

Oklahoma wrestlers blank Huskers, 35-0 Cyclones dim NU title hopes

By George Kaufman Sports Editor
Oklahoma, ranked third in the nation and third in the Big Eight, was number one in the Coliseum Saturday night, as the Sooners wrestlers whitewashed NU, 35-0.

Instead of his usual 6,000-seat sellouts, Oklahoma coach Tommy Evans said, "It takes quite a bit out of the meet. It feels good to have a crowd there, whether its our crowd or theirs. It gets the boys up to have a little noise." As it was, about the only noise heard in the Coliseum Saturday night was during a younger kids' exhibition before the NU-OU match, in which at least the parents were yelling. It was the final home meet for the Huskers as the Sooners headed toward Kansas State with a 11-2 record, the losses owed to No. 1 and No. 2 Iowa State and Oklahoma State.

—Overtime hands Huskers fifth loss— Cyclones dim NU title hopes



Iowa State's 6-6 Bill Cain wrestles a rebound from NU's 6-5 Ken Cauble. Coach Joe Cipriano's "platoon"-style basketball allowed reserves like Cauble to see more action Friday night than they had most of the season. See story at right.

Big 8 Standings

	Conf.	All
	W L	W L
Kansas State	3 3	17 7
Iowa State	4 4	12 11
Kansas	4 4	17 7
Nebraska	2 5	15 9
Oklahoma	3 5	12 12
Missouri	3 6	16 14
Oklahoma State	3 6	10 14
Colorado	3 10	9 15

They say basketball is the most emotional of all sports. If that is the case, then Big Eight basketball is easily the most emotional competition in the world. And, as if the league hadn't already proven the fact in the grueling dogfight for the championship this year, Nebraska fans went home believers Friday night, drained of all emotion and not quite believing what they had just seen.

Because what they had just seen was a story-book contest between two of the contenders which unfortunately came out as if someone from Iowa State had written the story. With just six seconds left to go in an overtime period, the Cyclones' last-minute hero Steve Cooper drilled a shot from the corner to cap a series of 1-State rallies and defeat the Cornhuskers, 83-82.

Not conceding But NU coach Joe Cipriano, though naturally dejected by the turn of events, did not concede a thing about his team's chances in the race now. "It's a very funny race," he said after the game. "Anything can still happen."

It was generally assumed that the loser of Friday's clash might as well retire to the shower room for the rest of the season, and assuming Cip's "anything" that might happen was Colorado beating front-runner Kansas State Saturday afternoon it didn't happen.

Still a chance But the fact remains that Husker fans still need not tear up their betting tickets until the race is declared official. The complete absurdity of the title run this year is evidenced by the fact that Nebraska still has a chance at both the crown and a runner-up slot.

After being down by as many as 10 points after a frustrating first half, the Huskers used a rally led by Stuart Lantz's 12 points, in the first six minutes of the second half to pull up to just a 59-61 deficit and then go ahead on a three-point play by sophomore Bob Gratopp.

From there on, it was a vicious dogfight of a game, with neither team able to lead out by any more than three points, until NU got what looked like a winning margin at 86-82 with just 26 seconds left to go.

Tied games Then Bill Cain hit the first of a one-and-one and missed the second, allowing Don Smith to draw a foul on the rebound for the Cyclones. Smith also made the first one and missed the next, but ISU got the ball again and a desperation layup by 6-1 Mike Murray with nine seconds left tied it up. A half-court attempt by Lantz at the buzzer just missed. The capacity crowd at the Coliseum then caught their

breath and the two weary teams went at it again for a five-minute overtime. Iowa State leaped out to an 89-86 lead, but with 3:16 to go a pair of free throws by surprising soph Sam Martin put the Huskers into a 92-91 lead.

Charity missed NU senior Jim Damm then missed a first free toss with 58 seconds remaining and I-State's Dave Collins had a layup nullified on a charging foul as the clock worked for Nebraska.

