

sports

UNL wrestling team prepares for combat against highly-rated Oklahoma teams

By Joni Kramer

The Nebraska wrestling squad will travel to Oklahoma this weekend for two matches. Friday they meet Oklahoma State, and Saturday they take on Central State in Edmond, Okla.

According to Coach Bob Fehrs, the team has to work on consistency and aggressiveness through the line-up to get ready for the matches.

"We have freshmen at the lightest and heaviest weights. They're not quite settled yet, but I feel they will mature, progress and win some matches for us. We have strength in the middle weights, since that's where all our experience is," Fehrs said. "If the end weights pull out victories for us and help the middle wrestlers out, we should do very well. The end weights will definitely be a determining factor."

Oklahoma State is currently ranked fourth nationally, and Fehrs said, they have a pretty tough line-up. At 158-pounds, they have a returning national champion, Rick Stewart, and at 134-pounds they have Jerry Kelly, who finished second at nationals last year in the 126-pound weight class.

"Kelly and Stewart are probably Oklahoma State's best returners, but they have several others. Oklahoma State did well in the Big Eight, and they recruited a number of good freshmen," Fehrs said.

Third in NAIA

Central State is currently rated third in the NAIA and is a very good small college team, Fehrs said.

"Central has excellent wrestlers at weights 126, 142 and 158. These are their three best weight classes, but they don't compare with Oklahoma State's, even though they're good wrestlers. I feel it is important for us to beat Central. They have a good team, but we should beat them. We can't afford to lose to teams like them," Fehrs said.

Even though the Huskers' morale is good for the meets, Fehrs said their season has had a few problems.

"We've been slow starters this season. We looked good, but we haven't gotten together yet. Our mental

attitude hasn't done what it should. We have some injuries, but a couple (wrestlers) coming back should be a great physical and morale boost to the team," Fehrs said.

Two-time Nebraska letterman Al Freeman, at 142-pounds should be ready to go shortly, as well as Rory Cahoj at 150-pounds, Fehrs said.

"The team had quite a handicap with those two out of the line-up," Fehrs said.

Freeman and Cahoj were both out after knee surgery earlier in the season.

Another injury

The UNL team recently suffered another injury. Tuesday, when John Shearer suffered a shoulder separation.

"I've never had so many team injuries since I came here. I don't know what the problem is," Fehrs said. Despite the injury situation, he said, the team is pretty well prepared mentally for these meets.

"I placed five freshmen against Oklahoma University, which is ranked number two in the nation, and they didn't quite know what to expect going against such a high-caliber team. They weren't prepared mentally, but a couple did reasonably good. Some tightened up, and were overly concerned about who we were wrestling. I think they've adjusted a bit now, and the caliber of Oklahoma State shouldn't be such a problem," Fehrs said.

Fehrs said he feels his team is improving and is becoming better.

"It's hard for us to take on three top teams—Oklahoma, Oklahoma State and Iowa State—in the early part of the season. We're forced to wrestle our best right at first, which is hard," Fehrs said.

This week, the Huskers elected their captain for the 1980-1981 season, 134-pound Johnny Selmon.

Fehrs said he's hoping for a good crowd at UNL's next home meet after these two away meets. Nebraska will take on Indiana on Dec. 13 in the Bob Devaney Sports Center at 7:30.

"It should be a good competitive meet," Fehrs said.

Rugby team delays studying, prepares for match

By Inta Rizijs

While most students will spend the Dec. 13 weekend preparing for finals, the UNL Rugby team will be engaged in a match against Arizona State University.

The match, to be televised on the local cablevision station, is in conjunction with the Fiesta Bowl. It is the second year for this event.

The Fiesta Bowl committee chose UNL to play the dual match.

"It was a surprise and honor to be invited," said Rugby Captain Scott Carlson.

Although the match does interfere with studying for finals, Carlson said, the team is motivated and inspired to do a good job.

"It's a big step for Nebraska," Carlson said. He said this will bring recognition to the rugby team and will help in their recruiting program.

The team will finance the trip. Tempe, Ariz. will aid the team in accommodations.

Besides the honor of being invited, the team will experience some new situations.

The match will be in a football stadium at night.

"We've never played under lights," Carlson said. "That will take some getting used to."

Also, a crowd of 7,000 to 10,000 spectators is expected. Last year, more than 5,000 attended the event, Carlson said if the expected 10,000 show up, it will be the biggest crowd ever to watch a collegiate rugby team.

The team has been practicing for the event for about a month, Carlson said that

Arizona State has had the advantage of practicing in warm weather. He added that the teams expect a good match.

All of the people watching will also help," Carlson said. "They're a worthy opponent."

