

This Week in Maverick Athletics – 2/17/2014

University of Nebraska Omaha

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



Hockey

Up Next:

Friday, Feb. 21 – at Western Michigan, 6:07 p.m. CT at Kalamazoo, Mich. (Radio: 1180 Zone 2)

Saturday, Feb. 22 – at Western Michigan, 6:07 p.m. CT at Kalamazoo, Mich. (Radio: 1180 Zone 2)

Record: 12-14-2, 9-7-2-1 NCHC (3rd)

Notables:

- Omaha split a home series with No. 18 Denver, winning 4-2 the first night before dropping a 4-1 decision the following night.
- Four players tied for the team scoring lead during the series with two points each. Josh Archibald had two goals while Brock Montpetit, Austin Ortega and Nick Seeler each had a goal and an assist.
- The series-opening win for the Mavericks was their first Friday victory since Nov. 22, snapping an 0-5-1 string in series openers.
- Nick Seeler scored UNO's third shorthanded goal of the year and the first of his career in Saturday's game.
- Archibald scored his sixth game-winning goal in Friday's win over DU and now leads the NCHC in game-winners.
- Archibald leads the Mavericks in scoring with 23 goals and 11 assists for 34 points. His goal total leads the NCHC while he is third in league points.
- Archibald is tied with RPI's Ryan Haggerty for second overall in goals in the NCAA and is tied for second in the country with an average of .82 goals per game.
- Dominic Zombo and Ryan Walters are tied for second in team scoring with 25 points. Zombo's 13 goals are a new career high.
- Jake Guentzel earned another assist last week and is fifth in team scoring with 23 points. He ranks second in freshman scoring in the NCHC, leads all conference rookies in assists and is tied with St. Cloud State's David Morley for second in assists among all players.
- Guentzel's assist total puts him second all-time among UNO rookies. The school standard is 26 assists by Greg Zanon during his freshman year (1999-2000).
- Freshmen Ian Brady (4-12-16) and Austin Ortega (7-9-16) are tied for seventh in NCHC freshman scoring. Brady sits in a three-way tie for ninth in NCHC defenseman scoring.
- Archibald ranks fifth all-time in goal scoring at UNO with 52 tallies. He is three goals from tying Brandon Scero for fourth.
- The Mavs are third in the NCAA and lead the NCHC averaging 35.11 shots per game. They are sixth in the NCAA and lead the NCHC, allowing just 26.43 shots per game.
- The Mavericks' penalty killing unit stopped all six power plays for Denver last weekend. The Mavs have killed off 40 of the last 41 opponent power plays over a span of 10 games (97.6 percent).
- Ryan Walters has played in 142 consecutive games, putting him 10th among current NCAA players.

- The Mavericks travel to Western Michigan for games on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 21-22, in their first and only meetings with the Broncos this season.
- The Mavericks have not played Western Michigan since both schools were members of the old Central Collegiate Hockey Association in 2009-10.
- Omaha leads the all-time series with Western Michigan, 14-8-6, and is 6-4-4 all-time in Kalamazoo.

Men's Basketball

Up Next:

Thursday, Feb. 20 – at South Dakota, 7 p.m. at Vermillion, S.D. (Radio: 1620 The Zone)

Saturday, Feb. 22 – at Denver, 7 p.m. CT at Denver, Colo. (Radio: 1620 The Zone)

Record: 15-11, 4-6 Summit League (T-5th)

Notables:

