

Cream rises as KSU sees red

By Pete Wegman

Manhattan, Kan.—Basketball fans here Saturday witnessed a classic basketball contest between Kansas State University's (KSU) Purple Pride and UNL's Scarlet and Cream. When it was over, the Cream had risen to the top.

In front of 8,500 fans and a regional television audience, UNL's Cornhuskers snapped an 18-game KSU winning streak at Ahearn Fieldhouse, defeating the Wildcats, 65-59.

The win was the Huskers' ninth in the last 10 games, raising the team's record to 10-4. KSU, losing its second straight, dropped to 9-5.

The Huskers were led by All-Big 8 Conference senior guard Jerry Fort, a history major from Chicago, who connected on 15 of 20 shots from the field to tie his UNL record for most field goals in a game. Fort finished with 34 points.

Enthusiastic fans

"The last two games I've been shooting pretty well,"

Fort said. "I looked forward to coming here because the fans are so enthusiastic about basketball."

The score was tied seven times, and the lead changed hands 10 times in the seesaw conference opener for both teams.

The game was close in the first half until KSU built a 27-18 lead with three minutes remaining. However, quick baskets by junior forward Rickey Harris, a criminal justice major from Denver, and senior guard Steve Willis, also a criminal justice major from Indianapolis, pulled the Huskers within five. At the half, KSU led 29-26.

During the second half neither team could build a lead bigger than three points until the Huskers began their final surge with three minutes left.

Down 54-53, the Huskers regained the lead when freshman guard Brian Banks, a business major from Hammond, Ind., scored on a baseline jumper with 3:10 remaining.

Wildcat comeback

The Wildcats grabbed the lead again momentarily when sophomore guard Mike Evans scored to give KSU a 56-55 lead.

Nebraska came back for good when Fort scored on a layup with 2:44 left. Then the Huskers, last in the Big 8 in free throw percentage last season but leading the conference this year, hit on nine of 10 free throws in the last two minutes for the final 65-59 score.

Fort won the first round in what was touted as a battle between himself and KSU's All-Big 8 guard Chuckie Williams.

Williams led Wildcat scoring with 24 points, but hit on only 11 of 23 shots from the field.

Willis said the win over KSU, the Big 8 preseason favorite, was important, but added that "we've still got thirteen games to play."

"Remember last year when we won our first four conference games," he said. The Huskers then lost seven of their last 10 Big 8 games to finish with a 7-7 Big 8 mark.

The Huskers, 6-2 on the road this season, return to the Coliseum to play Oklahoma Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

nebraskan
sports

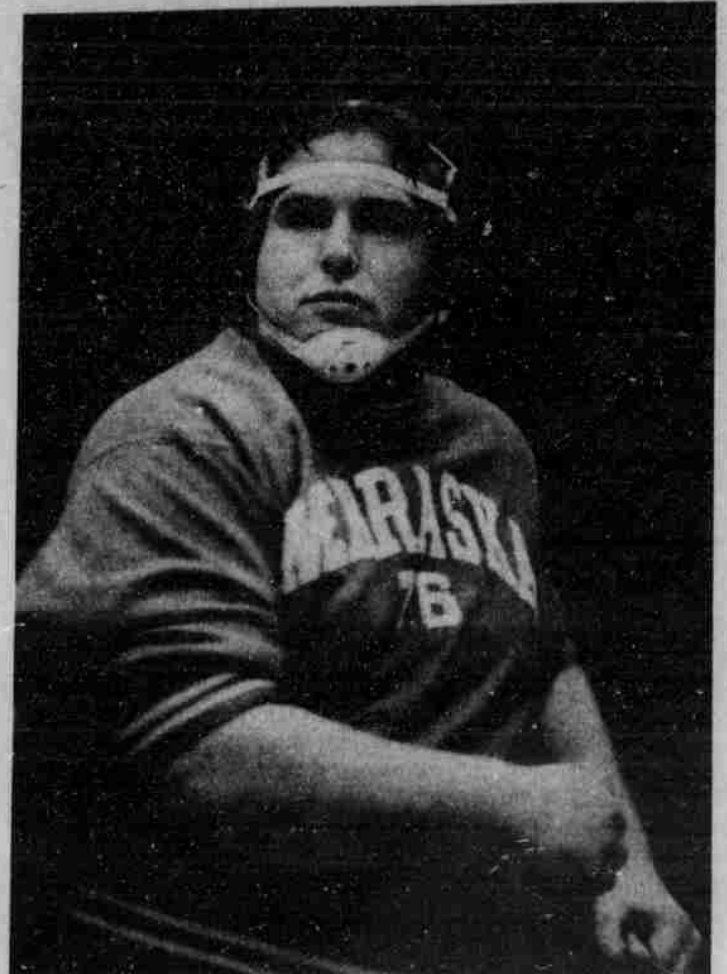


Photo by Ted Kirk

UNL heavyweight wrestler Bruce Conger's 6-0 decision over Missouri's Frank Kyes helped the Huskers beat the Tigers, 24-18, Saturday night.

sports
shorts

Delegates to the NCAA 70th annual convention, which ended Saturday in St. Louis, voted to continue the one head coach—eight assistant coaches limitation in football but voted to lift limitations on the size of football squads.

Proposals to divide the NCAA's Division I into two divisions (one an 81-school "super" division) and to provide for a Division I postseason playoff failed at the convention.

Delegates also turned down a proposal which called for scholarship distribution based on "need."

Husker wrestlers won the last three matches to down Missouri, 24-18, Saturday at the Coliseum. UNL improved its dual record to 2-2, while Missouri dipped to 6-2.

Tony Jennings, 142 pounds, won on a pin to raise his record to 4-0 in duals and 13-5 overall. Court Vining, 150 pounds, also pinned his foe.

