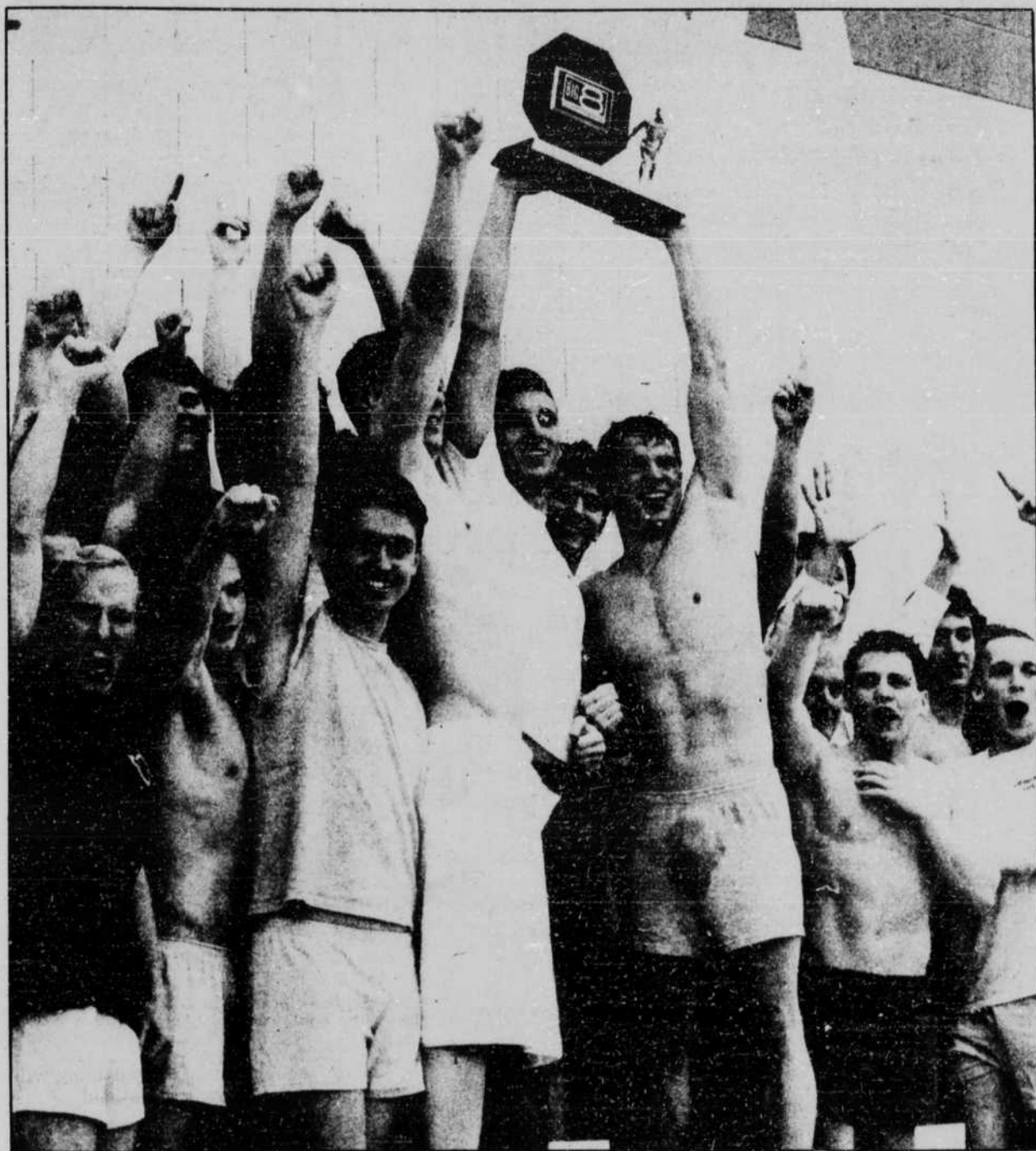


# NU swimmers continue title domination



Shaun Sartin/Daily Nebraskan

Members of the Nebraska men's swimming team display their trophy while celebrating their Big Eight championship.

By Jeff Apel  
Senior Editor

A decade of dominance continued Saturday when the Nebraska men's swimming team captured its 10th consecutive Big Eight title.

