

Sports

Thacker qualifies for NCAA championships

By Bob Asmussen
Staff Reporter

Angela Thacker finally hit the mark and Keith Jones barely missed it Saturday at the Frank Sevigne Husker Invitational track meet at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Thacker, fourth place finisher in the Olympic long jump, qualified for the NCAA Indoor Championships in the event. Thacker had been unable to qualify earlier in the year because of injuries. Saturday she won the long

jump with a leap of 20-3 1/4, well under her personal best of 22-4 1/4.

"I felt a little off," Thacker said. "I feel I can do a lot better than I did today. This is really the first meet I've jumped in all year."

The meet, honoring Nebraska's late track coach Frank Sevigne, brought together some of the most outstanding collegiate performers in the nation. No team scores were kept in the meet.

In the men's 60-yard dash, Nebraska's Jones missed qualifying for the NCAA championships by .02 seconds. He defeated Missouri's Chidi Imoh with a time of 6.24. Nebraska Coach Gary

Pepin said he wants to see Jones make the national field.

"By the time the conference meets rolls around we think he'll be able to qualify," Pepin said. "If he doesn't make it there, we might send him to a post-conference meet."

Nebraska qualified several members of its women's team for the NCAA championships. The three-time national indoor champions had seven people meet the NCAA qualifying standards. Pepin said he still hopes a couple of other members of the women's team reach qualifying marks.

"I don't know if we have enough to

win it (the nationals)," Pepin said. "I was hoping that Nicole All would get qualified in the 880. That was a disappointment. We thought Deb Smith had a chance in the shot put."

The Nebraska men's team had only two winners in the meet — Jones in the 60 and the distance medley relay team of Glen Cunningham, Dennis Wallace, Gerard O'Callaghan and Jean Verster. The relay team barely edged Wisconsin at the tape and qualified for the NCAA Indoor Championships.

Other high finishers for the Nebraska men's team included Darren Burton's second place in the high jump, Robert Metz' second place in the triple jump,

Regis Humphrey's third place in the 500 meter dash and John Hastings' third place in the 440.

The Nebraska women's team won seven of 14 events. Besides Thacker's victory in the long jump, she won the 60-yard dash with a time of 6.70. Rhonda Bianford won the 60 hurdles in a sports center women's record time of 7.53. Other winners for Nebraska were Karen Grant in the triple jump, Marcia Tate in the 500-meter dash, Michelle Milling in the 440 and the mile relay team.

"There were really good quality athletes here," Pepin said. "It was a good day's work."

Husker basketball team's rally falls short

By Jeff Apel
Staff Reporter

For Oklahoma State Coach Dick Halterman, an injury in the waning moments of the Cowgirls' 66-64 victory over Nebraska might have been a blessing in disguise.

Dahrenda James, a 5-7 freshman guard, was injured after Nebraska's Deb Powell had forced a jump ball following a scuffle for a rebound with only 7 seconds remaining and the Cowgirls clinging to the two point lead.

James was forced to leave the game because of an injury and Halterman had 6-1 Denise Derrieux jump against the 5-9 Powell.

"I know no one's going to believe this, but Dahrenda (James) is actually a better jumper than Denise (Derrieux)," Halterman said. "Denise has limited jumping ability. She can only jump about a foot high while Dahrenda, being the tremendous athlete she is, has unlimited jumping ability."

Despite her "limited jumping ability," Derrieux was able to outjump Powell and slap the ball into backcourt.

With time running out, the Cornhuskers' Stacy Imming beat a Cowgirl to the loose ball and passed to teammate Cathy Owen.

Owen reached the baseline but was not able to get off the shot as time expired.

"(Cathy) Owen was supposed to get that (last second) shot, she just took

one dribble too many," said Nebraska Coach Kelly Hill. "We played well tonight, we just came up two points short."

The Huskers, led throughout the game, including an 11 point 29-18 lead with 2:32 remaining in the first half and a five point 29-24 half-time lead. Powell paced Nebraska with 22 points, which tied her for game high scoring honors with Cowgirl forward Jamie Siess.

Aside from Powell, freshman Maurice Ivy added 18, Imming had 12 and sophomore Angie Miller had 8.

"We ran our game plan and our pressure defense was just super," Hill said. "They (Oklahoma State) hit some amazingly long shots (the Cowgirls hit eight baskets from outside, including two from 18 feet and two from 16 feet), and we didn't stop (Jackie) Glossen or (Kathy) Schulz (Glossen had 16 points and a game high eight rebounds while Schulz added 13 points and four rebounds) but I don't think anybody can."

Schulz and Glossen brought OSU back in the second half and, with Siess hitting three baskets, the Cowgirls scored 11 straight points midway through the half.

OSU led by 10 with two minutes to play before a late Husker rally that ended with two Imming drives and baskets. The game was tied with 40 seconds left. But, Ivy fouled Glossen with 13 seconds to play and the Cowgirl senior made two free throws that eventually won the game.



Nebraska's Stacy Imming (22) and Debra Powell (32) corral Cowgirl Dahrenda James away from a loose ball in Saturday's two-point loss. Imming, who had two late steals and baskets to make the game close, barely missed a desperate 60-foot shot at the end of the first half.

