

Craig says he's not discouraged by competition

By Joni Kramer

As the end of the season draws near, sophomore I-back Roger Craig said he's happy with his season performance so far, even though he thinks he still has a lot to learn.

"I've done pretty good so far, but I'm still inexperienced and need to learn a lot of things," Craig said. "I have to change my running angle and run lower so I'll take less punishment from the defense."

Because he's just a sophomore, Craig said that playing third to Jarvis Redwine and Craig Johnson is no disappointment.

"They've paid their dues and have been around longer than I have. They know more about the job," he said. "I knew there was competition that wouldn't be easy to beat out."

Despite the competition, Craig said he never gets frustrated or discouraged. "Every week I look forward to Saturday

and winning. Looking toward our team goal, the Big Eight, also keeps me going. The other players help me realize that I can't win a game by myself. It's a team effort," he said.

Part of life

Craig, who has been playing football since third grade, says the game has become part of his life, so he's stayed with it.

"I've always thought football was fun. I like learning different things everyday. After a while, it became a part of my life since I've been with it for so long," he said.

In high school, Craig also wrestled and ran track. He said he decided to concentrate on football because of its appeal to him.

Craig, a native Iowan, said he chose to come to Nebraska for several reasons, ranging from his brother to academics.

"My brother Curtis, who played at Nebraska, influenced my decision a great deal. I felt Nebraska was a better school all-around than others I visited. Nebraska puts an emphasis on good academics, and I liked that. I also liked the winning tradition Nebraska has," he said.

Even though he is from Iowa, Craig says he has no problems playing against his homestate schools, Iowa and Iowa State.

No problems with Iowans

"Sometimes I feel a bit strange out there playing against home state people, but I usually just try to get the job done without even thinking about that. I suppose knowing I'm from Iowa, playing for Nebraska might give the Iowa players an instinct to get me even more, but I'm not against them in any way," he said.

Because football is so time-consuming, Craig said he is forced to cut back on some activities.

"Football is tough. I'm usually at the field from 1 until about 5:30 every week-day, then we have games Saturday and films Sunday. It's a lot of time and work, so I have to cut back a lot in extra activities, like socializing.

"In the fall you have to cut your hours to the minimum usually, so you can handle school and football at the same time. Second semester is when you have to carry a heavier school load to keep from getting behind."

Craig said one of his top priorities is to finish his schooling before anything else.

"My number one goal is to get my degree in criminal justice. I don't really like to look ahead too much. I just take one day at a time, because if you look ahead too far, you'll fall on your face. I just want to have fun right now. I haven't thought about playing pro ball, because I haven't looked ahead that far."

Champion gymnasts to battle at Windy City Invitational

Although United States Olympic team members Ron Galimore and Jim Hartung will receive most of the attention, the 10th annual University of Illinois Chicago Circle Windy City Gymnastics Invitational ranks as the prestige regular season tournament in the United States because of a talented group of athletes from the Chicago area.

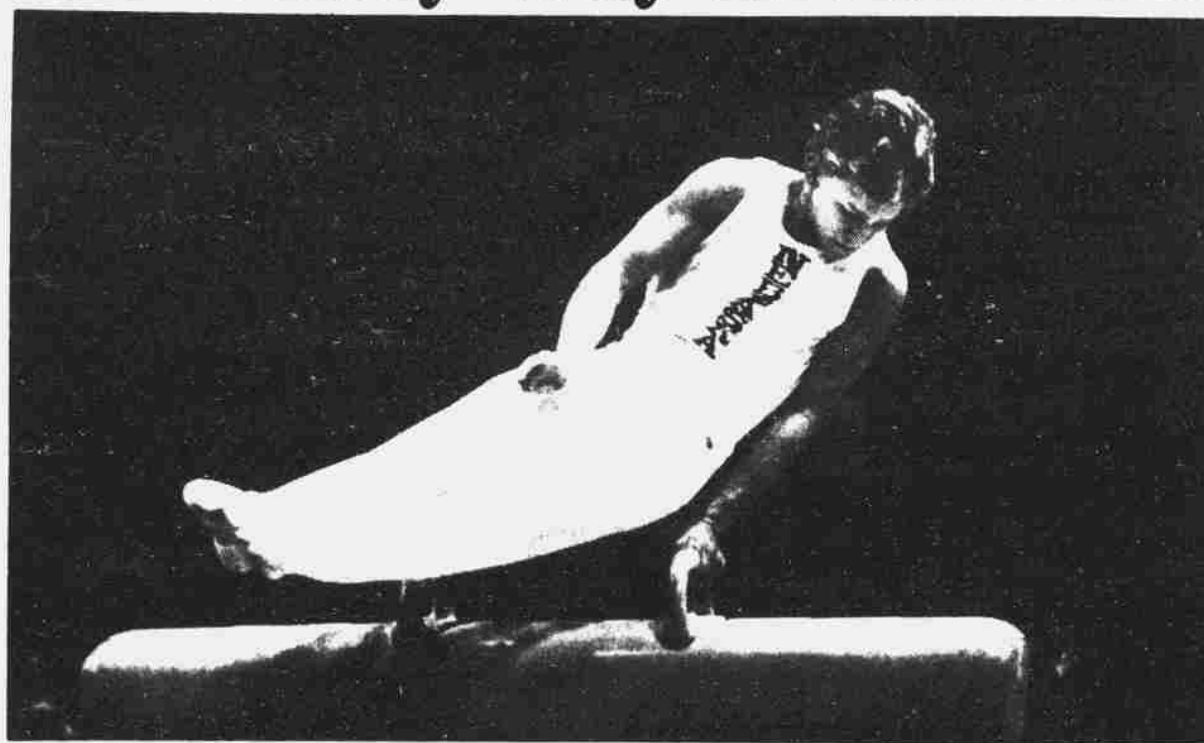
Nebraska and Hartung along with Iowa State and Galimore finished one-two in last year's NCAA championship meet and are expected to battle for the Windy City team title Nov. 21 and 22 at UICC's Physical Educational Building.

