

## **This Week in Maverick Athletics – 2/24/2014**

### ***University of Nebraska Omaha***

For full stats, player bios and schedule information, visit: [www.omavs.com](http://www.omavs.com)



### **Hockey**

Up Next:

Friday, Feb. 28 – vs. Colorado College, 7:37 p.m. at CenturyLink Center (Radio: 1180 Zone 2)

Saturday, March 1 – vs. Colorado College, 7:07 p.m. at CenturyLink Center (Radio: 1180 Zone 2)

Record: 13-15-2, 10-8-2-1 NCHC (3rd)

### Notables:

- Omaha split a road series at Western Michigan, winning 5-1 the first night before dropping a 5-3 decision the following night.
- Josh Archibald led the team in scoring with three goals and one assist for four points while Ryan Walters was second in scoring with three assists.
- With the four-point weekend, Archibald moved into a tie with Miami's Riley Barber for second in NCHC scoring with 38 points. Archibald leads all NCHC players with 26 goals. He also leads all NCHC players in scoring in conference games only with 18 goals and nine assists for 27 points.
- Archibald is just one goal from tying the school record for goals in a season set by Bill Thomas during the 2005-06 season.
- Goaltender Ryan Massa returned from a month on the injured list to stop 32 shots and allow one goal in Omaha's 5-1 win last Friday.
- Archibald is second in the NCAA in goals, trailing only Boston College's Johnny Gaudreau who has 29 in three more games played. With .87 goals scored per game, Archibald also ranks second in the country.
- Ryan Walters is second in team scoring with 28 points, a total that includes 22 assists. He ranks second in the NCHC for assists in all games played and is just eight from tying his career high for assists in a season.
- Jake Guentzel ranks second in freshman scoring in the NCHC (4-21-25) and leads all conference rookies in assists. He is tied with Western Michigan's Chase Balisy for third 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).
- Freshman Austin Ortega (8-9-17) is tied with North Dakota's Luke Johnson for seventh in NCHC freshman scoring. Ortega is tied with Colorado College's Alex Roos for fourth in rookie goals.
- Archibald is tied with Brandon Scero for fourth all-time at UNO with 55 career goals. He is six goals from tying Jeff Hoggan for third.
- The Mavs are fifth in the NCAA and lead the NCHC averaging 34.57 shots per game. They are seventh in the NCAA and lead the NCHC, allowing just 26.60 shots per game.
- The Mavericks' penalty killing unit stopped 12 of 13 power plays for Western Michigan last weekend. The Mavs have killed off 52 of the last 54 opponent power plays over a span of 12 games (96.3 percent). They lead the NCHC in penalty killing for conference games only (83/93, 89.2 percent).

- Ryan Walters has played in 144 consecutive games, putting him 10th among current NCAA players.
- The Mavericks host their final home series of the regular season when they welcome Colorado College on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 28-March 1. Saturday's game will feature Senior Night recognition for UNO's six seniors.
- In the first meetings of the season, the Mavericks lost to the Tigers, 4-2, on Dec. 6 before rallying for a 3-3 tie and subsequent 2-1 shootout win the following night.
- Omaha leads the all-time series with Colorado College, 5-4-2, and is 3-1-0 vs. the Tigers in Omaha.

## Men's Basketball

Up Next:

Thursday, Feb. 27 – vs. IUPUI, 7:07 p.m. at Ralston Arena (Radio: 1620 The Zone)

Saturday, March 1 – vs. Fort Wayne, 1:07 p.m. at Ralston Arena (Radio: 1180 Zone 2)

Record: 15-13, 4-8 Summit League (6<sup>th</sup>)

Notables:

