

This Week in Maverick Athletics – 2/3/2014

University of Nebraska Omaha

For full stats, player bios and schedule information, visit: www.omavs.com



Hockey

Up Next:

Fri., Feb. 7 – at North Dakota, 7:37 p.m. at Grand Forks, N.D. (Radio: 1180 Zone 2)

Sat., Feb. 8 – at North Dakota, 7:07 p.m. at Grand Forks, N.D. (Radio: 1180 Zone 2)

Record: 10-12-2, 7-5-2-1 NCHC (T-2nd)

Notables:

- Omaha split its home series with No. 5 St. Cloud State, losing 5-3 on Friday before rebounding for an 8-6 win on Saturday. The Mavericks moved into a three-way tie for second in the NCHC by virtue of the win.
- Three players tied for the team scoring lead during the series with four points each. Dominic Zombo had four goals, Josh Archibald had a goal and three assists and Jake Guentzel had four assists.
- Zombo got three of his goals in Saturday's win. It marked the second time a Maverick has had a hat trick this season following Archibald who put up three at Miami on Jan. 18.
- The eight goals scored by the Mavericks on Saturday were a season high and tied for second most goals in a game in school history.
- The Mavericks drew a season-high crowd of 10,368 for Friday's game.
- Archibald leads the Mavericks in scoring with 18 goals and 10 assists for 28 points. His goal total leads the NCHC while he is third in league points.
- Archibald is fifth overall in goals in the NCAA and ranks third in the country with an average of .75 goals per game.
- Ryan Walters is second in team scoring lead with 23 points while leading the team with 18 assists, putting him third in the league. He is tied with three others for eighth in league scoring. Walters is tied with two others for third in the NCHC in powerplay points (5-7-12) and in a tie with Archibald, Zombo and four others for fourth in NCHC powerplay goals with five.
- Jake Guentzel (3-16-19) is tied with Minnesota Duluth's Alex Iafallo for second in NCHC freshman scoring. He leads the NCHC in assists by a freshman. Teammate Austin Ortega is in a four-way tie for seventh in freshman scoring with 13 points (6-7-13).
- Freshman defenseman Ian Brady is tied with two others for fourth in NCHC defenseman scoring with four goals and 11 assists for 15 points. That total also puts him fifth among NCHC freshmen.
- Senior defenseman Michael Young has 13 points, all assists, putting him in a six-way tie for ninth in NCHC defenseman scoring. He is tied for second in the league among all NCHC d'men in assists.
- Walters and Archibald are closing in on 50 career goals at UNO. Walters has 48 and Archibald has 47. Only five players in school history have scored 50 or more career goals led by all-time scoring leader Scott Parse (79).
- The Mavs are third in the NCAA and lead the NCHC averaging 35.42 shots per game. They are 10th in the NCAA and lead the NCHC, allowing just 27.12 shots per game.

- The Mavericks' penalty killing unit stopped four of five power plays for St. Cloud State last weekend, allowing just one goal during a five-minute penalty. The Mavs have killed off 24 of the last 25 opponent power plays.
- Ryan Walters has played in 138 consecutive games, putting him 10th among current NCAA players.
- Walters is fourth in career scoring at UNO with 123 points after picking up two assists last weekend.
- The Mavericks visit North Dakota on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 7-8 to complete their four-game season series.
- In November, the Mavericks beat UND, 4-2, and lost 3-2, in a series at the CenturyLink Center.
- Omaha trails the all-time series with North Dakota, 4-6-0, but the Mavericks are 2-2-0 in Grand Forks, N.D. Their last visit was Dec. 9-10, 2011.

Men's Basketball

Up Next:

Wednesday, Feb. 5 – vs. Peru State, 11 a.m. at Ralston Arena (Radio: 1290 KOIL)

Saturday, Feb. 8 – vs. Western Illinois, 1:07 p.m. at Ralston Arena (Radio: 1620 KOZN)

Record: 13-9, 3-4 Summit League (T-5th)

Notables:

- The Omaha men's basketball team dropped its Thursday night contest to league leading Fort Wayne, 86-82, before rebounding to defeat IUPUI on Saturday, 99-71.
- Omaha never trailed during the game against IUPUI, building up a 34-point lead with 7:23 left in the game before cruising to a 28-point win. Devin Patterson led all Maverick scorers for the game with 15 point to go along with six assists.
- Six Maverick players reached double figures in the scoring column, marking the third time this season that Omaha has had five or more players in double figures. UNO is now 11-3 this season when having four or more players reach double figures in the scoring column.
- Junior forward Mike Rostampour narrowly missed out on recording his first double-double of the season, finishing the game with nine points and eight rebounds. Justin Simmons also missed out on the feat finishing the game with 13 points to go along with eight rebounds.
- John Karhoff ranks 51st nationally among Division I players with a 86.5 free throw percentage, while senior guard Alex Phillips is 52nd with a 46.6 3-point shooting percentage.
- As a team, Omaha ranks sixth with a 77.2 free throw percentage, 18th with 16.1 assists per game and 20th with 81.8 points per game.
- Omaha is at home for two games this week. The Mavericks will host Peru State on Wednesday, Feb. 5 at 11 a.m. at Ralston Arena. All the action can be heard on 1290 KOIL. The Mavs return to Summit League play on Saturday, Feb. 8 when they host Western Illinois at 1:07 p.m. Links to live stats, video and audio for both games will be available on OMavs.com. Saturday's game will be broadcast live on 1620 The Zone. Gary Sharp will call the action for both games.

