

Sports

UNL wrestlers press to overcome setbacks

By Jeff Korbalk

If the Nebraska wrestling team had the opportunity to travel back in time, they would probably stop at Saturday, Nov. 26. The then 5th-ranked Huskers lost a narrow decision to 12th-ranked Oregon State, 18-16, in a dual that UNL Coach Bob Fehrs said his team should have won.

"We were not physically or mentally ready to go," Fehrs said. "It reflects on me, and I'll take part of the blame on that."

UNL's wrestlers will try and regroup this weekend when they take to the road, competing in the Lehigh Invitational in Bethlehem, Pa.

Today and Saturday, they are in College Park, Md., for a dual against Maryland, and finish the trip Dec. 6 at Annapolis, Md., against the Naval Academy team.

Fehrs said his 1-2 Huskers are a different team now than they were before the season began.

"Looking at our strengths and weaknesses, we have a fairly good first line and our depth is minimal, but injuries have put us in a bad situation," Fehrs said.

Matt Campbell (118) and Gil Sanchez (126) may not be able to compete again this weekend because of injuries suffered early this year. Campbell is nursing a strained ankle, and Sanchez an elbow.

"We had two people that we thought would be starters quit that reduced us to a mediocre team," Fehrs said.

Fehrs has been trying to correct the problem and avoid a let down. The wrestlers have been doing "mental work," and are pushing harder in practice to raise their condition level, Fehrs said. The team is basically working on attitude, he said.

"Anything can happen in this sport," 134-pounder Chris Marisette said. "We have to work harder and become more aware of the situations on the mat."

Marisette and 167-pounder Jake Sabo agreed that the middle weights have to take the pressure off the shoulders of the heavier weights. Thus far Nebraska's three All-Americans 177-pounder Jim Scherr, 190-pounder Bill Scherr and heavyweight Gary Albright have been performing up to expectations.

"Some of the guys feel that they don't have to win because the heavier weights will," Jim Scherr said. "They are capable, they just have to go out and do it."

Sabo confirmed Scherr's statement, saying the lower weights have to "get their act together."

Cold weekend, hot sports

The final weekend of the college football season will feature three television games tomorrow.

At 11:30 on CBS Florida and Florida State will clash in a game that is always bitterly contested. At 2:30 ABC will carry the annual Auburn-Alabama game.

If you have any appetite left for football WTBS offers Air Force and San Diego State in the evening.

For college basketball fans there are also treats. Notre Dame will play UCLA at noon Saturday on NBC and Indiana and Kentucky will tipoff at 3 p.m. on CBS.

Liberty Bowl likes late-season losers

THE BOWLS

Where does a school wind up when it loses its last three games of the regular season? Why, the Liberty Bowl, of course. Last year Alabama lurched in with a 7-4 record. Now comes Notre Dame (6-5), renowned for failing to beat a single team with a winning record this year.

The Liberty Bowl's existence may be in danger. Notre Dame's opponent is Boston College (9-2),



Bottom 10

which last year killed off the Tangerine Bowl (since renamed the Florida Citrus Bowl).

Elsewhere, Kentucky (6-4-1) and West Virginia (8-3) clash in the We'll Take Anyone (formerly the Hall of Fame) Bowl. Oklahoma State (7-4) and Baylor (7-3-1) made it to the Bluebonnet Bowl, which honors the schools with the most attractive women in the nation.

Washington (8-3) was selected for the Aloha Bowl because it said goodbye to its Rose Bowl chances for the second year in a row by losing its final game to Washington State.

THE RANKINGS

WORST
1) Liberty

PERPETRATORS
Notre Dame (6-5) vs. Boston

Iba: UNL-Creighton game pivotal

By Kevin Warneke

Bragging rights for basketball supremacy in Nebraska could be claimed after the Nebraska mens' basketball team meets Creighton Saturday at 7:35 p.m. at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

The Huskers shot 34 percent from the field in a 59-45 loss to Texas Tech Tuesday. The sophomore-dominated Bluejays are boasting an unbeaten record, and won at Southern at Baton Rouge by a basket Monday.

According to Nebraska Coach Moe Iba, Saturday's contest is a pivotal ball game.

"This game is awfully important to the students at both universities, as well as to the whole state of Nebraska," he said. "Our players need to get their heads up, because they were embarrassed Tuesday."

The featured matchup should be Nebraska's 6-11 Dave Hoppen against Creighton's 7-0 Benoit Benjamin.

Benjamin won last year's battle, outscoring Hoppen 11 to nine and outrebounding him seven to four. However, Nebraska was victorious, 65-62. The Huskers have won two straight from the Bluejays, and lead the overall series 7-6.

Both Hoppen and Creighton assistant coach Rick Collura expect the center matchup to affect the outcome of the game, but agreed that it won't be the only factor.

"For Creighton to do well, usually Benoit has to

play well," Hoppen said. "Some of the pressure like that lies on me too. But the whole team has to play well."

Nebraska is too talented and well-balanced for the Bluejays to concentrate solely on stopping Hoppen, Collura said.

"It (the matchup) could be the key factor," he said. "But both teams have a number of weapons."

Besides Benjamin and 6-7 senior power forward Gregory Brandon, Creighton is scheduled to start 6-2 junior guard Vernon Moore, 6-3 sophomore guard Reggie Morris and 6-3 sophomore forward Kenny Evans.

Although the Bluejays will travel only 50 miles to Lincoln, Collura said, the Sports Center is always difficult to play in.

