



Daily Nebraskan Photo

Husker center Carl McPipe (with ball) can expect man-to-man coverage from BlueJay center Dave Wesely tonight at the Sports Complex.

Defense is the key in long-awaited Cornhusker-Bluejay cage showdown

By Jim Hunt

The basketball game many Nebraskans have waited for—the first Creighton University-UNL shootout in 45 years—is scheduled for the UNL Sports Complex tonight. “We think it is a big game,” fourth-year BlueJay basketball coach Tom Apke said. “It is a big game because of the rivalry aspect. It is a game that will be good for both schools.”

Husker basketball coach Joe Cipriano said he is excited about the eighth meeting between the two schools. The last was in 1932. Creighton leads the series 4-3.

“This is a game the entire state, and especially the two schools, have been waiting for,” Cipriano said. “Creighton is a very talented ball club who can beat you at either end of the court.”

“This will be a real test for our defensive game, facing Creighton’s disciplined offense.”

The BlueJays are led by Apke’s younger brother Rick, a 6-foot-8 senior from Cincinnati.

Leading scorer

Apke is leading the Jays in scoring with an average of 21.6 points a game as the BlueJays jumped off to a 3-0 start. In his third year as a starter, Apke already has received pre-season All-Missouri Valley Conference and honorable mention All American honors.

“I’m very happy that he (Rick) came to Creighton,” coach Apke said. “We have had no problems with him so far. We thought some problems might come up, but we decided he was just too good of a prospect not to recruit.”

Coach Apke said they had a small problem Rick’s freshman year when some fans thought Apke should start but was held out because there were better players in front of him.

The BlueJays have received balanced scoring from the rest of their line-up with three players averaging at least 11 points a game. They are forward Tim McConnell (11.6), center David Wesely (11) and guard Randy Ecker (11).

The Jays other starter is freshman guard Kevin

McKenna, who averaged 7.6 points a game.

Two suspended

The Jays will be without the services of John Johnson and Kevin Kuehl, who are finishing an NCAA suspension for playing in a summer tournament in Omaha. Wesely sat out a game earlier in the season for the same infraction along with Jerry Newell, who will be eligible for the first time this season.

“Obviously, we would rather have him (Johnson) in the line-up,” Apke said. “However, we’ve played well enough to beat teams without him so far this season.”

Apke said the return of Wesely has helped compensate for the loss of Johnson. Wesely scored 18 points in the Jays win over Chicago-Loyola and was instrumental in their win over the University of Nebraska-Omaha despite playing with a 102 temperature.

The Jays probably will start a man-to-man defense and may use some zone defenses, Apke said.

UNL had problems getting the ball to drop against the zone defense of Missouri Southern State College in their opening season win last Friday.

37.5 percent

UNL hit only 37.5 percent of its shots in its 61-54 victory over the Lions.

Cipriano said he expects the offense to pick up with the return of guard Bob Moore. Moore, a junior college transfer from northeastern Oklahoma A & M, was benched the first game by Cipriano for missing practice. He scored 24 points in the Red-White game and is considered the UNL’s best outside shooter.

Joining Moore in the starting line-up will be a pair of juniors from Hammond, Ind., Brian Banks and Carl McPipe. Banks scored 16 points and McPipe chipped in 11 for UNL’s opener.

UNL will start a pair of Lincoln natives as forwards: senior Terry Novak and junior Curt Hedberg.

Freshman Mike Naderer, a 6-foot-guard from Scottsdale, Ariz., will be the top reserve off the Cornhusker bench. Starting his first game at UNL last week filling in for Moore, Naderer scored 10 points.

sports

KU's Owens confident of recognition despite lack of strong schedule play

Editor's note: This is the fourth in a series of seven reports on Big 8 basketball teams. Today's report is on the University of Kansas team, coached by Ted Owens.

By Jim Hunt

If putting the ball through the hoop is what basketball is all about, beware of the University of Kansas this season.

The Jayhawks are off to a 5-0 start, averaging 108 points a contest and are ranked 15th in the nation in this week's UPI poll and 19th by AP.

