

This Week in Maverick Athletics – April 28, 2014

University of Nebraska Omaha

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



Baseball

Up Next:

Wednesday, April 30 – vs. Nebraska, 6:30 p.m. at Werner Park (Radio: 1620 The Zone, KVNO HD2)

Friday, May 2 – at South Dakota State, 3 p.m. at Brookings, S.D.

Saturday, May 3 – at South Dakota State (DH), 1 p.m. at Brookings, S.D.

Sunday, May 4 – at South Dakota State, 1 pm. at Brookings, S.D.

Record: 21-16, 6-6 Summit League (2nd)

Notables:

- The Omaha baseball team went 2-3 for the week, opening with a 4-1 win at Creighton on Tuesday. The Mavericks then hosted a four-game series with North Dakota State, taking a 7-2 win in the first contest before dropping three straight, 8-6 in 10 innings, 5-4 and 9-7.
- Against CU, junior Zach Williamsen (2-2) earned the win, scattering six hits over 6.1 scoreless innings with one walk and a strikeout. Senior Anthony Falcone picked up his third save, striking out two and holding CU hitless in the final inning.
- Senior Brett Bass and sophomore Clayton Taylor each finished 2-for-4 at the plate. Taylor also had a home run and scored twice, and Bass tallied three RBI for the night.
- On Friday against NDSU, sophomore Tyler Fox (7-1) opened the series by earning his league-leading seventh victory of the season. He threw 5.0 innings, allowing two runs on seven hits and two walks with four strikeouts.
- In Friday's doubleheader, Omaha smashed five home runs for the day, led by two from senior Caleb Palensky in the second game. Taylor, junior Daniel Jewett and sophomore Cole Gruber each had one in the first game.
- In game two, Taylor finished 3-for-6 with a run and an RBI while Gruber was 2-for-5 and scored twice. Palensky also tallied his two homers, accounting for four runs driven in.
- Palensky hit .444 (8-for-18) for the week, including .533 (8-for-15) in league play. He totaled two homers, a triple, four runs, seven RBI, three walks drawn and three stolen bases, and he had a multi-hit game in every contest against the Bison.
- Gruber, the Summit League's stolen base leader with 22, had seven swiped bags for the week.
- Omaha returns to action on Wednesday, April 30, hosting Nebraska at Werner Park. First pitch is set for 6:30 p.m., and links to live stats and audio will be available on OMavs.com.

Softball

Up Next:

Wednesday, April 30 – vs. Drake, 6 p.m. at Westside Field at Westbrook

Friday, May 2 – at Western Illinois (DH), 3 p.m. at Macomb, Ill.

Saturday, May 3 – at Western Illinois, Noon at Macomb, Ill.

Record: 30-16, 9-6 Summit League (4th)

Notables:

- The Omaha softball team went 3-1 at home last week to improve its record to 30-16 overall and 9-6 in the Summit League, good for fourth place in the Summit League and a half-game behind South Dakota for third.
- The Mavericks blew out North Dakota in a non-league doubleheader last Tuesday, posting 8-0 and 10-0 run-rule wins at Westside Field at Westbrook. UNO also shut out IUPUI twice, 8-0 (5 inn.) and 5-0, but in between dropped a 6-0 game to the Jaguars in game two of the series.
- Dana Elsasser went 3-0 on the week with three complete-game shutouts and picked up her first career no-hitter in the 8-0 win over North Dakota on Tuesday. In the no-hitter, Elsasser allowed two walks and struck out five. She recorded another five-inning shutout, this one a one-hitter, in an 8-0 win over IUPUI on Friday, tossing four strikeouts with just one walk. Then on Senior Day on Saturday, Elsasser shut out the Jaguars once more, going 7.0 innings with six hits allowed and five strikeouts in a 5-0 win. For the week, she allowed just seven hits in 17.0 innings and struck out 14 while holding her opponents to a .127 batting average.
- Allie Mathewson led the Mavs by hitting .438 (7-of-16) with two home runs, three doubles, seven RBI and six runs scored. Mathewson started the week with a 2-for-4, two-RBI game against North Dakota, including a double and a run scored. In game two of that doubleheader, she was 1-for-3 with a double but scored three runs. On Friday, Mathewson went 1-for-3 with a two-run homer, and she capped the week on Saturday by hitting 3-for-4 with three RBI and a run, knocking a home run, double and single.
- Lia Mancuso had a strong week at the plate, batting .625 (5-for-8) with two triples. She also drew a walk and was hit by pitch for a team-high .700 on-base percentage. Amber Lutmer hit .417 and smacked a pair of home runs in the wins over North Dakota to reach 50 career homers, making her the first Maverick in history to do so.
- The top three home run hitters in the Summit League are all Mavericks. In addition to Lutmer's league-best 16 homers, Mathewson and Campbell Ditto each have 10. The Mavs lead the league with 50 home runs this season, third-most in school history.
- The Mavericks close out the season this week with four games. The Mavs play their final home game on Wednesday against Drake at 6 p.m. at Westside Field at Westbrook. This weekend, UNO wraps up the season with a three-game series at Western Illinois, beginning Friday with a 3 p.m. doubleheader.

Men's Golf

Notables:

- The Mavericks tied for seventh at the Summit League Championship last week, their final event of the season.