"Playing away in Lincoln won't be as much of a factor as some games, but we're still playing in a different gym," he said. "We'll have to keep our composure."

Nebraska will have to slow down Creighton's pace, Iba said, in order to play the Huskers' kind of game.

"They've got a very quick team," he said. "Our defensive concentration will have to be there throughout the game."

Overall, Iba said, Creighton is a much better ball club than last year's.

"They're playing with more confidence," Iba said. "They're awfully hungry because people said they weren't very good last year."

Lady Jays face Huskers Saturday

By Ward W. Triplett III

It's not that Bruce Rasmussen, coach of the Creighton Lady Jays, doesn't have high hopes for his team this season.

But a lack of height and speed has made him adopt the coach's cliché of looking at one game at a time.

"We're the type of team that had to play very well in order to win any ballgame," Rasmussen said.

"We are taking this season just one game at a time, because we're going to have difficulty matching up to every team on our schedule," he said.

The Lady Jays will meet Nebraska at 5:15 p.m. Saturday at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. The Huskers won their first two games of the season last weekend while Creighton, despite those match-up difficulties knocked off Memphis State 65-60 at Memphis Monday to improve their record to 3-1.

"They (Memphis State) used a double post, and they were more inside oriented than Nebraska will be," he said. "Defensively, we were able to help out on the posts and collapse back on them. But, we won't be able to use that type of defense against Nebraska. They play a very up-tempo game."

The two teams met last in the 1980-81 season.

The Huskers won the first game in Lincoln 93-49, but Creighton won the second in Omaha 76-69.

The Lady Jays were 10-22 that season, and 6-21 the next. However, Rasmussen started four freshmen and a junior college transfer last season and the Lady Jays finished 17-11.

The major reason was 6-10 guard Conni Yori. The Ankeny, Iowa native broke seven season records as a freshman, and scored 42 points in a 84-82 overtime win against Iowa State.

Yori is averaging 20.5 points per game and 8.5 rebounds this season. Two other sophomores, 5-9 Donna Chvatal and 5-11 Meg Haran joined senior Janet Kundrat and freshman Tanya Warren in the Lady Jay starting lineup. Warren, whom Rasmussen regards as an outstanding passer and ball handler is the second leading scorer at 14.5 points per game.

"We're short and we're slow," Rasmussen said, "and I don't think we have that good of personnel. But if we can scrap and play as well as we can and don't turn the ball over, I have confidence we can win."

Nebraska Coach Kelly Hill said the two different styles should make for an interesting ball game.

"They are very, very patient, ball control team. They try to work it down to the last few seconds on the shot clock and take the high percentage shot," she said.

- C. (9-2)
- 2) Independence Mississippi (6-5) vs. Air Force (8-2)
- 3) We'll Take Anyone Ky. (6-4-1) vs. W. Va. (8-3)
- 4) Bluebonnet Oklahoma State (7-4) vs. Baylor (7-3-1)
- 5) California Cal State-Disneyland (7-4) vs. Northern Illinois (8-2)
- 6) Zendejas Arizona def. Arizona St. 17-15
- 7) Aloha Penn State (7-4-1) vs. Washington (8-3)
- 8) Garden State idle
- 9) Rose UCLA (6-4-1) vs. Ill. (10-1)
- 10) (tie) Blue-Gray North (0-0) vs. SW (0-0)
- Black 'n' Blue Stanford (1-10) vs. Minnesota (1-10)

UNINVITED: East Carolina (8-3), Virginia Tech (9-2).

TELEGRAM (from Idaho Bottom 10 selector Charles Maher): AFRAID YOU'RE IN FOR A START STOP IDAHO (7-2) MERED IN WINNING STREAK STOP NO TELLING WHEN IT WILL STOP STOP SO EMBARRASSED I COULD CRAWL INTO A PIT STOP.

WATCH OUT FOR THE WELCOME WAGON: SMU defensive back Fred Nichols, upon hearing the Mustangs would play in the Sun Bowl in El Paso: "El Paso. Pitiful town."

THE PROS

Kansas City Coach John Mackovic blamed the No.

4 Chiefs' 48-51 loss to Seattle on the substitute NBA referees who worked the game. But in Tampa, Houston Coach Chuck Studley had no alibis. Though they have quarterback Oliver Luck on their side, the No. 1 Oilers (1-12) simply lost to a powerhouse, 2-11 Tampa Bay. The Bucs maintain their record of having won at least two games every year since 1977.

Meanwhile, No. 8 Green Bay went into its Marv Frazier offense (two minute) to catch Atlanta late in the fourth quarter, but then fell to the Falcons in the overtime shift, 41-47.

In Southern California, a young running star moved one step closer to an NFL record. The Raiders' Marcus Allen, with 13 fumbles, is only four short of the mark.

THE RATINGS

TEAM, RECORD	LAST WEEK	NEXT LOSS
1) Houston (1-12)	24-33, Tampa-at-Bay	Miami
2) N.J. Giants (3-9-1)	12-27, L.A. Raiders	St. Louis
3) Tampa-at-Bay (2-11)	def. Houston 33-24	San Francisco
4) Kansas City (5-8)	49-51, Seattle	Buffalo
5) Philadelphia (4-9)	24-28, Washington	L.A. Rams
6) Cincinnati (5-8); 7) Air Coryell (5-8); 8) Green Bay (6-7); 9) San Francisco (7-6); 10) Chicago (6-7).		

CRUMMY MONDAY NIGHT GAME OF THE WEEK: Minnesota (7-6) vs. Detroit (7-6). (Howard Coell is listed as probably).