

# Huskers drive to 60-54 comeback against OSU

By Jim Hunt

UNL's basketball team roared back from a 32-24 half-time deficit to take a 60-54 victory over the Oklahoma State University Cowboys (OSU) Saturday before 5,305 fans in the Coliseum and regional television audience.

The Huskers scored the first 11 points of the second half and took the lead for good when forward Allen Holder scored on a layup with 17:20 left in the game.

"I thought they (the Huskers) came back and played with a lot more intensity the second half," said OSU head coach Guy Strong. "We lacked patience and had poor shot selection."

"We missed a lot of close-in shots," he said. "We missed about 10 shots from eight- to 10-feet and you can't win a game missing those kind of shots."

Strong also said Husker guard Jerry Fort did a much better job the second half.

The Huskers jumped to an early 12-5 lead, but OSU fired back behind the shooting of Ronnie Daniel, Olus Holder and Eli Johnson to take the lead at intermission.

"We looked a little bit like our uniforms the first half," said Husker head coach Joe Cipriano. The Huskers' home uniforms were ruined last week while being cleaned. Cipriano, jokingly, said they would be able to use the uniforms again only if they get pink pants to go with them.

"I thought we came back well the second half," Cipriano said. "We had a tough time adjusting to the different defenses. We were on number 16 (win) for a long time—I'm just glad we got number 17," Cipriano added.

He praised center Larry Cox, who led all scorers, and Steve Willis, who hit some important free throws. Cox, 6 ft. 6 in. senior from Denver, hit eight of 11 shots from the field and two of four free throws for 18 points.

Willis, 5 ft. 10 in. senior guard from Indianapolis, finished the game with 11 points. Three-time All-Big 8

guard Fort also finished in double figures with 14 points.

OSU placed two players in double figures, Daniel with 17 points and Holder with 14. Holder also was the leading rebounder in the game with 11. Bob Siegel, junior forward from Fairbury, took rebounding honors for the Huskers with seven.

The Huskers, now 17-8 on the season and 8-4 in Big 8 Conference play, will travel to Lawrence, Kan., to tangle with the University of Kansas Jayhawks Wednesday. The Jayhawks are 12-12 on the season and 5-7 in Big 8 play after a 68-66 defeat to the University of Colorado Saturday.

The Jayhawks and Huskers have met twice this season with UNL taking a 57-54 victory in Lincoln and Kansas with a 69-66 win in the Big 8 preseason tournament.

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### UNL gymnasts to attend regional

By Scott Jones

The climax of UNL's women's gymnastics meet with South Dakota State University (SDSU) came an hour before the meet even began Friday at the Women's Physical Education Bldg.

SDSU eventually downed UNL, 73.25-63.25. However, coach Karen Balke learned an hour before the meet that UNL already had qualified for the regional meet March 11 through 13 in Brookings, S.D.

Because of a mistaken qualifying standard, UNL gymnasts had assumed prior to the meet that they needed a team score of 85.5 to qualify for the regional meet.

But Balke learned from SDSU coach Michael Keough, who is the regional meet director, that an average meet score of 76—not 84 as assumed—was necessary to compete as a team at regionals. UNL entered Friday's meet with an average team score of 76.95.

"They (the gymnasts) are really thrilled," Balke said. "It's really a treat to be able to go."

Balke said the governing board of the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women decided on the 76-point standard about two weeks ago, but UNL was not informed.

The Huskers seemed to be boyed by the news as they led after the first event (vaulting), but SDSU won the top four places in the uneven parallel bars and placed second, third and fourth on the balance beam to take the lead.

Peggy Newport, Lincoln sophomore, and Sandy Czaplowski, Grand Island sophomore, were credited by Balke with their best performance of the year.

Newport won the balance beam with a meet-high score of 7.55 and also finished second in the all-around, while Czaplowski won the floor exercise.

Vicki Newport, Lincoln freshman, finished second in vaulting with a 7.05 score followed by teammate Mary Scott, an Omaha freshman who scored 6.95 for third place.

UNL competed without all-rounder Kathi Ruddick, Omaha sophomore, and Carol Lundeen, Holdrege junior, while all-rounder Barb Baker, Omaha freshman, competed in only the uneven parallel bars because of a sprained ankle.

Ruddick has strained neck muscles and Lundeen dislocated her toe, but Balke said both should be ready for regionals.

UNL sophomore David Green won the triple jump to spark the Huskers to a fifth-place finish in the Big 8 Conference indoor track championships Friday and Saturday in Kansas City. Kansas City University edged defending champion University of Kansas, 54-52, to take the team title. The University of Oklahoma followed with 50 points, University of Missouri had 29 and UNL had 19.

Green leaped 49 ft. 2 1/4 in. to beat Kansas State's Darryl Bennett by one inch. Freshman Neville Murray added a third place in the event for the Huskers, jumping 48 ft. 9 in.

Husker freshman Ron Fisher led until the last lap before finishing second to Kansas State's Bob Prince in the 880-yard run. Fisher's time was 1:54.5 to Prince's 1:54.0. Prince also won the 600-yard run to be named the meet's outstanding performer.

Sophomore Steve Millard hurled the shot put 56 ft. 7 1/4 in., third longest in the Husker history, to take fourth place. Sophomore Dean Herzog also took fourth with a 6 ft. 10 in. leap in the high jump.

The Husker mile relay rounded out team scoring with a fourth-place finish.

The Kearney State College women's track team swept all events to beat UNL, 79-12, Saturday in Kearney. Three Huskers managed second-place finishes: freshmen Deb Raddatz in the shot put (40 ft. 1 1/4 in.), freshman Peggy Liddick in the 50-yard hurdles (7.1 seconds) and sophomore Cindy Dixon in the mile (5:32.7)

Tryouts for the UNL women's softball team will be Monday through Friday. Interested students should contact coach Myreen Loveless at 472-3924.

Host Iowa State University, with five individual champions, won the Big 8 wrestling championship held Friday and Saturday in Ames, Iowa. UNL took fifth behind Oklahoma State University and Missouri.

UNL senior co-captains Tony Jennings, 134 lbs., and Bob Johnson, 190 lbs., finished third for the Huskers. Freshman Court Vining, 142 lbs., and junior heavyweight Bruce Conger had fourth-place finishes.

Jennings, Johnson and Vining all qualified for the NCAA tournament in Tuscon, Ariz., March 11 through 13.

### Women cage team geared for tourney

The UNL women's basketball team received a final tune-up Saturday morning for regional tournament play with a 56-46 victory over Sportsman of Ankeny, an amateur team from Des Moines.

The Huskers, now 19-7, begin regional play Thursday against St. Cloud of Minnesota at Fargo, N.D.

"I don't think we played too bad," said Husker head coach George Nicodemus. "We stood around a little too much, though."

"We used a press for the first time today (Saturday)," he said. "We might use it in the regionals. The problem is we aren't a tall team, and there is a tendency to pick up a lot of fouls on the press," he added.

The Huskers were led in scoring by freshmen Jan Crouch and Darcy Williamson and sophomore Sherry Brink. Crouch, 5 ft. 11 in. center from Lincoln, led the Huskers with 16 points. Brink, 5 ft. 8 in. forward from Lincoln, scored 14 points and Williamson, 5 ft. 8 in. guard from Arapahoe, added 10.

Sportsman of Ankeny, which finished fifth in the national AAU tournament last year, was hampered by a lack of players. Ankeny brought six players and lost All-American Kathy Woodward in the first half with a leg injury.

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