- The Mavs posted a 54-hole team score of 935 to tie with Western Illinois.
- Karl Krieser led the Mavericks in scoring with a total score of 228 to finish 10th overall. Alex Overfelt was second for UNO and tied for 26th overall at 235.
- Krieser was named to the All-Summit League second team prior to the event, the first UNO men's golfer to earn all-league honors.
- For the season, Krieser finished as the Mavericks' scoring leader with a stroke average of 76 just ahead of Alex Overfelt at 76.5. Mitch Ryan (77.6) and Alex Holtan (78.2) ranked third and fourth.

Women's Golf

Notables:

- The Mavericks finished their season at the Summit League Championship last week. Because they did not have the minimum four golfers for each round of the championship, they did not receive a team score.
- Katie Kesti led the Mavericks in scoring with a 54-hole score of 248 to finish in 21st place. Makenna Kroeker was second for the Mavs and in a tie for 30th overall at 256 while Kat Slump was third and 38th overall at 274.
- For the season, Kesti led the Mavericks in scoring with a stroke average of 80.1. Sophie Peters was second at 81.1 while Kroeker was third at 86.9.

Men's Tennis

Record: 6-18, 1-4 Summit League (5th)

Notables:

- The Omaha men's tennis team dropped a pair of matches in the National Invitational Tennis Tournament to Grand Canyon University and NJIT, 7-0, 6-1 at the Koch Family Tennis Center on Saturday afternoon.
- The Mavericks finished the season 6-18 overall and 1-4 in Summit League play, good for fifth place.
- Saturday's matches marked the end of senior Eric McKnight's career. The Omaha native finished with the most doubles wins in both a career and season at UNO, posting a school-record 23 career doubles wins along with a school-best nine doubles wins this season with playing partner Adam Dockery. McKnight finished second on the all-time singles chart with 20 career wins, trailing only Matt Frost's 21.
- After missing the first half of the season with an injury, transfer Tyler Mercier took over the No. 1 singles spot and finished with a solid 6-8 record for the Mavericks. Dockery, a freshman, played the majority of the season in the No. 2 spot and went 5-14 there and finished 6-16 overall. Erik Anderson went 8-13 with a 4-5 record at No. 6 singles, and freshman James McManus finished 7-11 with a 4-4 record at No. 5 singles.

Women's Tennis

Up Next:

Record: 7-14, 3-3 Summit League (4th)

Notables:

- The Omaha women's tennis team finished the season with a record of 7-14 (3-3 Summit League) in 2014.
- The Mavericks capped the year by hosting the National Invitational Tennis Tournament on Saturday, falling by identical scores of 7-0 to fellow Division I reclassifying programs Abilene Christian and Grand Canyon at Koch Family Tennis Center.
- Senior Alex Tran and freshman Hylan Miller were named to the 2014 All-Summit Team on Thursday, becoming the first players in program history to earn All-Summit recognition.
- Tran closed her Maverick career with a record of 10-10 at No. 1 singles, including a 4-2 mark in league play. She was also 8-12 at No. 1 doubles.
- Miller compiled an 8-11 singles record, including a 4-1 league mark at the No. 2 singles position. She posted an overall record of 9-11 in doubles play.

Track & Field

Up Next:

Friday and Saturday, May 2-3 – at Howard Wood Relays, 11 a.m./9 a.m. at Sioux Falls, S.D.

Notables:

- The Omaha track and field team took part in two meets last week, earning three first-place finishes at the Kip Janvrin Invitational at Simpson College on Friday
- The Maverick 4x400 meter relay team consisting of Terri Armstrong, Lauren Psota, Alyssa Thavenet and Katarina Zarudnaya finished first with a meet record time of 3:56.21.
- Kathie-Lee Laidley bested the 21-person field in the high jump with a jump of 5-08 after having previously competed in the long jump at the Drake Relays in Des Moines, Iowa earlier in the day where she finished 17th with a leap of 18-05. The long jump win was Laidley's first of the year.
- Ashley Kildow picked up the third and final win for the Mavericks at the Janvrin by finishing first in the 1,500 meters with a time of 4:40.34.
- Sami Spenner also competed in long jump at the Drake Relays, finishing third with a leap of 20-01 1/4 before competing in the 100 meters at the Kip Janvrin Invitational finishing second with a time of 11.75.
- On Saturday, Spenner was fifth in the triple jump at the Drake Relays with a mark of 40-10 1/2.
- Also at the Janvrin on Friday, Thavenet finished sixth in the 800 meters with a time of 2:18.74 setting a new personal record while Psota finished 10th with a season-best 2:21.10.
- In the field events at the Janvrin, Denneil Shaw finish fourth in the triple jump with a leap of 36-08 1/2 while also finishing fifth in the long jump with a leap of 18-01 1/4.
- Amanda Conlin finished fourth in the 42-02 1/4, setting a new PR while Liz Thompson finished seventh with a throw of 41-00 1/4.
- The Mavericks return to action at the Howard Wood Relays in Sioux Falls, S.D. on Friday and Saturday, May 2-3. Friday's events begin at 11 a.m., and Saturday's action begins at 9 a.m.

Community

Notables:

- The Mavericks welcomed 1,100 runners and walkers for the Claussen-Leahy Run & Walk last Saturday at Stinson Park in Aksarben Village. The event, which raises money for scholarships and program enhancements for all 15 UNO teams, brought in \$152,000.
- On Sunday, Omaha Athletics hosted the Maverick Awards Banquet, its annual year-end recognition of its senior student-athletes and their teammates. More than 500 athletes and guests attended the event at the Embassy Suites in LaVista. A full recap of the award winners is available at OMavs.com.