

Swim teams to dive into first home event

By Tony West
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska swimming and diving teams will face some top competition this weekend to open their home season, Coach Cal Bentz said.



Bentz

The Nebraska men and women will play host to two meets at the Bob Devaney Sports Center Swimming Pool. The competition will begin tonight at 7 with the Husker Sprint Classic and will run through Sunday with the Nebraska Shoot Out. The Shoot Out will begin Saturday at 11 a.m.

Although the weekend will consist of two different meets, the same teams will be competing in both.

Three ranked teams will compete on the men's side: No. 16 Iowa, No. 20 Kansas and No. 23 Nebraska. Texas A&M and Missouri also will compete.

On the women's side, three top 25 teams will compete: No. 16 Nebraska, Kansas and Texas A&M — both tied at No. 24. Missouri's women also will compete.

Bentz said he didn't expect any points to come without great performances.

"There's not going to be any easy

events or easy teams to score," Bentz said. "We look for some very fast times, and I think you're going to find several people of world-class stature."

Bentz said that on paper, Iowa probably was the favorite for the men, while Nebraska most likely would have the edge for the women.

Nevertheless, Bentz said, that is only on paper, and it doesn't say how the teams will finish.

"That's why we have the meet," he said.

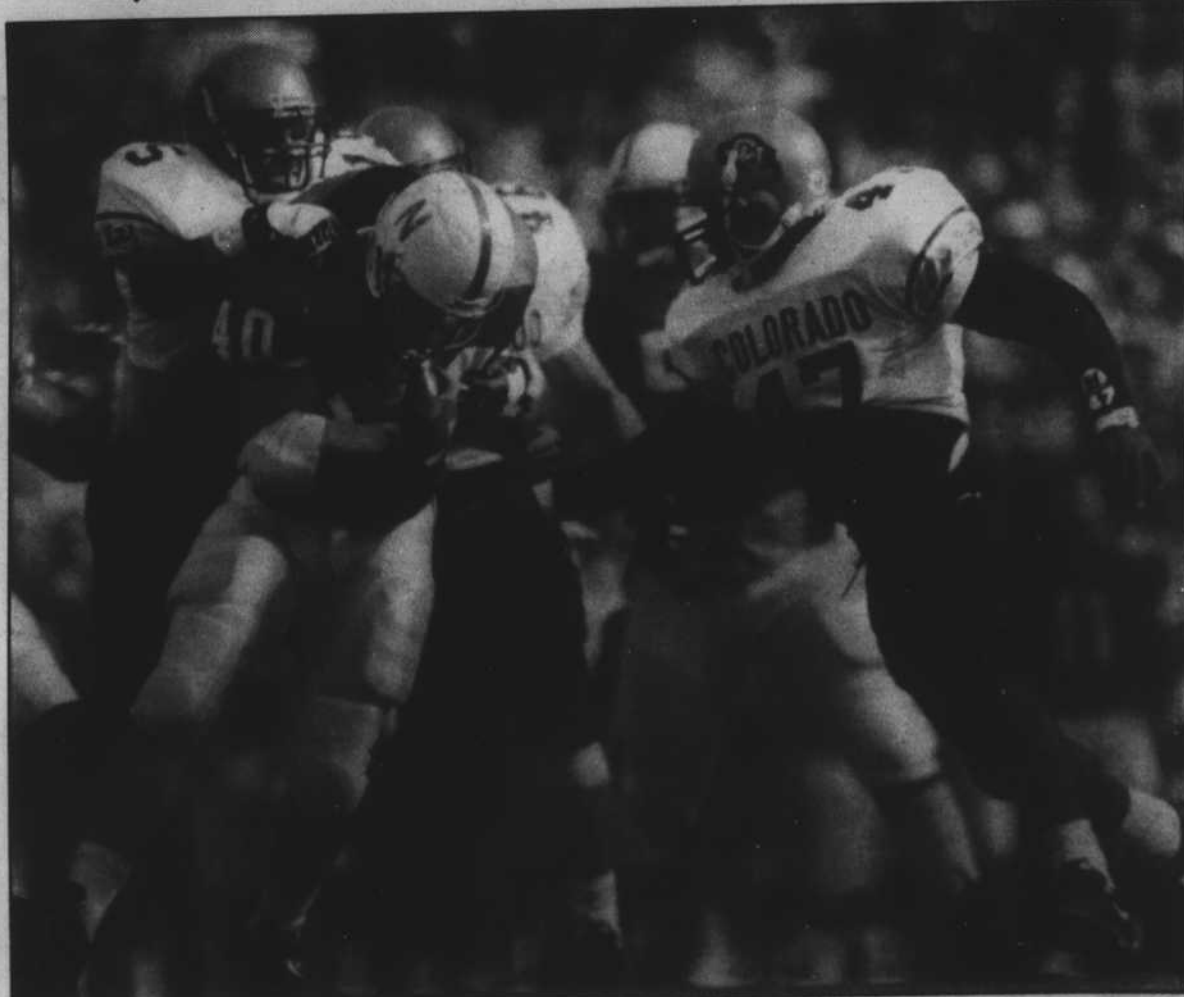
And although Bentz said he was pleased with the performances of his teams, he said improvement still was needed.

