

## K-State takes Big 8 title

Kansas State won the Big Eight basketball championship Tuesday night with a 79-76 victory over Missouri at Columbia.

The Wildcats will now go on to the NCAA Midwest Regional tournament at Iowa State to represent the Big Eight.

The victory gave Kansas State a 11-2 conference record and a 17-8 record for the entire season. The Wildcats' last loss was to Nebraska, 61-60, at the Coliseum on Feb. 1.

Missouri and Oklahoma are now tied for second with 9-4 conference records. The two teams play at Columbia Saturday and the winner is expected to receive a berth in the National Invitational Tournament in New York City.

Kansas State's win Tuesday night eliminated any importance to Saturday's game between the Wildcats and Nebraska at Manhattan. Nebraska suffered its third straight loss when Iowa State beat the Huskers 76-67 at Ames Monday night.

The loss Monday night dropped Nebraska's conference record to 7-6 and puts the Huskers into the situation of having to beat Kansas State Saturday night to claim sole possession of fourth place in the final standings.

As in recent losses to Colorado and Missouri, a sub-par shooting night proved costly for Nebraska. The Huskers, Big Eight leaders in field goal accuracy throughout the season, hit just 39 per cent for the night after an even colder 34 per cent performance in the first half.

A cold spell in the first half enabled Iowa State to extend a 14-11 lead to 31-16. The Huskers never recovered even though they cut the deficit to 36-31 at halftime and 55-51 with 8:01 remaining in the game. Despite the loss Husker Coach Joe Cipriano said, "I was pleased with our effort. I thought we played better than we had in the last couple of games, but we weren't able to shoot well."

## Champion captures rifle title

Defending champions Kent Gastreich and his University of Missouri at Rolla team successfully won titles at the 19th annual Big Red Rifle Tournament on the UNL campus last weekend.

Gastreich scored 570 out of a possible 600 points to edge UNL's Bob Boomer by two points for the men's individual championship. The University of Missouri at Rolla edged UNL 2,215-2,198 (2,400 possible points) for the men's team title.

The Colorado School of Mines captured the women's team title and Kathy McBride of the University of South Dakota won the women's individual crown.

Southwest Missouri State beat UNL 2,096-2,072 for team honors in the ROTC division.

## Loyal basketball pilgrims journey to state tourney

by Gary Seacrest

The basketball pilgrims this March come to Lincoln from such Nebraska cities as Palmer, Niobrara, Scribner, Loup City and Omaha. Their mecca: an elusive state high school basketball championship.

Thirty-two teams start play Thursday at four Lincoln locations in quest of Class A, B, C and D titles. The championship game of each class will be played Saturday at the Coliseum.

A state championship is the dream of every player, cheerleader and fan. When a small Nebraska high school is in the tournament practically the whole town travels to Lincoln to see the team compete for glory.

The story is much the same for many University students who skip class to follow their alma mater or just watch exciting high school basketball. Many University students are drawn to the state tournament just for the sake of nostalgia.

But the action or nostalgia will cost University students \$2. Jim Pittenger, UNL athletic ticket manager, said the state tournament is not a University function and student basketball season tickets are not good for the event.

He also said that UNL students are not considered "students" by the Nebraska High School Activities Association and will have to pay \$2 to watch any of the two-game sessions scheduled.

The state tournament also means confusion—fans going the wrong-way on one-way streets and wandering around Lincoln lost.

Since classes will be in session at UNL during the first two days of the basketball tournament, officials are making arrangements to help out-of-town fans locate parking for Coliseum games.

Fans are urged to take advantage of the parking lots along North 14th St. on the Nebraska State Fairgrounds. Free buses will

be running between the parking lots and the University Coliseum from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday and Friday. After 5 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and all day Saturday, the parking lots two blocks north of the Coliseum on 14th St. will be open to visitors for a 25 cent charge.

University Campus Security officers will assist fans and bus drivers in finding parking space.

After parking places are located, fans will get a chance to watch the best in Nebraska high school basketball. Twelve of this year's 32 state tournament teams were in the field last March. However, only one defending champion, Class A Lincoln East, returns and only one team, Class B Randolph, enters the tournament undefeated.

Thursday's schedule:

### Class A At UNL Coliseum

Noon — Lincoln East (14-4) v. Omaha Northwest (10-10)  
2 p.m. — Omaha Rummel (18-4) v. Creighton Prep (11-10)  
7 p.m. — Papillion (17-4) v. North Platte (11-8)  
9 p.m. — Columbus (16-4) v. Omaha Burke (10-11)

### Class B At Pershing Auditorium

Noon — Loup City (20-3) v. Omaha Cathedral (19-3)  
2 p.m. — Randolph (18-0) v. Waverly (18-5)  
7 p.m. — Sidney (18-3) v. Columbus Lakeview (14-7)  
9 p.m. — Cozad (19-1) v. Crete (19-3)

### Class C At Johnson Gym, Lincoln High

Noon — Bertrand (21-2) v. Louisville (21-2)  
2 p.m. — David City (18-2) v. Hastings St. Cecilia (12-10)  
7 p.m. — Norfolk Catholic (22-1) v. Laurel (17-7)  
9 p.m. — Scribner (20-2) v. Mitchell (19-6)

### Class D At East High

Noon — Niobrara (17-3) v. Byron (19-4)  
2 p.m. — Mead (22-1) v. Adams (23-4)  
7 p.m. — Chappell (20-3) v. Loomis (17-4)  
9 p.m. — Palmer (23-2) v. Bartley (17-4)

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