

Sports

Husker free throws end Buffaloes' hopes

By The Associated Press

BOULDER, Colo. — A three-point play by Mike Martz at the end of the first half gave the Cornhuskers the psychological edge they needed to beat Colorado 68-65, according to Nebraska coach Danny Nee.

"I think the win was something special, but we had good play from a lot of guys," Nee said after the Big Eight Conference win Saturday.

Bernard Day scored 19 points and Henry Buchanan scored nine points in the second half, including three free throws in the final 30 seconds, to help Nebraska edge Colorado.

Nee said he has sympathy for Colorado, which logged its eighth consecutive loss and its 25th straight defeat in Big Eight Conference play.

"I feel sorry for Colorado. . . they just can't seem to get a break," Nee said. "I feel Colorado has the firepower and discipline that's going to win them some games down the road."

Colorado coach Tom Miller said his players didn't play "hard enough, well enough, for long enough."

"Our bench did a real good job," Miller said. "Brian (Robinson) ignited us, Dave (Kuosman) did some good jump shots and played well overall."

Both teams traded baskets in the game's final 7:30 after being tied 53-53. Robinson hit six points down the stretch for the Buffaloes, but Buchanan's free throws and four points from Day were enough for the Huskers, who raised their record to 3-5 in the Big Eight and 13-8 overall.

With Nebraska leading 67-65 after two Buchanan free throws with 30 seconds remaining, Colorado had a chance to tie the game. But Scott Wilke missed a short jump shot from the baseline with 10 seconds remaining.

Buchanan sank one more free throw to give the Huskers a 68-65 lead. Jeff Penix's three-point attempt at the buzzer bounced off the rim.

Nebraska scored the game's first seven points, but Colorado battled back and gained a three-point lead, 12-9, with 10:34 left in the first half. The Huskers regained a seven-point lead with 2:11 left in the first half after two Brian Carr free throws, but four points each by Matt Bullard and Robinson tied the game, 24-24 with 1:46 left in the half.

Nebraska's full-court press forced Colorado turnovers and, together with three quick fouls on Robinson, the Huskers scored nine straight points to end the half with a 33-24 lead.

West dominates all-star game

By The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Tom Chambers won Most Valuable Player honors with 34 points and Rolando Blackman hit two pressure free throws at the end of regulation as the West beat the East 154-149 Sunday in the highest scoring all-star game in NBA history.

Blackman had 29 points for the West, which had lost the previous three overtime games in the 37-year history of the game.

Blackman scored four points in overtime, including the opening basket that gave the West the lead to stay at 142-140. Chambers had four points in the overtime for the West, which still trails in the series 24-13.

The East's 154-145 overtime victory in 1984 at Denver was the previous highest scoring game. The West's 154 points tied the 1984 total for the most points by one team.

Blackman, who scored 10 points in the fourth quarter, hit two free throws with no time left in regulation to force the overtime.

Moses Malone had given the East a

140-138 lead with three seconds left on a tip-in of a missed shot by Kevin McHale.

The East seemingly had a safe lead at 128-116 with 5:40 left, but the West rallied as Chambers scored 10 points in 3:07 to cut the deficit to 136-135 with 2:01 remaining. Chambers had 14 points in the fourth period.

Malone led the East with 27 points and 18 rebounds. He also helped the East foul out West starting center Akeem Olajuwon, who went to the bench in the first minute of overtime to become the first all-star since 1978 to be called for six personal fouls and only the second since 1971 to foul out.

James Worthy had 22 points for the West and Julius Erving 22 for the East in the 16th and final all-star game of his professional career. He played in five American Basketball Association All-Star games before moving to the NBA for 11 more, all as a starter.

Erving put himself into position as a possible MVP when he scored nine points in a four-minute span of the third quarter, keying a 42-point period that almost carried the East to victory.



Linda Story/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska's Heidi Hecker completes a three-meter dive in a dual meet with Arkansas Saturday. Hecker qualified for the NCAA meet in both the one- and three-meter events.

Women swim to win after layoff

By Jeff Apel
Staff Reporter

A potentially bad situation couldn't have worked out any better for the Nebraska women's swimming team.

Cornhusker women's swimming coach Ray Huppert said he realized just before the start of Saturday's Nebraska-Arkansas dual that he had left the Husker swimming lineup hanging in the Razorback locker room.

Huppert said that mistake increased the challenge Nebraska was already facing because Arkansas could adjust its swimming lineup in an attempt to attack Nebraska's weaknesses.

But Nebraska managed to overcome the lineup disadvantage with two NCAA qualifying marks by diver Heidi Hecker and a well-balanced scoring attack to defeat the Razorbacks 71-43 at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

"I'm very happy. I challenged the girls more than I wanted to challenge them for this meet, but they responded," Huppert said. "We had to swim tough all the way to win this meet because Arkansas has some good kids."

Huppert said he was pleased with the performances of Hecker, Shauna Gilmore and the 400-yard freestyle relay team of Laura Pratt, Dana Powers, Lorie Kappenman and Gilmore.

