

# Track teams in top position

By Trevor Parks  
Staff Reporter

This weekend, the Nebraska men's and women's track and field teams not only have the burden of playing host to one of the nation's best meets, but also must defend their No. 1 dual rankings.



Pepin

The women were a unanimous selection after beating Arkansas and the then-top-ranked dual team, Illi-

nois.

Coach Gary Pepin said the No. 1 rankings were rewarding.

"It's great for the kids and good for our program," Pepin said.

Pepin said having the type of competition the Huskers would face at the Frank Sevigne Invitational would give his teams an advantage at the Big Eight and NCAA Championships.

"You have to have meets like this," Pepin said. "You get tested and that's good, so when you get in a big meet it's not a shock to the system."

Nebraska assistant track and field coach Mark Kostek said 26 of the 51 schools competing in the meet were NCAA Division I schools. Also, 956 athletes are scheduled to compete.

Kostek said some of the major schools competing were UCLA, Georgia, UTEP, BYU and South Carolina. He also said many other major colleg-

es would have athletes at the meet.

Kostek said the Frank Sevigne Husker Invitational came at the right time for the schools.

"This meet is exactly one month from the NCAA Championships," Kostek said. "So, the athletes are starting to hit their peak performance stage."

At last year's meet, 57 NCAA qualifying marks were set.

Pepin said this year's meet should produce similar marks.

"I'm looking for that," Pepin said. "The purpose for this meet is to provide a high level of competition."

Field events for the 20th annual meet will be held at the Bob Devaney Sports Center at 4:45 p.m. Friday. The running events begin at 5 p.m. On Saturday, the finals for the throwing events start at 11 a.m., and the running events start at 1 p.m.

# Olympic experience lifts freshman

By Tony West  
Staff Reporter

When Canadian sprinter Mark Graham visited Nebraska one year ago for a recruiting trip, he said he liked what he saw.

"The support here in Lincoln is incredible," Graham said.

Now that Graham is a freshman sprinter for Nebraska, the track and field supporters have a chance to appreciate what they see from him.

Graham, from Hamilton, Ontario, already has international experience. He ran a leg in the 4-by-400 meter relay for the Canadian team in the 1992 Olympics in Barcelona. The team went to the semifinal and finished 11th overall.

Graham said the experience provided him with more than just the satisfaction of running for his country in the Olympics.

"That was a turnaround point for me as well as a highlight," he said.

Nebraska track and field coach Gary Pepin said he liked what he had seen out of Graham since the turnaround.

**"I think he's going to end up being one of the finest 400-meter runners we've ever had."**

— Pepin

NU men's track and field coach

Graham has provisionally qualified for the indoor national championships in the 400-meter dash with a time of 47.69 seconds at the Sooner Indoor meet on Jan. 29.

"He's a really quality athlete," Pepin said. "I think he's going to end up being one of the finest 400-meter runners we've ever had. I think he's going to make a significant contribution to our team."

However, Graham said he wanted to focus on his short-term personal goals for now.

Graham said he wanted to run a consistent 45 seconds in the 400-meter dash this season. Despite not having an idea where that will place him, he

said he would be content with just making that goal.

"You go crazy if you don't set goals," he said. "And just as long as I run within myself and my goals, I'll be happy."

But Graham also knows there will be obstacles. He is suffering plantar fasciitis, an injury in the arch of his foot, from running the tight corners of the indoor track. He is also recovering from an early-season lower hamstring injury.

Despite the injuries, Graham said, he has an edge on some other runners.

"Being a freshman is an advantage I have," he said. "I am running very unpressured."

# Huskers set to compete in Minnesota

By Mitch Sherman  
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska men's gymnastics team, which has competed only once since Jan. 4, jumps back into action Saturday in Minnesota.

The 3-0 Cornhuskers, who are ranked second in the nation behind Ohio State, will participate in a triangular meet with UCLA and Minnesota. The meet in Minneapolis begins at 2 p.m. on Saturday.

Husker coach Francis Allen said Nebraska, which will compete in sev-

en meets in the next seven weeks, is eager to return to action.

"We are glad to get going," Allen said. "We really haven't done too much for the last few weeks, so the guys are looking forward to getting out there."

Minnesota's season was put on hold last weekend when its top gymnast, Kerry Huston, broke two vertebrae in his back, possibly causing paralysis.

"He was probably their best gymnast," Allen said, "so that really hurts their team. UCLA is good, but we think we will win the meet. We're not afraid of anybody."

Despite the long layoff, Allen said, the Huskers still are not completely healthy. Junior Richard Grace, who severely sprained his ankle on Nov. 26 at the Rocky Mountain Open, has not fully recovered, but Allen said Grace would participate.

"He'll go as much as he can," Allen said. "We'll let him do the events that he feels he can handle. But I don't think he can go in the all-around."

Following Saturday's meet, the Huskers will travel to Norman, Okla., to take on Iowa State and Oklahoma on Feb. 19.

# NU off to Kansas for double dual

From Staff Reports

The Cornhuskers will compete in a double swimming and diving dual against the Kansas men's and women's teams this weekend in Lawrence, Kan.

On the men's side, the 21st-ranked Huskers will battle the 13th-ranked Jayhawks. The Husker women, who are also No. 21, will go against the 17th-ranked Kansas women.

Despite Kansas' known strengths, Nebraska swimming and diving coach Cal Bentz said he feels confident in his team's chances.

Both the Husker and Jayhawk men are 2-0 in the Big Eight. The Husker women have won their last four dual meets and are 6-1 in dual competition this season.

