

Sam's New Niche

By JOE BALDWIN
(Sports Columnist)

After fiddling around in the ill-fitting roles of floor leader, defensive specialist and generally-experienced senior, Sam Martin has finally decided to do what he does best on the basketball court—gun.

Martin is one of the best outside shooters in the Big Eight Conference, and his performance in the Oklahoma State and Kansas games backs up his reputation (27 points, 70.9 field goal percentage). But prior to the Cowboy and Jayhawk contests, Martin had seemed reluctant to fire from long-range unless the Huskers were hopelessly behind.

This is not to say that Sam should henceforth start casting up shots from mid-court every time he gets his hands on the basketball; but he should not be afraid to unload ten or twelve times a game.



Sad Sam
Over Aubrey Nash

MARTIN is obviously not beloved of some NU fans, mainly because when he makes a ball-handling or defensive mistake, it invariably seems to occur in crucial situations. Another of Sam's difficulties with the fair-weather flock is a matter of appearance. He just happens to appear rather droopy-eyed even when fully alert; several Husker followers have said that they hoped coach Cipriano wasn't keeping him up.

At any rate, Martin has undoubtedly developed a lot of character over the past two and one-half seasons and now that he is converting some of that character into baskets, perhaps the Coliseum hecklers will let up.

MISCELLANY — With the satisfying 84-73 win over Kansas in the bag, Nebraska has now won as many games — 12 — as it won all last year.

Buff jinx to continue?

By RANDY YORK
(Nebraskan Sports Editor)

Boulder, Colorado, has to be the best place to live in the country. That is, if you gamble for a living.

You could make a fortune in two hours a year. The work is simple — bet a bundle on Colorado when it plays Nebraska in Boulder, collect after the game, then vacation elsewhere until the next year.

Sound unreal? Well, if you did just that in the last 17 years and escaped the law, wire-tapping and other roadblocks, you'd be rich.

COLORADO really has all this going for it. Nebraska hasn't beaten the Buffs in Boulder since 1953.

The Cornhuskers must crack that jinx Tuesday night to re-



Mike Coleman
15 against Wildcats

Nebraska and Colorado each strengthened its own standing. Nebraska tripped Kansas, 84-73 to gain a third place deadlock with the Jayhawks.

Colorado did its share of the Big Eight spoils, handing Kansas State its first conference loss with a 72-59 decision at Boulder.

The importance of Tuesday's collision needs little explanation to Nebraska coach Joe Cipriano or Colorado coach Sox Walseth. Each must win, the Buffs, even more so since the defending league champs are saddled with four losses.

CIPRIANO, who has solved the Dave Robisch headache twice this season, must do the same thing with CU's Cliff Meely, who pocketed 22 points and retrieved 17 rebounds against Kansas State Saturday night.

The Cornhuskers held the Buff

ace to 17 in a 60-58 win at Lincoln Jan. 17.

Guards Gordie Tope and Dudley Michell for the most part, were responsible for the Buffs' 75-73 win at Boulder last year.

Forward Mike Coleman has been a consistent scorer. He hit 15 in the win over K-State.

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Sophomore Jim Creighton, a rugged rebounder, completes CU's starting lineup.

NEBRASKA will counter with its new winning combination: center Leroy Chalk, forwards Chuck Jura and Bob Gratopp, and guards Sam Martin and Tom Scantlebury.

Classifieds

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Big 8 Standings		
	Conf.	All Games
Kansas State	6-1	15-4
Missouri	4-3	12-7
Nebraska	3-3	12-5
Kansas	3-3	12-6
Iowa State	4-4	11-9
Colorado	3-4	10-9
Oklahoma	2-4	13-5
Oklahoma State	2-5	11-8
Saturday's Results		
Oklahoma 62, Oklahoma State 57		
Nebraska 84, Kansas 73		
Colorado 72, Kansas State 59		
Iowa State 89, Missouri 78		
Monday's Games		
Kansas State at Iowa State		
Oklahoma State at Kansas		
Oklahoma at Missouri		
Tuesday's Games		
Nebraska at Colorado		

main in contention in the Big Eight Conference race, which tightened considerably Saturday.

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