

Huskers end up sixth

By GREGG MADSEN
Staff Reporter

Dan Kendig has never been as happy to be sixth as he was Friday night.

The fourth-year coach of the Nebraska women's gymnastics team said he wasn't disappointed with the Cornhuskers' sixth-place finish at the NCAA Super Six Team Finals in Gainesville, Fla., Friday night.

"I thought things went very well," Kendig said, "even though we were sick it was still a big step forward for this team."

In its first appearance in the Super Six, the Huskers counted one fall en route to a 195.25 team score. UCLA won the national championship at 197.15 and Arizona State was second with a 196.85.

In the individual event finals Saturday night, three Huskers earned four first-team All-America awards.

Heather Brink became the most decorated freshman in school history, earning first-team All-America on the vault and second-team honors on the beam and in the all-around.

Sophomore Misty Oxford was a first-team All-American on the floor exercise and the vault. The Kelso, Wash., native also had second-team honors on the balance beam.

In their final appearances for NU, seniors Shelly Bartlett and Kim DeHaan both had a strong finish.

Bartlett was ninth in the all-around with a 39.3 and earned the first All-America honor of her career with a 9.725 on the uneven bars.

DeHaan, who missed qualifying for the individual finals, was still a second-teamer on the uneven bars and the floor exercise.

NU wins six titles

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska men's and women's track and field teams won seven titles at the 72nd annual Kansas Relays this weekend.

For the women, Heather Burns won the 100-meter hurdles with a season-best time of 13.89 seconds. Kerry Doetker won the high jump with an NCAA provisional qualifying mark of 5 feet 10 inches.

NU's 4x400-meter relay team of Charmaine Plummer, Jill Myatt, La'Tisha Croom and Angee Henry won with a time of 3:37.6.

For the men, Willie Hibler won the 110-meter hurdles with a season-best mark of 13.88 seconds.

On Friday, freshman Jack Melson and Chris Wright won individual titles.

NU beats Tigers twice

From Staff Reports

Jenny Voss picked up her 16th and 17th wins of the year to lead the Nebraska softball team in a doubleheader sweep over Kansas on Sunday.

The Cornhuskers (20-18 overall and 6-4 in the Big 12 Conference) defeated No. 24 KU 2-1 and 5-1.

NU was led at the plate by freshman Jennifer Lizama in the first game. Lizama went 2 for 3 and hit her fifth solo home run of the year in the fifth inning.

In game two, Nebraska burned the Jayhawks for 10 hits and five runs over seven innings. Jenny Smith, Christie McCoy and Jamie

Bleazard all went 2 for 4 for the Huskers.

Voss (17-13) pitched a combined 14 innings and gave up only two runs. The freshman pitched four complete games this weekend, going 3-1 with an earned run average of 1.3. Voss — who struck out 17 of the 27 batters she faces — is now second on NU's all-time chart with 26 complete games.

The Huskers began the weekend with a doubleheader split with No. 9 Missouri. NU lost game one 2-0 before winning the second game 9-1.

Nebraska returns to action with a doubleheader at Northern Iowa beginning at 2 p.m. on Wednesday at the UNI-Dome in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Nelson sticks two NCAA titles

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the individual event finals.

Senior Ryan McEwen earned All-America status for his fourth-place finish on the high bar. Fellow senior Ted Harris was second-team All-America on the still rings, finishing eighth.

"It's nice because even though the team was the main goal the whole year, for things to end up this way makes up for it," Nelson said.

Nelson's 9.95 on the parallel bars ties the school record set by Kevin Davis in 1983. He became the 12th Husker to win a national championship on the parallel bars and the sixth on the high bar.

"I don't think it's really sunk in yet," he said. "It's nice to know that all the work over the years has paid off like this. Mostly, what people see at a meet like this is the result. They don't realize how much effort goes into this kind of competition."

Nebraska now has 37 NCAA individual national championships,

“It's nice to know that all the work over the years has paid off like this.”

MARSHALL NELSON
NU men's gymnast

third behind Penn State (42) and Illinois (40).

NU Coach Francis Allen said he wasn't surprised with Nelson's success.

"You can tell by the way he competes that he'll score high in these kinds of meets," Allen said. "He nailed his p-bar dismount. His routine was flawless. He was up really early on high bar, or he probably would have scored a 9.9 there, too."

Nelson won the high bar with a 9.7875 despite being the second competitor of the nine finalists. Allen said most judges typically reserve the high-

est scores for the last competitors.

"The judges didn't want to go too high with his score, but it became obvious that his was the best routine," Allen said. "He got up there and was perfect, and I think that messed up the rest of their scoring."

Junior Bill Mulholland finished ninth in the all-around at 57.025 and freshman Derek Leiter was 12th with a 56.6.

Leiter, a Lincoln native, was the highest-finishing freshman in the all-around. Ohio State senior Blaine Wilson won the all-around with a 58.625.

