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(Men's teams only)

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Jan. 14  
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Bob Devaney Sports Center Pool

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Catch two nationally  
ranked teams go  
head to head!

# Gymnastics meet up in the air

By Trevor Parks  
Staff Reporter

Nebraska women's gymnastics coach Dan Kendig doesn't know what to expect when the Cornhuskers open their gymnastics season this week-end.



Kendig

"It will be interesting," Kendig said. "I doubt either one of us will be totally ready, but it's a starting point."

Kendig said the two teams were very similar. Both Nebraska and Utah State will be vying for a spot at regionals later in the year.

Last year, both teams had similar seasons.

The Big Eight champion Huskers finished the season 11-5 last year, and the Aggies are coming off a 7-3 season.

The Huskers play host to Utah State Sunday afternoon at 1:30 in the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Kendig said the first meet of the year would be a good measuring stick for his team's ability.

Kendig said he didn't expect great results because it was the first meet of the year. But he hopes the meet will be a springboard to the future.

"We're going to water down our routines a little just to hit (our landings)," Kendig said. "These are two evenly matched teams, and if we can just hit our landings, we will win."

But the Huskers will enter the match banged up.

Senior Martha Jenkins has a sore ankle, and senior Jennifer Hawkinson is slowed by a foot injury.

Kendig said senior Nicole Duval had X-rays Thursday for a stress fracture in her leg.

The Huskers will miss the three seniors, Kendig said.

Their injuries could hamper the Huskers, because Kendig said the

team's most important asset was experience.

Kendig said he was not worried now, but he would like everyone to be healthy by the time the Big Eight Championships roll around in March.

The only newcomer to this year's team is Laurie McLaughlin.

The freshman from State College, Penn., will participate in the uneven bars, and may compete on the balance beam, Kendig said.

Kendig said Sunday would be a good test for everyone on the team, and should show him areas the team needs to improve.

"Out of all the events, we're most ready for the (uneven) bars," Kendig said. "Also on the beam, I'd say we're more ready to go."

# Swimming coach predicts tough meets for well-rested but ready men's team

By Derek Samson  
Senior Reporter

The Nebraska men's swimming team won't get to ease its way back into competition after having more than a month off.

But according to coach Cal Bentz, his team hasn't exactly been on vacation.



Bentz

Bentz said Nebraska should be ready when No. 13 Arizona State travels to Lincoln Saturday for a 1 p.m. dual at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

"We haven't had any competition since the Texas meet in the first week of December," Bentz said. "But we've worked very hard during that time. We had a two-week training camp and went at it really hard."

"After competing at Texas, we had pretty well peaked for the first semester. With finals and Christmas, we took some time away from the training, but we went back at it strong. We're excited to get back to some

competition."

The dual will include 13 events, beginning with the 400 medley relay and ending with the 400 freestyle relay.

Arizona State shares the No. 13 rating with Iowa, whom Nebraska will face next week.

"We're going to really be tested," Bentz said. "We go against two pretty good teams. We're coming up on an important time of year just because of the level of our competition. It will be interesting to see how we fare."

Bentz said if there was any part of the season he wanted to see times improve, it was now.

"I hope we're in better shape, and we'll see some pretty good times against Arizona State," he said. "We have to hope to improve week to week, especially when we have five meets in the next four weeks. We really can't afford to be satisfied with where we're at. We need to improve."

For now, Bentz said he was only concerned with what happens against the Sun Devils.

"We know it's going to be a tough one," Bentz said. "But it is just one of those meets where you have to stand up and see how you measure up to some good competition. The (team) feels like it will race well."

"We're coming up on an important time of year just because of the level of our competition."

**CAL BENTZ**

Nebraska swimming coach

"I think it is going to be an excellent meet, and it will be a lot of fun for the fans to come out and see."

The women's team will not compete until Jan. 20th, when it travels to Minnesota.

### NOTE:

The Nebraska men's and women's diving teams have already had a head start on the second half of the season.

Jeff Bro, Ted Ramsey, Kevin Gregory, Cheryl Kartye and Jen Harnly all competed in the Texas All-American Diving Invitational Jan. 4-8.

Harnly was the only diver to reach finals, finishing seventh in the one-meter, one-meter open and the three-meter boards.

# Huskers prepped for win after two losses at home

By Trevor Parks  
Staff Reporter

Nebraska women's basketball coach Angela Beck's patience is wearing thin.

After an 8-2 start to the regular season, the Cornhuskers have lost three of their last four games, and are off to a 0-2 start in the Big Eight for the second straight year.

Except this time, those losses came at home.

Nebraska lost 74-70 to Kansas State and 77-64 to Kansas last weekend at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Now Nebraska hits the road for two games at 9-4 Oklahoma Friday and at 8-4 Oklahoma State Sunday.

The road trip may be just what her team needs, Beck said.

"I really felt like my young team had a lot of pressure on them at home," Beck said. "I don't think they feel as much pressure on the road, so hopefully we can put a better performance together."

However, Nebraska lost at Oklahoma last year and hasn't won at Oklahoma State since Jan. 22, 1986.

The Cowgirls currently have the eighth-longest home winning streak in the country.

"It's kind of interesting starting the Big Eight season," Beck said. "I don't believe that we've gone 0-2 at home since I've been here in eight years, so it's testing my patience as far as where we're at and where we're going."

This weekend's trip to Oklahoma will help Beck tell what direction the Huskers are heading.

Beck said Nebraska still had time to finish in the top four of the conference.

"I really feel we have the components to be a very good basketball team in the Big Eight," she said, "and I'm really happy with our players as regards to the quality of players that we have."

It will be difficult this weekend, though.

Nebraska may be without sophomore guard Chris Dillavou, who suffered a badly bruised ankle Tuesday at practice.

Beck is hoping this weekend can turn the Huskers' season around.

"I'm just trying to get us back on track to be a winning team," Beck said. "We're going down to Oklahoma and Oklahoma State and try to get a split at least."

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