# Bob Devaney to host competitive meet

**By Darran Fowler** Staff Reporter

The absence of an Olympic champion won't weaken the competitiveness of the Frank Sevigne-Husker Invitational.

Nebraska assistant track coach Mark Kostek, who is serving as the meet's coordinator, said this year's competition will be the largest and the best ever staged at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Approximately 1,000 athletes from 70 teams are expected to compete in the meet, which begins at 4 p.m. Friday at Cook Pavilion. Action at the Sports Center starts at 6 p.m Friday with the final event scheduled for 10:20 p.m. Competition resumes at 11 a.m. Saturday.

"Without question, this should be the best indoor collegiate meet, with the exception of the NCAAs," Kos-

Both the men's and women's fields are talent-laden with some of the finest collegiate athletes around.

It's just packed with great talent."

Virginia sophomore Paul Ereng -a gold medalist at the 1988 Summer Olympics in the 800-meter run -- was expected to compete this weekend, but will miss the meet because of a week-long bout with the flu.

"I'm disappointed," Ereng said. "I really wanted to compete.

Nebraska track coach Gary Pepin said Ereng's absence won't mean a lack of quality competition. He said the meet will be a good test for the Cornhuskers.

"We'll have a pretty good idea of where we stack up after this weekend, which is good, because then we have two weeks to prepare for the conference meet and another two weeks

tek said. "It's an awesome field of athletes that will compete. before nationals," Pepin said. "So, Lincoln literally roll out the red carthletes that will compete. this meet comes at a good time for pet."

Kostek said the meet's format was changed because he originally anticipated that 750 athletes would compete. He said the addition of 250 athletes forced him to change everything from the 55 to the 600.

Kostek said winning a heat in Friday's trials won't insure anyone of advancing to the finals on Saturday, as only the fastest times will qualify. He said that is a significant fact because some good athletes may be eliminated before the finals on Satur-

Kostek said he attributes the meet's rise in popularity to better publicity.

"The track has a reputation as being tremendously fast," he said.
"Plus there is great competition, good officials, and the people here in

Kostek said the women's 400, hurdle and long jump competitions and the men's triple jump will be extremely competitive. The field for the 400 includes Nebraska All-America Linetta Wilson, USC's Michelle Taylor and Missouri's Natasha Kai-

The women's division of the meet features four of the top five teams from last year's NCAA indoor championships. In addition to Nebraska, which finished 5th at the 1988 NCAA championships, the field includes Texas, the 1988 national champions, Alabama, which finished 3rd, and USC, which was 4th.

Top-20 finishers Missouri, Ari-zona and North Carolina will also compete in the women's portion, along with Iowa, UNLV, Northern Iowa and Penn State.

The schools that will compete in the men's and women's portion of the meet include Alabama, Barton (Kan.) Community College, Kansas, Brigham Young, Colorado, Midland Lutheran, Colorado State, Concordia College, Kansas State, Drake and Iowa State.

Missouri, Morningside, Wyo-ming, North Carolina, USC, Ne-braska Wesleyan, Northeastern Oklahoma A&M, South Dakota State, Washington State, South Dakota and Northwest Missouri State are also expected to bring full squads.

Idaho, Ohio State and Houston will compete in the men's portion of

the meet. Kostek said the non-scored meet is designed to qualify athletes for nationals. He said he would like to see 50 athletes qualify over the weekend.

"If you're gonna qualify this is the meet to do it," he said.

#### against UN Wrestling dual matches

By Steve Sipple Staff Reporter

The University of Nebraska at Omaha will bring a can't-win approach to Lincoln today for its wrestling dual against Nebraska.

UNO coach Mike Denney said the odds are stacked against a Maverick

"We don't even think in those terms," said Denney, whose teams haven't defeated Nebraska during his nine years at UNO. "We just want to try to go in with the idea of performing well. We never even mentioned (winning).

Nebraska, 8-5-2 this season and ranked 10th nationally, will face the 6-5 Mavericks at 7:30 p.m. in the Bob Devaney Sports Center. The Corn-huskers will also dual 8-5 Wyoming Saturday at 8 p.m. in the sports cen- UNO lost 150-pound starter Larry eight-match win streak ended Friday

Nebraska has been strong against UNO. The Mavericks last victory against the Cornhuskers was a 26-12 decision in 1978 in Lincoln. Nebraska recorded a 27-11 dual victory against the Mavericks last season at

the UNO Fieldhouse. That win was impressive for Nebraska, considering the Mavericks finished 14-2 last season, including a 2nd-place finish at the NCAA Divi-

sion II Championships. But six of the starting 10 wrestlers off that team completed their eligibility, including five All-Americas.

