

Rest

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Nee said. "We're lucky we didn't get someone sick."

Carl Hayes, a junior forward, said it was good to return home.

"It seems like we'd been on the road for at least a year," Hayes said. "It was good to get back and wear our white."

When the Huskers get back into their red road uniforms for the Colorado game, they will be going for a record winning streak. Nebraska is riding a 14-game streak, tying the 1912-13 and 1913-14 teams for the longest string in school history.

Nee said the pressure of maintaining the streak is taking its toll on the

players.

"It's all new to us," Nee said. "I don't know how each individual handles it, but I'm concerned about it."

But the players said that as long as they add to the Division I-leading 16 victories, everything will work out fine.

"We're just winning, and I'm just happy we're winning," Hayes said. "I'm not keeping track of how many games we've won or anything like that."

Ramos said the key to maintaining the streak is concentration on the players' part.

"We keep our eyes focused," Ramos said. "Since everyone didn't get to go home for Christmas, we're focused on just playing."

Gymnasts already meet NCAA regulations, coaches say

Practice limits no problem

By Erik Unger
Staff Reporter

New NCAA regulations regarding the number of coaches, scholarships and hours of practice allowed will not cause a drastic change in the men's and women's gymnastics teams at Nebraska, according to the teams' coaches.

Rick Walton, the women's coach, said his team practices already meet the new limit of 20 hours a week during the season. The limit was passed at last week's NCAA Convention in Nashville, Tenn.

"It won't affect us or force us to

change our training habits in or out of season," he said.

Walton said his team trains once a day and already takes two days off each week. Adding practice time, he said, could get dangerous.

The new rule that allows only eight out-of-season practice hours a week also won't be a problem, said men's coach Francis Allen.

He said that this rule only applies to teaching hours and that athletes still can work out on their own time as long as a coach is there to spot the athlete.

Allen said he can't force his gymnasts to practice, but because of their motivation and desire to make the

1992 Olympic team, they will work out on their own.

However, Allen said his team would feel the effect of the 10 percent reduction of scholarships under the new rule. It translates to the loss of one gymnastics scholarship, he said.

"It will hurt because we don't have enough anyway," Allen said.

But, he said because of the reputation of Cornhusker gymnastics, he doesn't fear a deficit in recruiting.

The biggest effect will be proposed budget cuts. Allen said the team was over its budget last year and the budget has been cut for this year.

"That has affected us more than anything," he said.

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Graf extends victory streak

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) - Steffi Graf ran her Australian Open victory streak to 22 as she opened her bid for a fourth straight title and answered some of the bold talk of her rivals.

Graf sported a shorter haircut Monday and a blood-red bandana in her 48-minute, 6-3, 6-0 hammering of American Jennifer Santrock.

Graf's German compatriot, men's No. 2 seed Boris Becker, also took care of business by beating Jeremy Bates 6-4, 6-2, 6-3.

A brief shower interrupted play with Becker leading 6-4, 4-0, but after the court was mopped and the retractable roof closed, Becker continued to dominate the match.

Gabriela Sabatini put behind her the memory of the severely sprained ankle she suffered here a year ago and began her drive for a second straight Grand Slam title by beating Linda Harvey-Wild 6-3, 6-1.

In other women's matches fifth-seeded Katerina Maleeva beat Brenda Schultz 6-1, 6-3.

Montana earns award

NEW YORK (AP) - While the San Francisco 49ers are trying to win a third straight Super Bowl, their quarterback, Joe Montana, has repeated as The Associated Press Male Athlete of the Year for 1990.

Montana became the fifth athlete to win the award twice and the fourth to win it consecutively, edging out Texas Rangers pitcher Nolan Ryan in balloting announced Monday by the AP.

Montana, 34, who passed for 274 yards and two touchdowns in San Francisco's 28-10 playoff victory over Washington on Saturday, received 33 of a possible 138 first-place votes and 259 points.

Ryan, 43, who surpassed 5,000 career strikeouts and pitched his sixth no-hitter last season, had more first-

place votes (36) but wound up with 254 points.

Montana started his career with the 49ers in 1979. Since then, he has been the Super Bowl MVP three times. He has thrown for 34,998 yards and 242 touchdowns in his career.

This season, he led the 49ers to a 14-2 record and was the league's seventh-leading passer with an 89.0 rating, one year after setting an NFL record with a 112.4 rating. He led the NFC with a completion rate of 61.7 percent, threw 26 touchdown passes, and set a club record with 3,944 passing yards.

In August, Montana signed a four-year contract extension through the 1994 season, when he will have played 16 seasons in the NFL.

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R E G I S T E R N O W

Injuries

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High School. The dual, scheduled at Norfolk to promote the Husker program, will begin at 7 p.m.

Neither Chenoweth nor Penning will wrestle against Clemson, Neumann said, and Billings may also be held out.

Nelson will be out until March, Neumann said, perhaps until the Big Eight Tournament March 14-16.

"But he won't be too far behind when he gets his cast off," Neumann said. "Chris is one of those athletes who works harder when he's hurt than when he's healthy. He'll be lifting as best he can in the meantime."

The injuries have actually had a positive effect on the Huskers, Neumann said.

"This weekend taught the guys that they don't have to have the best team in there to win against good competition," he said. "They can still be impressive. Luckily, the toughest part of our dual season is behind us."

SPORTS BRIEFS

NU's Jennings named player of the week

Nebraska forward Karen Jennings has been named Big Eight women's basketball player of the week for scoring 45 points and grabbing 18 rebounds in the Cornhuskers' two games last week.

Jennings, a sophomore from Persia, Iowa, scored a career-high 31 points and had nine rebounds Saturday as the Cornhuskers won 81-68 at Iowa State. Jennings, who is averaging 17.5 points per game, is the first Husker to win the award since Amy Stephens in February 1989.

Colorado guard Steve Wise was named player of the week in men's basketball in a split vote over Oklahoma forward Jeff Webster and Nebraska's Carl Hayes. Hayes won the award earlier this season.

Women's gymnastics debuts this weekend

The Nebraska women's gymnastics team will open its season Saturday against Illinois at Champaign, Ill., with two or possibly three gymnasts out with injuries.

Freshmen Natalie Bachmeier and Lori Phillips will miss the dual and sophomore Shane Foster is questionable, Coach Rick Walton said.

— Erik Unger

Kelber earns Big Eight wrestling honors

Jason Kelber of Nebraska is Big Eight wrestler of the week for his performance this weekend at the National Dual Team Championships. Kelber, ranked No. 2, defeated the fourth-, fifth- and 10th-ranked wrestlers in the 126-pound weight class to improve his record to 19-2.

Swimming and diving teams win meets

Cornhusker diver Amy Aarsen took fourth and fifth in the one- and three-meter competitions this weekend at the 1991 All-American Invitational. Nebraska's Matt Eastin finished eighth in the men's one-meter competition.

During semester break, the Nebraska men's team won duals at Brigham Young and at Utah, and the women's team won the USC Desert Classic in Palm Springs, Calif.

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