Women's Basketball

Up Next:

Thursday, Feb. 6 – at Western Illinois, 7 p.m. at Macomb, Ill. (Radio: TBA)

Record: 9-12, 1-6 Summit League (8th)

Notables:

- The Omaha women's basketball team fell twice at home in Summit League action last week and dropped to 9-12 overall and 1-6 in league play.
- Fort Wayne held off the Mavericks for an 81-71 win on Thursday; then IUPUI sprinted out of the gate to a 77-45 win over the Mavs on Sunday.
- On Thursday, IPFW gained separation from a 44-43 second-half advantage with an 8-0 run to grab a 52-43 lead.
- Freshman forward Sami Pawlak made her first career start against Fort Wayne, and she was productive with 11 points, seven rebounds and a team-high three assists. She followed up with another start on Sunday and added six points and three rebounds.
- Ericka House led the Mavs with 22 points against the Mastodons, going 8-of-16 from the field. Felicia Anderson added 11 points off the bench.
- On Sunday, IUPUI forced a season-high 24 turnovers by the Mavs and cruised after opening up a 22-2 lead to start the game. Taijhe Kelly had eight points, eight rebounds and four blocked shots to lead UNO. She continues to lead the league with 3.2 blocked shots per game and ranks 11th nationally.
- House continues to rank third in the league in scoring at 17.2 points per game. She is also the top free throw shooter in the league at 90.0 percent and has made 18 straight foul shots dating back to Jan. 5.
- In conference play, the Mavs are first in blocked shots per game (3.6) and third in steals per game (9.3). UNO is holding conference foes to 42.5 percent shooting from the field to rank third in the league.
- The Mavs begin the second half of their Summit League schedule with a road trip to Western Illinois on Thursday at 7 p.m. in Macomb.

Softball

Friday-Sunday, Feb. 7-9 – UNO at Red Desert Classic at St. George, Utah

2013 Record: 36-7, 14-3 Summit League (2nd)

Notables:

- Coming off the second-winningest season in program history, the Omaha softball team begins its 2014 campaign at the Red Desert Classic in St. George, Utah this weekend.
- The Mavericks open play on Friday against Weber State at 2:30 p.m. CT. On Saturday, UNO faces Utah Valley at 2:30 p.m. and Southern Utah at 5 p.m. Then on Sunday, UNO finishes with Idaho State at Noon and Utah State at 2:30 p.m. All games will be played at The Canyons Complex.
- UNO has 10 players back from last season, including seven position starters and two pitchers. Senior ace Dana Elsasser sets the tone. She finished last year 21-7 with a 1.25 ERA and had 13

shutouts and 24 complete games. The Hershey, Neb., native posted the lowest overall ERA in The Summit League and the best ERA in conference games only (0.62). She was named the conference's pitcher of the week four times and earned second-team All-Summit League honors.

- At the plate, the Mavs return the meat of their lineup. Junior Allie Mathewson (.395, 11 HR, 36 RBI), sophomore Campbell Ditto (.376, 7 HR, 30 RBI) and senior Amber Lutmer (.304, 12 HR, 47 RB) will pace the Maverick attack. In all, seven of the Mavs' nine regular starters in the batting order return. Mathewson was an NFCA All-Region First-Team selection while Ditto was named Summit League Freshman of the Year. Lutmer was a Summit League Second-Team pick and is just 11 homers, 63 RBI and 12 walks away from setting new career records in each category.
- UNO head coach Jeanne Scarpello is only one win away from her 600th career win. Scarpello has an all-time record of 599-188-1 (.761) entering her 15th year as the head coach of the Mavs. The all-time winningest coach in UNO history, Scarpello has the Mavericks coming off one of the most successful seasons in program history, although the Mavs weren't eligible for the postseason because of their transition to Division I. The Mavs' 36-7 record (.837 winning percentage) was the second best in school history, behind only Scarpello's 2001 Division II National Championship team that went 54-6.
- Two players enter the 2014 season with remarkable streaks that ended the 2013 campaign. Lutmer finished 2013 on a 33-game reached base streak. The Omaha native reached base in every game played dating back to Feb. 23, 2013 and reached safely in 40 of 43 games last season. Meanwhile, Mathewson ended the season on an 11-game hitting streak, the longest by any Maverick last season.
- The Mavs were picked second in the Summit League Preseason Poll, voted on by the league's seven head coaches. The coaches were not allowed to vote for their own teams. The Mavericks received 31 total points, including one first-place vote, to finish two points behind North Dakota State, which has won the regular-season title two years in a row.