- The Omaha men's basketball team dropped its Thursday night contest to South Dakota State, 77-60, before falling to North Dakota State, 75-59, on Saturday afternoon.
- The loss on Thursday night snapped UNO's three-game win streak and was only the second home loss for the Mavs all season. Junior forward Mike Rostampour led all Maverick scorers with 15 points to go along with six rebounds.
- Junior guard CJ Carter joined Rostampour with 12 points and three assists in the loss while sophomore guard Devin Patterson pitched in 13 points.
- Saturday saw senior center John Karhoff climb into 10th place on the all-time career scoring list, passing Stan Schaetzle with a 16-point effort. The Creighton Prep product added four rebounds and two assists while Carter added 12 points of his own.
- As a team, Omaha ranks fourth nationally with a .772 free throw percentage, 24th with 15.7 assists per game and 26th with 79.8 points per game.
- Senior guard Justin Simmons is in the State Farm Dark Horse Dunker competition, a fan voting contest in which the winner advances to the 2014 College Slam Dunk Championship in Dallas, Texas. Simmons is paired against Deonte Jones of Texas Wesleyan, and fans may vote once per day at Facebook.com/CollegeSlam. Fans are also encouraged to show their support on social media by using the hashtag #Socks4SlamDunk.
- Omaha returns to action this Thursday, Feb. 20, traveling to South Dakota for a 7 p.m. at the DakotaDome. The Mavericks then head to Denver on Saturday, Feb. 22, tipping off at 7 p.m. (CT) at Magness Arena. Both games will be broadcast live on KOZN 1620 AM with Gary Sharp calling the action.

Women's Basketball

Up Next:

Thursday, Feb. 20 – vs. South Dakota, 7 p.m. at Sapp Fieldhouse (Radio: 1180 Zone 2)

Saturday, Feb. 22 – vs. Denver, 1 p.m. at Sapp Fieldhouse (Radio: 1180 Zone 2)

Record: 10-14, 2-8 Summit League (7th)

Notables:

- The Omaha women's basketball team came up short in a 71-60 loss at South Dakota State last Thursday but rebounded with a 68-57 triumph at North Dakota State on Saturday.
- The Mavs are now 10-14 overall and 2-8 in the Summit League. The win at North Dakota State snapped a seven-game losing streak and an 11-game road losing streak dating back to last season.
- At SDSU, the Mavs led 34-30 at halftime to put the Jackrabbits behind at home at the half for the first time in more than a year. SDSU roared back but held only a 59-56 lead with 3:30 to go. However, the Jacks pulled away with a 12-4 run to extend their now 16-game home win streak.
- The Mavs allowed no comeback on Saturday at NDSU, leading from start to finish. Omaha burst out to an 18-5 lead in the opening 9:20 and never looked back. The Bison never got closer than nine points the rest of the way.
- Senior Ericka House averaged 26.5 points and 5.0 rebounds per game over the weekend to lead the Mavericks. At SDSU, House came off the bench and went for a career-high 30 points on 12-of-18 from the field and 4-of-8 from 3-point range. At NDSU, House returned to the starting lineup and led UNO to its first league win since Jan. 16 with 23 points and a career-high seven rebounds. House shot 8-of-16 overall and 2-of-4 from 3-point range. She went 5-of-6 from the free throw line, suffering her first missed free throw since Jan. 5 after making 25 in a row. She raised her season average to 17.9 points per game to rank third in the league and leads the league with a 90.3 free throw percentage.
- Taijhe Kelly set a school-record with eight blocked shots at South Dakota State. She swatted 13 shots on the week and now ranks eighth nationally and leads the Summit League with 3.4 blocked shots per game. Kelly posted a huge line at SDSU with a career-high 16 points, season-best 12 rebounds and her career-high eight blocked shots.
- In conference play, the Mavs are first in blocked shots per game (4.2) and second in steals per game (9.6). UNO is holding conference foes to 41.0 percent shooting from the field to rank third in the league. The Mavs are allowing conference opponents 71.7 points per game to rank third as well.
- This week, the Mavs finish the home portion of their schedule. UNO hosts South Dakota on Thursday at 7 p.m., then welcomes Denver on Saturday for a 1 p.m. game on Senior Day.

Baseball

Up Next:

Friday, Feb. 21 – Saturday, March 1 – at Snowbird Classic Tournament at Port Charlotte, Fla.