# NU hopes to improve to 7-0

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska women's gymnastics team can improve to 7-0 tonight with a win over Iowa State in Lincoln.

The Huskers play host to the Cyclones, 1-3, at 7:30 p.m. in the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Nebraska, who is ranked 12th in the nation, improved to 6-0 last weekend by winning a quadrangular meet in Norman, Okla.

Their team score of 192.05 was the highest total of the season and 10th highest score in school history.

Husker coach Dan Kendig said he was impressed with the performance, but still sees room for improvement.

"The girls are a little more focused now," he said. "In some ways last week was our best meet of the season, but we still have some areas we can show improvement."

Kendig said the Huskers have reached mid-season form on the vault and the uneven bars, but have some work to do on the balance beam and floor exercise.

"We just need to polish those events a little bit," he said. "If we can do that, I think we can be in good shape."

Nebraska will need to be in good shape for next weekend's meet. On Feb. 19, they travel to Salt Lake City to take on Utah, who finished third at nationals last year, and Arizona, who finished sixth at the same meet.

nation after wins over Iowa and Nebraska.

But Neumann said he was not displeased with the way his team wrestled last week.

"We're never happy when we lose," he said. "Against Minnesota, we wrestled pretty darn good, and I knew if we didn't wrestle well against Iowa State, it'd go right down to heavyweight."

Wins and losses are of no concern

to Neumann at this point. Instead, preparing for the post-season is a concern.

"I don't care necessarily about wins and losses," Neumann said. "If we win all 10 weights against Wyoming and wrestle poorly, I am not going to be happy."

"They've got to be at their peak. We're stepping it up a level. You'll see the team that you saw at National Duals."

# Wyoming

Continued from Page 10

"Gonyo and Baer have been iron men this year," he said. "They've kept us floating."

Nebraska, coming off two straight losses to Minnesota and Iowa State, fell from No. 6 to No. 8 in the rankings. Minnesota is ranked No. 1 in the

## NEBRASKA Women's Gymnastics

Catch the UNL Women Gymnasts in action as they host the Iowa State Cyclones.

FRIDAY  
Feb. 11  
7:30 p.m.

Bob Devaney Sports Center

General Admission  
\$2 - adults  
Free - children 12 & under  
Free - full time UNL students with photo I.D.



## NEBRASKA Track & Field

Catch the UNL Track & Field Team in action against some of the best athletes in the nation at the 1994 Frank Sevigne Husker Invitational.

FRIDAY  
Feb. 11  
5 p.m.

SATURDAY  
Feb. 12  
11 a.m.

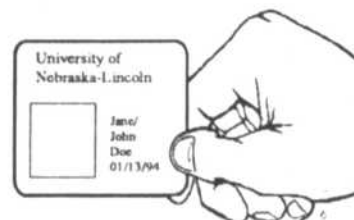
Bob Devaney Sports Center  
Indoor Track

Admission  
\$5 - reserved  
\$3 - general admission  
For ticket information call 472-3111.

Invitational Corporate Sponsors:



## NEW! UNL I.D. Gets You Money Back.



Bring your student I.D. to the following places & receive the following specials.

•CHESTERFIELD'S: 1/2 price appetizer or \$1 off any regularly priced pitcher of beer or pop  
•BARBERETTES: 10 Tans-\$19.95, complete set of nails-\$29.95 (next to Ken's Kegs)  
•GOLDEN CUTTERS: 15% off any haircare product -201 Capitol Beach Blvd #2

•MAX TAN: 10% off any tanning package -201 Capitol Beach Blvd #2  
•NORTHBRIDGE PHOTO CENTER: FREE second set of 3x5 prints -14th & Superior  
•ARBY'S: 1 Regular Roast Beef Sandwich, Bag of Fries, & 16 oz. Soft Drink only \$1.99

•DOMINO'S: Large one topping pizza \$5.99, Medium \$4.99, Two small one toppings \$7.99  
•DA VINCI'S: \$2 Mini, \$4 Medium, \$6 Large Cheese Pizza or Four 6" Hoagies for \$8  
•RECYCLED SOUNDS: 10% off used tapes & CD's, 10% off small & med. posters -824 P St.

•CHARTROOSE CABOOSE: Buy 8" Philly steak or deli sandwich, get small french fry FREE  
•METROPOLITAN BANK: Open a student checking account, receive a \$10 deposit  
•T.O. HAAS: \$10.95 for lube, oil, filter change -24th & O, 13th & South, 3 other locations

•SUITE 9: \$1 off pitcher of beer Mon.-Fri., 9pm to midnight -2137 Cornhusker Highway  
•RESUMES BY ANN: Second cover letter FREE with resume packet (\$15 value)  
•DESERT FLAIR: 10% off unique southwestern apparel for women -56th & Highway 2

•D.J.'S SUNTANNING: One month unlimited for \$37 or 10% off any packet (call for appt.)  
•PARTY MAKERS: 10% off entire stock -233 N. 48th - Eastview Plaza  
•JAZZERCISE: 12 sessions for \$25 -5500 Old Cheney Road

•HARMAN'S: 15% off for students -1422 O St. 474-2402 -70th & A 489-5533  
•BEAD BAR: 10% off purchase -16th & W in the ReUnion Building  
•BARTOR HAMANN: 20% off any jewelry -Gateway, Downtown at 12th & O  
•DULING OPTICAL: 20% off contacts, 50% full-prescription frames -the Atrium, 12th & N

Offers expire July 15, 1994