

Sports

Nebraska men aim for sixth straight swim title

By Jeff Apel
Staff Reporter

Nebraska opens defense of its five-year reign on the Big Eight swimming title this morning remembering last week.

That's when the Nebraska women broke a 10-year Kansas domination of the Big Eight women's swimming crown with a convincing 682-567 victory. The four men's Big Eight teams will try to pull the same trick on Nebraska this weekend.

Preliminaries each day of the three-

day meet begin at noon, while finals are scheduled for 7:30 p.m.

The Huskers are the meet favorite among the league's coaches. They received 16 total points with 13 for Iowa State and nine for Missouri.

"Realistically, I feel we have an excellent chance to repeat as Big Eight champions," Nebraska Coach Cal Bentz said. "This is the strongest and the most talented I've ever had, so we definitely have a good shot at it (the title)."

If Bentz expects to continue his Big Eight dominance, he will need strong

performances from Ed Jowdy in the 200-yard backstroke and Ernie Duran and Tom Treece in the 400-yard individual medley.

Jowdy, a freshman from Glastonbury, Conn., will be matched against Kansas' Brad Coens, who is the reigning Big Eight champion in the 200-yard backstroke. Earlier this season, in the Husker Invitational, Jowdy defeated Coens with a winning time of 1:54:25, while Coens finished a distant fourth with a 1:57:49 clocking.

Duran, a sophomore from Fresno, Calif. and Treece, a freshman from Colorado Springs, Colo. will match up

against Missouri's Matt Frentsos in the 400 IM, an event which Frentsos was a national qualifier in last year.

This season, however, Frentsos has only managed a 4:05:95 clocking in the 400 IM, which is a full six seconds off a national qualifying time.

"Matt isn't swimming quite as fast as he was last year," Bentz said. "But I'm sure he'll be up for this meet."

Not only is Frentsos expected to be up for this meet, but the entire Nebraska team as well, as the Cornhuskers strive to qualify more individual swimmers and relay teams for nationals.

"At this time, we only have one individual — Ed Jowdy — who has qualified for nationals," Bentz said.

Jowdy qualified in both the 100- and 200-yard backstroke with qualifying times of 50:87 in the 100 and 1:49:85 in the 200.

"With the level of competition we're going to be competing against, we should be able to qualify more individuals as well as more relay teams," Bentz said.

Tickets for the conference meet are \$3 for adults and \$2 for students per session. All-season passes are \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

Huskers tennis coach changes NU's goals

By Mike Reilley
Senior Reporter

An 0-3 record and two key injuries this weekend has changed Nebraska men's tennis coach Kerry McDermott's outlook on the rest of the season.

"This is going to be a tough year," McDermott said. "We've got a pretty tough schedule and we've been injury prone."

Sophomore Jim Burton missed the Texas trip with a sprained ankle and senior Ashwin Vasani played in only one match, a 6-5, 7-6 loss to Texas Tech's H.C. Taylor before being forced out of action with a pulled stomach muscle.

"Ashwin is just not up to 100 percent right now," McDermott said. "It (the injury) has been bothering him since he left for Christmas break. He's going to have to sit out for a while."

Despite the three losses, which dropped the Husker's dual record to 2-5, McDermott was pleased with his team's performance.

"We didn't play all the bad considering it was our first time playing outdoors," McDermott said. "We have an average team this year."

The injuries also have changed McDermott's pre-season expectations of a third-place finish behind conference powerhouses Kansas and Oklahoma State.

"I was optimistic that we could finish third, but now we're looking at fourth or fifth," McDermott said. "It depends on how the team jells in April."

Nebraska opens its conference schedule April 2 at Iowa State.

The Huskers opened their three-day trip with a 8-1 loss to Texas Tech. The No. 1 doubles team of Jim and Pat Carson were the only Huskers to win a match.

Jim, a senior, won the conference title in the No. 5 singles and qualified for the NCAA tournament in the No. 1 doubles with Craig Johnson, who red-shirted this year.