"We feel very good about the progress the teams have made to this point," he said. "We just need to continue focusing on our events ... and get details more polished."

"I feel we're going to be much sharper this meet than two weeks ago."

Two weeks ago, the women — with a partial squad — finished fourth in the Southern Illinois Quadrangular. Kansas won the meet. In another partial squad meet at the SMU Invite, the women finished fourth as well.

The Husker men defeated Southern Illinois and lost to No. 1 Michigan at the Southern Illinois Quadrangular.



Michelle Paulman/DN

Nebraska's Cory Schlesinger is pulled down by Colorado's Steve Rosga as Chris Hudson comes in to assist. Schlesinger has rushed for 448 yards this season.

Busting through

Schlesinger making big plays this season

By Derek Samson
Senior Reporter

Nebraska fullback Cory Schlesinger ended last season with the idea that things needed to change.

The senior from Duncan took that thought into spring practice, and after 11 games this fall, it's obvious that things have changed.

"This year when I get the ball, I'm just running," Schlesinger said. "Last year, I was sitting there, looking for the holes, stuttering around. This year I'm busting through that line as hard as I can."

And Schlesinger has been busting big plays.

The 6-foot, 220-pound, two-year starter has gained 448 yards on 60 attempts — an average of 7.4 yards a carry and 40.5 a game. He also has scored four touchdowns.

Last year, Schlesinger gained 194 yards on 48 attempts — an average of only 17.6 yards a game — and scored once the entire season.

"Last year, I didn't mean to do it, but I'd do it every time I got the ball," Schlesinger said. "This last spring, I've concentrated on just running through the holes. Even if there is a little hole, I usually make it a bigger hole."

"My practicing on that in spring ball helped me this season to be able to bust through the line like I have."

"Last year, I was sitting there, looking for the holes, stuttering around. This year I'm busting through that line as hard as I can."

CORY SCHLESINGER
Nebraska fullback

Along with his improvement came an improved Cornhusker offense, Schlesinger said.

"The fullback is a bigger threat this year," he said. "Last year, the fullback wasn't, so defenses were able to key even more on (quarterback) Tommie (Frazier) and the I-backs. It's made the running game a little tougher."

"We've got quarterbacks, I-backs and the fullback that can make big plays. It feels good being a little bit of a threat, especially when you can break these long runs. People see that more, and I think I'm blocking better this year, too."

Improvement and enjoyment arrived at the same time for Schlesinger.

"The whole game is just a lot more fun this year," Schlesinger said. "When you're doing good, it makes everything a lot more fun. Last year, I was worrying a lot more than I should have. Now, I'm not worrying, and I'm just going out, getting my job done and having fun."

