

daily nebraskan sports

Huskers beat Ga. St. in overtime; Cipriano pleased with inside play

By Bill Bennett

It took Nebraska's basketball team 45 minutes to do it, but it finally defeated the Georgia State Panthers in overtime 78-75 Tuesday night in the Coliseum.

Nebraska trailed at the half 36-33 but with 5:01 left in the game, Rickey Harris scored giving the Huskers a 60-59 lead.

However, with the score tied at 69 all and only :27 left in the game, Nebraska's attempt for a final score failed and the game was forced into overtime.

Harris led the Huskers in the overtime with four points and one blocked shot. For the entire game, he had 11 points and nine rebounds.

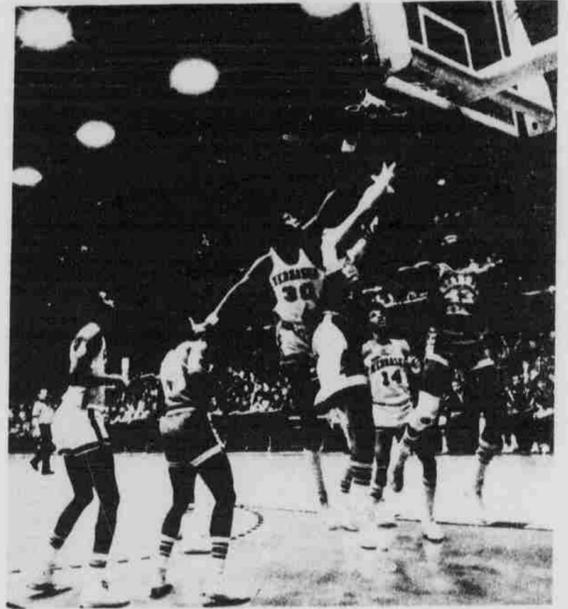
"Rickey did a good job for us tonight," Head Basketball Coach Joe Cipriano said. "He's been working hard in practices and seems to be coming along real well."

"We may have underestimated this team, just like Minnesota (Duluth)," Cipriano said. "But we played pretty well in the second half coming back from being six down."

Cipriano said Nebraska's inside play won the game for the Huskers. "In the second half we were going to (Ron) Taylor, (Brendy) Lee and Harris," he said. "And that's what broke their backs."

Besides Harris, other leading performers for Nebraska were Taylor with 19 points and eight rebounds and Ricky Marsh with 14 points.

Marsh said in the first half the Panthers were hurting the Huskers with their zone defense. "In the first half they were rebounding better than we were," Marsh said. "But in the second half we were working together, getting the ball inside and rebounding."



Rickey Harris (30) battles for a rebound

Changes proposed to enliven football

Ever since the introduction of the platoon system in football well over a decade ago, football has been a game comprised of specialists. Recently there has been a movement for change by many who believe the game now lacks fan appeal.

In truth, it is no more boring than it ever was. It is probably suffering from something far worse, that nearly incurable disease known as overexposure.

I feel that I'm no different than most—with the NFL, the colleges, the Canadian League and the bowls, by the time December is over, I've had it with TV football.

The fact of the matter is, most NFL teams are embarrassingly stereotyped—running basically the same plays in much the same manner as nearly every other team.

bob hill over the hill

Two changes that would greatly enhance fan appeal for the antiquated pro game are moving the kickoff spot five or

10 yards back from the 40-yard line and giving teams the option of kicking for one extra point or running or passing for two.

Field goal criticism is unjust because longer and more accurate kickers have added to the game's efficiency.

Instead of decreasing the value of the field goal, the value should be increased the closer the team gets to the end zone. Why not reward team play?

Why should a team that can move a ball to its opponent's 10-yard line before being stopped be rewarded with the same amount of points as a team stopped at the 40-yard line, but which has a good field goal kicker?

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