

Huskers dump KU in thriller

By Dennis Onnen

Lawrence, Kan. — Nebraska kept alive hopes for a possible post season basketball tournament bid, downing Kansas University (KU), 62-58, here Wednesday night.

The Huskers win boosted their record 18-8 overall and 9-4 in the Big 8 Conference, one game behind Kansas State in the race for second place.

The Wildcats lost to first place Missouri, 81-72, Wednesday. If they lose again to Oklahoma State Saturday and the Huskers win at home against Iowa State, the two teams will end up in a second place conference tie with 10-4 records.

If that happens, there will be a play-off game to see which team would represent the Big 8 in the NCAA tournament. Even if the Wildcats win Saturday, the Huskers still have a chance for a National Invitational Tournament bid. A win Saturday would give them a 19-8 record, their third best ever.

UNL never trailed KU and held off a late Jayhawk comeback which cut the lead to three points several times.

"We haven't given up all year," Husker coach Joe Cipriano said. "I couldn't be prouder."

The Huskers had four players in double figures. Guard Jerry Fort led with 17 points and became the all-time leading scorer against Kansas. In his career, he has tallied 201 points against the Jayhawks in 12 games. Center Larry Cox added 13 points, while guard Steve Willis and forward Bob Siegel had 11 each.

"I think I played one of my better games tonight," Fort said. "I didn't shoot well the second half, but I got the ball off to other people and they put it down."

Season will end on razor's edge

By Jim Hunt

The entire season is on the line today through Saturday while UNL's swim team competes in Ames, Iowa at the Big 8 Conference championships.

"At the beginning of this year we had a team goal of improving our position in the Big 8 (7th last year)," said coach John Reta. "That will be hard to do with our depth, but we hope to improve on some individual times."

It appears the Huskers' best hope for NCAA meet qualification is in the 100- and 200-yard breaststrokes. Junior Pat DiBiase and sophomore Bryan Moss lead in those events with the two best Big 8 times this season in the 200-yard breaststroke.

While both aim for a time that will place them in the national meet, they will use different techniques in Big 8 competition.

DiBiase, an Omaha Westside graduate and transfer student from the University of Kansas, will shave his body for the meet. Moss, defending champion in the 100- and 200-yard breaststrokes, will compete unshaven.

"I'm going to shave down," DiBiase said, "because this is the whole season for me. The regular season is just to see how things are going. At the Big 8 meet all the marbles are on the line."

"I think I have a good chance of winning the meet. Bryan (Moss) always swims well in the big meets, so he has to be considered the favorite," he said.

DiBiase also said he thinks a Big 8 record is needed to win the 200-yard breaststroke. The mark, now 2:09.2, can be broken by three or four swimmers, he said.

Moss said he wants to have a time good enough to qualify for the national meet and added that he hopes to place in the top six in that competition.

"The idea is to go into nationals unshaved and unpeaked," Moss said. "It always seems like I have my best times for the Big 8 meets and the national meets."

Moss has an advantage over DiBiase because his times at the national meet last year already place him in consideration for this year's meet.

"There are quality people from every school in the meet," Reta said. "This should be the fastest Big 8 meet ever. Iowa State has to be considered the favorite, on paper at least."

The win also marked only the second time a UNL team has won in Lawrence during Cipriano's 13-year tenure. The loss drops the Jayhawks to 12-13 overall and 5-8 in conference play. Forward Norm Cook was their leading scorer with 14 points.

In the first half, the Huskers hit their first three shots and quickly jumped to an 11-4 lead. They led by as many as 10 points before taking a 37-28 halftime margin.

UNL was sparked on defense by Cox, who repeatedly batted away passes intended for KU's bigger men inside. The 6 ft. 6 in. Cox helped hold 7 ft. 1 in. Paul Mokeski and 6 ft. 10 in. Ken Koenigs to a total of just 10 first half points.

Offensively, the Huskers were paced by Fort, who tallied 13 points, and Willis, who's three-point play gave UNL a 30-22 lead after the Jayhawks staged a mild comeback.

Bowerman blasts bureaucracy

By Scott Jones

The Olympic Games, for so many participants the ultimate athletic experience, were just the opposite for Bill Bowerman.

Bowerman, former University of Oregon (OU) track coach, was the head United States track coach for the 1972 Munich Olympics. Remember Munich—the Israeli slayings, the defeat of the American basketball team, the fall of Jim Ryun and the misfortunes of American sprinters Eddie Hart and Rey Robinson—and Bowerman's feelings aren't surprising.

"It was probably the most frustrating, disappointing experience in my life in sports," Bowerman said.

