

SPORTS BRIEFS

Four wrestlers make Big Eight team

Nebraska placed four first-team selections on the Phillips 66 Academic All-Big Eight wrestling team. Jason Kelber, ranked No. 2 in the 126-pound weight class, made the first team for the third straight year. Layne Billings, John Buxton and Dave Droegemueller also made the first team, while Chris Nelson and Walt Wunder received honorable mention.

Track athletes get last chance to qualify

Nebraska will send nine athletes to two different track and field meets this weekend for one final crack at qualifying for the NCAA championships, March 8-9 in Indianapolis.

The women's 1,600-meter relay team, consisting of Ximena Restrepo, Shanelle Porter, Tranquil Wilson and Kim Walker, will compete in the Florida Last Chance Qualifier Meet in Gainesville, Fla.

Lisa Graham (800), Meredy Porter (high jump), Fran ten Benschel (mile), Rick Schwiager (55-hurdles) and Phouphet Singbandith (triple jump) will compete at the Iowa State Last Chance Qualifier.

— John Gardner

NU gymnasts rev up for weekend meet

Nebraska women's gymnastics coach Rick Walton said his team is looking to break 187 points for the first time this season in a triangular meet with Missouri and Iowa State today in Ames, Iowa.

He said the Cornhuskers are close to where they should be but still need to be more consistent, especially on the balance beam. Four of Nebraska's six beam gymnasts fell last Sunday and the team only had three scores above 9.0.

The Nebraska men's gymnastics team will be a little more excited about this weekend's UCLA Invite than their coach.

Allen said he considers the Big Eight championships more competitive, even though this six-team meet — including UCLA, Minnesota, New Mexico, Arizona State and Illinois — receives all the publicity.

— Todd Cooper

Team faces Beck tough lineup

By Jeff Singer
Staff Reporter

Nebraska men's tennis coach Kerry McDermott is concerned with the Cornhuskers having to play Creighton tonight at 6, then having to come back to face Wichita State at 9 a.m. Saturday.

Both matches will be held at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

McDermott said the Shockers will give his squad a better match, so he is going to let his reserves play doubles against Creighton. For example, David Moyer, not part of the regular doubles lineup, will team with Scott Randolph at No. 1 doubles against Creighton.

McDermott said he places more importance on the match against Wichita State, since a win over the Shockers would be important for Nebraska hopes of reaching the NCAA championships.

The Huskers defeated the teams last year, winning 7-2 at Wichita State and beating Creighton 8-1 in Lincoln.

Saturday's duel will be Nebraska's last at home until April 13, when the Huskers battle Big Eight rival Missouri.

Beck

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"(Carol) Russell's really been playing well lately," Beck said. "She's making good passes."

That is important to take pressure off freshman point guard Meggan Yedsena, Beck said. Yedsena was tabbed as conference newcomer of the year this week.

Kansas is led by guard Stacy Truitt and forward Terrilyn Johnson with

10.1 ppg apiece. Johnson leads the league with 9.6 rpg.

Losing to the Sooners may have benefited Nebraska in another way, Beck said.

If the Huskers had beaten Oklahoma, they would have won second place outright. As the second seed, Nebraska would have faced the Sooners for the third time this season in the first round of the tournament.

"If we would have beaten Oklahoma and had to play them again," she said, "we might have let up."

Wrestlers

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son." Nebraska's Jason Kelber is a likely champion this season at 126. Kelber is 27-2 and ranked second in the nation.

"He's focused, healthy and hungry," Neumann said. "He came close last year, so he knows what he needs to do."

Last year, Nebraska's second-place Big Eight finish was its best since 1950 and broke a string of six fourth-place finishes.

Neumann said the Huskers need to wrestle extremely well to win the conference title.

"For us to win it, we have to have everyone wrestle to their seeds and then a little bit better, and that's not impossible," he said. "This team has always responded in tough situations, and the Big Eight meet is never easy for anybody."

"This is the kind of thing they look forward to."

Nebraska's probable lineup:

- 118 — John Buxton (20-4-1, ranked No. 7)
- 126 — Jason Kelber (27-2, No. 2)
- 134 — Dave Droegemueller (17-6, No. 11)
- 142 — Layne Billings (8-5)
- 150 — Todd Enger (20-12-1)
- 158 — Jamie Penning (5-14)
- 167 — Tommy Robbins (10-11-5)
- 177 — Scott Chenoweth (11-3-1)
- 190 — Chris Nelson (17-3, No. 8)
- Hwt. — Sonny Manley (16-8-2)

Rec Scoreboard

Results from Wednesday's games.

Soccer
Fraternity B
Sigma Alpha Epsilon 10, Phi Delta Theta 0; Acacia 2, Delta Tau Delta 1; Delta Upsilon 1, Lambda Chi Alpha 0; Beta Theta Pi B2 4, Chi Phi B 2.

