

Soccer coach anticipates winning spring season

By Kevin Warneke

After coming off its best season ever, Coach Paul Hornby said his UNL Soccer Club is going to have an excellent spring season.

The team finished its fall season with a 12-2-1 record. Other laurels added to the team's record were a first-place finish in the Concordia Invitational at Seward and a second-place finish at the Ed Chartran Tournament at Kansas State.

The squad will begin its season April 10 and 11 by competing in a tournament at Kansas. According to Hornby, competition will include Kansas, Kansas State, Benedictine and Rockhurst colleges and also numerous soccer clubs from the Kansas City area.

"Two years ago we took third place. I think we'll do well," Hornby said.

Because of inclement weather, the team has been forced to have indoor practices.

Women's tennis team to volley with Kearney

UNL's women's tennis coach, Kathy Hawkins, is approaching Thursday evening's match against Kearney State with both optimism and caution.

"I really don't think we will have a lot of trouble," Hawkins said about the match scheduled for 6 p.m. at the Bob Devaney Sports Center, "but I hate to underestimate them."

Hawkins said she is pleased with the team's performance thus far, especially the victory against Wisconsin.

"We played aggressively and played to win," Hawkins said. "We just didn't wait for them to lose." The coach also was happy because the team played at the same level as it has been practicing.

Cindi Reiman still holds the position of top singles player, although "a couple of people are challenging her," Hawkins said. She said the team has good depth. Against Kearney State, team members contributing to this depth may see some action.

Lynn Svoboda and Kathy Fischer, both sophomores from Lincoln, should get a chance to compete, Hawkins said. Kerry Distefano, a junior, also may be tabbed for some court time.

"Right now we are looking good," Hawkins said. With the victory against Wisconsin, which Hawkins described as a "big one," the Huskers should be ready for Kearney State.

"We will go in and get up for it and play hard," the coach said.

"We can do quite a few things inside like dribbling and shooting drills, the basic fundamentals," he said. "We also can have five on five scrimmages, but we can't do full-length scrimmages."

Hornby said he hopes the team will be able to get a week of outdoor practice after spring break to tune up for its first meet. He said the team shouldn't feel any ill effects of not being able to get in a lot of outdoor practicing.

A highlight for the squad's spring season, according to Hornby, will be the Wichita Invitational Tournament which will be May 1 and 2.

Hornby also is confident of the team's chances in the Big Eight meet.

Ridge Schmidt...

Continued from Page 8

"In Arizona there aren't any indoor courts. So when I started playing indoors here, it took me a while to adjust my game," Schmidt said. "I also think I'm concentrating a lot better this semester."

Nebraska was not the only university that offered Schmidt a scholarship, as he also received offers from Arizona, Tulane and California. Schmidt said he selected UNL because he liked the school, the campus and the coach. He also said his father grew up in the Midwest and wanted him to attend UNL.

Unlike most athletes, Schmidt said that being on a collegiate team improves his academics.

"I think that when I'm playing tennis it helps me regulate my time better," Schmidt said. "When I don't have practice I just sit around. Practice limits the amount of free time I have so I have to study every hour that I have available."

"I think we'll do well. We've beaten Iowa State and should have beaten Kansas State," he said. "We've never placed better than fifth place, but I think we should be able to place in the top three. Returning champion Colorado and Missouri will be tough," he said.

The fact that the team has good goal scorers, good mid-fielders and that it only lost one person to graduation are strong points of the squad, Hornby said.

"To have a good team, you need good mid-fielders. You have to have people that can run all day since they must play offense and defense," Hornby said. "They're the workhorses."

The team's only weakness is a few people who need some experience, Hornby said.

Schmidt said he is basically a baseline player, but that he will come to the net on a short ball.

"I really like doubles because I get a better chance to get to the net and that improves my volleying," Schmidt said. "It seems like I'm more relaxed at the net when I'm playing doubles. I hope that will carry over to my singles game."

The UNL team has made some giant strides in progress, but according to Schmidt, the best is yet to come.

"We have all the potential we need to be a top team. All we have to do is develop that potential," he said. "How we do will depend on how hard we work this summer."

"Right now there are only two teams in the Big Eight that we think are better than us and that's Oklahoma and Oklahoma State," he said. "We're a young team and we've got high goals. I think in a year or two we should be able to win the Big Eight."

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Intramurals

The men's intramural water basketball tournament was won by Beta Theta Pi "A" as they defeated Alpha Tau Omega 72-44 in the championship game of the double-elimination tournament. The AA's defeated Sandoz 5, 26-6, behind Nancy Hoglund's 14 points to capture first place in the women's tournament.

The Sixers, led by the scoring of guards Jay Rodenburg and Bill Weddle with 19 and 16 points, respectively, defeated Beta Theta Pi "A" No. 1 61-52 to win the men's intramural all-university basketball championship.

The game was close in the early going, then the Sixers got their fast break working late in the first half to take a 35-27 halftime lead. The Betas never were able to get closer than six points in the second half.

Members of the championship team are: Rodenburg, Weddle, Jim Alexander, Steve Mayer, Brett Bunney, Bret Wallin, Kevin Brown, Mike Hupp and Mark Hamnett.

Entries for the men's and women's intramural soccer leagues and the women's and co-recreational slow-pitch softball leagues are due at 5 p.m. Thursday in the Recreation Office.

The intramural soccer officials will meet at 4:30 p.m. today in Coliseum 7. There will be a mandatory meeting for women's and co-recreational softball managers at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in Coliseum 7.

310 economics

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