Eight Huskers picked in NFL Draft

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"I've been playing too long to come in and sit on someone's bench," Booker said. "I want to come out and play big-time ball. I don't expect to be drafted in the first round and not play."

Other Huskers drafted and team's that selected them are Jared Tomich, New Orleans; Mike Minter, Carolina; Adam Treu, Oakland; Chris Dishman, Arizona; Jamel Williams, Washington; Eric Stokes, Seattle; and Jon Hesse, Jacksonville.

The excitement of the draft for the players who were drafted overshadowed a weekend of temporarily unfulfilled dreams for four other Huskers who weren't announced among the 240 names called.

Damon Benning, Terre!l Farley, Jeff Ogard and Brian Schuster must try to earn an NFL-roster spot through the free-agent market.

Here is a synopsis of all eight NU players who were selected this weekend:

Michael Booker

Booker was one of six cornerbacks taken in the first round, and the fourth one taken in the first 11 picks.

"He's a guy that is not only the best player that was up there, but he also fits a need that we have," Falcons first-year Coach Dan Reeves said. "The exceptional thing about him is he has the size that you like to have to match up with the bigger receivers you face in the NFL."

Atlanta ranked 29th last year in team defense and was 26th against the pass. Reeves said Booker has to start his Falcon career with the idea that he will play right away.

Booker said he is looking forward to playing and improving Atlanta's

image as having a poor secondary.

"Hopefully we're going to get rid of that trouble when I get there," Booker said. "I'm excited to be coming to Atlanta."

Jared Tomich

Growing up just an hour away from Soldier Field in Chicago, turned Tomich into a big fan of Bears great Mike Ditka.

Now that Ditka is the coach of New Orleans, Tomich said he is looking forward to playing for his idol. Tomich even compared Ditka to both Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne and defensive coordinator Charlie McBride.

"I'm a huge Ditka fan," Tomich said. "Ditka and Coach Osborne are very similar in they're both loved by their fans. There is a little bit of a coaching difference between the two."

Tomich said Ditka told him the Saints expect him to come in and play defensive end.

Mike Minter

Minter said he is thrilled to have the chance to play for former NU Coach Kevin Steele, who is now a linebackers coach for Carolina.

Minter said he also enjoyed the opportunity to play for a team that was one game shy of making the Super Bowl last season.

"I'm ready to battle whomever for the starting job," Minter said. "Now I have to go do my job."

Adam Treu

Treu said getting drafted in the third round was a big surprise to him, but he is looking forward to becoming a part of the tradition at Oakland.

"This is just quite a feeling," Treu said. "It really hasn't set in yet."

Chris Dishman

Dishman said there were a couple of bonuses to being drafted by the Car-

dinals. Dishman gets the chance to play alongside former Husker Aaron Graham, who was drafted by Arizona last year.

The Cardinals also need help on the offensive line, which gives Dishman a good chance at playing next year.

"I didn't want to go somewhere where I would have to sit in the backseat for a couple of years," Dishman said. "I wanted to get on the field and contribute."

Jamel Williams

Williams, who was projected as a possible second-round selection, said he was surprised when the Redskins drafted him in the fifth round.

"I guess I was more disappointed then nervous," Williams said. "I knew I couldn't do anything about it. Jacksonville had just called and told me to stay by the phone and wait, then Washington called."

Eric Stokes

Stokes had to endure a little ribbing by his new coach before he learned who had drafted him.

Stokes was contacted by Seattle Coach Dennis Erickson, who was the coach at Miami when the Huskers defeated the Hurricanes to win the national championship in 1995.

"He said he wasn't going to hold it against me that we beat them in the Orange Bowl," Stokes said. Stokes said he will probably play on the special teams and be a backup free safety in his first season.

Jon Hesse

Although Hesse was the 221st of 240 selections, the linebacker said he is still happy about being drafted, and he is looking forward to trying out with the Jaguars.

NU golf team in 5th

From Staff Reports

Freshman Elizabeth Bahensky led the Nebraska women's golf team to a first-round score of 113 Sunday at the inaugural Women's Big 12 Championships at Lawrence, Kan.

Bahensky, a native of Kearney who is competing in just her second meet for NU, is in sixth place with a four-over par total of 76.

"I was real proud of Elizabeth's composure and just the way she handled herself on the course today," NU Coach Robin Krapfl said.

Other Cornhuskers among the top 10 after the first day of play include Hanne Nyquist and Rachele Tacha. The two both shot 77 and are tied for ninth. Other NU

golfers' scores were Shirin Hornecker, who fired an 83, and Maureen Regan, who shot 91.

Krapfl said she was pleased with the Huskers' performance.

"We're definitely not out of it," Krapfl said. "We need to come back with a solid round, and I'm very confident we will. I feel real good about our practice after today's round and I think we'll come back strong tomorrow."

Texas leads the field heading into today's second round. The Longhorns shot a season-best round of 301 on the first day. UT's Heather Bowe had the top individual round, shooting 71. Teams will resume play today at 8 a.m. The Nebraska golfers will be paired with Kansas and Oklahoma.

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