

Cipriano is optimistic about upcoming Duke-NU hassle

by Randy York
Nebraska Sports Editor

Nebraska's Tuesday night encounter against Duquesne University is a similar situation to the Huskers' game against top-ranked Michigan three years ago.

Duquesne, like Michigan's 1966 team which included Cazzie Russell and Bill Buntin, is one of the top-ranked college cage clubs in the nation and will be a heavy favorite in the Coliseum engagement.

"I think our own program has come a long way since the Michigan game, Nebraska coach Joe Cipriano says, "and I think with the right kind of effort, we can beat Duquesne. It is definitely one of the strongest challenges we have had since I've been here."

Cipriano pointed out, however, that pre-conference games, although they carry considerable impact, are much different than conference tests, which require more detailed scouting reports.

"I haven't received our scouting report about Duquesne," Cipriano said Sunday, "so I'm not sure what type of game plan either team will have."

"They're a big, quick team which likes to run," Cipriano says of the Huskers. "Some teams have scored well on them, so I would suppose they run a zone defense, but I'm not positive of that. Material-wise, I think Duquesne is the strongest team we have faced in some time."

It seems Duquesne, the Pittsburgh, Pa., school founded in 1878, has welded that material together.

Rated fifth in a pre-season poll by Sports Illustrated, Duquesne has done little in three games to tarnish that reputation.

The Dukes scored 103 points in their opening win over St. Vincent, then topped Marshall, 120-75, and Miami (Fla.), 94-88 over the weekend in capturing the Steel Bowl tournament in Pittsburgh.

Returning four starters from a team which finished with a 21-5 record last season, it's easy to credit Duquesne's early success.

A pair of 6-10 twin brothers, a pre-season all America candidate, a ball-hawking, possible Rhodes scholar and one of the best sophomore prospects in the school's history constitute the starting five.

Barry and Garry Nelson, who account for 475 pounds between them, are two-thirds of a front line which also includes 6-5 Jarrett Durham, who led the Dukes in scoring last year as a sophomore with a 17.4 average.

The possible Rhodes scholar, guard Billy Zopf, is the club's slickest passer when he isn't compiling his straight-A average. He already is being compared to such Duquesne guards as Willie Somerset, Sihugo Green and Dave Ricketts.

"Red Auerbach likes the way he handles himself," Duquesne

coach Red Manning says, referring to Zopf. "Billy is just one of the best backcourt men ever at this school, and that covers a lot of good ones."

Mickey Davis, a 6-6 guard, averaged 27.3 points last season for the freshman club.

Perry Johnson, 6-4 younger brother of the Baltimore Bullets' Gus Johnson, is a front-line substitute. A junior college transfer, he's considered an excellent shooter.

Nebraska's effectiveness has been marred by the sub-par status of senior, 6-8 center Jim Brooks, who re-injured a groin muscle. He was confined to the Student Health Center Saturday night.

Cipriano plans to start sophomore Chuck Jura, Leroy Chalk and Bob Grattopp in the front line, joined by Tom Scantlebury and either Al Nissen or Cliff Moiler at the guards.

"Our defense has improved each game," Cipriano says, "but I think our biggest asset is realizing we can play well together as a team."

Probable Starters

DUQUESNE	Pos.	NEBRASKA	Pos.
Durham (6-5)	F	Grattopp (6-3)	F
G. Nelson (6-10)	F	Jura (6-10)	F
B. Nelson (6-10)	C	Chalk (6-7)	C
Davis (6-6)	G	Scantlebury (6-3)	G
Zopf (6-2)	G	Nissen (6-3)	G

Is them the good guys? 'Progress is our most important product,' cagers

Although it can't be called a conspiracy, Nebraska basketball fans are plotting something Tuesday night when the Huskers tackle nationally-ranked Duquesne.

The plan?

Everyone wears white shirts. The idea, at first, may not strike you. Nebraska already may have one of the noisiest college basketball followings in the country, but the idea is to create even more noise, and more importantly, to produce a common sense of unity, according to Dan Goodenberger, Corn Cob president.

The white-shirt, student-body approach originated in California and has received wide-spread approval on the West coast.

The idea functions on the premise that the more identification with a team, the more enthusiasm. But to work, everyone must do his or her own part.

For instance, if a particular student fails to wear his part of the scheme, he promptly is ostracized when he (or she) starts scrambling for a seat.

The white shirts will be the majority; all other colored shirts or sweaters the minority. When a person tries to break the continuity, everyone yells, "Out, out, out." The villain

then must take a seat somewhere else.

West Coast practitioners of the white-shirt philosophy first try to fill seats on the opposite side of the visiting team. In Nebraska's Coliseum situation, this would mean filling the entire east side, lower level.

It is hoped, however, that the idea will be popular enough to fill the west student section with an equal number of fans, hoping for perhaps the first major college cage upset of the season.

The idea has considerable organization behind it.

Progress may be the University of Nebraska basketball team's most important product.

"I think we have improved in each game," Husker coach Joe Cipriano said after his club notched its third win with an 81-79 overtime verdict over Wichita State Saturday night at Wichita.

Scantlebury, who finished

with 22 points, and Grattopp, who contributed 20 to the effort, hit the key baskets in the triumph.

Although there was no scoring in the last 4:19 of regulation play, Nebraska wasted little time in taking control of the extra session, constructing a 79-73 lead in the first 2½ minutes.

The Whatshockers, however,

sliced the lead to 79-77 before Scantlebury hit both ends of two free throws with 20 seconds remaining.

Cipriano also praised the floorwork of sophomore guard Al Nissen and the consistent improvement of sophomore Chuck Jura, who grabbed 13 rebounds, including most of the Husker retrieves in the overtime.

Classifieds

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Ravnan to play Beethoven works

The works of Ludwig Van Beethoven will be played by Audun Ravnan, University of Nebraska professor of piano, in a faculty recital Tuesday at 8 p.m. in Kimball Recital Hall.

Ravnan selected Beethoven's music for his recital in anticipation of the famous German composer's 200th birthday. Beethoven was born in 1770 and died in 1827.

The program will include "Rondo in C Major, Opus 51, No. 1," written in 1797; four movements from "Sonata in D Major, Opus 10, No. 3," written in 1798; "Thirty-two Variations in C Minor," written in 1807, and three movements from "Sonata in A-flat Major, Opus 110," written in 1821. Admission is free.



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