McDermott said Jim's transition from playing No. 5 singles to the No. 1 spot has been difficult. Jim finished the weekend with an 0-3 record in the singles competition.

"Jim would probably be a No. 3 or No. 4 player on a good team," McDermott said.

Against West Texas State, Ridge Smith and Pat Carson won the No. 3 and No. 4 matches, respectively, as the Huskers lost 7-2.

Although the trip "definitely didn't help our confidence," McDermott said the Huskers did manage to find one bright spot when junior Mark McDonald won a pair of matches in a 7-2 loss to Rice.

McDonald filled in for Vasani at No. 6 singles and posted a 4-6, 6-4, 6-4 win over the Owls' Mark Miller. McDonald also teamed with Levi DeGuzman to claim a two-set win in No. 3 doubles.

"Mark really surprised me," McDermott said. "He's been playing No. 7 or No. 8 singles for us this year and took over Ashwin's spot and did a good job. He's a real scrapper."



Dave Hoppen/Daily Nebraskan

Dave Hoppen led Nebraska with 19 points despite being held scoreless in the last seven minutes of Tuesday's 74-69 loss to Kansas in Lawrence. Hoppen was named All-Big Eight earlier this week to go with a nomination to the All-Academic Big Eight team.



Rec Scoreboard

The finalists of last year's All-University basketball tournament played a significant role in Monday's quarterfinal action, but with drastically different results.

In one Coliseum game, Norgas, the defending champions, were ousted 81-51 by Gordon's, which entered the finals with a 3-2 record. In the next game, Return of the Schrooms, last year's runner-up, came close to an intramural basketball record by scoring 101 points while holding Highland Grocery to 70.

Intramural coordinator Kendra Scheele said the 101 points fell short of a believed record of 108 set in a co-rec game last year. However, she said, the Schrooms reached the 80-point lead with over five minutes to play. In intramural basketball, the game officially ends when one team takes a 30-point lead.

BASKETBALL

- Women's**
Smith Ten 62 (3.3), Smith Seven 81 (3.2)
Joan Joyce and the Blackhearts 60 (3.2), Chi Omega 29 (3.5)
Catch Twenty-Two 38 (3), Love Hall 7 (3)
Delta Gamma 40 (3.7), Limit 37 (3.5)
Lightweight
Hovers 53 (3), Pork Chops 46 (3.2)
Phi Gamma Delta 60 (2.7), HEM 59 (2.2)
Temporary Heroes 61 (2.5), Old Style Light 49 (2.5)
Cather Six 48 (3.7), Talking Mudpuppies 25 (3.7)
Sigma Phi Epsilon 62 (4), Schramm Four 46 (3.2)
Sweets 58 (3.5), Phi Kappa Psi 44 (3.2)
Burr Two West 48 (4), Alpha Tau Omega 41 (3.5)
Delta Upsilon 48 (3.5), Some Guys from Jersey 46 (3.3)
Small Fry
Sigma Phi Epsilon 48 (2.7), Thunderchickens 45 (3.5)
Alpha Tau Omega 70 (4), Phi Gamma Delta 57 (4)
Short but Slow 67 (3), Longfollows 57 (3.6)
Average White Team 70 (3.6), Cather Nine 40 (3.6)
Faculty/Staff
Animal Science 45 (3), Artesians 28 (4)
Pro Profs 30, Chemistry 6 (Forfeit)
Animal Science Two 62 (4.2), Clovers 34 (4)
Psychology 35 (4), Law College 28 (4.2) - A
Alpha Tau Omega 61 (3.5), Phi Gamma Delta 40 (3.5)
Beta Theta Pi 56 (3.6), Chi Phi 59 (3.4)
Kappa Sigma 48 (3.5), Beta Sigma Psi 46 (3.2)
Sigma Phi Epsilon 61 (3.5), Phi Delta Theta 34 (3.1)
Phi Gamma Delta 62 (4.7), Sigma Alpha Epsilon 41 (4.7)
Sigma Nu 38 (4), Triangle 34 (4.3)
Delta Tau Delta 61 (4.2), Acacia 43 (4.2)
Dream Team 34 (3), Crucial Black Experience 31 (3)
Gordon's 81 (3.2), Norgas 61 (3.3)



Mark Davis/Daily Nebraskan

Dale Stara, right, of the Talking Mudpuppies and Rick Comte of Cather Six both look for the open man in lightweight division intramural basketball. Cather Six won the game 48-25 to advance in the playoffs, which will reach the division semi-finals next week. All-University play starts Wednesday.

