

Swimmer worthy of chance

JOWSEY from page 7

top times for NU in the 400-meter individual medley (4 minutes, 20.4 seconds) and the 200-meter butterfly (2:01.24). Jowsey holds the second-fastest times in the 100- and 200-meter breaststroke, the 100-meter butterfly and the 200-meter IM.

Jowsey, who swam the 400 IM for the first time in November, credits Nebraska's program for her quick rise.

"The program has been very beneficial to me because it's very specific to what I've needed," Jowsey said. "I'm thriving off the competition here. The racing and the environment is great. I'm enjoying myself, and I think that's the key."

This weekend at the Big 12 Conference Swimming and Diving Championships, Jowsey will attempt to win back to back races

when she challenges for the 400 IM and 100 butterfly conference titles. The following day, Jowsey will compete in the 200 fly.

It's a feat that has been accomplished before. Former Nebraska All-American Mikaela Lauren did it during the 1995 season, but Paine said the circumstances are much different now because the Big 12 offers a higher level of competition than Lauren found in the old Big Eight.

"It takes a special kind of person to do this," Paine said. "Number one, they have to have a lot of confidence and number two, they have to be willing to put in the training. And most importantly, they just have to be tough as nails."

"She has a great attitude about all three races. She has the mentality to do it, and I'd say her chances are very, very good."

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Huskers look to corral Cowboys

OSU from page 7

players. Guards Marlon Dorsey and Desmond Mason are the mainstays of the OSU bench.

"They only have seven players, but they play a solid game," he said. "They're short on players, but they're still a good basketball team."

One weakness of the Cowboys is its field-goal percentage defense. OSU — which is known for its scrappiness on the defensive end — is last in the Big 12 allowing opponents to shoot 44.1 percent per game. On the other end of the court, the cowboys counter by shooting 47.3 percent from the field — third in the league.

"I don't know why they have problems with field-goal defense," Nee said. "They do have good shooters, though."

Once again, Nee said NU will rely on point guard Tyrone Lue to lead the team to victory. Lue, who was named

Big 12 player of the week on Monday, is making a late charge to earn first-team all-league honors.

Nee said Lue played one of the best games Nee has ever witnessed Saturday at Iowa State when the sophomore scored 30 points. Nee expects Lue to finish the final two games on a high note.

"He's done everything we've asked him to do and plus some," Nee said. "He is the best player I've ever coached."

Lue said he will not treat this week any different from the rest of the season despite his chance at conference honors and his first taste of NCAA Tournament action.

"We're preparing the same," Lue said. "We've watched a lot of film and practiced hard."

Beyond tonight's game lies the No. 1 Jayhawks' visit to the Devaney Center on Sunday. If Nebraska beats the Cowboys, Sunday's tilt will give the Huskers their chance to make a state-

ment saying they belong in NCAA Tournament.

But Nee isn't looking past the Cowboys.

"I know Oklahoma State is a very important game in the fact that whoever wins has a better chance to get in," he said. "This game comes first."

Note:

Of the 10 players announced Tuesday as finalists for The Associated Press Player-of-the-Year award, six have faced Nebraska this season: Tony Battie (Texas Tech), Chauncey Billups (Colorado), Danny Fortson (Cincinnati), Adonal Foyle (Colgate), Bobby Jackson (Minnesota) and Raef LaFrentz (Kansas).

Another finalist, Andre Woolridge (Iowa) played for Nebraska as a freshman before transferring. The other three finalists are Tim Duncan (Wake Forest), Ron Mercer (Kentucky) and Keith Van Horn (Utah).

Win over Kansas eases NU's month

KU from page 7

season — to neutralize the 5-foot-9 Dixon on the defensive end, the Huskers will have to utilize a variety of defensive combinations to slow the senior guard.

"When you lose a big piece of your puzzle, you have to rearrange things," Beck said. "We aren't going to play just one person on Dixon. Doage is out, and she's our spark plug. We're going to have to change our whole defensive outlook because Dixon can go off in such a short period of time."

Kansas Coach Marian Washington agreed with Beck's perception of Dixon.

"There's no question she's an impact player," Washington said. "I don't

know of too many people who can stop her."

But Kansas is more than Dixon. In KU's win over NU, 6-2 freshman Lynn Pride posted a career-high 19 points. Also, the Jayhawks list five players who shoot better than 46 percent from the field.

"In a lot of ways, this is my best team," Washington said. "We have players that understand what it takes to be successful. I think they understand what it is going to take for us to win."

Nobody's been able to stop Kansas on their home court this season. The Jayhawks have won 18 consecutive games at Allen Fieldhouse, and a win tonight would clinch at least a share of the first-ever league title.

"I always said there can't be another first champion," Washington said. "If we are fortunate to win the conference, I will feel very honored."

A win for Kansas also marks its 10th straight victory over the Huskers, who have not won at Allen Fieldhouse since 1988 — Beck's second season. Kansas leads the all-time series 37-10.

The Huskers need to win one of their final two contests to be a serious contender for their fourth NCAA Tournament berth. Nebraska finishes its season at Oklahoma State on Saturday before traveling to Kansas City, Mo., for the Big 12 Tournament.

"We have to get a split," Beck said. "If not, we have to do some big things at the Big 12 Tournament."

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NU shut out at Kansas

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska baseball team lost its third straight game Tuesday, falling 3-0 to Kansas in the first-ever Big 12 Conference game.

Three Jayhawk pitchers combined for a seven-hit shutout, and KU scored three runs in the first inning before 308 fans at Hognlund-Maupin Stadium in Lawrence, Kan.

Cornhusker All-America candidate Todd Sears and designated hitter Ken Harvey collected two hits apiece, but KU's Mark Corson, Josh Bailey and Josh Wingerd shut down the rest of the Nebraska bats. Bailey, who pitched the fifth inning, picked up his first win of the young season.

Jonas Armenta (0-1) pitched seven

innings, allowing eight hits and striking out four and walking three for Nebraska, which continued to receive excellent pitching with a lack of run support. NU hitters struck out 11 times.

Armenta got in trouble early, allowing a two-run double to right fielder Les Walrond in the first inning. Walrond scored two batters later on a single by center fielder Sparky Wilhelm to end the scoring.

After facing one batter in the eighth inning, Armenta was relieved by Jay Sirianni, Steve Fish and Brian Zubor. Kansas improved to 5-2 with the victory.

Nebraska (5-3) will play Minnesota in the first round of the Hornel Foods Classic, Friday at the Metrodome in Minneapolis.

NU golfers finish third

From Staff Reports

Nebraska golfer Scott Gutschewski shot a final-round score of 75 to finish with a 153, placing in a tie for third and leading the Cornhusker men to a third-place finish at the UTSA Invitational Golf Tournament in San Antonio, Texas.

NU scored a two-day total of 620, placing four strokes behind champion Southern Methodist. Texas-San Antonio came in second. NU's Mikkel Haug, who was second after shooting a 76 in the first round, finished in a tie for sixth following a second round total of 154.

At the Pioneer Electronic Bruin Classic in Temecula, Calif., Nebraska freshman Hanne Nyquist shot a final round score of 80 to lead the NU women to a 13th-place tie with Oregon State Tuesday.

The Cornhuskers finished 72 shots behind Tulsa, which won the team title. Tulsa's Lisa Penske and Niina Laitinen placed 1-2 in the individual competition.

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