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NU women look to show up Wolverines

By GREGG MADSEN
 Staff Reporter

Nebraska gymnastics will be on the road this weekend.

The women's team competes against Michigan and Illinois at Ann Arbor, Mich., Sunday afternoon at 2, while the NU men battle New Mexico Saturday night at 7 in Albuquerque, N.M.



Kendig Women's Coach Dan Kendig said the No. 6 Cornhuskers will face their toughest competition of the year in the seventh-ranked Wolverines.

Michigan edged NU 193.975 to 193.95 in the NCAA semifinals last year for the final spot in the Super Six. Nebraska has used that .025 loss as motivation this season.

Kendig said the Huskers are ready to avenge that loss. "The number six team in the country is ready to go up and show the number seven team a thing or two," Kendig said.

The Huskers are leading the nation in the uneven bars, averaging a 49.005 team score in the event.

Senior all-arounder Shelly Bartlett — January's Big 12 Conference women's gymnast of the month — leads the Huskers' attack.

Bartlett, a native of Spokane,

Wash., has won the all-around in three of NU's five meets this season.

Freshman Heather Brink won the all-around in Nebraska's other two meets. Against Oklahoma last Saturday, Brink set a new school record in the all-around with a 39.4.

Kendig said sophomores Amie Dillman and Courtney Brown would be able to compete Sunday. Dillman competed against Oklahoma despite a thigh bruise, and a stress fracture has kept Brown out of action this season.

"I don't know if you'd define them as being 100 percent," Kendig said. "But they're going to give a 100-percent effort."

Men's Coach Francis Allen said his team — also ranked sixth — is ready to improve following a 227.57-226.15 loss to Oklahoma last Saturday.

The No. 11 Lobos lost to Nebraska, 226.65-219.075, at the Jan. 17 Rocky Mountain Open in Colorado Springs.

"I'd say we're going to improve on our 226 and they'll be about at a 226," Allen said. "I'd say it's going to be a good competition. They're not going to beat us, but it will be good."

Junior Bill Mulholland and freshman Derek Leiter will look to improve in the all-around. Mulholland has placed second and first in the all-around in Nebraska's two meets this season.

He scored a 56.3 at the Rocky Mountain Open and a 56.625 against the Sooners. Leiter placed third at the Rocky Mountain Open (54.5) and second against Oklahoma (56.325).

Wrestlers travel to Michigan

By ANTONE OSEKA
 Staff Reporter

Coming off an upset dual victory over Iowa State, the Nebraska wrestling team will try to keep its winning streak alive this weekend.

The Cornhuskers (11-4) travel north to take on Michigan State and Central Michigan Sunday at East Lansing, Mich.

With its victory over seventh-ranked ISU, No. 10 Nebraska broke into the top 10 for the first time.

NU starts off against the 13th-ranked Spartans at 1 p.m., and follow with the dual against Central Michigan at 7 p.m. The last time Nebraska saw Michigan State, the Spartans placed fifth at the Cliff Keen National Duals in Lincoln.

Nebraska Assistant Coach Mark Cody said the Huskers don't match up well with the Spartans.

"Hopefully, we can pull another upset like Iowa State," Cody said.

NU also takes on Central Michigan, an unranked team that could pose a problem for Nebraska, Cody said.

CMU fields one ranked wrestler, No. 7 Casey Cunningham at 142. Ironically, the 142 spot is the only weight not set for Nebraska. Allen Hankins and Dusty Morris, last year's 142-pounder and national qualifier, will wrestle off to night for the spot.

Red Raiders hold edge on NU

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NCAA Tournament in each of the past five years, and in 1993 they won the NCAA title.

Tech is also coming off one of its most impressive wins of the year: a 96-73 trouncing of eighth-ranked Texas.

"They are rolling on all cylinders now," Beck said. "Texas Tech is a great, great basketball team even though they have a few more losses this year than normal. We have to come out, compete and believe that we can challenge."

Against the Longhorns Wednesday, junior All-American candidate Alicia Thompson scored a career-high 47 points, 26 of which came in the first half as the Texas Tech built a 37-26 lead.

