

OU coach says NU has chance at title

By Nick Hytrek
Senior Editor

Greg Buwick may be as familiar with the Nebraska men's gymnastics team as Coach Francis Allen is.

After all, Buwick's Oklahoma team has competed against the top-ranked Cornhuskers seven times this season. Oklahoma was one of two teams to beat Nebraska this season. Minnesota was the other.

So Buwick is well-qualified to say Nebraska has a good shot at winning its eighth national title this weekend at the NCAA championships at the Bob Devaney Center.

"They're certainly a contender for the national championship," Buwick said. "But I wouldn't call them the odds-on favorite."

Buwick's Sooners are the defending national champions but didn't qualify for the team championship competition this season.

Buwick predicted a four-team race between Nebraska, Stanford, Ohio State and Minnesota.

"I think it's going to be real close," Buwick said.

But if championships were awarded on the basis of talent alone, Buwick said Stanford would be the logical choice.

"Stanford has the best talent in the country," he said, "but they're not as consistent. If you're going to challenge, you need to be consistent."

Throughout the season, the Huskers have proven to be the most consistent, he said.

"Nebraska's been real solid, which gives them a clear advantage," Buwick said. "No other team's been as solid."

Nebraska has scored more than 280 points nine meets in a row, an unofficial NCAA record for scores above that mark.

But, Buwick said, it's hard to tab anyone as the favorite anymore.



Shaun Sarin/DN

Nebraska's Dennis Harrison competes on the pommel horse earlier this season. Harrison leads the Cornhuskers in the all-around this season, with an average score of 57.12 per meet. Harrison tied the school record in the floor exercise this season with a 9.90.

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1991-92 Nebraska Gymnastics Review

8-1 in duals and triangulars, 33-2 overall
Top two teams listed in meets

Nov. 30 Rocky Mountain Open-Colorado Springs, Colo.

1. Nebraska 279.90, 2. BYU 278.60

Dec. 6-7 Big Eight Invitational-Lincoln

1. Oklahoma 278.30, 2. Nebraska 278.20

Jan. 25 Big Eight Triangular-Norman, Okla.

1. Nebraska 284.00, 2. Oklahoma 279.80

Feb. 2 Ohio State-Lincoln

1. Nebraska 283.60, 2. Ohio State 280.05

Feb. 21 Minnesota-Minneapolis

1. Minnesota 280.95, 2. Nebraska 280.40

March 1 Big Eight Triangular-Lincoln

1. Nebraska 284.65, 2. Oklahoma 281.25

March 8 New Mexico-Lincoln

1. Nebraska 286.20, 2. New Mexico 276.85

March 14 UCLA-Los Angeles

1. Nebraska 284.35, 2. UCLA 274.50

March 27-28 Big Eight Championships-Ames, Iowa

1. Nebraska 286.50, 2. Oklahoma 279.80

April 11 NCAA West Regional-Albuquerque, N.M.

1. Nebraska 286.175, 2. Stanford 285.27



Scott Mburer/DN

Men's tennis team splits matches

Competition snows Husker women

By Jeff Singer
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska men's tennis team barely escaped the clutches of both their Big Eight rivals and the weather, while the women's tennis team fell victim to both in weekend action.

The men split their weekend matches, losing to Kansas 6-3 and rebounding to beat Missouri 9-0, while leaving Columbia, Mo., just in time to escape Monday's blizzard.

The women weren't as fortunate.

The Cornhusker women's slim Big Eight title hopes were dashed by losses to Kansas State 5-4 and Kansas 9-0. And just when the Huskers thought things were going their way follow-

ing a 5-0 win over Missouri Monday, they were snowed in at St. Joseph, Mo., on their way home.

On the men's side, Nebraska played even with the Big Eight champion Jayhawks after splitting singles matches 3-3. Wins from No. 2 player Karl Falkland, No. 3 Mike Garcia and No. 6 Troy Bray enabled the Huskers to have a chance to blemish Kansas' perfect conference record.

But momentum in doubles play swung to the Jayhawks' favor, as they swept all three matches and ended their season with a 6-0 Big Eight record and the top seed in this weekend's conference tournament in Kansas City, Mo.

Nebraska coach Kerry McDermott said he was proud of his squad's effort against the 22nd-ranked Jayhawks.

"We won mentally against them," McDermott said. "We played really

good singles and had a chance to win until the end."

Bray said he was impressed with Garcia's upset over his Kansas counterpart.

"He had to mentally stand up and face the challenge," Bray said. "Being a freshman and being able to stand up to that senior was the highlight of the weekend."

Monday's dual against Missouri went as expected for Nebraska, as the Huskers swept all nine matches in straight sets. That continued Missouri's drought of conference losses, as the Tigers ended the year 0-6. Missouri hasn't won a Big Eight match since re-establishing its program in 1986.

McDermott said the Missouri match went as planned.

"They just weren't that tough of a team," McDermott said. "I was real

See TENNIS on 11

NU assistant a finalist for Western Illinois job

By Thomas Clouse
Senior Editor

Western Illinois University's search for a new head basketball coach includes a Cornhusker assistant coach, but no decision has been made, one of the school's officials said.

Gil Peterson, Western Illinois athletic director, said Gary Barga, Nebraska assistant basketball coach, is a finalist for the head coaching

job at the Macomb, Ill., school.

Peterson said a screening committee was set up about a month ago to fill the vacant coaching position.

"I'm not involved with how Barga became a finalist," Peterson said. "But his chances are very good."

Peterson said the committee would give him its recommenda-

See BARGEN on 11

Baseball, softball games postponed

From Staff Reports

Nebraska's baseball and softball teams both were forced to postpone games Tuesday because of the weather.

The baseball game against Nebraska-Kearney scheduled for last night was postponed indefinitely.

The softball team was supposed to play a doubleheader against Creighton today. The schools discussed another playing date, but Nebraska officials said the Cornhuskers' schedule was full until the Big Eight Tournament May 1-3. No decisions had been made by Tuesday afternoon.