David Creamer/Daily Nebraskan

Huskers buck cold Cowboys in 66-48 win

By Bob Asmussen
Staff Reporter

When the Chicago White Sox won the American League west title two seasons ago, their rallying cry was "Win ugly." Saturday night it looked like the Nebraska men's basketball team had that same motto.

Nebraska defeated Oklahoma State 66-48 in the Bob Devaney Sports Center. The game was highlighted by 46 fouls, 40 percent field goal shooting and 55 percent shooting from the free throw line. There were two technicals called and people sprawled onto the floor too many times to count. There were nine fouls in the first 3:57 of the game.

"Tonight was really physical," Nebraska center Dave Hoppen said. "We've got a talented team. There are a lot of teams more talented than us, so we're going to have to out hustle and outscrap them."

Nebraska had five fouls in the first three minutes as Oklahoma State led early. The Cowboys' largest lead was 16-11 at 11:10 on a basket by John Nielson.

Curtis Moore and Hoppen scored the game's next eight points to give Nebraska a 17-16 lead with 7:19 left in the half. They trailed only once more in the game.

Despite picking up his third foul and having to sit out the last two minutes of the first half, Hoppen finished the period with 17 points.

Oklahoma State's Joe Atkinson, the Big Eight's 11th leading scorer, picked up his third foul with 8:22 left in the first half. Atkinson played 27 minutes before fouling out and finished with three points.

Nebraska led 31-29 at half and Hansen said he thought his Cowboys still had a good chance of winning the game.

A nine-point run by Nebraska early in the second half gave the Cornhuskers a 46-34 lead with 11:58 to play. Oklahoma State pulled back to within 46-39 after Hoppen had been whistled for his fourth foul and a technical for cursing at a referee.

Even with Hoppen out, the Cornhuskers were able to build the lead to 54-42, before the junior center came back into the game.

Nebraska, now 14-7 overall and 4-4 in the Big Eight, is tied with Iowa State and Missouri for third place in the league. Oklahoma State saw its record drop to 11-10 overall and 2-6 in the Big Eight. The Cowboys dropped their six straight conference game, partly because they shot only 28 percent in the second half.

Nebraska was led by Hoppen's 26 points. Harvey Marshall scored 12 and Brian Carr added 10. Bill Self and Williams led the Cowboys with 10 points each.

Swimming powers triumph in dual

By Ward W. Triplett III
Sports Editor
and
Mike Reilly
Senior Reporter

Two teams that have dominated the Big Eight conference swimming championships for the past five years prevailed once again when Nebraska hosted the Kansas Jayhawks in a dual meet Saturday at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Nebraska's men's team, the five-time defending conference champions and currently ranked 20th in the nation, cruised to its sixth dual win of the season by crushing the Jayhawks, 86-28.

Meanwhile, the Lady Jayhawks, winners of the conference title for the past 10 years, defeated the 12th-ranked Huskers, 64-49.

Kansas Coach Gary Kempf said it is only a matter of time until the dominance of the Husker men and the Lady

Jayhawks ends.

"It's just a flow in time," Kempf said. "Nobody wins forever. People think Kansas is going to win the Big Eight swimming crown forever. That's not the way it is. Things change."

The Husker men won 11 of 18 events against the Jayhawks. Jim Fellows, a sophomore from Pittsburgh, Ohio, claimed top honors in two events, the 200-yard freestyle and the 200 butterfly.

Nebraska's Mike Edmondson, Doug Hubner and Ernie Duran posted wins in the 50, 100 and 500 freestyle events, respectively.

Despite the impressive win, Bentz said, his team must swim faster in a dual at Iowa State next Saturday.

"We need to take care of some small details and focus on what we want to do," Bentz said. "We need to swim sharper against Iowa State than we did today."

In the diving competition, Nebraska senior Reynaldo Castro led a Husker

sweep on the one- and three-meter boards. Castro outdualed teammates Lewis Meyers and Alvin Spencer on the three-meter board and edged Meyers and Matt Clark in the one-meter competition.

"Reynaldo did well on a couple of dives we've been working on this week," Nebraska diving coach Jeff Huber said. "He still missed his reverse optional, it's coming along but he still has to get better at it."

Huber said the trio of Castro, Meyers and Spencer will be tough to beat at the conference championships March 7 through 9.

"Meyers has been doing a tremendous job," Huber said. "They're going to have to deal with him because he's diving very well, and when Spencer starts popping, he's tough to beat too."

Marcie Herrold, a former Columbus High Swimmer won three distance events to lead the Lady Jayhawks past their closest conference competitors.

"She is one of the most coachable young ladies I've ever worked with, one of the hardest workers I've ever been around, and that was one of the best triples I've ever seen in 10 years of collegiate coaching," Kempf said.

The Huskers took an early lead in the dual with victories in the 400 medley relay and the 200 freestyle. Shauna Gilmore won that event in less than a second over Husker Linda Sebesta. Gilmore, Penny Stanek, Erin Hurley and Dana Powers combined for the relay win.

But Herold beat Powers in the 200 by a full second, and the Jayhawks' Tammy and Jackie Pease took first and second in the 100 freestyle. That event pushed Kansas to a two-point lead it never relinquished. Herold then beat Emily Ricketts in a meet record 5:03.65 in the 500 freestyle and Becci Ream outraced Hurley in the 200 breaststroke to put the dual out of reach.

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