Alpha Tau Omega by forfeit over Sigma Alpha Epsilon; Chi Phi C by forfeit over Beta Theta Pi.
Residence/Independent A
Cather 3 1, Roscoe Rowders 0; NU Tennis 7, Schramm 8 6; International Stars II 8, FCA 0.
Women
Alpha Delta Pi by forfeit over Phi Mu.



Aarsen

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for us to goof off and when not to and that helps us get better as team."

Buchholz says she's glad Aarsen is around because she takes pressure off the freshmen.

"Amy's awesome," Buchholz said. "She's so experienced and dedicated to the sport — replacing her will be quite a job."

"She's my idol and someone I've modeled myself after ever since I met her."

Allen said Aarsen wants to help whenever possible.

"I really never had a coach in diving, but when I came here I had two — Jim and Amy," Allen said. "Amy made me feel part of the team

and part of the university."

Aarsen can tell The Kids about all the things that can happen to an athlete in four years. Her senior success for the Huskers almost didn't happen because of injuries; it almost was postponed, and it almost didn't happen here.

After Aarsen's sophomore year, then-coach Jeff Huber decided to leave Nebraska. Aarsen started thinking about transferring.

She decided to stay, though, and doesn't regret the decision.

"I felt more comfortable around Jim after he arrived on campus, and he seemed to take a lot of pressure off me," Aarsen said.

The three-time All-American also has battled injuries, but has fought through them, another thing Hocking

said is good for a role model.

"Sucking it up showed the newcomers what a tremendous work ethic she has," Hocking said.

Then, this fall, Hocking and Aarsen talked about having her sit out as a redshirt so she could work on harder dives off the 3-meter board.

But talk of redshirting became just talk after the team was hit by injuries and illnesses. Savage came down with mononucleosis, Allen was performing inconsistently and a fourth freshman, Heather Mortensen, was injured, so Aarsen went ahead and used up her final year.

Aarsen still will be around next year, though. The things she has learned as a diver should come in handy next year as she joins the Husker coaching staff.

Aarsen will become a graduate assistant coach as she completes her degree in criminal justice.

"I'm looking forward to next year, and it should be a different challenge for me," Aarsen said.

Hocking is excited about having his star diver help him.

"Amy will be a valuable asset as a graduate assistant coach," Hocking said. "She has great understanding of the mechanics involved and is an intelligent person."

And The Kids are glad she'll be returning.

"She'll be helpful as a coach, but missed as diver because of everything she's done," Buchholz said. "It will take time to get used to."

Savage said that Amy's coaching ability should help and, even though she won't be diving, she'll still be around to help with the rough spots.

"We'll appreciate her as a coach," Allen said. "Because you never have enough coaches."

Along with her coaching duties next year, Aarsen will continue to dive in preparation for the Senior Nationals, one step away from the Olympics.

In order to qualify for the Olympics as a diver, one must place in the top eight at the Senior Nationals twice, a goal Aarsen said isn't out of the question.

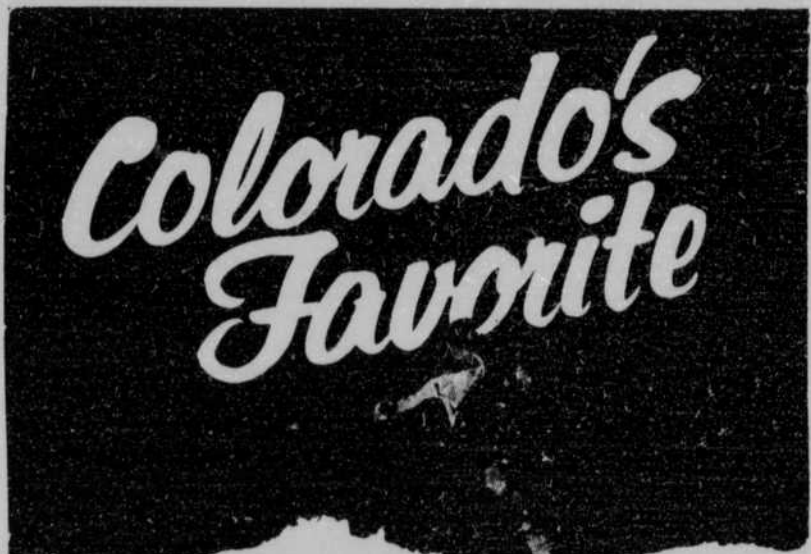
"My ultimate goal as a diver is to make the Olympics in 1992," Aarsen said.

Aarsen will complete her Nebraska career with some high marks. She's a three-time All-American, three-time Big Eight champion and two-time academic All-Big Eight performer, with the 1991 conference and national championships still coming.

"When I came to college I had no expectations and now I'm leaving as an All-American, so my career has been very solid and productive," Aarsen said. "It feels as if it went so fast — it seems like only yesterday I dove in my first duel meet."

Which brings us back to the person who called her "Grandma."

"We've seen what she's accomplished and it inspires us to accomplish the same things," Savage said.



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