

sports

Women's softball to take 3 week tournament trip

By Bob Asmussen

This year's Nebraska women's softball team faces a tough schedule in its quest for a Big Eight championship, according to Coach Nancy Plantz.

The team leaves Wednesday for a game against Southern Illinois University and won't return until it plays a double-header with Kearney State College on April 7. Between those dates, the Huskers will play in a 30-team tournament in Oklahoma, a 20-team tournament in Texas, a 30-team tourney at Emporia State, and numerous double-headers.

Plantz comes to Nebraska after one year at Oregon where she led the Beavers to a seventh-place finish at the Women's College World Series. She attended Chico State College where she played softball and field hockey. She was named to several all-state and all-regional teams in softball.

intramurals

The intramural water basketball tournament was Friday and Saturday. Alpha Tau Omega became the champion by winning the final game against Sigma Phi Epsilon, 35-15. Sigma Phi Epsilon took second by de-

feating Abel Six, 44-30

The Recreation Office is taking entries for co-recreational slow pitch softball and men's and women's soccer. Entries are due at 5 p.m. Friday.

In field hockey, Plantz was a member of the U.S. team in 1971 that participated in the world championships. She was an assistant coach of the U.S. field hockey team for three years. She also was coach at Ohlone College in California where she posted a 35-6 record.

Coach Plantz said her athletic past has shaped her coaching philosophy.

Tough competitor

"I'm very competitive," Plantz said. "I believe that it's my job to teach these women to become athletes. They're not used to having confidence in a pressure situation and I've experienced that. I know what it takes to become a winner and I want to give that to my team."

The team's goals are to win the Region Six tournament and advance to the nationals. To Plantz, these goals are not too lofty.

"If we play well we can accomplish our goals," Plantz said. "It will be tough competition all year but we have the potential to beat anyone."

Plantz said the team is well balanced. The team is filled with outstanding players, but no one stands out more than anyone else, she said.

"We have to get good pitching to win," Plantz said. "Sandy Wolterman and Rhonda Revelle will be the two pitchers we'll rely on most."

Besides pitching, Plantz said she views team defense as an important element as well.

"We have to play defense behind our pitchers," she said. "Hitting is vital but our real strengths should be

pitching and defense."

Two players Plantz said she expects consistent performances from are shortstop Dree McCabe and outfielder Lisa Emmerich.

Team lacks own space

The teams in the region that concern Plantz the most are Missouri, Creighton, Kansas and Oklahoma.

"Every team in our region is good," Plantz said. "We can't overlook anyone."

The team's fall season produced an 11-13 record. Press coverage and support for the team left Plantz disappointed, she said.

"Maybe it was because it was football season," Plantz suggested. "You would think that with Omaha and Lincoln being such big softball towns that we'd get real good support. All the people need to do is see us once. After that I'm sure they'll come back."

Part of the problem is that the team doesn't have a field of its own, Plantz said. Home games are at Ballard Field at 66th and Kearney streets.

"Ballard Field is way out there," Plantz said. "We're hoping for our own field next year, but for now we'll just have to make do."

Plantz said the tough road schedule could be a big help later in the season.

"We're going to gain valuable experience against tough competition," she said. "We want to peak at the right time. The right time is during the Big Eight and Region Six tournaments."

Swimmer, diver travel to national championships

By Cindy Gardner

A pair of Nebraska athletes will head for the University of South Carolina this week where they will participate in the AIAW national swimming and diving championships. Diver Ann Stahlnecker and swimmer Sherri Hayward have both qualified for the championships that run Wednesday through Saturday.

Stahlnecker placed 10th in the AIAW diving qualifying meet to earn her first trip to nationals.

The top 12 finishers at the pre-qualifying meet, which was held Feb. 16 and 17 in Albuquerque, N.M. are eligible to participate in the championships. Stahlnecker, a freshman from Omaha, was the Nebraska state champion and All-American

as a high school diver.

Hayward, a sophomore, will be making her second trip to the national finale. As a freshman, Hayward, placed first at Big Eight and 12th at nationals in the 200-yard backstroke. She has qualified to swim that event as well as the 100-yard backstroke at this year's championships.

According to Women's Swimming Coach Ray Huppert, Hayward had to swim times of :59.69 in the 100 and 2:07.59 in the 200 to qualify for the national meet. Hayward posted a personal best of :59.69 in the 100 yard backstroke at the Big Eight championships to equal the qualifying standard. In the 200-yard backstroke, Hayward's fastest clocking this season was 2:06.0, which is still 1.21 seconds over

her 1980 Big Eight record setting time of 2:04.79.

