

## Cagers stay unbeaten at home

By Dennis Onnen

Nebraska will get another chance to add to its unbeaten home victory string when the Huskers take on Kansas State University in the Coliseum Tuesday night.

The cagers extended their home mark to 7-0 with a 63-58 win over Oklahoma University Saturday. The Sooners came to Lincoln leading the Big 8 before meeting a stubborn Nebraska man-to-man defense.

"Defense takes a lot of hard work," Husker Coach Joe Cipriano said. "I thought we held our poise real well."

Larry Cox, in his first start of the year, drew the difficult assignment of covering OU star Alvan Adams. Cox and Brendy Lee held Adams to 17 points for the game, below his 19 point-per-game average.

Cox was quick to give credit to his teammates for helping stop Adams.

Nebraska took the lead for good when a rebound basket by Cox put the Huskers ahead 11-10 with 11:31 left in the first half. They went to the locker room at half time with a 29-22 lead.

In the second half, Oklahoma pulled within

two points several times, but was unable to get any closer.

Cipriano cited Cox, Jerry Fort and Ricky Marsh for providing key baskets at the end of the game.

Fort led the Huskers with 25 points, scoring mostly on short jumpers and driving layups down the middle of the lane.

Lee said it was good to play at home after five road games. "The crowd really supported us tonight," he said. The Coliseum was filled to its 8,500 capacity.

Adams and McCurdy had to wear different uniforms after theirs were stolen from the Coliseum while the Sooners practiced Friday night.

Nebraska's record climbed to 8-6 and 1-1 in the Big 8. OU's record dipped to 11-4.

The 7:35 p.m. game Tuesday will be against a veteran Kansas State University team. Four Wildcat starters are seniors, including All-Big 8 performer Lon Kruger.

KSU defeated the Huskers in the Big 8 Tournament 68-47. Forward Larry Williams led the Wildcats in that game with 18 points and 14 rebounds. Their record is 10-5 and 2-1 in the Big 8.



Photo by Stewart Nielsen  
Rickey Harris (30) and Ricky Marsh (20) attempt to block Sooner Bob Pritchard's shot.

## Osborne survives fan fare

On Sept. 9, 1973, Tom Osborne went on trial for impersonating a Nebraska football coach. His jury included farmers, housewives and schoolchildren. The tense proceedings were nationally televised as millions of curious fans tuned in to see the long-time assistant in his first game as head coach.

When the defendant guided his players to victory (40-13 over UCLA) his name was toasted in every tavern in the state. Had he lost, Tom Osborne would have been about as popular as a gas station attendant.

Unfortunately, Osborne had to go on trial 11 more times in his initial year as the Huskers' commander-in-chief. After the UCLA game, Nebraska fans expected big things. When the Huskers hit their mid-season slump, there was scattered criticism of the coaching staff.

Cigar-chomping second guessers will argue that Nebraska suffered some sour breaks in 1973. In reality the Huskers won half their really close games. They could have ended up 5-5-1.

Tom Osborne might have made a few

mistakes, but without Johnny Rodgers, Rich Glover or Willie Harper, he still matched Devaney's final year.

steve taylor  
taylored sports

Predictions are always an uncertain business, but the task of picking this year's Big 8 basketball champion should go to Jeanne Dixon, the ESP specialist. Jimmy the Greek or any other sensible oddsmaker wouldn't risk his reputation by handicapping such an unruly league. It would be easier to pick the winner of the Boston Marathon.

The preseason tournament played in Kansas City during the holidays baffled those Big 8 fans who expected a clear-cut favorite to emerge from the dogfight.

Missouri, supposedly robbed of basketball prominence by graduation, won the tournament, while lightly regarded Iowa State University finished a close second. Tourney favorites

Oklahoma University and Kansas State University were treated harshly by the other Big 8 hopefuls. The Sooners narrowly escaped dead last by beating Oklahoma State. The Wildcats, once ranked as high as 11th by AP, had to scratch hard for third place.

Jerry Fort, the Husker ball-handling wizard from Chicago, reaped dual honors at the tournament as he led all scorers and was named to the all-tourney first team.

Nebraska complicated the situation Saturday night when they nipped league-leading Oklahoma. The Sooners appeared overly tense in that game. Who can blame them? At the Coliseum, visiting teams are treated as if they were Viet Cong.

The Big 8 race should be a madcap scramble with every team having at least an outside shot at the title. For Nebraska's youthful squad, better days loom ahead. In two years they might be a national power. As for their chances in the conference this year, only David Hoy can say.

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## sports shorts

Registration deadline is Jan. 30, and the fee is \$1.50.

Beginning, intermediate and senior lifesaving swimming classes are being offered with a \$5 registration fee. The classes will meet Mondays through Thursdays from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Abel-Sandoz pool.

A glass blowing class will meet Tuesday nights beginning Jan. 29. Deadline for signing up is Jan. 28. The \$10.50 fee pays for a burner that class members can keep.

Deadline is today for registering for dancing lessons, which begin Tuesday night and continue on Tuesdays for seven weeks. Fee is \$2.

Friday is the deadline for registering for a macrame class. Fee is \$2.

Two 12-person scuba classes will begin Feb. 4 and 5 in the evening. The \$47.25 fee pays for pool and classroom instruction, a book, equipment for the pool sessions and pool use.

A co-rec volleyball tournament will begin Feb. 5. Registration deadline is Jan. 30, and the entry fee is \$5. Teams must provide their own officials.

For more information, call the Recreation Dept., 472-3467.

Two Husker varsity teams traveled out of town for meets during the weekend. The wrestling squad defeated Fort Hays State University, 31-4, Friday. UNL's swimmers fell Saturday to Iowa State University, 84-29.

The UNL Soccer Club will have an organizational meeting for the spring season at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Nebraska Union. After the meeting will be a two-hour training film, featuring soccer star Pole. The film is open to the public. Room will be posted Tuesday in the Union.

Several classes are being offered by the Recreation Dept.

A yoga class begins Jan. 31 and continues on Thursday nights through March 14. Both men and women can sign up with a limit of 35 people.