- The Omaha men's basketball team went 0-2 last week in its final road stretch of the season, falling 87-86 at South Dakota on Thursday and 72-60 at Denver on Saturday.
- At USD, junior forward Mike Rostampour secured his second career double-double with 18 points and 11 rebounds. He shot 5-of-7 from the field and 7-of-9 from the line while also snagging a pair of steals.
- Junior guard CJ Carter finished with 19 points on 6-of-13 shooting with a trio of threes. Sophomore guard Marcus Tyus added 12 points, and sophomore guard Devin Patterson rounded it out with 10 points, five assists and three steals.
- The Mavericks looked to senior guard Caleb Steffensmeier in the final minute, as he knocked down a 3-pointer with 0:33 to go to pull Omaha within two. At 0:19, Steffensmeier swooped in again for the Mavericks, hitting his second three to tie it at 86-86. With 1.5 seconds left on the clock, though, UNO was whistled for a foul, and USD hit a free throw to take the 87-86 win.
- At DU, Carter led Omaha with 12 points on 6-of-12 shooting with five rebounds and an assist. Rostampour joined him in double figures with 10 points, narrowly missing another double-double as he pulled down nine boards as well.
- Senior center John Karhoff continues to add to his legacy as he became the 13th Maverick to surpass 1,000 points and 500 rebounds in his career. Karhoff now has 1,294 points and 506 boards over four seasons.
- As a team, Omaha ranks seventh nationally with a .764 free throw percentage, 27th with 79.4 points per game and 38th with 15.2 assists 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 for Round One. Fans may vote once per day at [Facebook.com/CollegeSlam](https://www.facebook.com/CollegeSlam) and are encouraged to show their support on social media by using the hashtag #Socks4SlamDunk.
- Omaha returns to action this Thursday, Feb. 27, hosting IUPUI for a 7 p.m. tipoff at Ralston Arena. The Mavericks then host Fort Wayne on Saturday, March 1 at 1 p.m. at Ralston Arena,

with Senior Day festivities prior to the game to honor seniors Matt Hagerbaumer, John Karhoff, Alex Phillips, Justin Simmons and Caleb Steffensmeier.

### **Women's Basketball**

Up Next:

Thursday, Feb. 27 – at IUPUI, 6 p.m. CT at Indianapolis, Ind.

Saturday, March 1 – at Fort Wayne, 1 p.m. CT at Fort Wayne, Ind.

Record: 12-14, 4-8 Summit League (T-6<sup>th</sup>)

Notables:

- The Omaha women's basketball team has won three games in a row after a sweep of South Dakota and Denver at the Sapp Fieldhouse over the weekend.
- The Mavs are now 12-14 overall and 4-8 in the Summit League, climbing into a tie for sixth with Denver in the league standings.
- On Thursday, the Mavs beat South Dakota for the first time in five tries since joining Division I, 69-61, behind a career-high 24 points, eight blocks and seven rebounds from junior center Taijhe Kelly.
- On Saturday, the Mavs led from start to finish in a 65-41 blowout win over Denver on Senior Day. The Pioneers' 41 points was by far their season low - 13 points fewer than the 54 they scored at Marquette on Dec. 20.
- Freshman guard Mikaela Shaw had a career-high 25 points and eight rebounds against Denver after 17 points and eight boards against South Dakota. For the week, she averaged 21.0 points and 8.0 rebounds per game.
- The Mavs' current three-game win streak is the longest conference win streak by a Maverick women's basketball team since Feb. 18-25, 2009, back when the Mavs were in the Division II MIAA.
- In conference play, the Mavs are first in blocked shots per game (4.7) and second in steals per game (8.9). UNO is holding conference foes to 39.4 percent shooting from the field to rank third in the league. The Mavs are allowing conference opponents 68.2 points per game to rank third as well.
- The Mavs wrap up their season this week. On Thursday, UNO visits IUPUI for a 6 p.m. CT tipoff. The Mavs end the season at Fort Wayne on Saturday at 1 p.m. CT.

### **Baseball**

Up Next:

*Snowbird Classic Tournament*

Tuesday, Feb. 25 – vs. St. Bonaventure, 11 a.m. CT at Port Charlotte, Fla.

Thursday, Feb. 27 – vs. Chicago State, 1:30 p.m. CT at Port Charlotte, Fla.

Friday, Feb. 28 – vs. Villanova, 10 a.m. CT at Port Charlotte, Fla.

Friday, Feb. 28 – vs. Chicago State, 2 p.m. CT at Port Charlotte, Fla.

Saturday, March 1 – vs. Western Michigan, 9 a.m. at Port Charlotte, Fla.

Record: 0-3, 0-0 Summit League

#### Notables:

- The Omaha baseball team opened the 2014 season last weekend at the Snowbird Classic. Leading early in all three games, the Mavericks fell 5-4 to Milwaukee on Friday, 8-5 to Northwestern on Saturday and 7-1 to Iowa on Sunday.
- Sophomore Connor Messinger hit .333 for the weekend, tallying two doubles, four RBI and a run scored.
- Freshman Mitch Larson made his first collegiate start by throwing 4.0 innings against Iowa, allowing one run on four hits with a strikeout and no walks.
- In the opening game against UWM, sophomore Alex Schultz went 2-for-4 with a run scored for the day, and sophomore Cole Gruber, senior Dylan Casey and freshman Tyler Biggs each tallied and scored one run apiece. Biggs and Messinger each drove in two runs for the Mavericks.
- Against NU, Messinger went 2-for-4 with a run scored and two more driven in for Omaha. Sophomore Clayton Taylor also scored twice, and Biggs and senior Tyler Splichal added a run apiece.
- Against Iowa, Taylor went 1-for-4 with the Mavericks' only run scored while Gruber (1-for-3), senior Caleb Palensky (1-for-3) and freshman Mark Handberg (1-for-1) each tallied a hit.
- Following an off day, UNO returns to action on Tuesday at the Snowbird Classic, facing St. Bonaventure at 11 a.m. CT.