Tom Knobloch, 158 pounds; Bill Hoffman, 177 pounds; Bob Johnson, 190 pounds, and Bruce Conger, heavyweight, all won by decision.

UNL swimmers won two events as the Huskers lost to Iowa State, 86-26, Saturday in Ames. Pat DiBiase set a meet record of 2:14.26 to win the 200-yard breaststroke. Dave Watermeier took the one-meter diving.

Second-place Husker finishers included Scott Ruser in the 200-yard individual medley, Bill Davis in the 100-yard freestyle and Bryan Moss in the 200-yard breaststroke.

The UNL women's basketball team beat Kansas, 50-45, Saturday to take third in the Lady Jayhawk Classic at Lawrence, Ks. Sherry Brink scored 22 points and Kathy Hawkins had 10 to pace the Huskers, now 8-4.

UNL Friday lost its first game in the meet to Kansas State, 62-53. Hawkins and Brink again led with 19 and 13 points respectively.

The UNL women's softball team begins a conditioning program Jan. 26, at 8 a.m. in the Stadium training room. Official team tryouts will begin March 1.

Loser downcast; Cipriano jests

By Dennis Onnen

(Manhattan, Kan.)—It was obvious who had won.

Kansas State University (KSU) coach Jack Hartman, near tears, puffed slowly on a cigarette and raised his eyes from the floor only to acknowledge reporters' questions. His answers barely were audible.

Forty feet down the corridor, Husker head coach Joe Cipriano joked and laughed with another group of reporters.

For Hartman, the 65-59 basketball loss to UNL was a matter of lost opportunities.

"I thought there were times when we had an opportunity to take control of it," he said.

He mentioned a scoring drought which hit after the Wildcats took a 51-48 lead with 6:05 to go. KSU took several shots, but could not score again until more than two minutes later.

The Wildcats also looked like they might pull away after taking a 27-18 lead late in the first half. But the Huskers took a timeout and came back with two quick baskets.

"Try too hard"

"Sometimes we try a little too hard to get control of it," Hartman said. Wildcat guards Chuckie Williams and Mike Evans especially might feel the burden of the scoring load, he said, and press too hard.

The two guards were forced to carry scoring responsibilities once again, since the entire Wildcat front line contributed only 20 points.

The big men's low scoring has plagued KSU all year, Hartman said.

The Wildcats used a zone defense only briefly in each half. Although that defense has given the Huskers fits in the past, KSU went with the man-to-man most of the game.

Hartman was quick to praise Husker guard Jerry Fort for his hot shooting.

"Fort's proven that he's that good," he said. "Of course, if he scores that many points, you like to think your defense could have been better."

Coach Cipriano said he complained that the timekeeper was not starting the clock immediately when play resumed several times late in the game, aiding the Wildcats in their comeback attempt.

Cipriano was able to kid about it after the game, but he stormed the scorers' table to protest during the contest, running the risk of his first technical foul of the year.

"That timekeeper's always given us fits; it's easy to catch up when the clock's not moving," he said.

He also praised Fort for his 15 for 20 shooting accuracy.

"But we're disappointed he missed those five shots," he added jokingly.

Cipriano expressed happiness at the free throw shooting (11 of 13), lack of turnovers (10), good second-half defense and clutch shooting at the end.

"When all that goes together, the alumni are very happy," he said.

Backpackers explore 5,000-foot Mexican canyon

By Scott Jones

When UNL freshman Dan Kadavy took only his third trip outside Nebraska, he decided to make it a good one.

The general agriculture major from Lincoln was one of seven men and three women students involved in a backpacking trip to Mexico Dec. 29 to Jan. 11, sponsored by the UNL Recreation office.

Kadavy, who previously had been as far away from home as Iowa and Kansas City, said he was fascinated with the Mexican scenery around Placada Barranca, about 450 miles south of El Paso, Tex.

"Everything was just so beautiful, you had to be there to believe it," he said.

The backpackers drove to Chihuahua, Mex., then took a train to Placada Barranca, near the Barranca De Cobre Canyon, where they backpacked for five days.

Grand Canyon counterpart

Mark Ebel, UNL coordinator of recreation, led the

backpackers and said the canyon is at least equal in relief to the Grand Canyon, with a 5,000-ft. difference from top to bottom.

The students began to realize how primitive the area was when they boarded the train in Chihuahua, he said.

"Readers Digest had an article that said it is the most fantastic train ride in the Western Hemisphere," Ebel said. At the destination, "you just get off the train and start walking," Ebel said, because there are no car paths.

"There are just trails that have been worn away over the centuries," he said. "In just two or three feet you can fall hundreds of feet."

Jim Langdon, a sophomore electrical engineering major from Hastings, agreed.

"The bad part wasn't falling off the path, it was finding a level spot to sleep on. We were sleeping on a cliff about 80 degrees inclined," he said.

Although only three of the 10 students had backpack-

ing experience, Ebel said they all adjusted well.

Among trip's highlights were exploration of an abandoned silver mine and contacting some Tara Humara Indians.

Before a railroad was built through the area, he said, the Indian tribe had almost no contact with white men.

"Before that, the Indians would run at the sight of white men," Ebel said. "They live in an almost medieval society where they maintain a home in one place until the animals (mostly goats) denude the vegetation there. Then they (the Indians) move on to another home."

Ebel said the Recreation Office will conduct winter travel seminars emphasizing Nordic skiing Jan. 20 and 27, winter camping and backpacking on Feb. 3 and winter mountaineering on Feb. 10. Registration, \$1 for the entire program, should be filed by Jan. 20, he said.

Three winter camping weekends also are scheduled, involving Nordic skiing or backpacking depending on snow conditions, Ebel said. Dates are Feb. 12, 27 and March 6.