

Huskers to compete in Texas Relays

By Kyle Schurman
Staff Reporter

Nebraska will see how close it is to making up for a disadvantage in climate when the Cornhuskers travel to the Texas Relays track meet Wednesday through Saturday at the University of Texas in Austin, Texas.

Nebraska will send six men and three women to the meet, even though Husker assistant coach Mark Kostek called the it "one of the better meets in the Midwest." Kostek said Nebraska will send a small contingent of athletes because it will have to compete against many Southern teams, all of which have been in numerous outdoor meets this season. The Texas Relays will be Nebraska's second outdoor meet of the season.

"One thing we have going against

us is we have to compete against the Southwestern Conference schools," Kostek said. "They've had a number of meets outdoors. That's why we only send an elite group."

Kostek said the Husker coaches hope some of the athletes who travel to Austin can gain NCAA Outdoor Championship qualifying marks. The NCAA meet will be in Eugene, Ore., June 1-4.

"We're hoping to get a few qualified," Kostek said. "However, we're looking for some quality performances rather than qualifying performances."

Kostek said shot-putter Dave Brown and high-jumper Tammy Thurman are the only two Huskers who have qualified for the NCAAs, and both are going to Austin.

The other five men who will be at

the Texas Relays are James Blackledge in the high jump, Dale Burrage in the 400-meter hurdles, Jody Fis-

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cher in the 3,000, Rex Gerding in the shot put and discus, and Frank Graham in the 1,500.

Jean Monter will throw the discus and shot put, and Linetta Wilson will run the 400 hurdles for the Husker women.

Kostek said as many as 75 schools may attend the relays, but team scores will not be kept. He said many schools may send only a few athletes to the meet.

"There will be a lot of schools represented," Kostek said, "but there probably won't be a large number of athletes from each school."

The decathlon and heptathlon will be run Wednesday and Thursday. All other events are Friday and Saturday.

Kostek said Nebraska's athletes will compete on Friday and Saturday. He said there will be a high school division in addition to the college division at the relays.

"It's a carnival," Kostek said.

Coach is optimistic about NU's chances

From Staff Reports

Next stop: Norman, Okla.

That is where the Nebraska women's gymnastics team will travel Saturday to compete in the Midwest Regional. After seeing his team defeat New Mexico 188.75-181.85 Friday night at the Bob Devaney Sports Center, Nebraska coach Rick Walton said he is excited about the Cornhuskers' chances in the regional and the NCAA Championships, which will be April 22 and 23 at Salt Lake City.

Walton said he was pleased with the Huskers' performance against New Mexico because they raised their national qualifying score to more than 188 points.

Walton was also pleased because the 188.75 Nebraska tallied was its third-highest score of the season. The Huskers scored a Big Eight record 190.1 against Missouri and a 189.05 against Arizona and California State-Fullerton earlier this season.

"Considering that we had several breaks on beam and bars, that was a good score," Walton said. "After winning the conference championships (March 26 at Ames, Iowa) it was hard to stay up. I'm sure the team will train better for next week's regionals. They won't have any trouble getting up for that."

Good start, end help tennis teams

By Nick Hodge
Staff Reporter

A good start is essential for a good end result in anything, and that is what the Nebraska men's and women's tennis teams did Friday during its sweep of Iowa State at the Lincoln Racquet Club.

Nebraska coach Kerry McDermott said he was pleased with the victories because they occurred during the opening week of the Cornhuskers' Big Eight season. He said the Ne-

braska men got off to a good start en route to defeating Iowa State 7-2, while the women posted an equally impressive start with their 6-3 victory.

McDermott said the men's match against Iowa State was closer than he thought it would be. He said the Huskers could have lost 5-4 if they had not gotten off to a good start.

"The men's was a real good match," McDermott said. "It was a lot closer than the score indicated. It was a close match."

The Nebraska men led 4-2 after the completion of the singles matches. The Huskers then won all three doubles matches in three sets to seal the victory.

The Nebraska women also led 4-2 after the singles competition as Ildiko Guba, Doneta Holmen, Nancy Tyggum and Claudia Gandini all won.

McDermott said he was impressed by the performance of Gandini, who defeated Iowa State's Deb Stoppelmoor 6-2, 5-7, 7-5.

"The women gave a pretty good effort," McDermott said. "Gandini had a real good match. I think her win really pumped our girls up."

McDermott said the victories will give Nebraska momentum entering its matches against Wichita State and Colorado at the East Campus Courts. The Husker men face Wichita State at 1 p.m. Friday, and both squads face Colorado at 10 a.m. Saturday.

"It helps our confidence," McDermott said. "It gives us confidence going into this week's matches."

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