

sports

Husker gymnasts to enter triangular minus one

By Kim Hachiya

Sunday's gymnastics triangular with Southern Illinois and Louisiana State will be another chance for Francis Allen to focus on his younger gymnasts.

The Huskers again will be competing short of personnel as No. 3 all-arounder Scott Johnson will be sidelined for at least four weeks with a sprained ankle.

Johnson is the second gymnast to suffer an ankle injury this year, as No. 1 all-arounder Jim Hartung has been hampered with a similar but less severe injury that limited his effectiveness at the Arizona State dual last Sunday.

The Huskers defeated the Sun Devils 278.00-274.45 in Tempe in a meet Allen said was scored questionably.

"We did well, but the scoring was tight," Allen said. "They (the judges) acted like they were afraid to give a decent score. But the 277 ties us with Iowa State for the national lead."

Allen said that despite the scoring the meet was enjoyable.

"It was a nice meet for us, the first time we've faced Arizona State. They were nervous but competitive," Allen said.

He added there were a lot of Nebraskans who are spending the winter in Arizona in the crowd which was an incentive for the team.

Allen said he is optimistic about Sunday's meet.

"Scotty's injury will hurt us about one point," Allen said. "We still have plenty of personnel if we can get them ready to go. If we can get Hartung back in shape to replace Scotty, it will only effect us about a point."

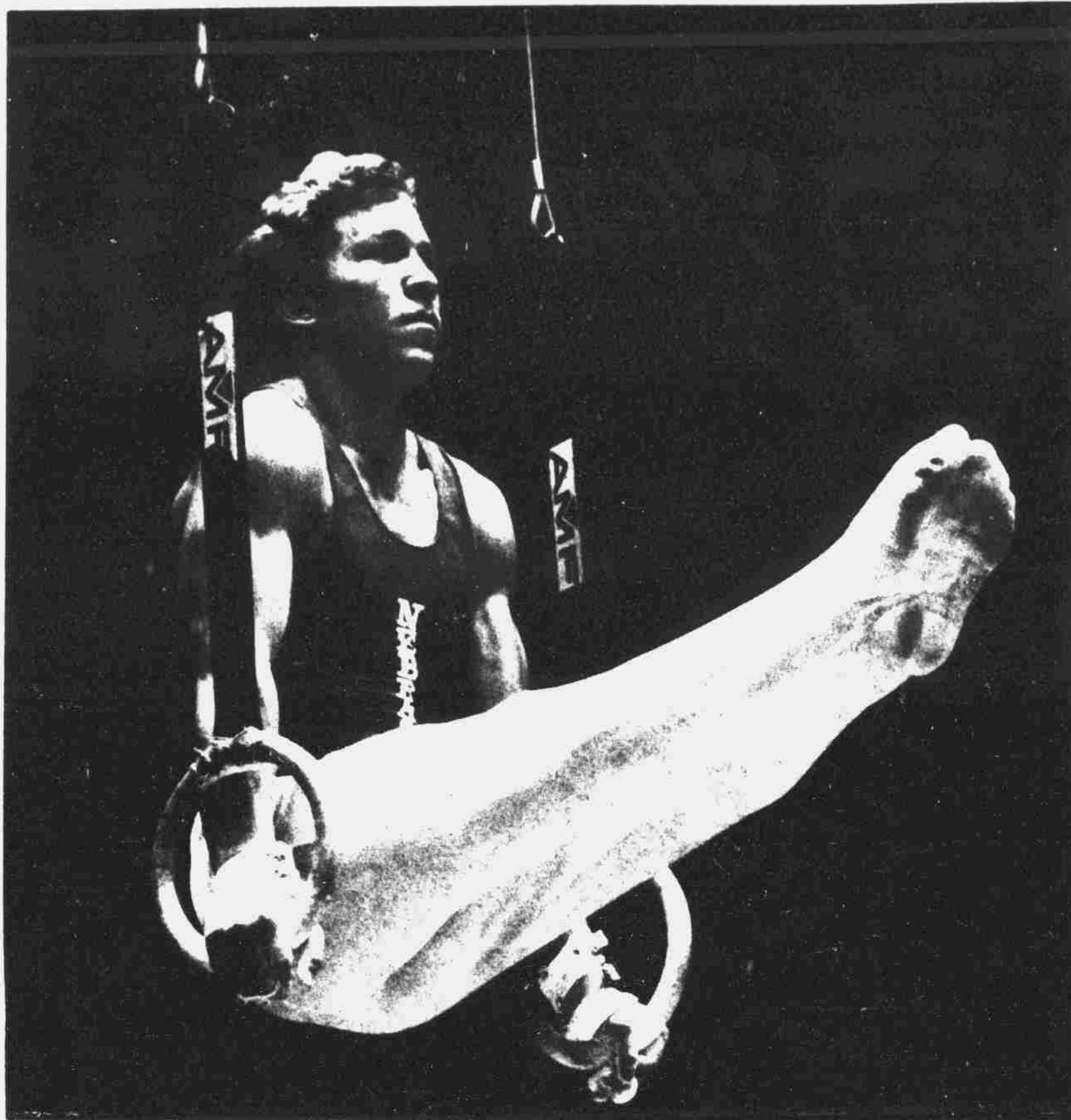
Steve Elliott also will compete Sunday, which Allen said will help the scores.

