

Sports

UNL defends gymnastics legacy

By Jeff Goodwin

The New York Yankees. The Green Bay Packers. The Boston Celtics. The Carringtons. All of them are great dynasties, but perhaps no team has dominated its sport like Nebraska's gymnastics team the last five years.

The Huskers have won five consecutive national championships but that streak could end this weekend when the Huskers travel to Los Angeles to try for another title.

This year, Nebraska finds itself in the unfamiliar role of underdog, as the host UCLA Bruins are favored to sweep the Huskers' string of championships.

Despite these reverses, Nebraska Coach Francis Allen is optimistic about his team's chances this weekend.

"What I've sensed is that we're ready," Allen said. "We still feel that we're one of the teams to beat. We don't have that let-out feeling."

Bruins Coach Art Shurlock agreed that Nebraska was still a contender.

"We've got tremendous respect for them," he said. "They looked very good in the dual meet."

Allen said he expected Nebraska, UCLA and either Penn State or Ohio State to make the team final, which will be Saturday afternoon.

"I'd assume it will take a 232 or 233 to get in the final," Allen said. "It'll probably take a 263 or 264 to win."

Allen said the Huskers will use basically the same lineup they've used all year, except that Ben Sander will be in action on the high bar.

Sander, a former gymnast at the University of Minnesota and a Lincoln native, will be competing in his first meet of the year, but Allen has confidence in him.

"He's competed many times before," Allen said. "He'll do OK. I expect about a 9.0 out of him."

Allen said the Huskers must perform well in every event if they are going to defend their championship.

Shurlock acknowledged that the Bruins — as the favorite and the home team — are under pressure to do well.

"But it's the type of pressure I like," Shurlock said. "I think we'll compete like we have in the past. Our guys are really excited about it."

Shurlock said the Bruins are a stronger team this year because they have more depth.

He pointed out that UCLA won the Pac-10 championship even though Mitch Gayford and Tim Duggett — UCLA's top all-arounders — sat out the meet.

"It was probably our most satisfying win of the year," he said.

Shurlock said he thought the layoff the Bruins have had since the Pac-10 championship has benefited the team.

"I think it was really helpful to have the rest," he said. "Our guys are coming into the meet fresh."

Fighter's new life emphasizes peace, love of fellow men

This is the second of a two part interview with former heavyweight boxing champion George Foreman.

By Matthew Stelly

George Foreman's new love is his religion, having been "born again." He reminisced about how one night after the Jimmy Young fight in 1977, he was suddenly overcome with a feeling of death. According to Foreman, a voice asked him, "Are you afraid to die?" After that, Foreman said his entire life changed. He is now an evangelist and often tours the country preaching "the Word."

"When I found the Lord, I realized that I didn't have to fight no more," he said.

When asked to discuss some of the men he fought, Foreman had the following comments:

ALI: "He was the greatest in my time, and No. 2 behind Joe Louis all-time."

ERNIE TERRELL: "Good boxer."

JIMMY ELLIS: "Fair."

JOE FRAZIER: "No. 2 behind Ali."

KENNY NORTON: "Ranks with Terrell as a good boxer."

GEORGE CHAVALO: "No. 3 behind Ali and Frazier. He didn't lose because he was beaten, but because someone else landed more punches."

JERRY QUARRY: "Ranks with Jimmy Ellis — good artist and skillful."

What is George Foreman doing now that he is no longer in the boxing ring? He likes to fresh-water fish in his home state of Texas. In addition, he spends time with his five children Michi (5), George (9), Freeda (7), GeorgeHa (6) and George III (15 months).

His agent, Barney Oldfield, said of Foreman, "At 35 years of age, he's like a rubber band, he's got so much energy. He has unlimited potential to do a lot of great things."

"I want to be remembered," Foreman said, "for the fact that I learned to love my fellow man before I left. I found peace when I learned to care about my fellow man."

Nebraska and Kansas will battle this weekend-weather permitting

Nebraska and Kansas not only will battle each other in two baseball double-headers this weekend, but they also will fight a common foe — Mother Nature.

While the Huskers have had three Big Eight conference games rained out, Kansas has been even less fortunate, having six games cancelled by rain.

Last weekend's rains caused Kansas to cancel a four-game series at home against Missouri.

"There's nothing we can do about the weather," said Jayhawk Coach Marty Pattin, former major league pitcher with the Kansas City Royals. "When a conference series is called off, that hurts. It isn't helping morale much."

