the event this year. Many expected Poehling to run events other than the 1,000 but couldn't be sure until Friday morning when Husker Coach Frank Sevigne announced Poehling's entries.

### Mile entourage

Poehling led the mile entourage until the final lap when Iowa State's Bob Verbeeck out-sprinted Poehling, beating him to the tape by about three feet. In the 880, Poehling ran second to Oklahoma's John Rhode, but kicked too late to catch Rhode, who finished in 1:52.51. Poehling finished in 1:52.66—faster than last year's time, but more than four seconds off of his best 880 time.

Nebraska's Randy Brooks placed second in the 60-yard dash, behind James Butler from Oklahoma State, and second in the 60-yard high hurdles behind Dan Lavitt from Missouri. Husker Ricky Simmons finished fourth in the 60-yard dash.

Butler also won the 300-yard dash, and anchored Oklahoma State's fourth place finishing relay team to win the Lincoln Journal-Star's award for the meet's outstanding performer.

Oklahoma State finished a surprising fourth in the meet, bringing it out of the cellar position for the first time in five years.

### ISU wild man

Only three of six returning Big Eight individual event winners were able to regain their titles. John Scheetz, the wild man from Iowa State, threw a personal best in the shot put of 62-½. Jeff Buckingham from Kansas broke his record in the pole vault set last year by two inches to 17-2½, and Nat Page from Missouri won the high jump in 7-¾ by fewer misses over Joel Light from Kansas.

In one of the more exciting field event performances Saturday, Kansas State's Vince Parrette triple jumped 55-10½—only 1½ inches off of the best American distance.

"I knew it was going to be good before I hit the pit. I could have gone farther, but I started celebrating in the air," Parrette said.

The Huskers meet Kansas State this weekend, but athletes who already have qualified for the NCAA Indoor Championships March 14-15 in Detroit, Mich., might choose not to compete, Raymond said.

"Most of us want to sit back and relax after this one," he said.

## Women's track team downs Western Illinois, Arkansas

By Joni Kramer

The Nebraska women's track team continued its chain of victories Saturday night outscoring Western Illinois and Arkansas in a triangular meet in the Bob Devaney Sports Center to remain undefeated.

Two records were broken as Nebraska won the meet with 88 points, followed by Western Illinois with 72 and Arkansas with 13.

Sharon Burrill, after setting a new AAU championship high jump record (6-3) with another competitor at the national AAU meet in New York Friday, set a Sports Center record of 6-2 Saturday. She also won the long jump with a jump of 18-4½.

Jennie Gorham, Julie Seaton and Merlene Ottey also competed in the national AAU championships Friday. Ottey set a world's best time and captured a meet record in the 220-yard dash.

Husker Coach Carol Frost said she limited the four girls to one or two events Saturday because of their meet Friday night.

"I didn't want them to tire, and I wanted to look at them, as well as some others in different events," she said. "This

meet was basically a warmup for nationals."

A second Sports Center record fell when Nebraska's distance medley relay team finished first with a time of 12:11.20.

Western Illinois beat the Huskers last year and are a good team, according to Frost.

Western Illinois captured four of the meet events: the 60-yard hurdles, the one-mile run, the three-mile run, and the shot put. Nebraska won every other event.

The race that sparked the biggest crowd response was the mile relay. The lead changed three times, from Arkansas to UNL, to Western Illinois, with Nebraska finally coming out on top. The team of Janet Bates, Cheryl Zajic, Normalee Murray and Seaton won with a time of 3:53.88.

The remaining individual Nebraska winners were Ottey in the 60-yard dash with a time of 6.73, Gorham in the 600 yard run with a time of 1:26.10, Murray in the 300-yard dash with a time of 35.80, Lisa Kramer in the 1,000 yard run with a time of 2:35.08, Karen Frazee in the pentathlon with 3,552 points, and the 4x220-yard relay team with a time of 1:40.3.