With 18 seconds remaining Damm was fouled again, but a bit of Glen Anderson strategy may have paid off. The Iowa State mentor called two consecutive timeouts before Damm could shoot the charity, trying to build the pressure on the Bellflower, Calif. guard.

Damm missed and the Cyclones cleared it up to 63-soph Cooper, who had just come in on the Damm foul shot, and his heart-stopper from the corner wrote the end to it when another long shot by Lantz failed.

Cipriano had tried a sort of "platoon" basketball on the visitors all through the game, constantly switching what he considers his "defense" man and his "shooters."

The NU defense again failed to shut down dangerous Smith inside, as the 6-8 senior stuffed in 38 points, just one less than in the Cy-

clone victory in Ames this year. Cain followed with 21 and Collins with 14.

Dynamic Duo For the Huskers, the Dynamic Duo did it again, Lantz with 23 and Baack 22. Third in scoring for Cipriano was a real surprise — sophomore Sam Martin, who had played very little for the Scarlet and Cream this season. The Pawnee City guard came through under pressure and really helped out when NU found itself in early foul trouble. Another soph, but one with a little more experience for the Huskers, Gratopp of Geneva, hit for 13.

The Huskers now travel to Columbia to take on the Missouri Tigers in the last game of the race, and must count on outside help for a share of the prizes.

Iowa State (82)

	pts	reb	st	blk
Cain	21	3	0	0
Collins	14	2	0	0
Smith	13	12	2	2
Abrahamson	9	2	0	0
Murray	2	4	1	0
Cooper	1	0	0	0
Hartman	0	0	0	0
Lantz	0	0	0	0
Team rebounds	30	10	0	0
Totals	82	33	4	2

Nebraska (92)

	pts	reb	st	blk
Baack	22	3	4	2
Gratopp	13	4	1	1
Von Seggern	3	0	0	0
Scantlebony	3	0	0	0
Damm	2	0	0	0
Simmons	2	0	0	0
Lantz	0	0	0	0
Martin	3	1	2	1
Team rebounds	30	10	0	0
Totals	92	33	5	2

the N crowd by George Kaufman

Jayhawk Spirit

When I came back from the game at Lawrence, Kansas, two weeks ago, I was convinced that Kansas was the team which deserved to be the Big Eight representative at Wichita this year in the NCAA tournament. But, despite the 71-60 defeat the Jayhawks had just suffered, I still did not consider the Jayhawks any better than the Nebraskans. And I was to be proven correct in that 10 days later in Lincoln.

The reason I felt KU to be the deserving team was the tremendous fan support the Jayhawks appreciate in Lawrence. And road trips don't seem to diminish the Rock-Chalk spirit, either. If you will remember, after the KU loss in the Coliseum their band remained where they were and, with the cheerleaders and fans accompanying them, played the KU spirit song before leaving.

You have to go to Lawrence to understand why any visiting team is at a loss before the buzzer even sounds. Hoge Allen Fieldhouse is filled with colorful banners and the KU cheerleaders — boy types — get out on the floor and put on a pre-game performance which get the fans so high that it makes Nazi rally films look pale in contrast when the KU team emerges from the dressing rooms.

And it doesn't let up during the game. The cheerleaders come up in the balconies during the game and keep the spirit high.

Changed My Mind

But the two home games since the loss have changed my mind about that. Suddenly, a new brand of spirit seems to have emerged here at Nebraska. The crowd at the Kansas game was the most spirited and "up" mob I have ever witnessed, here or anywhere else.

From the time the "Olympic" broom team was announced to the time the normally lackluster male NU cheerleaders dragged a dummy Jayhawk out on the floor by a rope tied around its neck, the crowd was ear-splitting, solidly behind the Huskers.



Noise Helps

I have no doubt but that the type of crowd helped to a large degree in the upset of the Jayhawks. The Coliseum is the kind of facility which lends itself to that kind of "home court advantage."