2013 Record: 27-22, 20-6 Summit League (1st)

Notables:

- After its weekend series with Tennessee and Purdue was cancelled due to snow in Knoxville, Tenn., the Omaha baseball team now opens the 2014 season this Friday, Feb. 21 at the Snowbird Classic in Port Charlotte, Fla.
- The Mavericks open with Milwaukee on Friday at 10 a.m., kicking off an eight-game tournament trip. UNO continues the week by facing Northwestern, Iowa, St. Bonaventure, Chicago State, Villanova and Western Michigan.
- Omaha, which went 27-22 (20-6 Summit League) last season, won the 2013 Summit League regular-season championship. It marked UNO's first Division I conference title in any sport.

- UNO returns 20 letterwinners from its 2013 squad, including eight position starters. Four are returning All-Summit honorees: first-team selections Tyler Splichal and Alex Mortensen and second-team picks Brett Bass and Clayton Taylor.
- The Mavericks are favored to repeat as regular-season league champions in 2014 as they were picked first in the preseason coaches' poll released two weeks ago.

Softball

Up Next:

Friday-Sunday, Feb. 21-23 – at UTSA Tournament at San Antonio, Texas

Record: 6-3

Notables:

- The Mavericks battled delayed flights and an adjusted tournament schedule but still managed a 3-1 record at the Auburn Tiger Invitational over the weekend. The Mavs posted wins over Marshall (9-6), Loyola Chicago (9-2) and Western Illinois (11-7, 8 inn.). UNO's only loss was 4-2 to host Auburn.
- Allie Mathewson hit .563 (9-for-16) with two home runs, two doubles, four RBI and six runs scored to lead the Mavericks. The junior center fielder posted a 1.063 slugging percentage and .632 on-base percentage and was 1-for-1 in stolen bases.
- Amber Lutmer reached base in every game on the weekend to extend her consecutive reached base streak to 42 games dating back to last season. The streak nearly came to an end in the final game against Western Illinois, but Lutmer smashed a grand slam in the eighth inning to lift the Mavs past the Leathernecks and keep her streak intact.
- Dana Elsasser went 1-1 with a 2.86 ERA on the weekend and appeared in three of the four games. She recorded 13 strikeouts and limited opponents to a .143 batting average in 14.2 innings pitched. On Sunday, she pitched a two-hitter with 10 strikeouts in the 9-2 win over Loyola Chicago.
- Kat Barrow and Cheyenne Baxter each picked up their first wins of the season on the weekend. Baxter pitched 3.0 innings in relief in the win over Marshall, allowing two earned runs on four hits. Barrow also got her win in relief, throwing 7.2 innings against Western Illinois and allowing three earned runs on seven hits with seven strikeouts.
- Freshman Lizzie Noble hit .500 and had her first career home run to go with five RBI on the weekend. Her .917 slugging percentage was second on the team behind only Mathewson.
- The Mavs experimented with moving Tara Trede to the bottom of the batting order, and it worked with the sophomore second baseman hitting .400 with five runs scored.
- Freshman Lia Mancuso continued the strong start to her career by hitting .375 and drawing a team-high six walks for a team-best .643 on-base percentage. She also stole two bases in two attempts, as did Trede, to lead the Mavs to a 6-for-6 weekend in stolen bases.
- The Mavericks visit San Antonio for the UTSA Tournament this weekend. UNO is scheduled to face just three opponents among its five-game schedule – Texas A&M-Corpus Christi (twice), UTSA (twice) and Bryant.

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 returns to action after nearly a month off at the Summit League Championships, Feb. 19-22, in Indianapolis, Ind.

Men's Golf

Up Next:

Monday-Tuesday, March 3-4 – at Sacramento State Invitational at Sacramento, Calif.

Notables:

- The Mavericks won their first event of the season, taking the Carlton Oaks WIU Invitational hosted by Western Illinois in San Diego, Calif. on Feb. 10-11.
- The Mavericks posted a 54-hole team score of 934 to edge runner up DePaul by one stroke.
- Karl Krieser led the Mavericks in scoring with a three-round total of 231 to finish seventh in the field of 51 golfers.
- Alex Overfelt was second for the Mavs and tied for eighth overall with a score of 232.
- The Mavericks are off until March 3-4 when they take part in the Sacramento State Invitational.