Schlesinger said his goal was to get his degree in industrial technology, which will take another semester to complete.

But with Schlesinger's performance this year, professional scouts may see similarities to former Husker fullback Tom Rathman.

"I'd like to finish (school), but if the NFL offers for me to come play for someone, I'm definitely going to take it," Schlesinger said. "I think it helps to have a Tom Rathman in the pros. The Nebraska backs, period, get looked at a lot, because we are pretty good blockers and pretty explosive in running the ball. Just the tradition of running backs at Nebraska should make a difference."

For now, Schlesinger hopes to continue to be a factor in the Husker offense.

"Last year my role was important, but I just wasn't getting things done like I needed to," Schlesinger said. "This year, I'm getting things done, and it's making a significant difference. I feel like I'm contributing this year, and that's a good feeling."

NU women to play Puerto Rico

By Trevor Parks
Staff Reporter

Nebraska women's basketball coach Angela Beck said the team was eager to get back into action after playing its first exhibition game on Nov. 2 against Athletes in Action.

The Cornhuskers conclude their exhibition season on Sunday at 2 p.m., when they play host to the Puerto Rican National Team.

In the Huskers' first exhibition game, they defeated Athletes in Action 84-70.

Beck said she noticed her team had a letdown in practice after that first victory.

"I kind of hope we don't win," Beck said. "Maybe if we didn't win, the players would work harder at practice."

This time Nebraska will be playing a team it defeated last year.

Nebraska beat the Puerto Rican National Team 86-60 last year at the San Juan Shootout in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Beck said this year's Puerto Rican National Team had three 6-foot-3 centers, and that would cause her team problems.

"They are a typical foreign team," Beck said. "They are a good team and have played together a long time."

In last year's game, Pyra Aarden led the Huskers, scoring 18 points and grabbing 10 rebounds.

This year, Aarden has started strong again after scoring 20 points and grabbing nine rebounds against Athletes in Action.

The Huskers again will be suffering from injuries and suspensions for this game.

Beck said Tanya Upthegrove still was hampered by a pulled groin and was doubtful for the season opener

on Nov. 25.

Forward Dina Haselip has left the team for personal reasons and probably won't return, Beck said.

Kate Galligan, Tina McClain and Anna DeForge all are serving the final game of a two-game suspension for violating team rules.

To deal with the changes, Beck said Aarden, Belinda Bynum, Roquayyah Brown and Jami Kubik would start for the Huskers.

Beck said the forward spot would be split between Chris Dillavou and Kate McEwen.

Beck said with all the problems her team had suffered, it was difficult to get everyone playing time at her position.

"It's hard to measure things with at least three people out," Beck said. "We've played hard with a lot of intensity, but we're not playing consistently."



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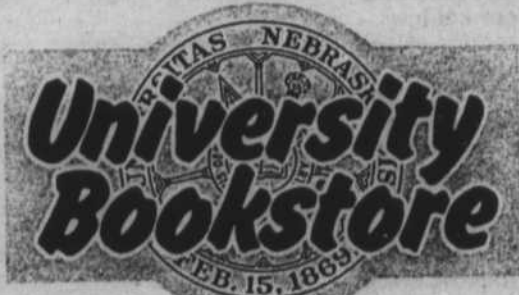
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Time (Sunday, Nov. 20)	Team
11:00 AM	The Tom Osborne Show
Noon	Green Bay Packers vs. Buffalo Bills
	Miami Dolphins vs. Pittsburgh Steelers
	Cleveland Browns vs. Kansas City Chiefs
	Washington Redskins vs. Dallas Cowboys
3:00 PM	New York Jets vs. Minnesota Vikings
	New Orleans Saints vs. LA Raiders
	Atlanta Falcons vs. Denver Broncos
7:00 PM	L.A. Rams vs. San Francisco 49ers

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