

Brink, Oxford tie for all-around

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194.675, while host Missouri rounded out the teams with a 194.55.

"Tonight couldn't have gone any better for us," an ecstatic Kendig said. "The girls worked hard all week, all year, for this. We're very proud of them."

With her own third-place-winning clutch bars routine (9.85), junior All-American Heather Brink came from behind to tie her teammate, senior All-American Misty Oxford, for her second straight Big 12 all-around title at 39.375.

That score tied a team season high in the all-around, set by Oxford two weeks ago.

It was the second straight time the

two have finished 1-2, or 1-1, in the conference championships. The two downplayed their excitement over it, and instead shared their joy for the team's feat.

"We just don't focus on (the individual all-around)," Brink said. "We don't know until they announce the awards where we stand individually. We didn't know we were so close going into the bars. We didn't care. This whole thing is about the team."

Oxford's career high and team season high-tying 9.90 on the floor exercise would have been her fifth title in the event this season, had it not been for Brink's career high-tying 9.925.

Behind the glitz and glamour of Brink and Oxford's dynasty was the performance of Courtney Brown.

Brown, who was ousted by Oklahoma's Amber McCracken for Big 12 gymnast of the year, solidified her dominance in the three events she competes in by capturing both the vault and balance beam titles with career high 9.925s and finishing fifth on the floor exercise.

The night also partially belonged to NU freshman Bree Dority, who along with her best performance of the season was named Big 12 newcomer of the year.

The record-breaking victory and overwhelming yearlong dominance in which NU set three school records poses a serious question for the Huskers as they now prepare for the NCAA Midwest Regional on April 10 in Lincoln, and the NCAA

"The girls worked hard all week, all year, for this. We're very proud of them."

DAN KENDIG
NU coach

Championships in Salt Lake City, April 22-24. Just how far can NU go?

"We had a great season, but there are lots of things we can go back to the gym and perfect," Brown said. "After all, no one has got a 10 yet."

Pine, Rogis help Huskers to 11th place at NCAA meet

BY BRANDON SCHULTE
Staff writer

A furious finish on the final event of the final day by the 400-yard freestyle relay team enabled the Nebraska men's swimming and diving teams to capture 11th place at the NCAA Championships held in Indianapolis.

NU scored 139 points en route to the finish. No one was more pleased with the finish, the third-highest in NU's history, than Coach Cal Bentz.

"We are very excited to be at the level of an 11th-place program. We moved up seven spots from last year (18th) and we have six NCAA qualifiers returning," Bentz said. "I don't think there was any question we wanted to be in the Top 10. We were knocking on the door as loud as you could without getting in."

The finish was spurred on by a host of Huskers, most notably All-Americans Adam Pine and Anthony Rogis.

Pine, a junior from Ballina, Australia, came up just short in his bid to be the first Husker male swimmer to win an individual national title. He finished second in the 100-yard butterfly for the second consecutive year, with a time of 46.37. Stanford senior Dod Wales won the event with an American record time of 45.89.

"I don't know if I put together a very good race, but I'm happy with second place," Pine said. "We got points and I have motivation to come back and do better next year."

Rogis, a native of Weetangera, Australia, finished third in the 200-yard freestyle, posting a time of 1:35.08.

The seventh-place finish by the 400-yard freestyle relay team of Rogis, Pine, Josh Mathias and Javier Botello on the final event vaulted the Huskers into 11th and was also good enough to earn All-America honors.

Huskers tie Sooners for conference crown

Jason Hardabura nails all-around title, Leiter is second.

BY JOHN GASKINS
Staff writer

What a difference a month makes. Four weeks ago, the Nebraska men's gymnastics team traveled to Norman, Okla., and were rudely awakened to an embarrassing 3-point loss and their worst output of the season against Oklahoma.

Friday, the No. 6 Huskers went back to Norman, and with their backs against the wall, came from behind in the final event to tie the No. 8 Sooners at 228.575 for the 1999 Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Championship, their second title in three years.

NU finished the season beating Oklahoma twice, losing to them once and tying them once.

Behind Nebraska and Oklahoma was third-place Brigham Young University, ranked No. 10 in the nation, and No. 13 Stanford, which tied for

third at 224.275. Two-time defending NCAA Champion California finished sixth at 221.15.

The Huskers trailed the Sooners by .225 points going into the final event, the pommel horse. That's when three Huskers, sophomore Jason Hardabura (9.7), junior Derek Leiter (9.675) and senior Jim Koziol (9.6), scored 9.6 or better to erase the deficit and tie OU.

"Overall, I was pleased with how our team performed under pressure," NU Head Coach Francis Allen said.

"After our first trip here, we knew it was important for us to perform well. Our goal was to walk out with the trophy, and we did just that."

Hardabura closed out a spectacular regular season, winning his seventh all-around title with a score of 57.875. It was the first all-around conference title won by a Nebraska gymnast since Richard Grace won the MPSF all-around in 1995.

Hardabura's seasonlong dominance garnered him the MPSF gymnast of the year award and gave more evidence to Allen's prophecy that "Jason is definitely capable of winning the national championship this year."

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Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women
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- A. This nomination form
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- C. Additional supporting documentation may be included (but is not required) but should not exceed three pages.

Please attach all supporting documentation to this nomination form and submit to: **Barbara LaCost, 1213 Seaton Hall, (0638), no later than Friday, April 2, 1999.**

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