

Huskers No. 3

COLUMBIA, Mo.—“We’re No. 1” chants echoed throughout Brewer Field House Tuesday night as the Missouri Tigers took a major step toward the Big Eight basketball title with an impressive 80-65 victory over Nebraska.

Nebraska’s last visit to the ancient field house (next season the Tigers move into a new arena) was unpleasant as the Tigers knocked Nebraska out of first place, a position the Huskers have held since the beginning of the season.

Missouri now sits atop the Big Eight with a 7-2 conference record while Tuesday night’s loss dropped the Huskers to third place with a 6-3 record. Kansas State beat Kansas 78-76 at Manhattan Tuesday night to move into second place with a 6-2 record.

Missouri, sparked by a 33-point scoring performance by 6-7 John Brown, led the Huskers the entire game.

The Tigers won the game in the free throw and rebounding departments. They hit 24 of 27 free throws for 88 per cent and out-rebounded the Huskers 47-29. Both teams shot 44 per cent from the field.

“The key to the game was the board play,” Nebraska Head Coach Joe Cipriano said. “And we weren’t there.”

“We had some of our people who didn’t go to the boards,” he added. “Missouri got many second shots and that hurt us.”

Despite the loss, Cipriano isn’t ready to count the Huskers out of the title race.

“Now to stay with the conference leader you have to win at home and win on the road where the leader won,” Cipriano noted. “So we can’t say we’re out of it until we play the same road games Missouri has won.”

The Tigers, undefeated in conference play at home, have road victories over Oklahoma State, Colorado and Iowa State. Nebraska is also undefeated at home, but has only one conference road victory—Oklahoma State. However, the Huskers haven’t played at Colorado or Iowa State.

Missouri took a quick 7-0 lead Tuesday night and held a three-point lead most of the first half. Nebraska trailed by only four points with 1:06 left in the first half, but Missouri outscored the Huskers 10-3 in the remaining time to take a 38-31 halftime lead.

For the third straight game Husker center Chuck Jura ran into foul trouble. Jura, who led Nebraska scorers with 21 points, picked up his fourth foul early in the second half and was forced to the bench before returning to action in the final minutes.

Missouri increased its lead in the second half and at one time led by 16 points, 56-40 with 11:42 left. The Huskers tried to mount a comeback, but Missouri converted on both ends of seven of eight one-and-one free throw attempts to put the game away.

Track star: Success is a good attitude

by Kent Seacrest

For most great track athletes, success is a result of desire, conditioning, hard practice and a good mental attitude. But for Bob Unger, his success lies one step further—his strong conviction in Christ.

Unger, a sophomore, runs the two-mile for the Nebraska indoor track team. In fact, he runs it quite well. This year he is undefeated in dual competition and last weekend set a school record in winning the two-mile in the national Astrodome meet at Houston. His time of 8:41.4 bettered by almost 19 seconds the Nebraska indoor record of 9:00.2 set last year by Greg Carlberg.

“I get nervous before a race,” Unger said. “But I believe very much in Christ. The majority of my success is the peace of mind I get from Him while I am running. He helps motivate me.”

“In order to be a good two-mile runner,” Unger added, “you have to be built and have the talent in the first place. Then the next step is just working hard at it.” Unger runs the year round. During the season he practices two hours a day, seven days a week and runs between 70 and 80 miles a month.

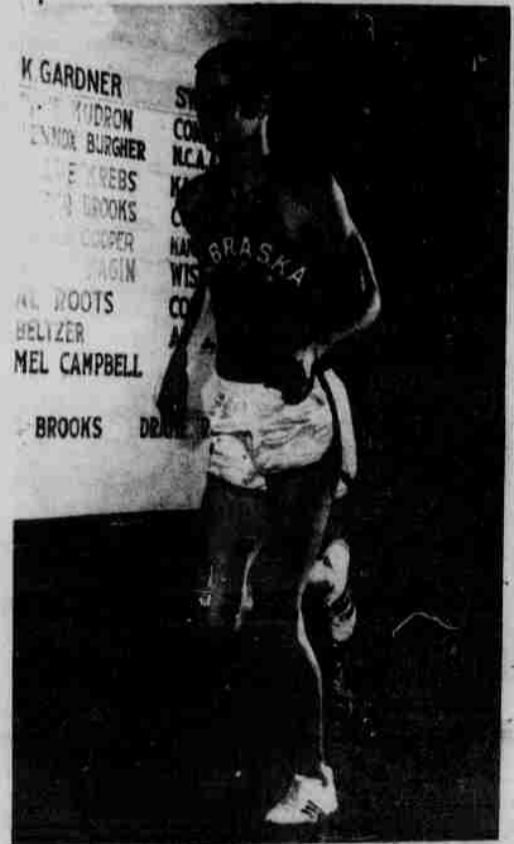
Besides competing in the two-mile event during the indoor track season, Unger runs the mile and three-mile events during the outdoor season and runs cross country during the fall. Unger finished second last fall in the Big Eight cross country meet and was only beaten twice during the whole season.

When Unger is racing, he does not follow any strategy. “I run pretty much by ear,” Unger said. Sometimes at the beginning of a race, I like to take the lead and other times I stay towards the back.” But at the end of the race, you will usually find Unger ahead.

Unger did not start running until his junior year at Lincoln Southeast. “I started believing in Christ my junior year in high school,” he said. “At about the same time a friend of mine suggested to me that I’d be a good distance

runner. So I went out for track my junior year.” One year and many miles later, Unger won the two-mile in the State High School Championship meet.

Frank Sevigne, Nebraska track coach, is also pleased with Unger’s improvement and success. “I don’t know what Bob’s limits are. Every week he keeps on improving. He has a way of always rising to the occasion and never getting psyched out. He is the number one two-miler I’ve had at Nebraska.”



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