Swimming & Diving

Up Next:

Wednesday-Saturday, Feb. 19-22 – at Summit League Championship at Indianapolis, Ind.

Notables:

- The Omaha swimming & diving team was idle last week.
- Omaha closes the 2014 season next month at the Summit League Championships, Feb. 19-22, in Indianapolis, Ind.

Men's Tennis

Up Next:

Sunday, Feb. 9 – vs. Denver, 10 a.m. at Hanscom Brandeis Tennis Center

Notables:

- The Mavericks won their season opening match for the fourth time in five years, sweeping Nebraska Wesleyan, 7-0.
- Eric McKnight and Adam Dockery won their match at No. 1 doubles, 8-2, before Nathan Greteman and Erik Anderson clinched the point for the Mavs by winning their No. 2 doubles

match, 8-3. In the last doubles match, James McManus and Lukas Vanzura squeaked out a victory, 9-8 (11-8).

- In singles play, McKnight was victorious at No. 1, (6-4, 7-6 (6-3)) as was Dockery with a 6-2, 6-2, win in the No. 2 spot. McManus picked up a 6-1, 6-3 win at No. 3 and Anderson outlasted his opponent in the No. 4 match, 6-1, 1-6, 7-6 (15-13). Greteman picked up a 7-6 (6-3), 6-5 win at No. 5 before freshman Michael Knudsen finished off the sweep with a 6-1, 6-4 win at No. 6.
- UNO hosts Summit League newcomer Denver on Sunday, Feb. 9 at 10 a.m. before hitting the road for four straight matches.

Women's Tennis

Up Next:

Saturday, Feb. 15 – at Northern Iowa, 3 p.m. at Cedar Falls, Iowa

Notables:

- The Omaha women's tennis team picked up its first win of the season on Friday, sweeping Nebraska Wesleyan, 7-0.
- The Mavericks won all three doubles matches: Alex Tran and Hylan Miller at No. 1 (8-1), Molly Matricardi and Tiffany Hottman at No. 2 (8-2) and Jacqueline Baude and Kenzie Hill at No. 3 (8-0).
- UNO then swept all six singles matches in straight sets: Tran at No. 1 (6-1, 6-2), Miller at No. 2 (6-0, 6-0), Matricardi at No. 3 (6-2, 6-0), Hill at No. 4 (6-1, 6-0), senior Lindsay Weideman at No. 5 (6-0, 6-0) and Baude at No. 6 (6-1, 6-0).
- Miller and Hill's singles wins were the first of both of their Maverick careers.
- Omaha returns to the court on Saturday, Feb. 15, visiting Northern Iowa for a 3 p.m. match in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Track & Field

Up Next:

Saturday, Feb. 8 – at Dakota Realty Alumni Meet, 10:30 a.m. at Vermillion, S.D.

Notables:

- The Mavs set two new school records last weekend competing in the Jack Jennett Invitational in Cedar Falls, Iowa.
- Sami Spenner broke her own school record for the pentathlon for the third time in two seasons by recording 4,406 points in the event. Spenner's previous school record of 4,271 was set last year at the USA Track and Field Indoor Championships in Albuquerque N.M.
- Spenner also broke the school record in long jump during the pentathlon competition, leaping 20-09. Spenner won all five competitions that she competed in for the pentathlon competition and also placed first in the triple jump during the second day of competition with a leap of 40-06 $\frac{1}{4}$.
- Three Maverick athletes finished in the top five of the long jump as Kathie-Lee Laidley (1), Denneil Shaw (3), and Payton Horacek (5) all recorded marks that put them in the top 10 of the Summit League indoor performance list.
- Ashley Kildow finished third in the mile run with a time of 5:14.28 while Maddie Glesinger finished seventh in the 400 meter hurdles with a time of 1:07.38.

- Lindsey Bruns just missed out on placing in the top eight of the 3,000 meter run, finishing ninth with a time of 10:34.92 while Kristin Rogers finished 13th with a time of 10:40.62.

Community

Notables:

- Nebraska Children's Home attended the Mavericks' hockey game on Friday, Jan. 31 with 50 kids and their families as UNO Guests of the Night.
- Kids and Families of Autism Action were guests of honor at the hockey game Saturday, Feb. 1.
- Several local nonprofit groups were a part of Friday night's hockey game including Partnership 4 Our Kids, Boys Town, Heartland Family Services, Easter Seals, Goodwill, Special Olympics, Children's Respite Center, Completely Kids, Komen Nebraska, Teddy Bear Hollow, Girls Inc., Dads Appreciating Downs and Ollie Webb.
- Also last week, nine student-athletes visited Wakonda Elementary School and read to the students for an hour.
- Additionally, teams are collecting donations at Wohlners and Bakers on Sunday for the Summit League Food Fight. All monetary and canned foods will be donated to Foodbank for the Heartland.