

— TRACK —

Newcombe joins Husker track

By Sean Callahan

Staff writer

One could argue Bobby Newcombe had already accomplished as much or more than anyone currently at Nebraska.

When the junior from New Mexico decided to run track, it was just another thing to add to his list of accomplishments in his career as a Cornhusker.

In Newcombe's senior year of high school he was a state champion in the 100 meters, 200 meters, 400 meters and the long jump.

Newcombe said his decision to run track was something he had always wanted to do.

"I would've come out my first year, but I had to concentrate on playing quarterback," Newcombe said. "Last year I injured myself, so this year just

seemed like the best opportunity."

Husker sprinters Coach Billy Maxwell welcomed Newcombe to his already talented group of sprinters.

Maxwell said he doesn't expect Newcombe to be a spectacular runner, but thinks Newcombe can contribute to his team in some way.

"He can really help us in the relays," Maxwell said. "We have the potential to have a great 4-by-100 relay team. We already have three really fine sprinters, so I think that last spot will be open to whoever earns it."

When the Nebraska track team runs tomorrow at the 22-team Nebraska Open, Newcombe will not compete.

In fact, Newcombe has no idea when he will compete. He said he won't run until he feels he is ready.

"I just want to come out and enjoy the time I've got here," Newcombe

said.

When asked what Coach Frank Solich thought of his idea to run track, Newcombe said Solich thought it would benefit him.

Solich must have thought it would benefit more players than just Newcombe.

Besides Newcombe, Josh Brown has also joined the track team, Matt Davison joined the basketball team, and there was talk of Ryon Bingham and Dan Alexander of joining the wrestling team.

The trend of the two-sport college athlete is becoming more popular these days.

Maxwell said athletes like Iowa's Tim Dwight and Penn State's Ki-Jana Carter helped start the two-sport trend.

"It really helps youngsters in the pro-ball selections," Maxwell said. "It

Gymnasts head to Bermuda

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"We got a long ways to go and a lot of room for improvement," Kendig said.

Nebraska is lead by senior All-American gymnast Heather Brink. Brink, who was named Big 12 Gymnast of the Week, is coming off a first-place finish in the all-around at Iowa State.

Junior Amy Ringo will continue to be the strong component of the Big Red machine. Ringo placed second

last week in the all-around.

Freshman A.J. Lamb has been a surprise for the Huskers so far. Lamb has consistently been a top three performer for NU.

Last week, senior Nicole Wilkinson won the balance beam for Nebraska, scoring a 9.875.

Coach Kendig will also take the advantage of depth in freshman like Jess Wertz. Wertz placed third in the floor exercise.

The Bermuda Triangle Challenge is slated to begin at 5 p.m.

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— SWIMMING —

Seniors say goodbye at home meet

By Brian Christopherson

Staff writer

Even though it will sandwich a birthday party and a goodbye wave to 14 seniors, the dual meet between Nebraska and Iowa State for both men and women is still on this Saturday.

The Nebraska women's swimming and diving program will celebrate its Silver Anniversary at this final home meet of the season. The action starts at 1 p.m. at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

"This is a very significant point of great progress over a period of time for the women's team, and hopefully progress will continue as the years go on," Nebraska Coach Cal Bentz said.

The volleyball team celebrated its 25th birthday earlier this season, and now the women swimmers and divers will have a chance to take a bow for their successes, which include 10 conference titles and nine top 20 finishes at Nationals.

This year's team of Husker women could use a boost of adrenaline after a 1-6 dual-record start.

However, Bentz has been formulating his rotations for the conference and national meets and is hoping to clarify some positions over the weekend.

"We have been experimenting throughout, and we are trying to see who is going to swim what and who gives us the opportunity to score the most points come conference and NCAA time," Bentz said.

The women carry a No. 16 ranking. The men, with a 1-5 dual record, are 17th in the poll.

Iowa State should give the Huskers a workout on the men's side. The Cyclone men carry a 5-1 dual record and a No. 25 ranking.

Bentz saw the men come together in their last meet, narrowly losing to national powerhouse Southern Methodist last weekend.

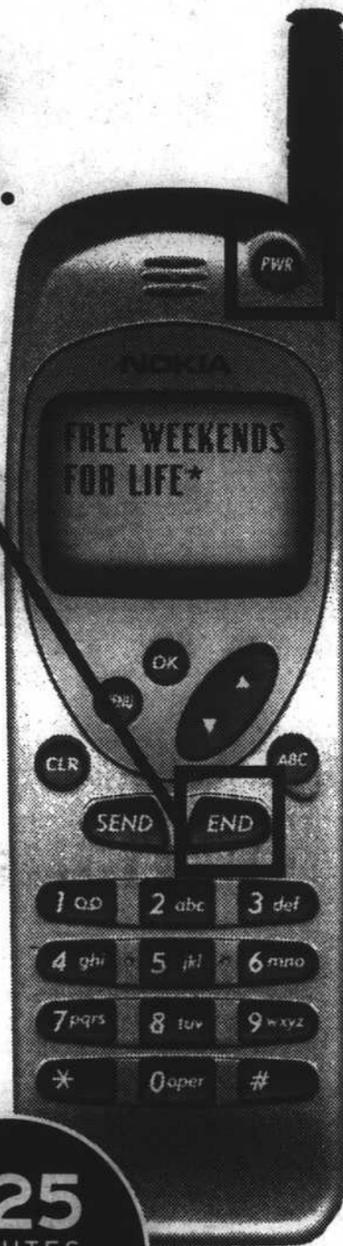
An added motivation could be that this is the final home meet for 14 Nebraska seniors.

Adam Pine, Michael Windisch, Valery Kalmikovs and Erik Cook are All-Americans who round out their home careers for the men. The women will say goodbye to superstars Sara Jowsey, Stacey Sedlacek, and Helene Muller, who has proved to be a point scorer for the Huskers this season.

Although the meat of the season is still around the corner, Bentz says all the seniors have accomplished a great deal and will be missed.

"The record and results of these people on both the men's and women's side speaks for itself," he said.

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