

Sports

NU receivers' coach accepts Wyoming job

By The Associated Press and Staff Reports

Gene Huey, who has been the wide receivers' coach at Nebraska since 1977, has accepted a position as offensive coordinator at the University of Wyoming, Huey confirmed Sunday night.

"I've been at Nebraska's program for 10 years and they've been 10 very fine years for me," Huey said. "But sometimes it hits you that you need to challenge yourself a little more."

"Lord knows this is going to be a challenge," Huey said. "There isn't a better one than this. So, for what it does to offer me, I felt I should take it."

During his 10 seasons at Nebraska, Huey helped to develop such players as All-Americans Irving Fryar and Junior Miller and all-Big Eight selections Kenny Brown, Tim Smith and Jamie Williams.

The Wyoming position will be a homecoming for Huey, who played his college football at that school for then assistant coach Paul Roach in 1966-68. Those Cowboy teams won three Western Athletic Conference championships.

Huey set 13 Wyoming records as a receiver and made WAC all-conference teams as a receiver and as a defensive back. He was the first player to earn both offensive and defensive honors in the WAC.

After short stints with St. Louis, Minnesota and San Diego in the National Football League in 1969 and 1970, Huey returned to Wyoming in 1971 to coach the Cowboys' freshman team before accepting a

job at New Mexico, where he served as a receivers' coach from 1974-76.

Roach, who had been Wyoming's athletic director for several years, was named the school's football coach Jan. 9 after Dennis Erickson left to become Washington State's coach.

The Cowboys were 6-6 overall and 4-4 in the WAC last season.



Huey

"Over the last 17 years some hard times have fallen over the program, particularly because of the revolving door of coaches," Huey said. "Wyoming has potential. I feel if the right people are there, we can get it done."

Huey, 39, was expected to leave Tuesday to recruit for Wyoming. He recruited in Texas and Louisiana for Nebraska and will continue in that territory for Wyoming.

UNL falls to Arizona in first meet

By Rich Cooper
Staff Reporter

At the start of the fourth rotation Friday night at the Bob Devaney Sports Center, Arizona women's gymnastics coach Jim Gault told his team to "let it fly" on vault because it could be close.

That's exactly what they did, as the No. 9 ranked Wildcats, behind NCAA vault champion Mary Kay Brown's 9.6, defeated the Nebraska women's gymnastics team 184.45 to 181.90.

Minnesota, ranked No. 14, finished third in the meet with a 177.45.

Before the fourth rotation started Arizona had already opened up a two-point lead, Cornhusker coach Rick Walton said.

In the third rotation the Huskers performed on balance beam, while the Wildcats performed the floor exercise, one of their strongest events.

The Wildcats averaged 9.3 on the floor exercise while the Huskers averaged 8.9 on the beam.

"Basically, the whole meet was decided in the third rotation," Walton said. "We made some mistakes on the balance beam and Arizona performed well on the floor exercise."

Walton said he wasn't surprised with the meet's outcome. He said he knew going into the meet that Arizona was strong in the floor exercise and vault.

"Down the road, I would have to say those two events will be the ones Arizona will fall back on to win their meets," Walton said.

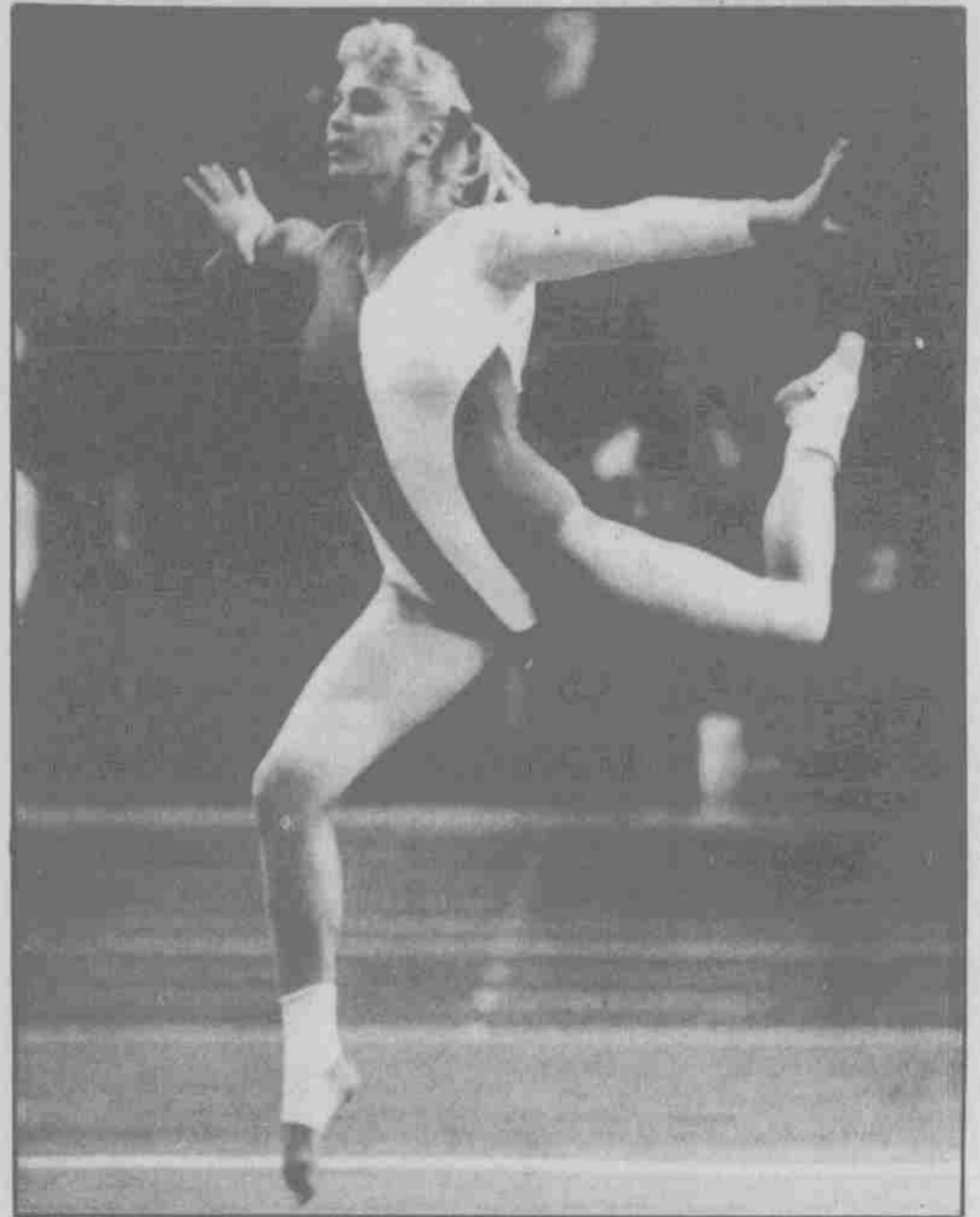
Sophomores Jeaneane Smith and Crystal Savage were Nebraska's top all-arounders. Smith won her seventh career all-around title with a 37.05. Savage finished third behind Arizona's Brown with a 36.80.

