

From Staff Reports

Weekend Wrap-Up

Sooners dominate NU women

Oklahoma dominated the Nebraska women's gymnastics team in every aspect of the dual Sunday afternoon in Norman, Okla.

The Sooners defeated the No. 22 Cornhuskers 192.725 to 190.550 and outscored them in every event.

Nicole Wilkinson claimed the lone first-place finish for the Huskers on the balance beam with a score of 9.725 and finished fifth in the all-around with a score of 38.250.

NU's Heather Brink finished second on the floor exercise and vault and third on parallel bars en route to finishing third in the all-around with a 38.575.

Husker Misty Oxford tied for second on the vault with a 9.70, and NU's Laurie McLaughlin finished fifth on the parallel bars with a 9.80.

The Huskers will return to action Sunday against Iowa State at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Parallel bar mishaps doom NU men

Missed parallel bar routines cost the Nebraska men's gymnastics team Friday night in Norman, Okla., as the Cornhuskers finished in third place behind No. 4 Ohio State and No. 8 Oklahoma.

"We lost the meet on the parallel bars," NU Coach Francis Allen said. "You can't score a 36.4 on an event and win at this level."

Ohio State finished first with 227.9, Oklahoma was second with 226.6, and Nebraska scored 226.3.

Despite scoring two points better than it

did at the Rocky Mountain Open Jan 23-24, Allen was upset NU lost to Oklahoma.

"I didn't think Oklahoma was in the same ball park as us, but they took advantage of everything," Allen said.

While NU struggled on the parallel bars, the Huskers performed better in other events.

Blake Bukacek scored a career-high 9.70 on the horizontal bars and finished in third place.

Battling injuries, Bill Mullholland tied a career best with a 9.60 on the vault and Jim Koziol had a career-high 9.75 on the still rings.

Derek Leiter also finished second in the all-around with a score of 56.7.

Freshman Jason Hardabura, who suffered a hip injury at the Rocky Mountain Open two weeks ago, finished sixth in the all-around with a 55.70, including a second-place finish on the floor exercise (9.60).

"Overall we were very competitive," Allen said. "We will get better as the year goes on."

The Huskers return to action Feb. 20, when NU travels to Iowa for a dual meet that begins at 1 p.m.

Wrestlers win Congressional Cup

The No. 8 Nebraska wrestling team won the 1998 Congressional Cup in Washington, D.C., Saturday backed by five Cornhusker wrestlers who claimed individual titles.

NU scored 110.5 team points - which more than doubled the score of second place No. 26 Hofstra (53.5). Ninth-ranked West Virginia

finished third in the eight-team tournament with 50.5 points, and No. 33 American finished fourth with 48.5 points.

Nebraska redshirt freshman Brad Vering pinned American's Matt Esposito to capture the 177-pound title and extend his personal winning streak to 10 matches.

Husker senior Temoer Terry - ranked No. 1 at 158 pounds - won three matches to claim the 158-pound title and improve to 10-0 on the season.

NU junior Allen Hankins went 3-0 to win the title at 142 pounds; 188-pounder Paul Gomez won three matches to claim the title in his weight class; and Jeramie Welder won two matches to claim the 126-pound title.

Brad Canoyer (134), Ryan Bauer (150), Scott Munson (190) and heavyweight J.R. Plienis added second-place finishes for the Huskers.

Strong performances throughout the lineup will help Nebraska down the road, Neumann said.

"This was exactly what we needed to kind of kick start us for the rest of the season," NU Coach Tim Neumann said. "This is definitely something that is going to help us build momentum heading into the final stretch of the season."

The Huskers open a four-dual homestand against Northern Iowa on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

NU then faces No. 10 Michigan State in a dual that will be televised by Nebraska Educational Television Sunday.

Women's tennis team serves up win

The Nebraska women's tennis team won all but one singles match and dropped just one of three doubles matches en route to a 7-2 victory over Colorado State at the Woods Tennis Center Saturday.

The 67th-ranked Cornhuskers improved to 2-1 on the season.

In the No. 1 singles match, NU sophomore Sandra Noetzel defeated CSU's Laura Mahoney in straight sets (6-4, 6-0).

Husker senior Lisa Hart defeated Alana Colglazier in straight sets (6-1, 6-2) in the No. 2 singles match.

Other NU singles winners included Jennifer Thoste at No. 3, Ndli Ijomah at No. 4, and Gina Pelazini at No. 6.