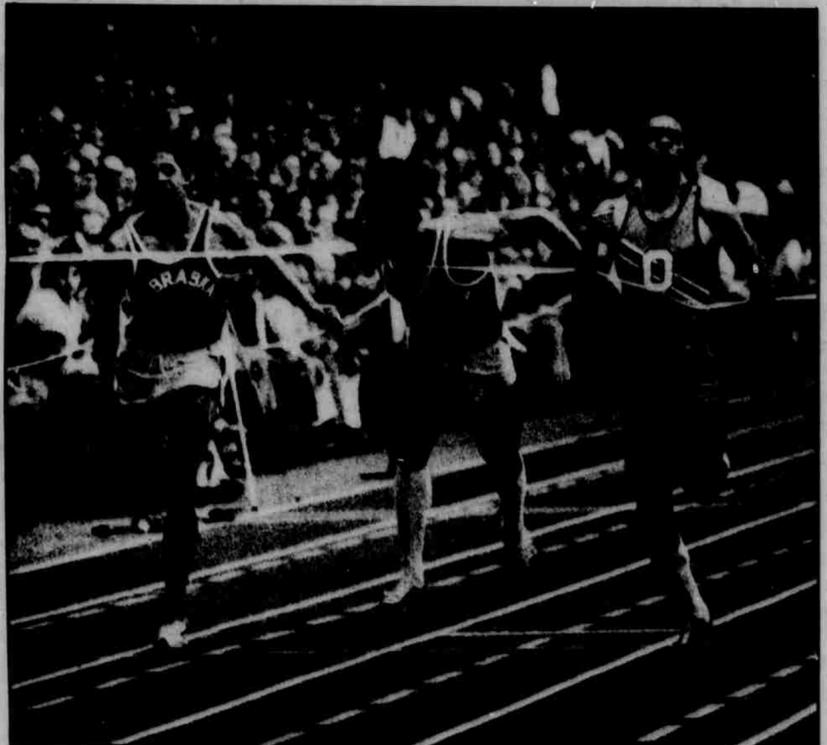


Photo by Mitch Hrdlicka  
Oklahoma State's James Butler breaks the tape first in the 60-yard dash, but was followed closely by Nebraska's Randy Brooks and Ricky Simmons, who finished second and fourth in Saturday's Big Eight Indoor Track Championships at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

## Female cagers take runner-up spot in playoffs

By Paul Martin

The UNL women's basketball team kept its season alive, by finishing runnerup in the AIAW Region VI North sub-regional playoffs at the Bob Devaney Sports Center during the weekend.

After trouncing Creighton 81-47 in the opening round and topping second-seeded Minnesota 72-59 Friday night, the Huskers dropped a 71-65 decision to Drake's Bulldogs in the championship game Saturday night.

However, the top three teams from each sub-regional advance, so the Huskers, Drake and third place Minnesota will join the top three from the South sub-regional as well as two at large teams in the Region VI Championships scheduled March 6-8 at Drake University.

In the South sub-regional at Pittsburg, Kan. State College, Central Missouri State's Jennies were a surprise winner, finishing ahead of nationally ranked Kansas and Kansas State. Kansas State lost to the Jennies in the championship game while Kansas finished fourth behind Missouri, who defeated them, 77-73, for third place.

### Large berths

Kansas and Northwest Missouri State received at-large berths, thus filling the eight team field for the Region VI Championship.

Kathy Hagerstrom led the Huskers in the three-day

elimination tournament, averaging more than 18 points per game. In the championship game with Drake, the 6-0 freshman forward shared team high scoring honors with Diane DeVigna, hitting 17, while Carol Garey added 11.

The attention given to all-time leading scorer DeVigna in recent games has opened some doors for Hagerstrom, according to Coach Lorrie Gallagher.

"With teams double- and triple-teaming Diane, it has left Kathy open for more shots," Gallagher said. "She's always been a good offensive player but she's a positive asset on defense as well as offense right now," she said. "She's patented to be a college All-American, and we think she will be her junior and senior year," she added.

Hagerstrom said her recent good shooting has helped her confidence and agreed that DeVigna attracting so much attention is one of the primary reasons she's now getting more open shots.

### Confidence gained

"I feel like I'm really coming into my own," Hagerstrom said. "With teams concentrating on Diane, like Creighton who ran a box-and-one, it leaves me open more and has helped me gain confidence."

Gallagher also praised senior Laura Tietjen. "She's been injured a lot but she has really been a team leader," she said. "She has encouraged these young kids all year.

"And you can't say enough about Carla Saveri," Gallagher said. "She played an excellent tournament, especially against Drake. She held number 20 (Connie Newlin) to four points and she had been a consistently high scorer for them," she said.

The runner-up finish had some ironically beneficial effects, Gallagher said.

"We figured Kansas State would win in the south and that Kansas would finish maybe second or third," Gallagher said. "Then we thought maybe Missouri and Central Missouri State would get at large berths. Then if we won our sub-regional, we'd get a chance to play Missouri."

Since Nebraska finished runner-up they drew the third place finisher in the south, who turned out to be Missouri.

"We wanted to play Missouri all along," Gallagher said. "We're exactly where we wanted to be in terms of the seedings."

Hagerstrom said it makes no difference who the team plays because three good games are a necessity. She also said the team is finally playing up to its potential.

"This is the team we really are," Hagerstrom said, "the team we should have been all season."

The 1980 AIAW Region VI Basketball Championships are scheduled to begin March 6 at the Drake Fieldhouse in Des Moines, Iowa.