Nebraska coach Cal Bentz said the Cornhuskers used balance and an improved performance to wrap up the team title before 669 fans at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. He said Nebraska claimed its title by turning in its strongest performance of the three-day meet on Saturday.

The Nebraska men tallied 655.5 points to outdistance Kansas, which finished with 560. Iowa State finished 3rd with 407.5 points, while Missouri was 4th with 217.

In the women's competition, Kansas won its second straight Big Eight title by tallying 703 points. Nebraska finished 2nd with 626 points, while Iowa State was 3rd with 355. Missouri finished 4th with 208 points.

Bentz said the Nebraska men have become accustomed to winning Big Eight titles. He said that familiarity led to a post-meet celebration that sent all the Huskers leaping into the water after they received their championship trophy.

"Ten in a row -- another championship," Bentz said. "It's like a game. You have to take them one at a time and do what you have to do."

Bentz said the challenge now for Nebraska is to "sharpen up" in preparation for the NCAA championships. The NCAA championships will be held March 30 through April 1 in Indianapolis.

"In terms of a team, the Big Eight meet is always going to be important," Bentz said. "But as we get better we're going to have to focus on the NCAA's as well."

Nebraska women's swimming coach Gary Huppert said his team also needs to focus on the NCAA's. He said he is confident about Nebraska's chances at this year's competition because the Huskers grew up during

the Big Eight championships.

"We took a giant step forward in becoming experienced," Huppert said. "We're a much more mature team."

Huppert said he could not fault his team for its 2nd-place finish.

"We did a hell of a job," he said. "I told them it's too bad there has to be a 2nd-place team because I thought we were winners."

Huppert said the Nebraska women were led by Jenell Garcia and Carole Johnson. Garcia won the 200-yard butterfly in 2:02.41 minutes, while Johnson claimed Big Eight titles in the 100 and 200 backstrokes.

Huppert said Johnson is a fierce competitor.

"She's the kind of kid you want on the free-throw line with no time left," Huppert said.

Garcia said she was happy with her performance. But, she said, her individual title was not enough to overcome the sour feeling she had because of Nebraska's 2nd-place finish.

"It's really tough because I think we out-swam Kansas," Garcia said. "We out-performed them."

Garcia vowed Nebraska would beat Kansas next year.

"Next year will be a great year," she said. "We get a few freshmen in and get them going, and we'll be ready."

Kansas coach Gary Kempf said he was pleased with the performance of the Jayhawk women. He said they are "on a roll" that will carry into next season.

Kempf said the Kansas men were plagued by bad breaks. He said they lost several close races to Nebraska, and also were victimized by disqualifications resulting from false starts.

"We weren't overmatched," Kempf said. "We just had a couple bad breaks."

The Nebraska men were led by Sean Frampton, Mark Nieuwenhuis and divers Lewis Meyers and Law-

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## Weekend brings 'last chance' NU qualifiers

By Darran Fowler  
Staff Reporter

Phenomenal.

That was Nebraska assistant and middle distance coach Dave Harris' assessment of Kwizera's record-setting performance at Saturday's last chance qualifiers meet at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Kwizera, a native of Bujumbura, Burundi, qualified for the national indoor track meet by setting a school and Sports Center record in the 800-meter run despite being ill on Friday night. His time of 1:48.37 bettered

the mark of 1:48.97 set by former Husker Scott Poehling in 1979.

"Literally, he just came out of bed, warmed up and ran," Harris said.

Kwizera was one of three individuals and two relay teams who qualified over the weekend for the NCAA meet. The meet will be March 10 and 11 at the Hoosier Dome in Indianapolis.

At a qualifying meet at Gainesville, Fla., on Saturday, the Nebraska women's 1,600 relay team of Ximena Restrepo, Beth Webster, Tanya Lidy and Linetta Wilson qualified for nationals with a time of

3:39.47.

After failing to surpass the qualifying standard in the long jump at the Hoosier Hills Classic qualifying meet in Indianapolis on Friday, junior James Morris returned Saturday to qualify at the Sports Center with a leap of 25 feet, 4 inches.

Freshman middle distance runner Fran ten Benschel and the men's 1,600 relay were successful in their attempts at qualifying at the Hoosier Dome. Ten Benschel qualified in the 800 with a time of 2:09.23. Freshmen Mark Jackson and Ken Waller teamed with seniors Regis Humphrey and Dale Burrage to finish third be-

hind Auburn and Oklahoma in 3:09.04.