#### Softball

##### Up Next:

Diamond 9 Citrus Classic

Friday, Feb. 28 – vs. Maryland, 12:15 p.m. CT at Orlando, Fla.

Friday, Feb. 28 – vs. Syracuse, 2:30 p.m. CT at Orlando, Fla.

Saturday, March 1 – vs. Illinois State, 10 a.m. CT at Orlando, Fla.

Saturday, March 1 – vs. Fordham, 2:30 p.m. CT at Orlando, Fla.

Sunday, March 2 – vs. Notre Dame, 10:15 a.m. CT at Orlando, Fla.

Record: 11-3, 0-0 Summit League

#### Notables:

- The Mavericks went a perfect 5-0 at the UTSA Mid-Major Classic in San Antonio to capture the tournament title and extend their win streak to seven games.
- UNO opened with a 15-14 win over Texas A&M-Corpus Christi on Friday, then followed with a 3-1 victory over UTSA. The Mavs began day two with a 12-6 win over A&M-Corpus Christi and topped Bryant, 14-5, in five innings. Omaha capped the perfect weekend with a 4-1 win in eight innings against host UTSA Sunday morning.
- Amber Lutmer was sensational for the Mavs. She hit .556 on the weekend and had four home runs, 17 RBI and a 1.222 slugging percentage. Lutmer hit two grand slams among her four home runs and had an exceptional doubleheader on Saturday, going 7-for-8 with three home runs, 12 RBI and five runs. She now has a 47-game reached-base streak dating back to last season.
- Lutmer has seven home runs this season, three more than the next closest competitor in the Summit League. Her 27 RBI also lead the league and are 12 more than the next closest player. Lutmer's .841 slugging percentage also leads the league.

- Dana Elsasser (8-1) earned four of the five wins in the circle. She posted a 1.08 ERA in 26.0 innings pitched, allowing just four earned runs in four appearances. Elsasser started three games and picked up complete-game wins in all of them. She also came on in relief in the fourth inning of a slugfest against A&M-Corpus Christi and pitched 4.0 no-hit, shutout innings.
- Campbell Ditto hit .533 for the weekend with a double and home run with a team-high nine runs and five RBI. Mara Eeman had a career weekend, hitting .500 with two home runs and seven RBI. Tara Trede hit .417, and Allie Mathewson hit .353 with two homers, a double, triple, seven runs and eight RBI.
- Freshman Lizzie Noble made her first pitching appearances of the season, throwing 6.0 innings with a 3.50 ERA. Noble made the start against Bryant and earned the win, throwing all 5.0 innings and allowing two earned runs on six hits, one walk and three strikeouts. The Mavericks pounded out 14 runs to end the game in five innings. She also pitched an inning of relief in the tournament-opening win over A&M-Corpus Christi.
- The Mavericks visit Orlando, Fla., this weekend for the Diamond 9 Citrus Classic. The Mavs will face Maryland, Syracuse, Illinois State, Fordham and Notre Dame in their three-day stay in Orlando.

## **Swimming & Diving**

### Notables:

- The Omaha swimming & diving team closed the 2014 Summit League Championships on Saturday, finishing fifth in the team standings with 385.5 points.
- Freshman Morgan Stepp became the first Maverick in program history to win a Summit League event championship. The Parker, Colo., native clocked a season-best time of 2:04.06 in the 200 butterfly for the top spot.
- Sophomore Natalie Renshaw also finished third in the 50 freestyle (23.50) and 100 free (50.81). Senior Madeline Hutt placed third in the 200 breaststroke (2:16.29).
- In diving, sophomore Miranda Knipfer was third in the 3-meter competition with a score of 255.5.
- The 200 medley relay team of Renshaw, Hutt, junior Jenna Foiles and senior Whitney Korgan came in third with a time of 1:44.27.
- All-Summit honors went to Stepp, Renshaw, Hutt, Knipfer, Foiles and Korgan.

## **Men's Golf**

### Up Next:

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

### Notables:

- The Mavericks were idle last week.
- The Mavericks return to action on March 3-4 when they take part in the Sacramento State Invitational.