"This should be a good meet, we'll have to toughen up," Allen said. "Both teams score in the 268s to 270s. We should go at least 277 without Scotty if we can get the others in shape."

Allen said Hartung's progress bouncing back from his ankle injury has been slow, but Allen is leery of pressuring him.

Having so many gymnasts not at full strength puts extra pressure on the rest of the team to hit well, Allen said. Although much pressure falls on freshman all-arounder Jim Mikus, Allen said Johnson's injury will press Hartung more.

Sunday's meet at the Bob Devaney Sports Center at 4 p.m. will run concurrently with a women's dual between UNL and Denver University.



Husker gymnast Jim Hartung performs on the still rings

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Hat sales to help support soccer

By Inta Rizijis

The UNL soccer team is now putting together its fund-raising program. According to General Manager Paul Hornby, the team will be selling hats, with the profits going to support the team.

Each member is responsible for selling a certain number of hats, Hornby said.

Right now team members are taking the hats to the residence halls and fraternities where they live. After the program has been going for awhile, they will be selling them on a larger scale. Hornby said the team will try to sell them at the spring football game.

Although the team is in good financial condition right now, Hornby said, the money raised will be focused on the fall semester. The team's goal is to phase out the spring competition.

The NCAA soccer teams play mainly in the fall and train in the spring, Hornby said.

As far as training is concerned, the team is working on ball-control skills. As the season progresses, more elaborate skills will be added, Hornby said.

Five prospective members are trying out for the team now. Hornby noted recruiting still is a problem.

Husker women lose to Drake Bulldogs 70-58

The Nebraska women's basketball team had all the opportunities to upset Drake last night at the Bob Devaney Sports Center but mistakes and poor ball-handling made the task impossible. The final score showed the Bulldogs on top, 70-58.

"In the first half we did a poor job of passing," Nebraska Coach Colleen Matsuhara said. "In the second half we had to play catch up and were unable to take advantage of fast break opportunities."

The game started out slowly with both teams unable to hit their shots. Shooting percentages for the first half were 29 for Nebraska and 40 for Drake. Late in the first half, Drake got hot from the field with Jan Krieger and Kay Riek doing most of the gunning.

The Huskers shut down Drake star Lorrie Bauman who was held to four first half points and finished the

"It's always hard getting people to come out," Hornby said. "We don't offer what a varsity team would offer."

Hornby said many of the people they've recruited are from Omaha. He said the word gets around about the team up there, and added most of the good players do come from Omaha.

The team is dividing its time between fund raising and workouts. Although the team isn't working out to its potential because of the weather, it is still practicing. On Tuesdays and Thursdays the team runs inside the Mushroom Gardens, and Friday through Sunday workouts are held at Mabel Lee Hall.

"You really don't get the feel of things until you start working out outdoors," Hornby said.

The main focus during practice is to have all the players get together. Hornby said the new players on the team last season learned through their mistakes, but now they are getting used to the way the team plays.

Hornby is looking forward to a good season. He said the team has a good defense, along with a strong mid-field and front line.

"We'll definitely come out with a winning record," Hornby said.

game with 15. Bauman had been averaging 26 points a game.

The Huskers used a sagging defense to get Bauman into early foul trouble and she was ineffective in the second half. The scoring slack for Drake was taken up by Reik with 20 points and Krieger who added 17.

Nebraska was led by Ami Beiriger with 15 points and Chris Leigh who came off of the bench to score 12. The Huskers dropped to 14-8 on the season while the Bulldogs went to 18-3.

The Cornhuskers will return to the Sports Center Friday night for a rematch with Big Eight foe Missouri. Matsuhara said the game with the Tigers will be important to Nebraska's chances of getting a berth in the regional tournament. Missouri defeated the Huskers last week in Columbia, 83-80.