That's not a lightweight statement. In his 25 years as OU track coach, Bowerman, 64, won four NCAA team titles and coached 17 sub-four minute milers, 13 individual NCAA and American Association of Universities champions and 11 Olympic team members.

Bowerman, who was in Lincoln Wednesday lecturing on jogging and aerobics during the Physical Education Dept.'s week of master lessons in sport and dance, was described in a 1972 Sports Illustrated article as absolutely frank, a sheer competitor, the embodiment of a philosophy and frighteningly jovial.

Bowerman said it is the officials, not the athletes, that have caused a discrepancy between the professed

Olympic ideal of promoting international understanding and what actually occurs.

"They (the athletes) are fulfilling the objective," he said. "They're competing fiercely and they're communicating. At the field of action it's great."

At the administrative level, however, "It gets into an aristocratic, dictatorial situation where the needs of the athlete are lost in a maze of administrative pole clobbering," Bowerman said.

The situation in collegiate athletics isn't much better, said Bowerman, who rejects conventional recruiting methods and believes student-athletes should be students first and athletes second.

Bowerman favors Olympic reform, but previous proposals have been rejected because of a lack of funds, he said.

Proposals include letting each state establish its own program "instead of being dictated to out of the Olympic House" and allowing regional training areas and sports centers outside of schools.

Tennis expert Belmar Gunderson and karate specialist Harry Umemoto will give master lessons Friday (Gunderson in WPE 313 at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and Umemoto in WPE 301 at 7 p.m.) Herbert Binzer will lecture on dance costuming on Saturday at 11 a.m. in WPE 304.

sports quiz

Gil Thorp comic strip

1. Joe Sharkey, last year's baseball star, signed with which professional team?
2. The last basketball team to win state for Gil prior to Jerry Pulver's team was led by another big center. Who?
3. The Pulver championship team was sparked by two playmaking brothers. Who?
4. Has a black ever played at Milford?
5. Last year's problem during baseball season involved the outfielder who was becoming an alcoholic. Who?
6. Who is Gil's main assistant?
7. Name Gil's old flame whom he never marries.
8. Billy Bunkin and other Milford High School stars eventually played for a well-known major college. Which one?
9. Name the big football lineman who played both ways for Gil about four years ago.
10. What kind of plane does Gil fly?

Answers

1. Detroit Tigers.
2. The Porter twins.
3. Joel Frost.
4. Yes. Check panel two in the Feb. 21 strip.
5. Tommy Ennis.
6. Mark Tabor.
7. Holly Dobbs.
8. State.
9. "Ox" Hartley.
10. We don't have the slightest idea.



Photo by Steve Soerner
Bill Bowerman, Track and Field Coach for the 1972 U.S. Olympic Team.

'Young' cagers pray for reign against St. Cloud

By Scott Jones

UNL's women cagers "can be tougher than heck" if they play up to their potential in the Region 6 tournament, coach George Nicodemus, said.

UNL, 19-7, tangles with St. Cloud State College of Minnesota today in the opening round of the eight-team tournament at Fargo, N. D. The top two teams will advance to the national tournament March 25 through 28 at University Park, Pa.

In UNL's bracket will be No. 1 seeded William Penn of Iowa, a national tournament contender during the last two years, and Moorhead State College of Minnesota.

Kansas State University (KSU), the No. 2 seed, is joined in the other bracket by South Dakota State University, the University of North Dakota and Northwest Missouri State.

KSU has beaten UNL twice this season, 62-53 and 51-47, while Northwest Missouri edged UNL, 65-62.

If the Huskers win today, they will play the William Penn-Moorhead winner in the semifinals Friday. Finals are on Saturday.

UNL's young team enters the tournament with several players-like sophomore starter Sherry Brink of Lincoln—who have had years of AAU experience.

However, freshman starter Darcy Williamson of Arapahoe, had played only one year of high school basketball before coming to UNL. Other freshmen starters are Omahan Deb Lee and Jan Crouch of Lincoln.

Williamson, a 5 ft. 8 in. guard, leads the team in scoring with 13.6 points a game. But, she said, the transition from high school to college basketball has been difficult.

"College ball is different for me because there's really stiff competition compared to high school," said Williamson, a business major.

"This year my confidence hasn't been as good as in high school," she said. "I just haven't been as relaxed."

Although Williamson has a high game total of 27 points, she said consistent shooting performances have been a problem.

Balanced team scoring has minimized that problem, however. Kathy Hawkins, Omaha junior, is averaging almost 13 points a game, followed by Brink with 11 and Crouch with 9.2.

Even if the Huskers don't advance to the national tournament at University Park, Pa., they still will see action at the National Women's Invitational Tournament at Amarillo, Tex., March 25 through 28.