

Senior cagers weigh future

By Jim Hunt

With the regular season over and all hopes of a post season tournament gone, UNL's three senior basketball players have gone their separate ways.

Jerry Fort said he wants to play professional basketball, Larry Cox said he eventually hopes to get into the ministry and Steve Willis said he just wants to take some time off.

Fort, the most prolific scorer in Husker history, ended his four-year career with 1,882 points. He also is the only Husker basketball player to be named to the All-Big 8 Conference team three consecutive years.

"This year was my most satisfying year here," said the 6 ft. 3 in. Chicago native. "My freshman year we were 9-17 and this year we were 19-8, which is really a vast improvement."

"After four years it is really sad to play your last game," Fort said. "I wish I had another year or two left to play now that we are starting to get a winning tradition."

Pro basketball

Fort is now looking toward the professional courts. "I think my chances of making it in the pros are pretty good," he said. "I realize that I'm not going to be a great guard, but a guard who is quick and can get the ball off to the other man."

Fort termed himself a late bloomer. He said he played more basketball in college than he did in high school, where he was cut from the team his freshman year.

If pro basketball doesn't work out, he would like to try law college or work in a Chicago recreation program.

Cox, on the other hand, wants to stay in the Lincoln area, find a job and receive more training from the Navigators, a campus religious organization he belongs to.

"I'm pretty happy to go out with a big game," Cox said of Saturday's 82-66 win over Iowa State University in which he scored a career-high 25 points. "With my parents in the stands and it being the last game in the Coliseum, it was a good game," he said.

Thankful

"I would like to thank all my fans and friends who supported me throughout my career," said the 6 ft. 6 in. two-time Academic All-Big 8 selection from Denver. "I would really like to thank God for his steadfast love and faithfulness in my life."

"At times, college basketball is hard," he said reflecting on his career at UNL, "but it was worth it all," he added. "If I had it to do again, I'd do it the same way."

Willis, a 5 ft. 10 in. Indianapolis native, said he is tired of school and just needs a rest.

Willis, who transferred to UNL from North Idaho Junior College, said he would like to play more basketball and would like to coach children's basketball.

Fort said Willis may have a tryout with the Indiana Pacers of the American Basketball Association.

"I had regrets about playing my last game," Willis said.

"I made a lot of friends out here. It seems sad for awhile, but you have to move on to bigger and better things."

Record setters

The seniors dominated the final 1975-76 season statistics. Fort and Cox led in scoring with 19 and 13.3 points, respectively. Willis averaged 7.8 points.

Cox connected on 133 of 198 field goal attempts for 67.2 per cent for the season, breaking three Big 8 records.

Cox made 67 of 104 conference field goal attempts this season for 64.4 per cent, breaking conference marks for highest field goal percentage for a season, highest field goal percentage for conference career and highest field goal percentage for a career.

The only other Cornhusker listed in the conference individual records is Tom Baack, 1966 to 68, who holds the record for the highest career free throw percentage.

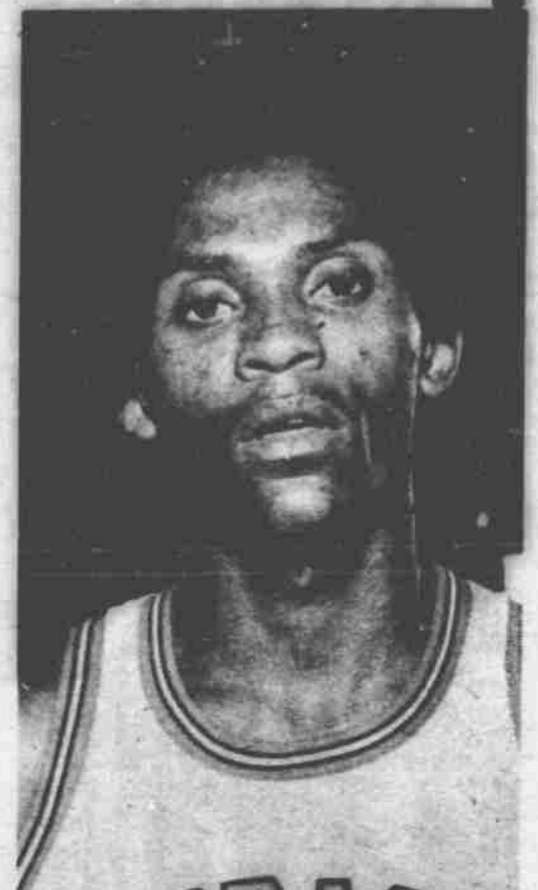
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Larry Cox



Jerry Fort



Steve Willis

Photos courtesy of Daily Nebraskan and UNL Sports Information Office

Eligibility rule may slam-dunk 1641ers

1641, in its quest for its second straight All-University basketball title, may have run into an obstacle larger than any of the teams it must play—eligibility requirements.

Wednesday afternoon a question arose concerning the eligibility of one of 1641's players. The question involves whether the player is a UNL student and intramural coordinator Gale Wiedow is withholding the student's name until the question is resolved.

If the player is found to be ineligible, 1641 will be forced to forfeit most or all of its games, according to Wiedow.

Wiedow cited Article 9 of the *Intramural Handbook*, which states that "a team will forfeit any contests in which an ineligible player is used."