Approximately 51 Chicago athletes are expected to take part in the 12-team invitational. In addition to Nebraska and Iowa State, UICC has invited Oklahoma, Michi-

gan, Illinois State, Indiana State, Houston, Southern Illinois, Illinois, Northern Illinois and Minnesota.

Galimore, who won the all-around title at last year's Windy City meet, is the son of the late Willie Galimore, who was a star running back for the Chicago Bears. Ron edged Hartung for the all-around title and Nebraska's Phil Cahoy was close behind.

Bart Conner of Morton Grove, a member of the 1976 and 1980 U.S. Olympic teams and 1980 world champion in the parallel bars, has said he hopes to compete in the individual finals Nov. 22. UICC officials are trying to make arrangements for Conner to attend and will make an announcement this week regarding his status.



Husker gymnast Jim Hartung

Photo by Mark Billingsley

Wrestling injuries could hamper team showing

By Joni Kramer

Starting out the regular season with four major injuries and four minor ones has cut UNL wrestling squad's number down to 20, which could hurt performances in the first part of the season, according to Head Wrestling Coach Bob Fehrs.

"Our practices are going very well now,

despite the several injuries we've had. A team always has some minor injuries, but the major ones cut deep into the team's depth," Fehrs said.

Wrestler Rick Whitehead will be out the entire season after a knee operation. The three other severely injured wrestlers will probably return after a month or more, Fehrs said.

Not having the team at full strength

could reflect on their Big Eight record, since the Husker's toughest part of the season is before Christmas.

"We face three super teams early in the season," Fehrs said. "Oklahoma, Oklahoma State and Iowa State were all ranked in the nation's top five last year. Losses to these teams would put our Big Eight ranking at number four or five."

Even though Nebraska may end up four or five in the Big Eight, Fehrs said his team should finish in the nation's top 20 for the season.

"People who don't know a lot about sports sometimes look at how a team does by their Big Eight performances, but I hope people won't do that when it comes to our season," Fehrs said.

"We will be more competitive than we have in the past and are still liable to get beat by the super teams in the Big Eight," he said. "I hope people will realize that we have quality and I hope they won't judge us by our early matches. We meet some super teams at a time when we're not at full strength."

Some other good teams Nebraska will face later in the season are Penn State, Northern Iowa, Missouri and Brigham Young University, he said.

"We'll have to meet these teams on an equal basis, wrestling well to beat them," Fehrs said.

After a good recruiting year, Fehrs said he is seeing some good individual performances.

"I've got Mark Shortsleeve from New York, who should be starting at 126. From South Dakota we have two twin brothers, Jim and Bill Scherr, who are doing very well," Fehrs said.

November 7 and 8, at the Great Plains Tournament, Bill Scherr pinned a division one wrestler in the finals to win.

On November 15, the Huskers competed in the Bison Open. Johnny Selmon at 142, and Ray Oliver at 158 came out as meet champions with Bayerd Clausser at 134 and the Scherr brothers at 166 and 177 taking second places. There were also four Nebraska wrestlers placing third.

"Even though there was no team scoring in this tournament, I feel we dominated the meet. We finished extremely well with a very good showing," Fehrs said.