In setting the qualifying time in the relay, Humphrey, who also has qualified in the 800, pulled a groin muscle in the first 100 meters during his sprint of the relay.

With Humphrey's injury, Harris said Kwizera's qualifying became beneficial to Humphrey and the relay team. He said a relay team is allowed one alternate, but if that alternate has not already qualified in another event, the athlete that is replaced then becomes ineligible to compete in any other events.

By qualifying, Harris said Kwiz-

era could run in the relay and Humphrey could still compete in the 800.

"Regis can now afford to do whatever he feels he needs to do," Harris said.

Kwizera said he couldn't sleep Friday night because his entire body ached from his sickness. But he forgot about his problems after he heard the news about Humphrey.

"The first thing I did this morning was I called the track office and I told coach (Mark) Kostek that I didn't feel very well. He told me not to run if I

See **QUALIFY** on 8

## NU finishes regular-season play by losing to Sooners

By Nick Hodge  
Senior Reporter

It was the pace of the game that concerned Nebraska men's basketball coach Danny Nee.

Nee said Nebraska needed to do a better job of slowing down the tempo during its 103-76 loss to Oklahoma Saturday afternoon at the Lloyd Noble Center in Norman, Okla.

"I think the big thing is that we can't play at that pace," Nee said in his post-game radio broadcast. "I think Oklahoma got Nebraska playing at a pace that is not where we can play at. Then it's just a matter of time before we get done in, and that's the problem."

Nee said he was disappointed by Nebraska's performance.

"I thought we played them tough, but this team could be in a post-season tournament," he said. "This team can play better. We have to do better. We got caught at that pace."

The Cornhuskers ended their regular season with a 16-14 record overall and a 4-10 league

mark. Meanwhile, Oklahoma improved to 26-4 and 12-2.

Nee said Nebraska can't play the same style of basketball that the 4th-ranked and 1989 Big Eight champion Sooners can play.

"They just have a different type of athlete than we have," Nee said. "They really can run the floor. They're quick. Then they are deep besides that. You just have to be smart enough to play at your tempo and the way you want to play."

Nee said the Huskers missed the presence of sophomore guard Clifford Scales. Scales didn't make the trip because of sore ribs and a thigh injury.

"Short handed a guard, we just can't match up with their foot speed and their three-point shots," Nee said. "Eventually, they're going to get you. If you start turning the ball over and making mistakes it's eventually do or die."

The Sooners hit 9 of 32 three-point shots, while Nebraska made 4 of 10. Oklahoma forced the Huskers to commit 20 turnovers.

Nee said the first-half tempo caught up with the Huskers in the second half.

"We got caught running a sprint pace when we're in a mile race," Nee said. "We didn't have the poise at the beginning of the game to pace ourselves. I wanted to have the gas tank filled for the second half and we didn't. We've got to work at that."

Despite playing at a pace far quicker than Nee liked, Nebraska stayed with the Sooners through the first half.

Husker senior forward Pete Manning's basket with 14:24 left in the first half pulled Nebraska to within 13-12, but the Sooners scored 10 unanswered points and led 23-12 after a layup by Oklahoma senior center Stacey King with 13:33 left in the half.

A three-point shot by Sooner senior guard Mookie Blaylock with 4:52 left in the first half increased Oklahoma's lead to 45-32.

Nebraska battled back and outscored Oklahoma 10-4 the remainder of the first half to cut the Sooners' advantage to 49-42 at halftime.

Blaylock hit two shots in the opening minute of the second half to propel Oklahoma's charge. The Sooner press and a fast-paced transition game wore Nebraska down. Oklahoma converted Husker turnovers into quick points and gradually pulled away for the win.

Nebraska sophomore forward Beau Reid led the Huskers with 17 points. Junior center Richard van Poelgeest and Manning scored 12 and 11 points, respectively.

Husker freshman forward Dapreis Owens had a career day. Owens scored a career-high 11 points and pulled down a team-high eight rebounds.

The Sooners were led by Blaylock and King. Blaylock scored a game-high 22 points, including 19 in the second half. King scored 19 points and pulled down a game-high 11 rebounds.

Nebraska's next game is on Friday, when the Huskers face Missouri in the opening round of the Big Eight Tournament. The game begins at 6 p.m. at Kemper Arena in Kansas City, Mo.