Intramural participants must be UNL students to compete in the UNL intramural program.

Only three teams besides 1641 in the last intramural Top 10 remain in contention for the All-University championship. The teams are Beta Theta Pi (A), the Aces and

Abel 5. Wednesday, 19 teams were still in the tournament, Wiedow said.

The All-University finals will be March 17. The UNL champion will play the Lincoln city champion March 18.

"I think that we have the best team," said 1641 captain Bob Matthews Tuesday night after his team defeated the Aces, 40-28, to become Independent champs. 1641 entered teams in the Independent and Open Classes this season. It has compiled a 9-0 record in the Independent Class and a 7-1 record in the Open Class with teams consisting of mainly the same players, Matthews said.

After the start of the season, 1641 doesn't practice as a team, he said, but just plays its two games a week which makes it hard to get the offense together at first.

Matthews, a Law College senior from Omaha, said the other starters are Steve Lefler, a Law College junior from Omaha, Marty Connealy, a Law College junior from Gordon, senior Milt Wildner of Oakland and junior Stu Nelson of Garden City, Kan., the team's leading scorer and a high school all-stater.

sports quiz

Husker track

- Who is Nebraska's only sub-four minute miler?
- Name one of three Huskers who ran in the 1972 Olympics.
- Name the only Husker to win an Olympic medal. That bronze medal now is on display in the South Stadium trophy room.
- What Nebraska runner has a world record?
- Name one of two Huskers who have won NCAA titles both indoors and outdoors.
- Only three schools in NCAA history have had three shot putters go over 60 feet in the same year. Name one of the schools, whose field coach then is now a Husker assistant.
- In what years did Nebraska win back-to-back Big 8 Conference indoor championships?
- Name the two current Husker high jumpers who have the best national and Nebraska high school jumps ever recorded.
- In his 20 years as Husker head coach, Frank Sevigne has had how many individual conference champions? (a) 98 (b) 86 (c) 74
- What current world-class sprinter attended Nebraska before transferring to the University of Southern California?

Answers

10. Don Quarrie.
9. (b) 86 record.
8. Sophomore Dean Herzog, 7 ft. 1 3/4 in. national record, and freshman Doug Phelps, 7 ft. Nebraska 1972 and 1973.
7. 1972 and 1973.
6. University of Texas-El Paso in 1971; Coach, John Burgher, 1969 indoor and 1968 outdoor triple jump, and outdoor 100-yard dash in 1965-67; Lennox 5. Charlie Greene, indoor 60-yard dash in 1965-67 in 1:09.2, world record for a 12-lap track.
4. Dave Crook won the 1966 Big 8 indoor 600-yard run.
3. Charlie Greene, 1968, 100-meter dash.
2. Leighton Priestley (400-meter dash), Garth Case (400-meter dash) and Horace Levy (100-meter dash), all for Jamaica.
1. Greg Carberg, 3:59.6, 1971 in the Astrodome.

Wrestlers seek medals in Tuscon; seniors try for UNL Century Club

By Pete Wegman

Wrestling coach Orval Borgialli and three UNL wrestlers flew to Tuscon, Ariz., Tuesday.

However, sunshine, rest and relaxation will not be their primary concern.

Rather, the wrestlers want to return to Lincoln Sunday with medals from the NCAA national tournament being held today through Saturday in Tuscon, instead of a tan.

Seniors Tony Jennings, 134 lbs., and Bob Johnson, 190 lbs., and freshman Court Vining, 150 lbs., will represent the Huskers at the tournament. Jennings and Johnson finished third at the Big 8 Conference meet Feb. 27 through 28, while Vining placed fourth.

Johnson and Jennings lead the Huskers in points scored this year with 91 and 89, respectively. Vining ranks seventh on the squad with 38 points.

Century Club

The two seniors will try to score enough points at the national meet to become members of the UNL wrestling team's Century (or 100 point) Club.

"Johnson should have an excellent chance at placing in the meet," Borgialli said. "If he goes into the second period of a match even if he'll win it."

Much of the success of the three should be credited to their outstanding physical shape, Borgialli said.

"I think they're in better shape than any individuals we've ever taken to nationals," he said. "For the last two

weeks, they've been running four to four-and-a-half miles a day."

While Johnson's strength lies in his strong hand grip and ability to gain riding time ("He can control a man as well as anyone in the country"), Borgialli said, Jennings relies on technique.

"Tony has an excellent grandy roll and a fireman's carry (two wrestling moves). Once he gets in the lead, he's hard to beat," Borgialli said. Jennings has lost one dual match the last two seasons.

Slow starter

Borgialli described Vining as a slow starter who developed as the season progressed.

"He's got the poorest techniques on the team, to be honest about it," he said, "but he's probably got more guts, determination, will to win—whatever you want to call it—than anyone on our team."

The battle for the NCAA team championship will be between Iowa State University and the University of Iowa if Borgialli's prediction comes true.

"I'd say look out for Iowa State. Iowa's rated Number 1 now, but they're going to have to earn it," he said.

The Huskers' 6-6 dual season was called "a real disappointment" by Borgialli, who is finishing his 12th year at UNL.

"The team was too sporadic. We never were consistent," he said. "What should have been a 10-2 season was 6-6."