Mahoney and Colglazier defeated Noetzel and Thoste in No. 1 doubles action, 8-6, but NU's No. 2 and No. 3 teams won.

"We really started to play with a lot more assertiveness today, especially in 2-3 doubles," Jacobson said. "That's a step in the right direction."

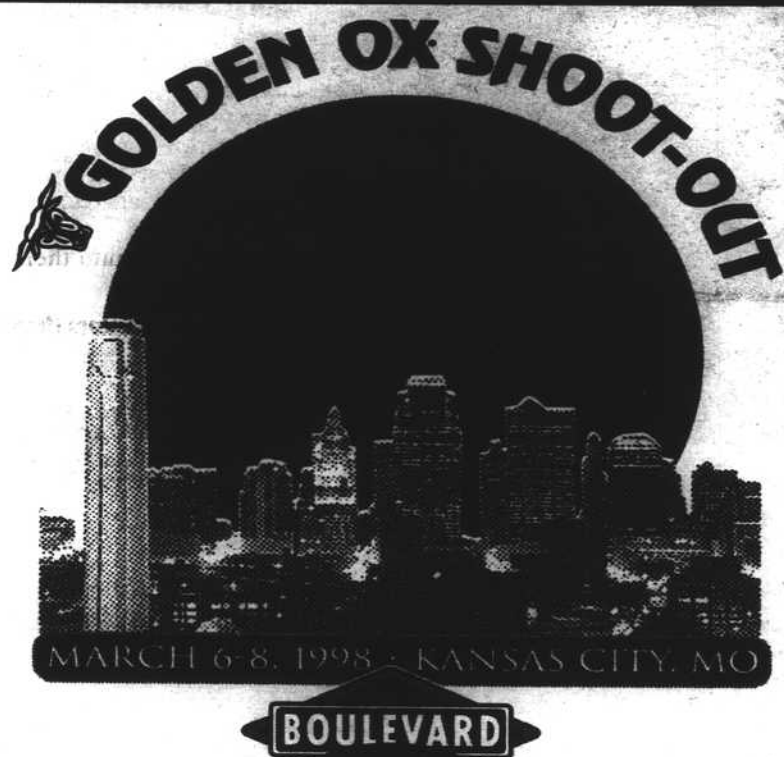
On Friday, the Huskers won every match and defeated Creighton 9-0.

Nebraska will be in action again at Tulsa Saturday beginning at 2 p.m.

Men's tennis team falls to Rice

Rice defeated the Nebraska men's tennis team 5-2 Saturday at Jake Hess Tennis Stadium in Houston. The Cornhuskers fell to 3-1.

NU's Dinko Verzi and Marcus Bergahien were the Huskers' only singles winners. The duo also combined for Nebraska's only doubles win.



NU jumpers seal win in triangular

By Andrew Strnad
Staff Reporter

After looking at the results of this weekend's track meet at the Devaney Track, one could say the Nebraska track team jumped its way to victory.

Behind the legs of Dahlia Ingram, Chris Wright and Shane Lavy, the Huskers won the NU/Kansas State/Abeline Christian Triangular on Saturday at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

The Husker women won the meet with 130 points, ahead of second-place Abeline Christian (110) and Kansas State (75).

The NU men held off Division II power Abeline Christian 118.50-102, while Kansas State finished third with 77.50 points.

"We did well in some areas," NU Head Coach Gary Pepin said. "And we certainly stepped up in the long jump."

Leading the way for a women's team that was far from full-strength was Ingram, a 1997 All-American.

Ingram was a double winner in the triple jump (41-foot-5 1/4 inches) and the long jump (20-1 1/4). Both marks were season bests for Ingram and were NCAA provisional marks.

Other winners for the women included La'Tisa Croom in the 400 meters, Stella Klassen in the 800 meters, and Kim Stewart in the pole vault. The women's 4 x 400-meter relay also won with a provisional mark of 3:42.59.

On the men's side, Lavy finished second in the high jump, but automatically qualified for nationals with a season best jump of 7-4 1/2.

"I would have liked to reach the automatic mark a lot earlier," Lavy said, "but getting it a little later is a nice thing too, because you have a feeling of where you're at."

In the long jump, Wright missed an automatic mark by 1 inch, but had the second best collegiate jump in the nation with a leap of 25-10.

"It felt good," Wright said. Nebraska returns to action Saturday when the Huskers host one of the most prestigious track meets in the nation, the Frank Sevigne Husker Invitational.

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