

Hot-shooting Tigers invade Saturday

by WARREN OBR
Assistant Sports Editor

Two of the best shooting clubs in the Big Eight will meet in the Coliseum Saturday when Missouri takes on Nebraska. Nebraska will be trying to raise its conference record over the .500 level while Missouri will try to maintain its runner-up spot.

"They shoot awfully well," said Husker coach Joe Cipriano in appraising the Tigers. "That's probably the strongest part of their game. Missouri has also been running more and they may try wearing us down."

Meanwhile, Bengal coach, Norm Stewart is worried about Nebraska's size and strength. "Against Nebraska, we'll have trouble matching up with their size," said Stewart. "Chuck Jura has size, quickness, and shooting ability. And with Tom Bryan now eligible, they have good depth, too."

The Tigers will counter Nebraska's height with the

second-leading scorer in the conference, Henry Smith. The 6-8 Smith's 22.6 scoring average trails only Colorado's Cliff Meely in the Big Eight.

Oddly enough, the Tiger captain never played high school basketball. After a stint with the Indiana job corps, where Smith began cage play, he attended Iowa Western Junior College for two years where Stewart spotted him for Missouri.

Mike Peterson of the Huskers will get the job of handling Smith Saturday.

"We're going with an all letterman lineup and we'll get Peterson back in there," said Cip. "Peterson will guard Smith because he'll have a better chance of checking against him. Smith is a big problem, though, because he can play inside or out."

Peterson, who was out of the Husker lineup for five weeks with a broken bone in



Henry Smith

his foot, was a surprise starter last week against Kansas.

"The ankle was a little sore in the Kansas game," Mike said, "and I didn't play much against Iowa State because they were using a zone. But it feels good now, and I'm ready

to go."

Nebraska will also have a 22-point scorer in guard Marv Stewart, and he's a big problem for the Tigers' Coach Stewart.

"Marv Stewart is one of the fine shooting guards in the league," said Coach Stewart. "He has size, quickness, and is a fine outside shooter. The Huskers have fine personnel to go along with him, too. Al Nissen is a real good shooting guard."

The Coliseum will also hinder Missouri. "Nebraska is one of the toughest places to play for two reasons," continued Stewart. "First of all because of the crowd situation, and secondly because of appearance. With the baskets placed the way they are, the court has a very long and narrow appearance for the players."

The Tigers, who've won six of their last seven games, will try to offset Stewart's floormanship with 6-3 Greg Flaker and 6-0 soph Mike Griffin. Although the two

guards are only averaging 16 ppg. between them, both had outstanding games in last week's win over Colorado.

Game time is 7:35 in the Coliseum Saturday.

Sports Weekend

Friday

Wrestling—at Missouri
Track -- at Houston
Astrodome.

Swimming -- at Oklahoma
State.

Saturday

Gymnastics—Mankato State
(Minnesota) Here; 2 p.m.,
Men's P.E.

Basketball --Missouri here,
7:35 p.m.

Track—
Wrestling -- at Kansas State.
Swimming-- at Oklahoma.

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Stewart takes charge off court, too

by JIM JOHNSTON
Sports Editor

Marvin Stewart was concerned about the Nebraska basketball team following the loss to Kansas. "I didn't think we were playing ball like we're capable of playing," Marv explained.

So the Cornhusker guard called a special and private team meeting Sunday afternoon. Coaches weren't invited.

"We just talked over our problems," Stewart said. "Some of the players felt we were falling apart and they couldn't understand it. I went into the meeting with a serious attitude. I want to win."

Stewart wasn't sure how successful the meeting had

been following the first half of the Iowa State game Tuesday night. Nebraska played one of its worst halves of the season.

"The first half there was no results," Marv admitted. "But the second half, well you know, we started to move the ball and came back from a nine-point disadvantage."

SPORTS

The fact Nebraska started moving the ball was evident. Big men Chuck Jura and Leroy Chalk were able to get open inside and each contributed 15 points in the effort.

"Our whole offense is built around getting the ball down low and inside," Stewart said. "If we work the ball around and hit the inside man, then we (the guards) can also get a closer shot."

Sophomore guard Tom Gregory agreed that the meeting helped Nebraska to solve some of its ball-moving problems on the court. But he also found it beneficial for another reason.

"Marvin really did a good job conducting the meeting," Gregory said. "He knows his basketball. It makes you respect him a little bit more when he takes charge like that."

Stewart, although concerned about the team first, had an individual problem this week. He connected on only four of 16 shots from the field Tuesday for his poorest performance of the year.

"I was just in a slump," Marv said. "It's nothing to worry about. It was no game to cut out the clipping from the paper and send home, but I'm sure I'll snap out of it."

"You're not going to go through the season and have 26 perfect games, you know. You have to stink once in a while." Even Marvin Stewart?

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