Thompson has been the Red Raiders' leading scorer and rebounder in 14 of Tech's 19 games this season.

Nebraska guard Jami Kubik said

the Huskers are going to have to improve their defense from Wednesday's loss at Colorado. The Buffaloes shot 49 percent from the floor against the Huskers.

Kubik also said it's going to take a team effort to slow down Thompson, who has scored double figures in every game this season.

"Our defense really let us down in Colorado," Kubik said.

Besides the Nebraska defense, Beck said she is also looking for improvement on the offensive end.

Junior Anna DeForge was the only Husker to score in double figures against the Buffaloes.

"We had a lot of people that were nonexistent against Colorado," Beck said. "Obviously if we get a win against Texas Tech all is forgotten. We have to get back to some of the fundamentals that made us 16-1. We just have to have the mentality to show up in a big game and have the type of mentality it takes to win one of them."

Huskers scare Texas Tech coach

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til last month. Colorado ended the streak with an 80-78 win in Lubbock on Jan. 11.

Before falling to Texas on Monday, Tech dropped consecutive league games to No. 1 Kansas and sixth-ranked Iowa State, a three-game stretch Dickey called "the toughest he's had as a coach."

"We haven't executed well at all," said Dickey, in his sixth season as Tech's top man, "but you've also got to give credit to our opponents. Still, you've got to win your league games, and you have to win at home if you want any chance to win your conference."

Last season, Tech swept through the Southwest Conference and advanced to NCAA Tournament's Sweet 16 before losing to Georgetown to finish 30-2, the best season in Red Raider history.

Only one starter, 6-foot-11 center Tony Battie, returns. This year, Battie tops the Big 12 in rebounding, aver-

aging 11.7 per game. Battie also scores 20.1 points per game, and guard Cory Carr leads the team with a 22.5 point-per-game average, forming the league's most productive duo.

Dickey said Nebraska's Tyrone Lue-Mikki Moore duo holds the potential to be just as strong as the Red Raider combination. Lue averages 21.8 points in nine conference games, and Moore ranks among the league's top seven in rebounding and blocked shots.

NU played one of its best games of the season on Wednesday, holding Colorado to 40.7 percent shooting and committing just 11 turnovers. The victory, after a four-game losing streak, provides the Huskers with the momentum necessary to play well in Lubbock, NU Coach Danny Nee said.

"(The Nebraska players) don't have a panic button," Nee said. "They don't lose their cool. They have a calmness that's nerve-racking to me. But they're starting to come together."

Women's Basketball Starters

Sunday, Noon
 Devaney Center

Nebraska 16-3 (6-3)

Pos	Name	Ht.	Yr.
F	22 Tina McClain	5-10	Jr.
F	30 Anna DeForge	5-11	Jr.
C	33 Charlie Rogers	5-2	Fr.
G	24 Jami Kubik	5-11	Jr.
G	20 LaToya Dooge	5-6	Sr.

Texas Tech 14-5 (6-3)

Pos	Name	Ht.	Yr.
F	43 Alicia Thompson	6-1	Jr.
F	33 Rene Hanebutt	5-8	So.
C	24 Crystal Bales	5-2	Jr.
G	23 Julie Lake	5-9	So.
G	30 Sandy Parler	5-10	Sr.

Men's Basketball Starters

Saturday, 3 p.m.
 Lubbock Municipal Auditorium
 Lubbock, Texas

Nebraska 12-9 (4-5)

Pos	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.
F	4 Vanson Hamilton	6-9	240	So.
F	5 Larry Florence	6-5	225	So.
G	32 Mick Moore	5-11	220	So.
G	30 Cookie Belcher	6-3	200	Fr.
G	10 Tyrone Lue	6-0	170	So.

Texas Tech 13-6 (5-4)

Pos	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.
F	4 Gerson Aveni	6-5	210	Jr.
F	32 Glonnet Cooper	6-8	225	Sr.
C	24 Tony Battie	6-11	225	Jr.
G	15 Stan Bonewitz	6-3	190	So.
G	21 Cory Carr	6-4	200	Jr.