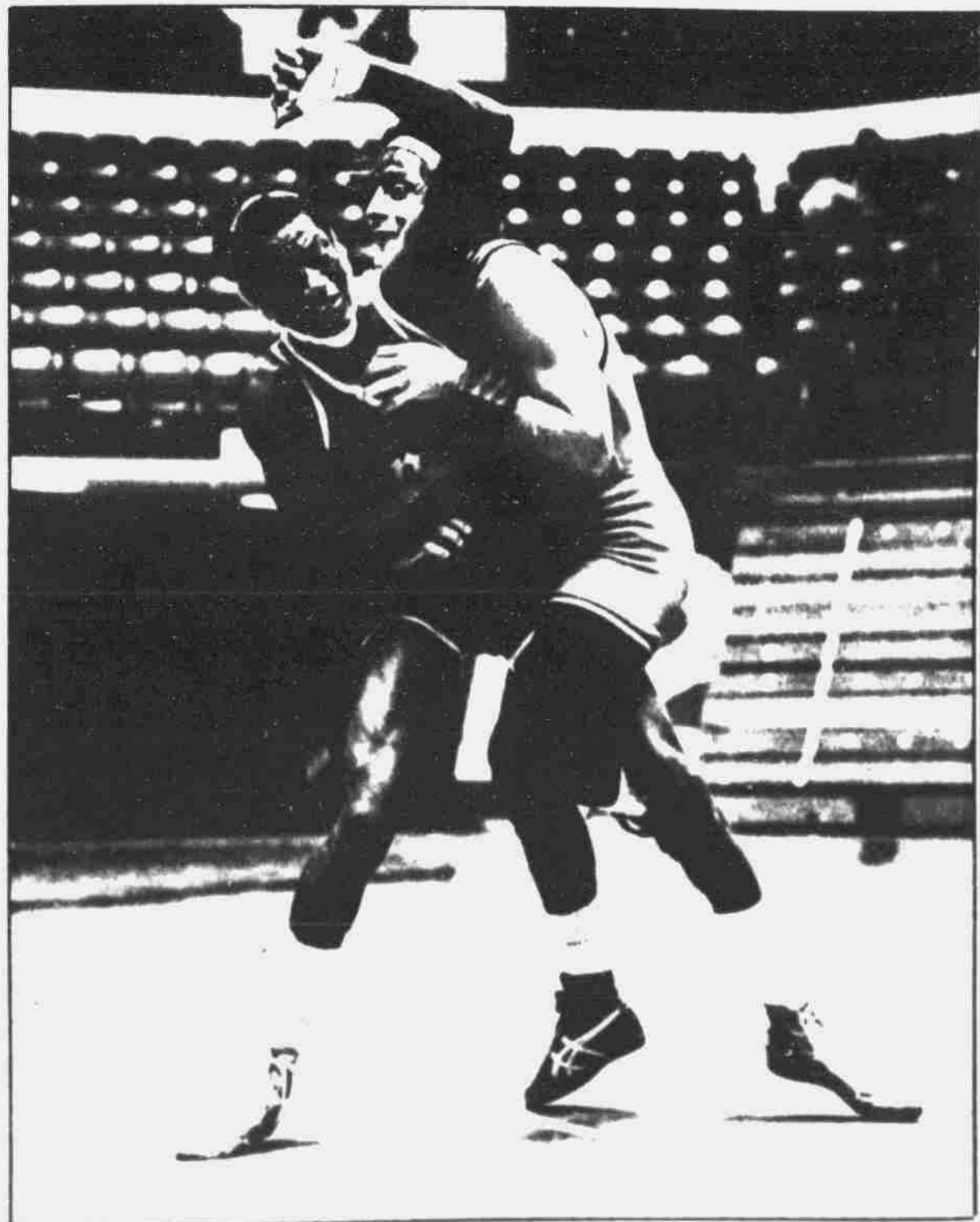
Today the UNL squad will meet UNO at the Sports Center at 7:30 p.m. Fehrs said

he is hoping for a good meet and a good turn out.

"I hope a lot of students attend since there will be a lot of athletes from Omaha and Lincoln wrestling that students may know," Fehrs said. "There will be some good individual matches but I feel we will win by a comfortable margin. Omaha has improved, but we have also improved a lot. We should win with relative ease."

Despite the numerous injuries, Fehrs said his team's morale is good.

"Due to recruiting, we have some excellent people with the desire to win and the confidence to win. The attitude is good, better than in the past two years, and the team understands that things get off to a slow start at first," he said. "Because of the young team members, we have a good attitude, as well as a good foundation to build on."



Daily Nebraskan photo

Husker wrestler Billy Selmon competes against Oklahoma State's Lee Roy Smith in action last year at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

shorts

The Nebraska crew team will hold an open house at the campus boathouse this Saturday following the Nebraska-Oklahoma football game. The UNL boathouse is located just north of Nebraska Hall at 1000 N. 16th St.

The 1980-81 school year marks the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Husker rowing program. The team will be serving refreshments and the open house will be highlighted by the christening of two new racing boats.

The Nebraska women's basketball team will open its season tomorrow night in the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Tip-off for the game with Kansas is set for 7 p.m.

The Corn Cob spirit organization is sponsoring a pep rally at the Nebraska coliseum tomorrow night. Head Coach Tom Osborne will speak at 6:30 p.m. A parade will be held at 6 p.m., beginning in front of the Nebraska Union.