"Sherri can make it to the finals and we certainly hope she does," Huppert said.

Sending two team members is a silver lining to what Huppert described as a somewhat cloudy season.

"It's been a disappointing season," he said.

"We had the worst finish we've had in the Big Eight since I've been coach. We just didn't have the members this year and we had to redshirt two girls due to

knee surgery," he said.

Huppert said, however, the season did have some positive results.

"After the meet (Big Eight), other coaches came up to our girls and congratulated them. They told them they had the best of any team there," the sixth-year coach said. "Out of 46 swims we had 38 best times (at Big Eight)."

Huppert said next year will be "a new year with a lot of new faces."

"We are hitting the highways and telephones and are going recruiting crazy," he said.

Husker tennis now 6-3; coach says confidence up

The Nebraska tennis team advanced its record to 6-3 with a win and a pair of losses at Iowa City during the weekend.

The Huskers suffered an 8-1 loss to Gustava Adolphus College and a 6-3 loss to Iowa before defeating the Iowa State Cyclones 5-4. Despite two losses, Assistant Coach Kerry McDermott said the team is becoming more sure of itself.

"As a team, we are becoming more aware of our own abilities and proving to ourselves that we can compete with anyone," McDermott said.

"Our confidence is showing and we are ready to compete," he added.

Nebraska vs. Gustavus Adolphus Singles: Jim Hearn, GA, def. Scott Baker 6-1, 7-5; Shaun Miller, GA, def. Brian Edwards 6-2, 6-3; Hal Kock, UNL, def. Duke Paluch 7-5, 7-6; Per Ekstam, GA, def. Doug Hsass 6-3, 6-2; Tad Weiss, GA, def. Mark Forster 6-2, 6-4; Raman Jayapathy, GA, def. Darrell White 6-2, 1-6, 6-1. **Doubles:** Hearn and Miller, GA, def. Baker and Kock 7-5, 7-6; Paluch and Ekstam, GA, def. Edwards and Hsass 6-7, 6-4, 6-3; Jayapathy and Weiss, GA, def. Forster and White 6-2, 6-1.

Nebraska vs. Iowa Singles: Tom Holtman, IU, def. Baker 6-3, 6-4; Edwards, UNL, def. Greg Anderson 6-3, 7-6; Matt Smith, IU, def. Koch 6-2, 6-3; Hsass, UNL, def. Dan Rustin 7-6, 5-7, 6-4; Brian Johnson, IU, def. Forster 6-2, 6-3; Dave Maurer, IU, def. Craig Miller 6-4, 6-4. **Doubles:** Smith and Rustin, IU, def. Baker and Koch 7-6, 6-3; Carney and Maurer, IU, def. Edwards and Hsass

5-7, 7-6, 6-4; White and Klaus, UNL, def. Inman and Johnson 6-3, 2-6, 7-6.

Nebraska vs. Iowa State Singles: Baker, UNL, def. Brian Martin 6-1, 6-3; Edwards, UNL, def. Tom Lennox, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4; Koch, UNL, def. Mark Paulsen 6-3, 6-4; Dave Eberhardt, ISU, def. Hsass 6-3, 6-3; Len Ameresini, ISU, def. Mark Forster 1-6, 6-4, 6-3; White, UNL, def. Douh Wenzel 6-4, 6-4. **Doubles:** Baker and Koch, UNL, def. Lennox and Paulsen 6-7, 6-3, 6-4; Martin and Ameresini, ISU, def. Edwards and Hsass 7-6, 6-2; Eberhardt and Wenzel, ISU, def. White and Klaus 6-4, 6-3.

shorts

The Nebraska men's track team will open its outdoor season with a triangular at Tucson, Ariz. The Huskers will be competing against Arizona and San Diego State.

The women's softball team will be at Southern Illinois Wednesday and will begin play in a tournament at Oklahoma Thursday.

The men's baseball team will be at Nevada-Las Vegas today and will begin play in the Hawaii Easter Tournament Thursday.



Photo by Mitch Hrdlicka

A member of the UNL Rugby Club eludes tacklers in Sunday's meet against the Lincoln City team. UNL won the meet 8 to 0 Saturday. UNL won a doubleheader against Grand Island.