This will be the final match for many team members. Mike McHugh, Jim Powers, Dan Maguire, and Carlson all have played rugby for more than three years, and this match will end the season for them.

Eagles' pride won't allow two straight losses

Pittsburgh at Houston: As you've heard many times, neither team can afford to lose this game, but only one team can win. At least the loser will have the consolation of knowing that the team that eliminated them will reach the Super Bowl. Even though it's very small, I'll give the edge to Pittsburgh. **Pittsburgh by four.**

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Atlanta at Philadelphia: Dick Verneil has made his Eagles pay for last week's disappointing loss at San Diego, and the chances of Philly losing two in a row doesn't look good. Atlanta will be tough, but the Eagles' pride will pull them through. **Philadelphia by seven.**

Baltimore at Cincinnati: Baltimore's play-off chances may be slim, but don't count them out yet. Their AFC East counterparts have some strong opponents left on their schedule, so don't be surprised if Baltimore backs into a tie for the division title. **The Colts by three.**

Los Angeles at Buffalo: Except for their embarrassing loss to Miami, the Rams have owned the AFC East. Look for that streak to continue. **The Rams by 10.**

Minnesota at Tampa Bay: These two teams hook up again after playing just three weeks ago. While Minnesota's play-off chances are still looking good, Tampa Bay's chances are only mathematical. **The Vikings by four.**

New York Jets at Cleveland: The Browns are at home, and have quarterback Brian Sipe, who rates as the best quarterback in the NFL. Cleveland may suffer a minor letdown after their battle with Houston, but they will pull it out to solidify their lead in the AFC Central. **The Browns by seven.**

San Diego at Washington: San Diego faces their second consecutive NFC opponent, but they too have to be wary of a letdown. The Redskin's pass defense is quite compe-

tent and if they're ready to play, it could cause problems for the Chargers for three quarters. **San Diego by eight.**

Detroit at St. Louis: Cardinal stalwarts Jim Hart and O.J. Anderson will be tough at home, but it is must win time for the play-off contending Lions. Will the real Detroit team show up? One thing is for sure: they'll need a supreme effort to defeat the Cards at Busch Stadium. **Detroit by two.**

Green Bay at Chicago: Green Bay has been full of surprises for the last month, but they came up short last Sunday. That will probably happen again, because the Bears will be tough to beat at home if they crank up Walter Payton. Has anyone seen Chester Marcol? **The Bears by 11.**

Dallas at Oakland: Hopefully Oakland was looking ahead to Dallas when they played Denver Monday night. If they weren't, the fans in Oakland might as well stay home for the whole 60 minutes this time. It won't take long for Dallas quarterback Danny White to show the

Raider defense that the quarterback (?) they faced on Monday night was a cheap imitation. **Dallas by nine.**

Denver at Kansas City: Kansas City can throw a game as well as anyone, so Denver may have come along at the right time. But the big question is will Denver start a quarterback at the position before the year is over? **Denver by three.**

New Orleans at San Francisco: San Francisco has a chance to win three games in a row for the second time this year. I know who cares? **The 49ers by 13.**

New York Giants at Seattle: Let's hope and pray that this isn't one of NBC's 3 p.m. games on Sunday, for if it is, the negative Nielsen ratings may trigger a boycott of televised NFL games. **Seattle by five.**

The Monday Night Game—New England at Miami: Just when you think Miami is finished, Don Shula pulls something out of his bag of tricks and rescues his team's morale. A Dolphin victory throws Baltimore right into the AFC Eastern Division race. **Miami by eight.**

Student tickets for the Dec. 27 Sun Bowl game will go on sale next Monday at the South Stadium Ticket Office. Tickets will be sold from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. through Wednesday or until the student allotment of 1,000 tickets runs out.

The tickets, at \$12 each, will be limited to one for each full-time student with a valid I.D. Married students who present a marriage certificate will be allowed to purchase two tickets. Group tickets will be limited to six persons each and all persons involved must show up at the ticket office together to purchase the block of seats. Tickets cannot be returned for a refund.

Three Nebraska tennis team members fared well in the

recent Nielson Open Tournament at Madison, Wis.

Nebraska's top player, Scott Baker, made it to the final round of 16 players out of 128 competitors. Baker lost in the final round to Wisconsin's Dick Brown, 6-1, 6-2.

In doubles competition, Baker and Dale Christian reached the semi-final round before losing to the top seeded team in the tournament, Ken Thomas and Ken Klige-hoest of Wisconsin. The two Huskers lost, 6-2 1-6, 6-2.

The UNL Weightlifters are sponsoring a basketball tournament this weekend featuring former players from UNL, Creighton, UNO and Doane College.

Games will be Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the Coliseum.

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