Where this new spirit came from I do not know. Nor do I want to find out; for it would blunt the purpose of the spirit to pinpoint the organizers and give them credit for a type of spirit which must come equally from everyone in the crowd.

But, after the kind of spirit which was displayed in the KU and Iowa State games — with the exception of a brief and perhaps justified littering of the floor — I feel NU has just as much right to represent the conference as any other team, from a fan support and interest viewpoint.

Whoever helped get this going, I want to take this opportunity to thank you, wherever you are. It was the kind of thing that was sorely needed around here this season. Though it was a little late in coming, it was very welcome.

Bright spots offset disasters at Big Eight Championships ... Huskers finish fourth

Team Scoring

Team	KS	KM	MU	KS	OU	OU
60 YH	1	0	0	4	2	3
60 LH	2	0	2	4	0	0
60	0	0	2	4	0	0
340	0	0	4	2	3	6
660	0	0	2	0	3	1
890	0	0	4	2	10	6
1060	0	0	6	16	2	2
Mile	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mile Relay	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	6	0	18	28	31	39

and Joe Orduna in the hurdles.

Huskers fourth

The high jump and other bright spots somewhat eased the pain of the Husker's fourth place finish. Kansas, as predicted, finished first with 60 points followed by Oklahoma with 41, Missouri 35, Nebraska 33, Kansas State 22, Colorado 15, Oklahoma State 9 and Iowa State 0.

Three Huskers took gold medals besides Krebs. They were Dan Morran in the 800-yard run, Dennis Hagin in the shot put and Clifton Forbes in the 440-yard dash. It was a pleasant surprise to NU's fans when Mike Randall followed Morran across the tape with one of the three one-two team finishes in the meet.

Other one-two finishers were by brothers Glen and Wayne Long of Oklahoma in the 60-yard dash and in the 1,000 yard run by Gene McClain and Roger Kathol of the winning Kansas team.

World Record

Even Friday night's semifinals had their bright spots. Perhaps the best was the setting of a new world record in the 60-yard high hurdles by Kansas's George Byers

with a time of 6.5. The old record was set by Byers in the 1967 meet.

On the Track

60-yard high hurdles — 1. George Byers, Kan., 7.2 (New meet record set by Byers and four others): 2. Paul Sims, Mo., 7.4; 3. Jeff Glasgow, Okla. State, 7.4; 4. Laurie Sherick, Neb., 7.5; 5. Mark Keiler, Colo., 7.7.

60-yard dash — 1. Glen Long, Okla., 6.1; 2. Wayne Long, Okla., 6.2; 3. Julio Miranda, Kan., 6.2; 4. Mark Herrington, Kan. State, 6.2; 5. Bob Brown, Okla., 6.3.

1,000-yard run — 1. Jim Ryan, Kan., 9:06.9; 2. Glenn Olson, Mo., 9:08.2; 3. Rick Trujillo, Colo., 9:08.4; 4. Van Rose, Kan. State, 9:08.5; 5. Bill Hewitt, Okla., 9:09.1.

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Times furnished by Theater. Times a.m. Night. Fees in \$., bold face

LINCOLN

Cooper/Linesha: 'Bonnie and Clyde', 7:00 and 9:00.
Varsity: 'How I Won The War', 1:18, 5:20, 8:22, 7:24, 9:26.

STUART

'The Penthouse', 1:15, 3:20, 5:20, 7:25, 9:25.
State: 'I, a woman', 1:00, 2:41, 4:22, 6:03, 7:44, 9:25.

JAYS

'Pinocchio, In Outer Space', 7:00, 9:55. 'Nobody's Perfect', 8:15.

Nebraska: 'Lord Of The Flies' 1:00, 4:15, 7:25. 'David And Lisa', 2:35, 5:45, 9:00.

OMAHA

Indian Hills: 'Gone With The Wind', 8:00.
Dundee: 'Far From The Madding Crowd', 8:00.
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