

Hawaii trip brings surprises, victory

by Jim Johnston

HONOLULU—The highlight of Nebraska's five-day trip to Hawaii wasn't the football game. The Cornhuskers, although scoring a 45-3 win over the University of Hawaii, didn't dominate the game as expected.

There were rumors in Honolulu last week the Cornhuskers weren't even going to bring their starting unit to the islands. But as it turned out, Nebraska Coach Bob Devaney was forced to use his starters most of the game.

THAT WAS THE only disappointing part of the trip. The Nebraska reserves had planned on making this their game.

"We were talking about our

unit starting for the second half and scoring three or four touchdowns," said Husker reserve center Doug Jamail. "We ended up getting in only about 10 plays. It was damned disappointing."

Quarterback Jerry Tagge, also disappointed in the inability of the Huskers to dominate the game in the first half, admitted the surroundings of Waikiki Beach and the other circumstances surrounding the game affected Nebraska's performance.

"The Oklahoma game should have been the end of the season," said Tagge. "We came over here with a relaxed attitude and weren't as well prepared as usual. It was more like a vacation and tough

to think only about football.

THE HUSKERS staggered before getting their offense moving. Hawaii halted the first Nebraska drive, forcing the Huskers to settle for a 32-yard field goal by Rich Sanger. Nebraska scored again on a 25-yard pass interception by Dave Mason and an 80-yard pass from Tagge to tight end Jerry List to take a 17-0 first quarter lead.

But those were two cheap touchdowns which didn't require a sustained offensive drive.

Now the Huskers face their toughest task of the season. The win over Oklahoma should have been "the end of the season."

The five-day trip to Waikiki

Beach was a good way to celebrate the win.

BUT NOW there's number-two-rated Alabama waiting for a shot at the Huskers at the Orange Bowl. Nebraska will be taking a week's break before starting preparations for the Crimson Tide.

It won't be easy to get ready for a second "game of the Decade" in five weeks.

Nebraska will probably be named National College Football Champions by United Press International this week. The UPI poll, which has had Nebraska rated number one all season, holds its final balloting before the bowl games. The last poll's results will be announced Tuesday morning.

THE TEAM left Honolulu at 10:30 p.m. Lincoln time Sunday, and arrived in Lincoln at 8:30 a.m. Monday. There was a one-hour layover in San Francisco.

Temperatures were in the 80's every day of the Hawaii trip. On Friday the Cornhuskers toured Pearl Harbor and were guests at an evening luau attended by about 4,000 Nebraska alumni.

The Huskers spent Sunday morning lying around Waikiki Beach for a few more hours before returning to December in Nebraska. The ban on surfing-in effect throughout the trip--was still being enforced by a Nebraska coaching staff already worried about January in Miami.

The female fan: out of the kitchen and into the fray

by Malcolm MacPherson and Vern E. Smith

Newweek Feature Service

Following that fine old maxim of American pragmatism, "If you can't lick 'em, join 'em," thousands of women are becoming football fans.

Cannily capitulating to the power of a male institution, the television football weekend (a fall and winter ordeal that begins Saturday afternoon and ends after midnight on Tuesday morning) the women have come out of the linen closet into the dim light of the 18-to-23 inch tube.

NO LONGER do they lurk in the kitchen, sulk over the ironing board or even, as a last desperate resort, join their husbands and watch with sullen faces or perhaps girlish bewilderment. Instead, they are finding out what makes football so fascinating, savoring the violence, looking with cool and learned detachment on the intricacies of the zone, the trap, the bump-and-run.

"Men don't really know all that much about football," says Chicago Bears partisan Doris Laurini. "If the truth be known, there are thousands of men--football watchers all of them--who don't know Rule 1 about the game."

MRS. LAURINI is a sort of living symbol of the feminine takeover of one of the country's last male redoubts. Not content to read everything available on the subject, to see every possible game and even to have her own machine for taping games, she has actually begun to teach football--and to other women, at that!

A pretty mother of two, Mrs. Laurini, 26, teaches a non-credit extension course in pro football for Triton College in the Chicago suburb of Hillside. She lectures to her class, analyzing plays on a videotape TV set. By the end of the 25-hour course, she had led her charged--all women, except for one sheepish businessman--through fundamentals and deeply into the most arcane details of the draw and wishbone-T.

THE VIOLENCE of the football field does not in the least faze the women pupils. They get no vicarious thrills

whatsoever out of the brutality they see.

"Most women have enough outlets for brutality in being wives and mothers," explains Mrs. Laurini.

Detroit also has a school for former football widows--a clinic that features lectures by Lions linebacker Wayne Walker and running back Steve Owens. More than 100 women have already "graduated" from this course which begins with the instructor holding a ball aloft and announcing: "This is a football."

MALE SPORTSWRITERS seem as uneasy with the new feminine interest in football as ordinary male fans. Some are particularly nettled at the scientific approach to the game affected by distaff aficionados.

"Football is like a woman," says Larry Merchant, sports columnist for the New York Post. "It's not to be understood. It's to be loved. Women who try to understand it lack a certain innocence."

Indeed, some of them do. "Where else can you see a bunch of good-looking men wearing tight pants?" says one lively lady liberationist.

Cornhuskers stumble in two weekend barnburners

by Dave McBride

The Nebraska locker room at the Coliseum was a quiet place Saturday night. There was little talking and what was said was spoken softly. The players were slow to dress and Coach Joe Cipriano moved calmly among them, speaking to several individuals.

There have been few times during Cipriano's nine years at Nebraska that the Huskers have lost two straight games in the friendly confines of the Coliseum. The reason for the Saturday night gloom was that it had happened this weekend.

San Diego State nipped the Huskers 63-61 Friday night on a last second basket by reserve guard Chris Marlowe. Wichita State gained a 74-61 victory Saturday.

THE HUSKER freshmen salvaged something from the weekend at the Coliseum by opening their season with a pair of wins. The frosh edged Platte College, 78-76, Friday night and bumped North Platte Junior College, 78-62, Saturday.

A poor showing at the free throw line (9-18) was

Nebraska's downfall Friday night against the Aztecs and a rash of second half turnovers stymied Saturday night's comeback effort.

Despite the margin of defeat Saturday, the loss to the Shockers left Cipriano more pleased with his squad's play than the one point defeat the night before.

"I thought we played better than we did last night," he said Saturday night. "I was pleased with our effort. We made some mistakes late in the game, but we probably didn't make as many mistakes as we did last night."

"I THOUGHT the kids really worked hard. Our pressing team got the ball for us, but we just couldn't convert it," he added.

When the final statistics charts were brought in to him, Cipriano looked first down at the turnovers. After only committing four errors in the first half, the Huskers lost the ball on a dozen occasions in the last 20 minutes to finish with one more turnover than Wichita.

Cipriano also noted the rebounding totals, which

showed Nebraska ahead for the third time this season, and the shooting percentages. The Shockers outshot Nebraska 52 per cent to 44 per cent from the field and the winner added 82 per cent of their free throws.

Asked what he thought the key to victory for the Huskers was, Cipriano shook his head slowly. "I wish I knew," he said. "One thing is I'm still not sure I've got the right starting combination."

SENIOR CHUCK Jura led the Huskers both nights in scoring and rebounding. The 6-10 center, regarded as a possible All-American candidate, scored 27 points against San Diego and added 16 more Saturday to go along with 13 rebounds both nights.

Senior guard Al Nissen was the only other Husker to reach double figures both nights with 10 and 13 point performances.

Nebraska, now 1-2, travels to Pittsburg Monday night to play Duquesne in their first road appearance of the season. They return to the Coliseum Saturday night to host Southern Methodist.

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