- Return of the Schrooms 101 (3), Highland Grocery 70 (3.3)
Free Builders 32 (3.5), Bill's Team 26 (3.6)
B/C
The Beast 52 (3.6), Soupbones 30 (3.3)
Obulars 59 (3.5), Superior Sasquaches 37 (3.5)
Architecture 52 (3.3), Moe Must Go 34 (3.3)
Varsity 44 (3.6), High Risers 36 (3.3)
Lori's Leapers 72 (3.2), Savage Dogs 58 (3.2)
Otis Day and the Knights 62 (3.6), Gangsters of Crimes 56 (2.3)
Silver Bullet Express 65 (3.6), Holy smokers 50 (3)
Hovers 61 (3.3), Help 45 (2.3)
Sweets Two 43 (3), Hoyas 41 (3.5)
Potentials 62 (3.6), Glizacs 35 (4)
Phi Kappa Psi 56 (4.2), Sigma Phi Epsilon 54 (4.2)
Delta Theta Pi 69 (4), Phi Kappa Psi B 34 (3.7)

- Delta Upsilon 59 (3.5), Alpha Tau Omega 49 (3)
Sigma Alpha Epsilon 53 (3.7), FarmHouse 43 (4.2)
Alpha Tau Omega 46 (4), Tau Kappa Epsilon 36 (3.6)
WATER POLO
Phi Gamma Delta 14 (4.3), Alpha Tau Omega 8 (3.7)
Titanic Reaction 23 (4), Schramm Four 8 (4)
BOWLING
Pin Pounders
High games, series — Mike Tuckerman, Dick and Jane's, 264 and 621; Nancy Beforth, Lucky Strikes, 164; Trina Pekas, D'Riskies, 444.
Note — Tuckerman's score is a season high for the East Lane.
50/50
Tim Golligles, Sex Pins, 234, 677; Lori Simpson, Suba, 188; Jody Lincoln, Sex Pinz, 490.

Gymnasts second in dual Women leave meet with 'bushel' of honors

Nebraska's women's gymnastics team may not have won its most recent competition, but after a dual with three West Coast powers, the Huskers left with a bushel of team and individual honors.

The Huskers scored a team high of 182.35 to finish second in a meet with UCLA, Arizona State and California. In that same meet, freshman Racine Smith broke Kim Grabowski's all-around record with a 37.29 and scored a 9.7 on the uneven bars for another school record.

The team also broke the all-time scoring record for the bars with a 46.5 rotation.

It was a strong performance to go into the last weeks of the season, the dual session of which will end tonight at Missouri. The Huskers and the Tigers are tied for 13th in the national rankings.

Ironically, before the record-breaking performances Saturday in Tempe, Ariz., the Huskers had their lowest score of the season, a 170.40 in the Stizler Invitational in Fullerton, Calif.

Gymnastics coach Rick Walton said the six-hour plane trip took a lot out of his athletes. He said the team had no rest time before competing at Fullerton.

"The girls were tired and when they

competed against Stanford (No. 10), and Fullerton (No. 4), I think they were in a state of awe," Walton said.

More rest and the fact that four all-rounders averaged in the nines helped Saturday's performance, Walton said.

The score also may qualify Nebraska for the NCAA regionals March 20.

"If the team can keep their score up through our last two regular season meets, then we will go to the regionals," Walton said.

The Huskers' next and last home appearance is next weekend at the Big Eight Championships. Missouri and Nebraska are expected to battle ninth-rated Oklahoma for the title.