## **Women's Golf**

Up Next:

Monday-Tuesday, Feb. 24-25 – at Grand Canyon Invitational at Phoenix, Ariz.

Notables:

- The Mavericks begin the spring half of their season at the Grand Canyon Invitational in Phoenix, Ariz.
- Katie Kesti led the Mavericks in scoring during the fall with a stroke average of 79.5 that included a career best round of 70 at the Bellevue Shootout on Oct. 18. Sophie Peters was second in scoring at 79.7 including three top-10 finishes.
- Following action in the desert, the Mavericks have a month off before taking part in the Ocala Spring Tournament in Ocala, Fla. On March 24-25.

## **Men's Tennis**

Up Next:

Sunday, March 2 – vs. Oral Roberts, 11 a.m. at Hanscom Brandeis Tennis Center

Notables:

- After winning their first match of a three-match road trip at Western Illinois on Feb. 15, the Mavs dropped road contests to Creighton, 7-0, and North Dakota, 5-2.
- The Mavericks couldn't get anything going against Creighton on Thursday with the Bluejays securing the doubles point before going on to sweep the singles matches.
- At No. 1 doubles, Eric McKnight and Adam Dockery picked up an 8-6 win over Billy Paluch and Jake Norman but Creighton won the other two doubles matches to earn the point.
- On Saturday, McKnight and Dockery again won at doubles No. 1 for the Mavs, taking an 8-4 decision over Grant Bakke and Josh Oothoudt, before North Dakota secured the point with wins at No. 2 and No. 3 doubles.
- In singles action, James McManus and Erik Anderson won their matches at no. 3 and no. 4 singles, respectively, securing the two points for the Mavs. McManus won his match over Dustin Britton, 6-2, 6-2, before Anderson took a 6-1, 6-1 victory over Bakke.
- Omaha returns home for a three straight matches starting with Oral Roberts on Sunday, March 2 at 11 a.m.

## **Women's Tennis**

Up Next:

Monday, March 3 – vs. Doane, 10 a.m. at Hanscom Brandeis Tennis Center

Friday, March 7 – vs. Portland State, 11 a.m. at Hanscom Brandeis Tennis Center

Saturday, March 8 – vs. Kansas Wesleyan, 11 a.m. at Hanscom Brandeis Tennis Center

Sunday, March 9 – vs. Hastings, 5 p.m. at Hanscom Brandeis Tennis Center

Notables:

- The Mavs fell to North Dakota, 5-2, last Saturday in their only action of the week.
- Omaha opened up the match by taking the doubles point with victories at No 2 and No. 3. Molly Matricardi and Tiffany Hottman outlasted Stephanie Biehn and Faith Lee 8-7 (7-5), while

at No. 3 doubles, Kenzie Hill and Hylan Miller teamed up for the 8-5 win over Lacey Sprinkel and Mikaela Bennett.

- Alex Tran was able to secure the Mavs other point of the match at No. 1 singles with a 6-3, 6-1 win over Stephanie Petsis.
- The Mavs return home for the first time in a month to play host to Doane College on Monday, March 3 at 10 a.m., the first of four matches that week.

## **Track & Field**

Up Next:

Fri.-Sat., Feb. 28-March 1 – at Summit League Indoor Championship, 9:30 a.m. CT at Fort Wayne, Ind.

Notables:

- Sami Spenner broke the American collegiate record and three school records on her way to finishing second in the pentathlon with 4,498 points at the USA Indoor Track and Field Championships
- Spenner's score ranks third all-time among collegiate athletes. She also broke the school record in 60 meter hurdles (8.52) and long jump (20-09  $\frac{3}{4}$ ).
- At the Nebraska Tune-Up, Kristin Rogers finished second in the 5,000 meter run with a time of 18:14.51, setting a new personal record.
- In the 1,000 meter run, Ashley Kildow set a new PR with a time of 3:02.85, finishing fifth while teammate Catherine Davison finished eighth with a time of 3:12.34.
- Kathie Lee-Laidley finished runner up in the 60 meter hurdles at the USD Open on Friday in Vermillion, S.D. with a time of 8.96, tying her personal record.
- Nicole Liske set a new PR in the 60 meter dash with a time of 8.02, finishing second and Megan Adams set a new PR in the weight throw with a toss of 43-07.
- The Mavericks finish their indoor season at the Summit League Championship on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 28-March 1 at Fort Wayne, Ind.

## **Community**

Notables:

- Last week, the men's soccer team, in partnership with Completely Kids, attended Heritage Elementary School's after school program and worked with the kids on soccer skills.