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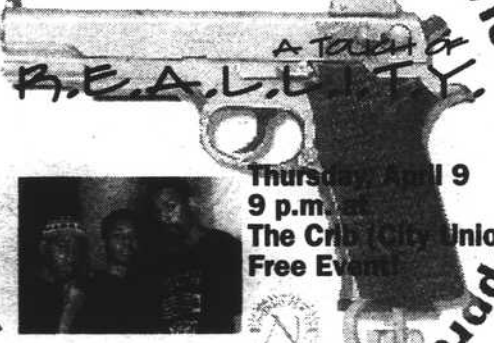
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Thursday April 9
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Blackshirts dominate scrimmage

BY SAM MCKEOWN
 Senior Reporter

Defense ruled for most of the Nebraska football team's first scrimmage Saturday. The Cornhuskers practiced for about 90 minutes before scrimmaging in order to avoid losing one of three full scrimmages allotted by the NCAA.

The defense forced six fumbles throughout the scrimmage, recovering four. The highlight came on a 61-yard fumble return by junior Will linebacker Julius Jackson for a touchdown.

NU Coach Frank Solich said he was impressed by the entire team's effort.

"We had put in a lot of offense and

Spring Football '98

defense, which can be confusing," Solich said. "The defense has the ability to be great, with great speed."

Offensively, Solich said, inexperience showed at several positions, including quarterback and the offensive line.

The Nebraska backfield was a little shorthanded, as well, with first-string I-back DeAngelo Evans and first-string fullback Joel Makovicka held out because of injuries.

But the quarterbacks began their battle for the starting job Saturday, and junior Frankie London and sophomore Bobby Newcombe had their share of big plays.

Newcombe rushed 10 times for 58 yards, including a 23-yard run. Newcombe led the first-team offense to a touchdown against the first-team defense, completing two passes for 44 yards on the drive.

London rushed three times for 34 yards and was 2-for-3 passing for 28 yards.

Newcombe said he was pleased with his opening-scrimmage performance, especially after a slow start, which included a fumble on his first snap.

"I felt real comfortable out there at the end," Newcombe said. "On that last drive, it was flowing naturally."

"This time around, I knew a lot more about the offense than I did last fall. I understand a lot more."

Solich said it was difficult for the quarterbacks to be productive because of weak pass protection, but said both London and Newcombe overcame it, with "the ability to make things happen."

Overall, Solich said, Nebraska accomplished its goal to stay injury-free and compete hard.

"We didn't have any major injuries—that was a plus," Solich said. "I was satisfied with the team's progress and especially with their attitude and effort."

NU falls short of NCAA meet

BY DARREN IVY
 Assignment Reporter

Saturday's NCAA West Regional Championships in Norman, Okla., aroused a bad case of déjà vu for many members of the Nebraska men's gymnastics team.

The team failed to qualify for the NCAA Championships for the third straight year.

Junior All-American Marshall Nelson said he couldn't believe the Cornhuskers had failed to qualify despite their No. 2 ranking.

"I thought we had the team to go all the way," Nelson said. "I still think we do."

"It's a crazy sport. You can have a good day and beat any team in the country or you can have a bad day and be left at home."

Top-ranked California won the meet with a score of 231.450 while

Brigham Young was second with a score of 228.850. Oklahoma placed third with 228.450 points, and NU was fourth with a score of 228.075.

NU almost overcame its poor performance by scoring season-high scores in the last two events, but the Huskers fell .375 points short of OU.

Despite not advancing as a team, NU had 11 qualifiers, an accomplishment that Allen said was nice, "but it's not why I am coaching."

Jason Hardabura and Derek Leiter qualified in the all-around event while Jim Koziol placed in the pommel horse and still rings. Bill Mulholland qualified in the pommel horse and vault and Blake Bukacek placed in the high-bar event.

Allen said NU will take time off and then gear up for nationals.

"We are not done," Allen said. "We are going to grind our asses because we have something to prove."

NU still perfect in Big 12 play

SOFTBALL from page 7

Jenifer Williams both went 2 for 3 in the second game.

"I was very happy that we came out (in the second game) and scored some runs early," Revelle said. "We try to win every inning. We want to get our lead-off on and keep theirs off."

The Huskers will travel to Omaha for a doubleheader against Creighton Tuesday at 6 p.m. The doubleheader will kick off a span in which the Huskers play eight road games in seven days.

Voss said the Huskers will carry their momentum into Tuesday's games.

"A goal was to be 6-0 in the Big 12," Voss said, "and we don't settle for anything less than winning. We could beat a lot of people if we keep playing like we're playing."

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Weekend Wrap-Up

Men's tennis team falls

The Nebraska men's tennis team fell 6-1 to 38th-ranked Colorado Saturday.

The Buffaloes won five of six singles matches and two of three doubles matches. NU's lone singles win came from junior Joakim Larsson who defeated Jerad Harbaugh in No. 5 singles play.

Junior Dinko Verzi and senior Markus Bergerheim joined forces in No. 1 doubles play to defeat CU's Dony Papadia and Boris Sepesi.

Huskers show heart in loss

Although the Nebraska women's soccer team lost 2-1 to Notre Dame

Sunday in South Bend, Ind., Coach John Walker was proud of how his team competed.

"It's the best we've ever played against Notre Dame," Coach John Walker said. "We gave a tremendous effort."

The outcome was much different from the two teams' last meeting, when then-No. 1 Notre Dame won 6-0 in the second round of the 1997 NCAA Tournament.

"The last time they thumped us," Walker said. "It was important for us to give a good effort."

Kim Engesser, who led the nation in scoring last fall, got Nebraska on the board.

Walker said the defense was impressive in shutting down the top-scoring team in the country, considering that one of Notre Dame's goals came on a penalty kick.

But in the physical game, NU defender Heather Brown hurt her knee. Walker said they hadn't diagnosed it yet, but said it could be an injury to the anterior cruciate ligament.

Even though it was a spring game, Walker said, the match will give the Huskers a good measure of where they stand nationally.

"Notre Dame is the No. 1 or No. 2 team in the country," Walker said. "We are probably No. 6 or No. 7."

Tennis team sweeps MU

Lisa Hart won her sixth consecutive match as the 52nd-ranked Nebraska women's tennis team (13-5) defeated Missouri 9-0 Saturday in Columbia, Mo.

Track team takes relays

The Nebraska men's track team won the Fresno Relays in Fresno, Calif., last weekend. The win snapped Fresno State's six-year winning streak at the annual event.

The Nebraska women's track team finished second behind Stanford at the Fresno Relays. The Husker women won seven individual event titles and won the 4 x 100-meter relay.

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