

Huskers in rebounding with 14 apiece. The Huskers collected 54 team rebounds.

Holder had 11 points for the Huskers while Willis, a native of Indianapolis, tallied six points.

Cipriano nostalgic

Coach Joe Cipriano's Huskers finished the regular season with a 19-8 record.

"Playing the last game in the Coliseum bothered me a little," said Cipriano, who has spent all 13 of his UNL seasons in the barn.

"There's a lot of nostalgia in the place. I have a lot of feeling for both the building and the seniors," he said. "I'm happy to leave, but there has been a lot of good basketball in the Coliseum."

Cipriano said he will remember three Coliseum games most—the 83-75 win over the University of Kansas in 1966, the 99-78 romp over KU in 1972 where Kansas stalled to keep the Huskers from going over the century mark and the 74-73 victory over the University of Michigan in 1964.

Michigan was the top-ranked team in the nation entering the Dec. 12, 1964 game. Led by All-American Cazzie Russell, Michigan led most of the way, but Fred Hare's over-the-shoulder shot at the buzzer won the game for the Huskers.

Dick Perry, who has been broadcasting Husker basketball on KFOR radio for 16 years, said the Michigan game is

the one he will remember most.

'58 Husker-KU game greatest?

Perry said he thinks the 1966-67 team with Tom Baach, Stu Lantz and Nate Branch provided Husker fans with more thrills than any other team. That Husker team went on to participate in the National Invitational Tournament.

Don Bryant, UNL sports information director, has watched Husker basketball in the Coliseum since the 1930s. He said the greatest game ever played there was in 1958 when the Jerry Bush-coached Huskers defeated a Kansas team led by Wilt Chamberlin 43-41 after being defeated by the Jayhawks 102-46 four games earlier.

It was 5 ft. 9 in. Jimmy Kubacki who stole the show for the Huskers.

Kubacki, who had been sidelined with an injured knee, persuaded Bush to let him suit up in the second half, Bryant said. He joined the lineup with two minutes remaining. The Huskers had used a slow-down offense throughout the game, but worked for the last shot which Kubacki hit with three seconds remaining.

Bryant said the students were so jubilant that former Chancellor Clifford Hardin canceled classes the following Monday.

Fort's 40-pointer a highlight

Both Cipriano and assistant coach Lonnie Porter agree

that the best individual performance they have seen was Fort's 40-point game against the University of Missouri last year.

Almost as much a part of the Husker basketball legend as the Coliseum is Harry Bruns, a crowdpleaser who has been sweeping the floor for 19 years. Bruns said he does not know whether he will make the move to the new sports complex.

Going to rest with the Coliseum are memories of past freshman convocations, graduations, Military Balls, All-University parties, freshman registration, Homecoming dances and Ivy Day ceremonies (when it rained outside).

The Coliseum rings with memories of Handel's Messiah, Greek Follies, Chicago in concert and the blue music of Doug Clark and the Hot Nuts.

Fifty years from now how many people will remember that freshman Val Martin from South Bend, Ind., scored the last basket in Husker Coliseum history on a goaltending call with 20 seconds remaining?

Photos by Ted Kirk, Kevin Higley and Steve Boerner
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