"We hated to lose the

opportunity to play Missouri because we could have won a couple of games."

Kansas, 1-5 in the conference, has played only four games in the last 11 days, including a split with Missouri Southern Wednesday.

"Going to Nebraska will be tough," Pattin said. "We have to play the way that

we can play in order to pull off four victories."

After a sweep of two games with Northwest Missouri State Wednesday, Nebraska is 28-10 and ranked 13th in the latest ratings by *Collegiate Baseball* magazine.

Saturday's double-header begins at noon, with Sunday's two games starting at 12:30 p.m.

Women's softball team wails, runs Grandview into ground

By Julie Bauer

The UNL women's softball team feated Grandview College 4-0, 10-0 in a double-header Thursday. This was the Huskers first appearance at home because of previous weather cancellations.

"We've been fighting the weather all year," Coach Wayne Daigle said, "Even today wasn't the best weather but I thought the girls played well, anyway. The first couple of innings were disappointing because we weren't very intense and we had a lot of mental mistakes, but after that our play picked-up."

In the first game, the Huskers jumped out to a 2-0 lead after Denise Eckert hit a two-run homer with Ann Schroeder on first. Then Peg Richardson suc-

cessfully bunted to get to first and proceeded to steal second, third, and home putting the Huskers up 3-0.

Nebraska's other point came in the fifth inning when Debbie Ellison, pinch-running for Stacy Sunny came home on an error by the third baseman after a sacrifice bunt by Schroeder. Pitcher Mori Emmons picked up the win and is now 12-3 on the season.

The Huskers took care of the Grandview in five innings the second game, 10-0. Eckert lead the scoring attack, as she was 3-for-3 at the plate, including 2 singles, 1 double, and two RBIs.

Schroeder hit a home run in the second inning while other hitters included Richardson with two singles and Sunny, Ellison, and Lori Nilson who singled for the winning cause.

"Our pitching was good today and the hitting was excellent," Daigle said. Pitcher Shelby Mertins took the win and is now 2-4.

Defensively, the Huskers held Grandview to three hits the first game and two the second.

The Huskers are now 20-10 and ranked 12th in the nation according to this week's Collegiate Softball Coaches Association Poll. They play again this weekend, when the Huskers will host a round robin tournament with Missouri, Oklahoma St., and Kansas University. Missouri is currently ranked 14th in the nation and is currently 14-7, Kansas is 10-8, and Oklahoma is ranked fifth in the nation and is 20-6.

Nebraska will not play against Oklahoma St. this weekend, due to the pairings in the tournament.

"This weekend will be the toughest competition we'll have to play except for the Big Eight tournament. There will be four very fine teams here this weekend," Daigle said.

Former Nebraska wrestler hopeful for Olympic victory

By Kevin Warneke

Former Nebraska wrestler Al Freeman is confident that he could win a medal in the 1984 Summer Olympics. But he doesn't know if he will get the opportunity.

The Griswold, Iowa, native finished an illustrious career for the Huskers which included an 82-24-2 record, first and fourth place finishes in the Big Eight championships and second and eighth place finishes in the NCAA national championships.

Despite his credentials, Freeman said he will just be another wrestler at the Olympic wrestling trials to be held in Iowa City, Iowa.

According to Freeman, the trials will be held in two parts, with only six wrestlers advancing in each weight class.

Of the 149½ pound weight class, Freeman says he ranks himself in the top five. Bob Fehrs, Nebraska's wrestling coach, agrees.

"It's really hard to say how I will do," he said. "Anyone could defeat anyone on any given day."

"The real hard part is making the

team," he said. "If I did, I'm real confident that I could win a medal."

To make the Olympic squad, Fehrs said Freeman will have to defeat opponents that he hasn't been able to overcome in the past.

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Lou Anne Zacek/Daily Nebraskan



UNL Sports Information
Denise Eckert, who hit a two-run homer.

Rec Scoreboard

Bowling

East Union, Night Owls

High men's game and series —
Bill Rozmajzl, Space Tracers 181, 500

High women's game —
Peggy McGinty, Space Tracers 162

High women's series —
Anne Harkreader, Killer Curettes 426

UNL's men's volleyball club will play in the United States Volleyball Association Great Plains regional tournament this weekend at the UNO fieldhouse.

The final of the regional will be televised live on Cox Cable in Omaha.