

Season starts with win for NU golfers

By SAM MCKEON
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska men's golf team has started its fall season in impressive fashion with a victory last week at the Falcon-Cross Creek Invitational in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"I'm certainly happy with the victory," Cornhusker Coach Larry Romjue said. "There were some Big Ten teams in the tournament, and it was a good field."

The Huskers won the 24-team tournament with a 54-hole score of 875, six shots better than second-place Ball State. NU was paced with five golfers in 220-to-223 range, with sophomore Steve Friesen leading the way at 220.

Romjue was pleased with the team's consistency.

"I liked the fact that everyone played well and shot good scores," he said. "We won the tournament, and we still could have improved our scoring. That's a good sign."

NU finished fifth earlier this month in its first tournament of the season, the Kiawah Island Intercollegiate Tournament in Kiawah Island, S.C.

The Huskers shot 872 over 54 holes, 24 shots behind winner Virginia Commonwealth. NU was led by sophomore Josh Madden, who fired a 213, including a tournament best-66 in the second round.

Romjue said Madden, from Gold Coast, Australia, has shown the potential to become a star.

"He's a solid No. 1 golfer for this team," Romjue said.

Nebraska's next tournament is the Kansas Invitational, Sept. 23-24 at Alvarado Golf Course in Lawrence, Kan.

Romjue said Kansas will be the favorite.

NU gymnasts look to improve in '97

KENDIG EYES Super Six and Allen hopes to stay injury-free.

By GREGG MADSEN
Staff Reporter

January is four months away, but the Nebraska men's and women's gymnastics teams are ready to begin preparation for the 1997 season.

Workouts officially began Monday, and the women's team is looking to improve on its most successful season ever.

And after last season, the men's main goal: remain healthy.

Women's coach Dan Kendig said his team hasn't forgotten last season, when the Cornhuskers missed qualifying for the Super Six by .025 of a point.

"It still hurts a little bit," Kendig said, "when you get that close and it hurts that bad, you want to do all you can to get there."

Seniors Kim DeHaan and Shelly Bartlett will provide experienced leadership for the talented Huskers, Kendig said. The Huskers lose only one starter, all-arounder Joy Taylor, from last year's team.

Seven new faces have been added to the team. Headlining the list of newcomers will be Lincoln native Heather Brink, who finished 10th in the 1995 U.S. National Championships.

"I think Heather's going to be strong in all four events," Kendig said. "She just needs experience."

Also joining the Huskers are Nicole Wilkinson, Rachel Tschauner, Laura Oholendorf and twin sisters Arica and Alisha Lamb. Amber Hallauer, a transfer from Western Michigan, will sit out this

season and compete as a sophomore in 1998.

Kendig said the team, which opens its season Jan. 11 in Ames against Iowa State and Southwest Missouri State, will have a different mindset on each event this year.

"We'll be a lot more aggressive from the beginning," he said.

Men's coach Francis Allen wants to forget last year's injury-riddled season.

"We will be thin," Allen said. "But thin just means we've got to do a good job as coaches, making sure they don't get hurt."

Injuries, Allen said, kept Nebraska from qualifying as a team for last year's NCAA Championships in Stanford, Calif. But junior all-arounder Jim Koziol and sophomore J.D. Reive are fully recovered from injuries that hampered them throughout 1996.

Allen said the Huskers will be strong in every event, particularly the pommel horse. NCAA championship qualifiers Marshall Nelson and junior Ryan McEwen will lead the way for Nebraska on that event.

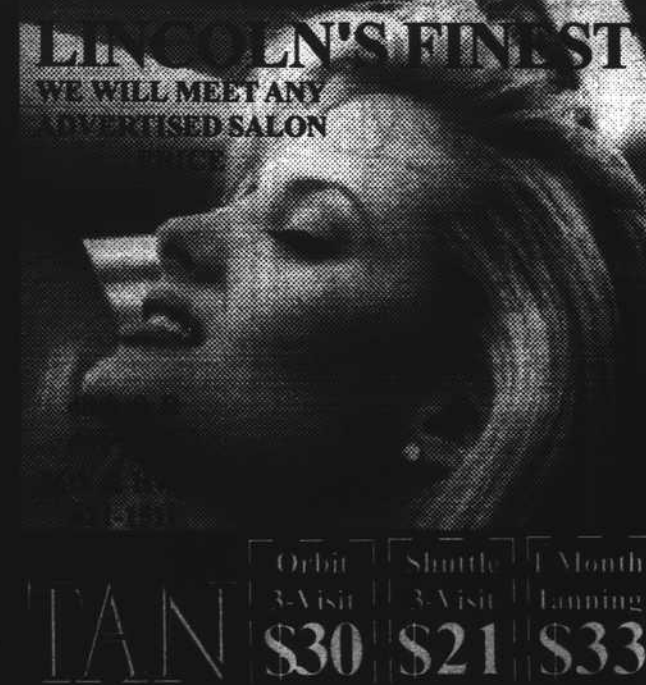
Three other NCAA qualifiers, juniors Don Kinison (floor exercise) and Bill Mulholland (all-around) and senior Ted Harris, who finished third in the nation on rings with a 9.8, will also return for the Huskers.

The only new face in the Husker lineup will be freshman Derek Leiter, a graduate of Lincoln Southeast. Leiter has competed internationally and could eventually fill the void left by all-arounder Jason Christie, Allen said.

The men will open the season on Jan. 17 with the Rocky Mountain Open in Colorado Springs, Colo.


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