Walton said he was pleased with the 35.0 all-around performance from freshman Angie Burdette. Three of Walton's four all-arounders each scored over 36.

"What we wanted to get out of this meet was for our all-arounders to score anywhere from a 36 to 37," Walton said. "We probably had around 12 or 13 falls in this meet, but last week Arizona, in their first meet, fell that many times and look what they did this week with

their score."

Walton said that as the season progresses, Nebraska is going to earn some respect. He said scoring 181 for their first meet is a "heck of a start" and if the Huskers keep improving they'll be scoring 185 by the end of the season.



Linda Story/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska gymnast Crystal Savage performs her floor-exercise routine Saturday night at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Savage placed third in individual all-around points during the three-team meet.

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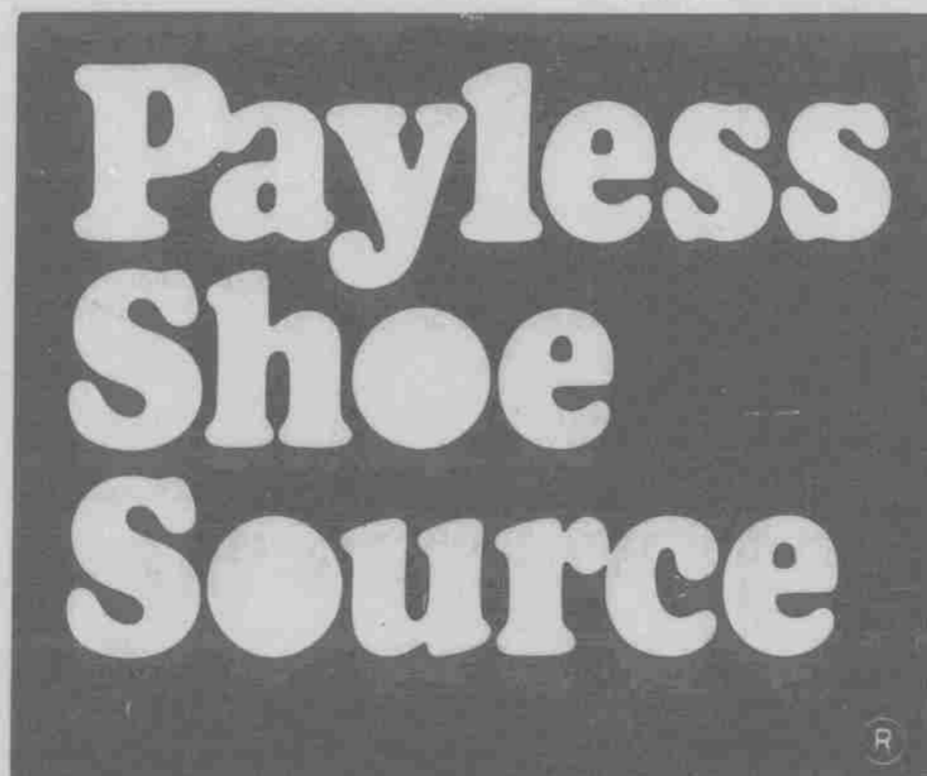
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TIME: 7:00 p.m.
PLACE: Union Ballroom