“I think we are playing well enough to get some recognition,” KU coach Ted Owens said. “However, it should be noted that we haven't played a strong schedule yet.”

Owens returns four starters from last season's 18-10 squad, but two of the starters, Donnie Von Moore and guard Clint Johnson, have been replaced by freshmen.

Freshmen Darnell Valentine, a 6-foot-2 guard is from Wichita. Valentine earned all-American honors at Heights High School. Freshman starter Wilmore Fowler, a 6-foot-1

guard from Palmetto, Fla., also has earned all-American honors.

The two freshmen have allowed Owens to move John Douglas, a first team All-Big 8 Conference performer at guard last year to forward.

Douglas is joined on the front line by senior forward Ken Koenigs and junior center Paul Mokeski.

Koenigs, a 6-foot-10 native of Goddard, Kans. averaged nine points and seven rebounds a game his junior season. He also led the Jayhawks in field goals and freethrow percentages.

Mokeski, a 7-foot-1 native of Encino, Calif., averaged 6.1 points and an identical 6.1 rebounds a contest. However, Mokeski has been plagued by injuries his first two years at KU.

Top reserves off the bench for the Jayhawks are Von Moore and Johnson.

Although Kansas has shown a high-powered offense this season, Owens has credited the defense with helping produce the points.



Photo by Ted Kirk

Bloody Ken Koenigs goes to the Jayhawk bench after suffering a cut during the UNL-KU game at the Sports Complex last year. Koenigs returns this year after leading the Jayhawks in free throw and field goal percentages last season.

Starting line-ups

Tipoff at 7:35 tonight in the Sports Complex

Creighton	
Rick Apke, 6-8, 205, Sr., Cincinnati, Ohio	F
Tim McConnell, 6-7, 215, Sr., Eugene, Ore.	F
Dave Wesely, 6-7, 199, Jr., Omaha	C
Randy Eecker, 6-0, 192, Sr., Denver, Colo.	G
Keven McKenna, 6-7, 190, Fr., Palatine, Ill.	G
Nebraska	
Terry Novak, 6-4, 200, Sr., Lincoln	F
Curt Hedberg, 6-8, 190, Jr., Lincoln	F
Carl McPipe, 6-8, 200, Jr., Hammond, Ind.	C
Brian Banks, 6-0, 155, Jr., Hammond, Ind.	C
Bob Moore, 6-3, 175, Jr., Pittsburgh, Penn.	G

Coverage on KFAB, KLIN, KFOR, KRNU, KYNN, KOCU radio stations. KOLN-TV and KMTV-TV if game is a sellout.

sports shorts

The UNL women's swim team will host South Dakota State University Saturday 2 p.m. in the Sports Complex.

The UNL men's swim squad travels to Chicago Saturday for a 2 p.m. meet with Chicago State University, the University of Wyoming and Western Illinois University.

UNL's powerlifting team, ranked second in the nation, had some of its members capture places in tournaments last weekend. Bill Toscas placed first in the 165-lb. class in a Denver tourney. Toscas' bench, squat and deadlift total was 1,350 lbs. Two other UNL lifters placed in the meet. Steve Knuth, competing in the 165-lb. total lift and Dan Forsman placed third in the 132-lb. class with a 900-lb lift. In a meet in

Anamosa, Iowa, four UNL lifters placed. Monte Lofing finished first with an 845-lb. effort in the 132-lb class and Jim Dier grabbed a first place with an 845-lb total lift in the 114-lb. division. Other Huskers who placed were Howard Huffman in the 181-lb. class and Doug Dobney in the 165-lb class. Huffman's 1,075-lb lift earned him seventh, while Dobney finished fourth with a 965-lb. total lift.

Tickets for the UNL-Creighton University men's basketball are available at the south stadium ticket office. Reserved seats are \$3 and student general admission seats are \$1.

Bill Bennett, UNL's assistant sports information director, said officials will know today if the game is a sellout. If it is, KOLN-TV and KMTV-TV will broadcast the game.

The UNL men's rugby club will meet Tuesday 7 p.m. in the Nebraska Union. The room number will be posted on the Union's bulletin board.