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Huskers defeat Buffs with better defense

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After defeating Colorado 79-65 Mon-day night, coach Joe Cipriano is hoping his efense-minded Husker basketballers continue defensing Kansas State's Gene Williams, Jerry Venable and Steve Honeycutt Saturday night as well as they did against Colorado.

In capturing its third Big Eight vic-tory against eight defeats before 7,000 roaring Coliseum fans, NU held the Big ight's leading scorer Cliff Meely to " points and Gordon Tope to 15. But Cipriano said Kansas State would provide stiffer opposition for NU.

"They're a tougher ball club ersonnel-wise," he said." Venable, Williams and Honeycutt will probably give us a better ball game than Colorado."

The Buffs, leading the league before dropping their fourth league game to Nebraska led 27-24 before a Husker spurt brought NU a 37-29 halftime lead that they never relinquished. Nebraska hit 31 of 62 shots for the season's best percentage of 50 per cent, while the Bouldermen sunk 27 of 65 for a respectable 41 per cent.

Cipriano said the enthusiastic 7,000 Coliseum backers also helped Nebraska with its tenth match in 23 tries.

NU was paced by Geneva forward Bob Gratopp's 22 points, center Leroy Chalk with 18 points and the game's top rebounder with 14 and swift Marvin Stewart with 21 tallies. Tom Scantlebury added 10 points and Ken Cauble in a starting role, played well defensively although not scoring. Cipriano said Nebraska would pro-

bably remain with its starting lineup for the 7:35 p.m. Coliseum match Saturday. Starters Cauble, Chalk,

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Unlike other years, no Husker seniors make their final appearances Saturday night in the season's home finale. NU, which avenged a previous 83-81 Boulder loss with the Monday night triumph, hopes to even an earlier 95-72 trouncing from Kansas State at Manhattan.

Coach Bill Harrell's NU freshman basketballers stretched their record to 8-3 with an impressive 91-66 victory over Creston Iowa Junior College. The Huskers, winners of their last three matches, were led by Chuck Jura's 29 points and guard Al Nissen's 15 points.

Other double figure scorers were Don Wilson with 11 and Jim White and Curt LeRossignol each with 10. The freshmen end their season

Saturday at the Coliseum against Kansas State.

Convention

Delegates

The lottery for the selection of residence hall delegates to the

ASUN Constitutional Convention

will be held at the IDA meeting

Thursday, Feb 27, according to

Those desiring to participate

should pick up applications from

residence hall presidents. Applica-

Bruce Bailey, IDA president.

Campus Calendar

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26 2:30 p.m. University Housing Policy Committee Union Music Committee

Vista Recruting 3:30 p.m. Builders — College Days & Tours Union Hospitality Committee Quiz Bowl — Questions Committee Union Trips & Tours AWS - Congress

4 p.m. ASUN - Senate Meeting 5:30 p.m. Toasimasters Club 6 p.m. Liaison Committee Dinner 6:30 p.m. Phi Chi Theta

7 p.m. **Red** Cross

Builders IFC Alpha Kappa Psi 7:30 p.m.

Math Counselors 9:30 p.m.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes Kappa Alpha Psi

Husker trio of teams win matches Saturday

Nebraska's wrestling, gymnastics and swimming teams won two of four over a busy sports matches weekend.

The wrestlers earned their second victory this season as six Huskers gained decisions in a 23-11 victory over the University of South Dakota. Winners included Tom Meier, Joe George, Harold Povandra, James Haug, Keith Burchett and Gene Libal, while Keith Hasselquist won a orfeit.

. STEVE MAY won his fourth allaround title for Nebraska Saturday,

Nebraska gets gymnasts from in-state recruitment

by Mark Gordon Sports Editor

Probably more ti an any other Husker sport, NU's gymnastics team reflects the growth of the state's high school program.

With prep programs . . .

Unlike other college coaches who recruit prepsters from 1,500 miles away, gymnastics menter Jake Geier has teams plmost entirely Nebraska stocked. In fact, only two of this season's 22 team members are not from the Cornhusker state.

"I feel this University is here to attend to the people of its state," Geier says. "It's my duty to get everyone I can from Nebraska and then look around to boys from other states. I do all my recruiting in Nebraska."

Five years ago, only 10 Nebraska high schools had gymnastics team. Now 24 schools have the sport and the number will increase next year since the Big Ten Conference will add

Editor's note - This is the last in a three-part series on minor sports in Nebraska high schools and their effect on NU's success.

gymnastics as a conference sport and McCook and Kimball will field squads. But Geier stressed three drawbacks to Nebraska high school gymnastics that could limit future development of prepsters.

While listing the lack of competent coaches and the initial expenditure of about \$10,000 to start a gymnasticprogram, Geier said Nebraska's limited high school season is perhaps the largest problem. He added that in contrast to Illinois, which permits gymnasts to practice all year, Nebraska schools have the sport only

he said. "That doesn't mean

fall to be a fall sport, coinciding with football season, is simply a matter of practical interpretation. Apparently, the reasoning for the change concerns the lack of facilities in the winter with basketball, wrestling and gymnastics competing for the same facilities, he added.

While Nebraska gymnastics cannot compete with California or Illinois, Art Hillman, gymnastics coach at Lincoln Southeast said Cornhusker performers would have done excep-tionally well in last year's Kansas state meet. "Besides better coaches, we need

a friendler schedule between the Lin-coln and Omaha schools," he said. "Lincoln teams need the competition but it's hard to schedule Omaha schools.

He said with the state's gymnastics power in Lincoln, it's harder for Capital City teams to perform at their best against weaker outstate teams. He added that competition in Nebraska would improve if Lincoln and outstate schools could meet Omaha schools.

"If the power was more balanced, with top gymnastics in all schools, he explained," then Nebraska could select five or six boys with a strong background that would do well once they started in Lincoln."

Richard Beran, Omaha South High gymnastic coach, said Nebraska high schools should institute college rules and begin all-around competition and possibly eliminate the trampoline event since it is not used in college matches.

A two-year gymnastic captain at NU during the early 60's, Beran also said Nebraska high school gymnastics meets must attract more capable

Although Nebraskans lack the con-

linois and California, Lincoln High coach Phil Sprague said for the time state prepsters have to work out, they do an excellent job.

"I don't advocate having a team work out the entire year," he said. "But we should have facilities in Lincoln where gymnasts can go to prac-tice on their own if they want to."

He said Omaha area gymnasts can work out in the Sokol Hall all year, which gives them an advantage in that respect over other Nebraska gymnasts. He added that with much of the sport based on strength, many gymnasts just achieve their best physical condition at state meet time. Even with these problems Geier is

optimistic claiming after last year's next to last place finish in the Big Eight Meet, NU can only go up.

"We'll get back up there soon," he said. "These things run in cycles it's simply a matter of rebuilding and getting going again."

With the enthusiastic predictions from area coaches, that getting going again might happen soon.





