

Sports

Huskers face powerful Sooners

The Men:
Oklahoma (18-3, 5-1) at Nebraska (13-6, 3-3) Bob Devaney Sports Center, 8:10 p.m.

Pos.	Oklahoma	Yr.	Ht.	Pts.	Reb.
G	Tim McAllister	Fr.	6-3	18.2	4.7
G	Jan Pannell	Sr.	6-1	7.2	3.9
C	Wayman Tisdale	So.	6-9	28.2	10.6
F	David Johnson	Fr.	6-8	7.5	6.1
F	Calvin Pierce	Sr.	6-6	9.7	6.1

Pos.	Nebraska	Yr.	Ht.	Pts.	Reb.
G	David Ponce	Sr.	5-10	8.1	1.5
G	Eric Williams	Sr.	6-2	7.3	2.3
C	Dave Hoppen	So.	6-11	19.3	7.1
F	John Matzke	So.	6-6	4.1	2.3
F	Stan Cloudy	Sr.	6-4	13.1	6.5

The Series: Oklahoma leads 71-69 after the teams split two games last season. Nebraska won in Lincoln 60-59; Oklahoma won at Norman 84-71.

The Game: "America's Team" in basketball enters tonight's game ranked 10th in both wire-service polls.

"We want to be America's Team," Oklahoma coach Billy Tubbs said recently. The Sooners would even

year. Whoever beats Oklahoma is one leg up on the rest of the league."

Nebraska forward Curtis Moore is questionable for tonight's game following the death of his grandfather in Norfolk, Va.

The Women:
Oklahoma (15-4, 3-3) at Nebraska (13-6, 3-3) 5:45 p.m.

Pos.	Oklahoma	Yr.	Ht.	Pts.	Reb.
G	Shirley Fisher	So.	5-9	12.2	4.5
G	Toni Eldridge	So.	5-10	9.2	3.9
C	Mandy Miller	Fr.	6-1	10.6	5.2
F	Lynn McCurdy	Sr.	5-11	16.3	6.5
F	Jacquetta Hurley	So.	6-1	13.4	5.5

Pos.	Nebraska	Yr.	Ht.	Pts.	Reb.
G	Cathy Owen	Jr.	5-6	10.1	4.7
G	Kelli Benson	Sr.	5-7	8.4	3.1
C	Angie Miller	Fr.	5-10	13.7	7.4
F	Stacy Imming	Fr.	5-9	7.7	2.5
F	Debra Powell	Jr.	5-10	19.5	6.9

Nebraska Basketball Tonight

travel through the solar system to play the University of Mars, "as long as they would return the game at Norman," Tubbs said.

Tubbs' statements may confirm what Nebraska Coach Moe Iba has been thinking — that Billy has changed.

"I don't know if it's his team or the car wreck that's changed Billy," Iba said, smiling. "Billy's a nice guy...out of season." Tubbs was seriously injured when hit by a car while jogging last February.

Wayman Tisdale, despite scoring only 10 points in a win against Missouri, continues to lead the Big Eight in scoring with a 28.2 average.

"Not in a long time in the conference has a player been as good as Tisdale," Iba said.

Highly-touted freshman Tim McAllister has met his advance billing, averaging 18.2 points and 4.5 assists. He teams with former Southeast (Fairbury) Community College player Jan Pannell, who averages 11.2 points in league games.

Iba said he told Oklahoma assistant Coach Mike Newell last week that if the Sooners played a little defense, they'd be a final four team.

But Iba was serious when he said Oklahoma mixes its defenses. One, a 1-3-1 zone, will give Nebraska an open 12-foot shot, Iba said. "If we miss it, however, it's all over."

Iba said Oklahoma is the most powerful team he's seen in the Big Eight.

"They're unbelievable on the offensive boards," he said. "They have the brute strength they lacked last

The Series: Nebraska leads 5-2. The teams split games last season. Nebraska won 85-78 in Lincoln and Oklahoma won at Norman 107-85.

The Game: With four starters averaging in double figures, Oklahoma is sixth in the nation in team scoring. The Sooners outscore their opponents by an average of 18.9 points (86.3 to 67.4).

Nebraska Coach Kelly Hill said the Huskers must stop forward Lynn McCurdy, the Sooners' leading scorer and rebounder. The 5-foot-11 senior leads Division 1 in free-throw shooting, converting 90 percent of her attempts while averaging 16.6 points.

A pair of 6-1 players, forward Jacquetta Hurley and freshman center Mandy Miller tower three inches taller than Nebraska counterparts Debra Powell and Angie Miller.

"As small as we are, it's tough going out every night and being overmatched in height," Hill said. Nebraska's front line, which includes Powell, Miller and Stacy Imming, still scored 54 of the Huskers' 75 points in a loss to Kansas State Saturday.

With a win tonight, Nebraska would complete the first half of the Big Eight schedule with a 4-3 record. This is on target with Nebraska's plans, Hill said.