This year, UNO's lineup features

four freshmen and four sophomores. Injuries have hurt UNO. The Mavericks' 134-pound All-America Brian Thomas tore ligaments in his knee Feb. 3 and is out for the year.

Thompson, who injured his shoulder early in the season.

The Huskers are also banged up. 'hey'll wrestle this weekend without 118-pound Terry Cook, who is sidelined by a broken thumb, and 134-pound Dave Droegemueller, who is

being bothered by an ankle sprain.

Jim Sanchez, 14-13, will fill in for
Cook. Mike Hemann, 9-2, will wrestle at 134.

The Huskers, who had a five-dual win string snapped last Friday by Northern Iowa, have been led by 167pound sophomore Scott Chenoweth. Chenoweth, 18-7-2, has won six of his last seven matches, four by major decision.

Jason Kelber, ranked 8th in the nation at 126 pounds by Amateur Wrestling News magazine, leads the Huskers with 22 victories. He had an from Omaha North High School.

UNO is led by heavyweight Clark Schnepel, a senior with a 24-4 record.

"He's a good old solid performer for us," Denney said. "He's our anchorman -- he has been for two

Nebraska coach Tim Neumann said his team must not take UNO lightly. He was critical of his team for not being mentally tough in its 28-15 loss to Northern Iowa

"UNO has three or four real tough individuals, which could make for some interesting matches," Neumann said. "So we just can't show up and expect to win.

Wyoming could pose problems as well, Neumann said. The Cowboys, though, have also been plagued by

by the Panthers' Duaine Martin, a injury. They will wrestle Nebraska three-time Nebraska state champion without three of their top wrestlers --118-pound Lanny Schneider, 177-pound Danny Jackson, and 190-pound Bryan Hagen. All three have

Neumann said he wants Nebraska to use this weekend's duals to prepare for Wednesday's dual against No. 13ranked Minnesota. The teams will battle at 7:30 p.m. at the Sports Cen-

"We need to win these two duals just to improve our dual record and get some momentum going for the Minnesota dual," he said.

Nebraska has dominated its intrastate rivalry with UNO, holding a 14-3 series advantage. The Huskers have a 13-10 all-time edge against Wyoming, including a 31-18 win last season in Laramie.

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## Kruger: NU-KSU game to be close as usual

By Mark Derowitsch

Senior Reporter

Being excluded from the nation's top 20 basketball teams isn't discouraging to Kansas State coach Lon

Kruger. Kruger said Kansas State feels it has the potential to be one of the best teams in the country. KSU will get to show that potential to Nebraska in a contest at 12:07 p.m. Saturday at Bramlage Coliseum in Manhattan, Kan. The game will be televised by Raycom (channel 3).

"I think (the players) feel they can line up and compete with anyone, Kruger said. "But we need to take it a step further and not just put ourselves into a position to win, but to get one (a win).

Nebraska coach Danny Nee said Kansas State's strength lies in its ability not to make mental mistakes.

"They're probably the mentally toughest team that there is in the United States," Nee said. "They just do a really good job of taking care of the basketball."

Kruger said Kansas State's 80-68

win against Nebraska earlier this season in Lincoln won't be a factor. 10 overall and 1-6 in the Big Eight, season in Lincoln won't be a factor. He said the Wildcats will have to shut down Nebraska's inside game in order to win.

When the Huskers go inside, they depend on centers Rich King and Richard van Poelgeest. King, a 7foot-2 sophomore, is averaging 10.9 points per game, while van Poelgeest averages 8.1

"They're big and physical and are real strong inside," Kruger said.

Nee said the Huskers, who are 13-

overs against Kansas State. "We're playing against a team

that I just think is mentally tough and doesn't make a lot of mistakes," Nee said. "They never beat themselves.
"We have to try to go out and play

to our capabilities and not beat ourselves.

Kruger said he's expecting a tough game against Nebraska.

"They always come in here and play well," he said.

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