

Planning defensive strategy nothing new to asst. coach

By Kevin Schnepf

Defense has been the name of the game this season for Joe Cipriano's basketball squad, and helping him has been Husker assistant, Moe Iba.

Iba, in his seventh year at UNL, has helped the Huskers to become one of the best defensive squads in the nation.

"We (the coaches) all work as a team," Iba said, "but my basic responsibility is the defense."

Stressing defense is nothing new for Iba. The Huskers were ranked eighth nationally in defense last year and when he was Memphis State's head coach, Iba had the second best defense against scoring in the nation.

Iba explained his defensive strategy in Saturday's victory over the University of Missouri, which he called a great win for the seniors.

"Their guard, Scott Sims, dictates what their offense does by reading the defense. We had Brian(Banks) overplay him," he said.

"We also closed off the passing lanes between the guard and forward. By making the guard-forward pass, they can't get their offense going."

Plan worked

Iba's plan worked as the Huskers held

the Tigers to 58 points, about 20 points under their average offensive output.

However, Iba did say a team needs both a good offense, as well as good defense.

Iba played college ball until 1962 at Oklahoma State University, where his father, Henry Iba, coached.

Iba said in his junior year when he injured his knee, his father let him scout games for him.

"That got me interested in coaching," Iba said. "I think my interest in athletics was the major reason I wanted to coach."

Iba said his coaching style does not reflect his father's style.

"Everyone asks me if I coach like my dad," he said, "but I developed my own coaching philosophy over the years. I didn't copy myself after dad."

First coaching job in Texas

Iba began his coaching career as an assistant at the University of Texas at El Paso, followed by a head coaching job at Memphis State four years later.

Iba was the freshman coach in his first two years at UNL.

"The people here (at UNL) have such a great interest in the athletic program," he said. "I played in the Big 8 Conference and I enjoy coaching in the Big 8."

Iba, known for his continuous yelling of instructions during games, said it serves a good purpose.

"A lot of people think we're just yelling at our players because we're mad," he said, "but all we're doing is trying to help our players."

"A lot of our defense is done on words," Iba said. "That's the way we coach in practice, and the players understand this."

"If I don't get into the game, how can I expect my players to play?"

Iba said in his seven years at UNL, it is difficult to favor any one year.

"Last year's team was the easiest team to coach," he said. "On this year's team, we started with unknown talent. I've enjoyed watching them improve."

"It's hard to say which year was better. I've just enjoyed every year at Nebraska."

Watch for the Opening of



crossword puzzle

Edited by WILL WENG

ACROSS

- 1 Grass or apple
- 5 Carson
- 8 Eban
- 12 Assembly hall
- 13 G.I.'s locker art
- 15 Soviet range
- 16 Anna of films
- 17 — nous
- 18 Period
- 19 Billie Jean, so to speak
- 22 Within: Prefix
- 23 Half a drum
- 24 Kind of crow
- 27 Musical notes
- 30 Cabbage or potato
- 34 "— Joey"
- 35 Executed a football play
- 38 Bull, in Barcelona
- 39 Cloak for an Arab
- 40 Bird sound
- 42 Wine cask
- 43 Incline
- 45 Jean Paul —
- 46 Moe's cousin
- 47 Sailing vessel
- 49 Bossy's sound
- 50 Metrical feet
- 52 Place for three men
- 54 Lightweight-boxer Joe
- 56 Thoroughbred racing
- 64 "— a song..."
- 65 "Go ahead!"
- 66 Dumb —
- 67 Voice
- 68 Egyptian god
- 69 Greek letters
- 70 Blind part
- 71 Posed
- 72 Remarks

- 6 "— each life..."
- 7 Peat, for one
- 8 Well-known eatery
- 9 Fox or rabbit
- 10 Starr performer
- 11 Beggar's cry
- 13 Confined
- 14 Plague
- 20 Awkward
- 21 Kind of art
- 24 Trains for a fight
- 25 Intrigue
- 26 Name to remember
- 28 N. L. player
- 29 All dressed for a date
- 31 Kind of pole
- 32 Morsel
- 33 Wagner of baseball
- 36 Disgruntled sounds
- 37 "— Tag"

- 41 Sign a new contract
- 44 Haphazard try
- 48 Kind of tent
- 51 Stage whispers
- 53 "Nonsense!"
- 55 Times of day: Abbr.
- 56 "— the night before..."
- 57 Sam or San Juan
- 58 Miss Kett
- 59 Greek letters
- 60 Repetitive movie-title word
- 61 "— chance!"
- 62 Battleship —
- 63 Lip

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

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DOWN

- 1 — of characters
- 2 Babe
- 3 Nautical term
- 4 Money man
- 5 Anna's friend

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