"We're in a three-way battle with Oklahoma and Oklahoma State for fourth seed in the Big Eight tourney and the home court in the first round," Hill said.

"We've finally got the rotation (of games) in our favor," she said. Nebraska plays four of its final seven games at home.



Oklahoma Sports Information

Oklahoma center Wayman Tisdale and the league-leading, 10th-ranked Sooners take on the Huskers tonight at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Leonard's return to boxing rings off-key

"I know Juanita wants me to quit . . . But the best thing about her, is that she will stick by me in that it's my decision as to when I'll retire, and I do have a goal of three titles."

— Sugar Ray Leonard
May 1982

Sugar Ray Leonard has returned to boxing. He says it's the challenge and that he was denied history. Since he has already earned more than \$37 million in the ring, I believe Ray is making a big mistake returning to boxing after



Matthew Stelly

having molded a more than adequate reputation as a commentator for Home Box Office.

Sugar Ray should consider logically the external implications of his decision as well as the personal ones.

Sugar Ray has already made history. After his knockout of Tommy "Hit Man" Hearns and his successful revenge match against Roberto Duran, Leonard certainly has nothing to prove to anyone. He has held titles in three divisions, and he is in the record books for the fight against Hearns, which made more dollars than any other fight in history. Leonard is naive if he thinks he can become more memorable just by adding more laurels to his belt.

Secondly, Sugar Ray is endangering

his life. Sure, he has made it clear he will fight no one who does not wear thumb-less gloves. But jobs to the head can impair health too — ask Joe Frazier and Muhammad Ali. As a matter of fact, Dr. Ferdie Pacheco, Ali's former physician made it very clear: "He doesn't need to fight any more. He's got money in the bank and all the fame he needs. He's not like Ali, where fighting was his life. He's got more things going for him."

Third, Sugar Ray Leonard is writing himself out of the history books. In the first place, he gave his word that he would never return to boxing for any reason. During his farewell dinner he said before an overflow crowd at the Baltimore Civic Arena that he had no regrets. He promised that, unlike Ali's, his retirement would be final. He justifies this by claiming he was robbed of history and that he made a premature decision. Leonard's change of heart may hurt his chances for physical as well as intellectual immortality.

Leonard is a special boxer. His sharp mind and articulate manner made him the darling of America, as an Olympian and as a professional fighter.

But Sugar Ray is tarnishing this image — an image particularly important to children who view him as a role model. When he retired, he showed how special he was — to walk away and seek out a new profession. Like Joe Frazier, Ali, Joe Louis, Sugar Ray Robinson and Jack Dempsey, here he comes again, back to the ring.

"Now that Sugar Ray Leonard will be boxing again, he can never be thought of again as different. But with his

thumbless gloves, he can be an example," columnist Dave Anderson wrote.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Sugar Ray Leonard is a family man. This is relevant because Leonard himself stresses this point whenever he can. There are few articles about Leonard in which he does not mention his wife Juanita or his son, Ray Jr.

But since Ray was one of HBO's most recognizable regulars for the last two years, and since his "retirement" from

boxing probably did enable him to be around his family more often, I seriously doubt that Juanita's heart is really in her professed "support." She probably just knows he would do it anyway, and doesn't want to create unnecessary hostility.

And then, there is Ray Jr.

After the fight with Duran, he asked his father to retire. After the fight with Hearns, he asked his father to retire. Sugar Ray Sr. should listen to his son.

Wrestlers outmanned, Sooners get victory, 27-18

By Kirk Zebolsky

Dan Chaid upset second-ranked Jim Scherr, 7-2, to propel the No. 3 Oklahoma Sooners to a 27-18 wrestling dual victory over Nebraska at the Bob Devaney Sports Center Tuesday night.

Nebraska trailed OU, 24-6 late in the dual, but could have tied the Sooners with three pins, a feat it accomplished Saturday against Wyoming.

At 190, Bill Scherr was awarded six points for a forfeit victory and heavyweight Gary Albright pinned Mark Tatum for another six.

Coach Bob Fehrs was disappointed by Jim Scherr's performance.

"Scherr did not wrestle up to his potential," Fehrs said. "In general, we wrestled fairly well for the talent

we have. It's not a matter of the team not trying. We were outmanned."

Nebraska's other victories came at 118, where Matt Campbell decisively Melvin Goree, 7-5, and at 150, where Bill Ferrie decisively 17th-ranked Darren Abel, 4-3.

"He was absolutely the bright spot of the meet," Fehrs said of Ferrie.

Nebraska was hampered by the absence of Gil Sanchez at 126. Sanchez missed the meet because of a knee injury. His replacement, Doug Hogle, was pinned within three minutes of his match with OU's Mark Zimmer.

"Obviously Gil Sanchez could compete with Mark Zimmer," Fehrs said. Fehrs hopes that Sanchez will compete in this weekend's dual with Missouri.