Men's Tennis

Up Next:

Thursday, Feb. 20 – at Creighton, 1 p.m. at Hanscom Brandeis Tennis Center

Saturday, Feb. 22 – vs. Idaho State, 1 p.m. at Grand Forks, N.D.

Saturday, Feb. 22 – at North Dakota, 3 p.m. at Grand Forks, N.D.

Notables:

- The Mavericks picked up their first Summit League win of the year, beating Western Illinois 5-2 on Saturday, Feb. 15.
- The Mavericks (2-2) won the doubles point for the early lead and then secured the win by taking four of the six singles points.
- Nathan Greteman got things rolling for the Mavs in singles play, winning at No. 5 singles in straight sets over Chris Bunch 6-2, 6-2. Michael Knudsen was able to secure another singles point for the Mavs at No. 6 singles outlasting Brett Furmanski, 6-2, 0-6, 6-0 while Eric Anderson won in straight sets at No. 4 singles over Brandon Meeker 6-1, 6-4.
- UNO takes on in-state rival Creighton on Thursday, Feb. 20 at 1 p.m. before traveling to North Dakota for matches against Idaho State and North Dakota on Saturday, Feb. 22.

Women's Tennis

Up Next:

Saturday, Feb. 22 – vs. Idaho State, 9 a.m. at Grand Forks, N.D.

Saturday, Feb. 22 – at North Dakota, 1 p.m. at Grand Forks, N.D.

Notables:

- The Mavericks fell to Northern Iowa 7-0 on Saturday in Waterloo, Iowa.
- Northern Iowa took all three doubles matches against the Mavs before winning all six singles matches to sweep the match.
- Molly Matricardi put up the toughest fight, falling to Jieke Stroobant, 6-3, 6-4 at No. 2 Singles.
- The Mavs finish up their three match road trip against Idaho State and North Dakota on Saturday, Feb. 22 at Grand Forks, N.D. before returning home on March 3 to face Doane.

Track & Field

Up Next:

Friday, Feb. 21 – at USA Track & Field Indoor Championship at Albuquerque, N.M. (Spenner)

Friday, Feb. 21 – at Nebraska Tune-Up at Lincoln, Neb. (Distance runners)

Friday, Feb. 21 – at USD Open at Vermillion, S.D. (Sprints and field events)

Notables:

- Sami Spenner won both events she competed in over the weekend, taking the long jump on Friday before winning the triple jump on Saturday at the Iowa State Classic.
- Spenner's triple jump mark of 41-05 $\frac{3}{4}$ outdid the rest of the field by over a foot, and teammate Denneil Shaw finished eighth with a mark of 38-01 $\frac{1}{4}$.
- Kathie Lee-Laidley finished runner-up in the high jump, jumping a season best 5-08 $\frac{3}{4}$.
- Alyssa Thavanet set a new PR in the 800 meter run with a time of 2:20.87, finishing eighth while the Maverick distance medley relay team consisting of Thavanet, Catherine Davison, Jackie Mezick and Ashley Kildow finished ninth with a time of 12:32.76
- Liz Thompson set a new PR in the weight throw with a throw of 51-03 $\frac{3}{4}$, and Terri Armstrong set a new PR in the 400 meter dash with a time of 58.32.
- The Mavericks will be in action at three meets on Friday, Feb. 21. Spenner will compete in the pentathlon at the USA Track & Field Indoor Championship in Albuquerque, N.M.; UNO's distance runners will be at the Nebraska Tune-Up in Lincoln; and the sprinters and field event athletes will compete at the USD Open at South Dakota.

Community

Notables:

- The UNO Athletic department staff and athletes took the plunge at the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics on Saturday, Feb. 15 at Lake Cunningham.
- The fourth and fifth graders at G Stanley Elementary School in LaVista sang the National Anthem at the men's basketball game Thursday, Feb. 13.