While Gilmore was finishing second to highly regarded Cheryl McCarton in the 200-yard freestyle, Huppert said the Cornhuskers' 400 freestyle relay team's time of 3:32.22 was the fastest mark they had posted this season in nylon swimsuits.

"That's extremely encouraging," Huppert said.

Huppert said he was also encouraged because Nebraska managed to win its seventh-consecutive dual, despite not having competed in two

weeks. Huppert said he was concerned about the long layoff because the Huskers lost the repetition they were used to encountering.

"I don't know if we will do that again next year," Huppert said. Nebraska's Carole Johnson started the meet for the Huskers by winning the 100-yard backstroke. Then victories by Powers in the 100-yard backstroke and Lee Pennefather in the 100-yard butterfly gave Nebraska an early lead.

A victory by Arkansas' Karen Groff in the 1,650-yard freestyle and consecutive victories by McCarton and Nancy Duncan brought the Razorbacks back, but Nebraska went on to win eight of the meet's next 10 events to raise its record to 9-3.

"We were real solid down the line," Huppert said. "I'm a little disappointed that we lost a number of races at the finish, but we still swam fast."

NU swimmers improve record

By Tim Hartmann
Senior Reporter

Both the Nebraska and Arkansas men's swimming teams competed without a number of their top performers in Saturday's meet at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. But both coaches were pleased with their teams' performances.

The Cornhuskers, No. 16 in the country and now 7-1 this season, defeated the No. 18 Razorbacks 118-97. The loss dropped Arkansas' record to 7-3.

Nebraska competed without Mike Irvin, the Big Eight swimmer of the year last season as a freshman, who was competing in Europe with the U.S. national team.

Nebraska coach Cal Bentz said the team knew that Irvin would be gone and that they would have to make up for his absence.

"We knew when we gave Mike permission to go to Europe we'd have to swim Arkansas without him," Bentz said, "and we knew we'd have to tighten our belts."

Nebraska was paced by Jaco Kruger, a freshman from Pretoria, South Africa, who had first-place finishes in the 500-yard freestyle and the 1,000-yard freestyle.

First-place finishes also were turned in by Dan Novinski in the 200-yard freestyle, Tom Stus in the 200 individual medley, Jim Fellows in the 200-yard butterfly, Ed Jowdy in the 200-yard backstroke and Sean Frampton in the 200-yard breaststroke.

Several Nebraska divers registered

NCAA qualifying marks on Saturday. Eric Ognibene won the one- and three-meter diving competitions and had NCAA qualifying marks in both events. Two other Huskers, Wes Zimmerman and Alvin Spencer, had qualifying marks in the one-meter event.

Arkansas was forced to compete without two team members. Peter Ward, an NCAA qualifying swimmer, missed the meet because thick fog delayed his plane, and diver Brian Walker had a broken nose.

Arkansas coach Kent Kirchner said

the loss of his two swimmers and the Nebraska's loss of Irvin probably evened out, but said he would have liked to have used the two.

"It might have made a difference," he said.

Overall, though, Kirchner was pleased with the way his team swam and said he thought this meet will benefit both teams.

"We swam well, we raced well," Kirchner said. "It was a good meet. It will help us, and it will help them down the road."

Husker men tie for first; women gymnasts place second

By David Mussman
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska gymnastics teams met with good and bad news Saturday at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

The men's team, in a Big Eight triangular with Iowa State and Oklahoma, tied the Sooners for first place with 278.70. The Cyclones were third with 258.55.

The women, in their first Heartland Invitational against NCAA runner-up Arizona State and 1986 Big Eight champion Oklahoma, finished second with a school-record score of 184.90. Arizona State won the meet with 185.1 points, and Oklahoma finished third with 182.2.

The Cornhusker men were behind most of the afternoon, down by .55 after the first rotation, but rallied and were only .1 behind after the second rotation.

The final performance for the men could have swung the meet's outcome, but senior All-American Neil Palmer, performing on the high bar, missed a release move and fell. Palmer wasn't injured but his 8.95

score for his performance hurt the Huskers.

However, event-winning performances by All-Americans Kevin Davis on the parallel bars and Tom Schlesinger on the high bar were enough to tie Oklahoma by the meet's end. Both men scored 9.75.

Schlesinger won the all-around title with a personal best of 57.15. Davis finished second with 57.0, and Oklahoma's Mike Rice was third with 56.95.

Nebraska's women, who led over Arizona State 91.85 to 91.15 after two rotations, fell behind after the third, 138.05 to 137.55, and never regained the lead.

Event winners for Nebraska were Crystal Savage on the balance beam with a 9.35 and Jeanneane Smith with a new school record of 9.7 in the floor exercise.

Oklahoma's Kelly Garrison-Stevens won the all-around with a 37.8. Smith, who finished second, set another school record with a 37.75. Oklahoma's Cassie Frey was third with a 37.5.

The Husker women will meet Auburn Sunday in Lincoln and the men will be host to UCLA Feb. 22.

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