

sports



Photo by Bob Pearson

Ice-cold Husker shooting heats Boilermaker win

By L. Kent Wolgamott and Jeff Taebel

The 13,022 Nebraska basketball fans who attended the game against Purdue Saturday night are fortunate that the tradition of standing until the first Husker basket applies only to the first half.

For if the tradition had applied, the fans would have been standing for the first seven minutes and 35 seconds of the second half as ice cold Nebraska shooting and a tough, changing Boilermaker defense combined to give Purdue a 58-47 victory and handed the Huskers their first defeat of the season.

Leading by three points at halftime, the Huskers' cold shooting at the beginning of the second half allowed Purdue to take a five point lead which they never relinquished, despite typically stingy Nebraska defensive play.

Nebraska Coach Joe Cipriano said after the game that the Huskers were troubled by Purdue's changing defense.

'Not as organized'

"We didn't play as organized as we have been against a zone situation," Cipriano said. "They threw things at us we hadn't seen before."

"They changed their defense everytime down the court. But we felt we handled that all right by staying in the same offense."

"We took some off-balance shots and we didn't have the flow that you need to beat a zone."

Boilermaker Coach Lee Rose said he was able to slow Nebraska in the second half by using a number of defenses.

"We alternated between a 1-3-1 trap zone, some man-to-man and a 2-3 zone," Rose said.

Rose also said Nebraska's defense was as tough as he expected.

"Our basic offense is to get the ball inside to the big guy (7-foot-1 center Joe Barry Carroll who had 19 points) and they did a good job of containing him."

He said Nebraska did an excellent job defending hot shooting guard Jerry Sichting who was held to only two points.

Perimeter shots

"When we don't hit our perimeter shots the big kid can't play as effectively."

Only scoring eight points while holding Nebraska to two in the first eight minutes of the final half did not please Rose, he said.

"I'm glad Naismith and Rupp weren't here to see the first seven minutes of the second half," Rose said.

Rose said the game should aid both teams' future play. "This game will help us build our confidence and help

him (Cipriano) emphasize his points."

The sluggish Nebraska offense was led by Carl McPipe with 12 points and Andre Smith with 11 but Cipriano praised freshman forward Jerry Shoecraft who he said came off the bench late in the first half to score six points and "gave us the lift we needed to take the lead." Shoecraft finished the game with eight points.

Enroute to victory

Purdue got 21 points from forward Drake Morris along with Carroll's 19 enroute to their victory.

Although Cipriano said Nebraska played well on defense he said "we didn't take them out of their offense. The things they ran they were successful with."

"But," he said, "you hold somebody to 58 points, and you expect to win, especially at home."

"We had droughts like that last year, but it hasn't happened yet this year."

The sports complex was cleared quickly following the game because of a bomb threat.

The bomb threat was called in from a pay phone within the complex, according to University Police.

A search following the game found no sign of any explosives, a police spokesman said.

Nebraska plays intra-state rival Creighton University Saturday night at the Omaha Civic Auditorium at 7:35.

sports shorts

The UNL women's gymnastics team placed second with a team score of 122.25 in a triangular meet with Oklahoma State and South Dakota State Saturday at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Oklahoma State won the meet with a score of 126.82, while South Dakota State had 76.50.

NU's Peggy Carmichael won the all-around title, placing first in the uneven bars and floor exercise and second in the vaulting.

The UNL women's swimming team placed fourth in the second annual Husker Invitational swim meet Saturday at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Team scoring included: Florida State 799, Wisconsin 668, Kansas 651, Nebraska 503, Minnesota 399, Iowa State 390, Arkansas 100, Iowa 79 and Oklahoma State 29.

The UNL men's varsity swimming team took fourth place Saturday at the Big Eight Conference relay meet at Norman, Okla., Saturday. The Huskers took one first-place event with Lance Green and Steve Elliott winning the three-meter diving with 392.28 points. Team finishes included: Kansas 120, Iowa State 84, Missouri 83, Nebraska 56, Oklahoma 50, Oklahoma State 48, Texas-Arlington 48, Colorado 42 and Missouri-Rolla 5.

Nebraska offensive tackle Kelvin Clark, a senior from Odessa, Tex., was selected to the Walter Camp Foundation All-American football team. Clark was the only Cornhusker chosen for the team.

In other Big Eight basketball action Saturday night, Kansas defeated Murray St. 81-66, Kansas St. defeated

SMU 86-83, Arkansas defeated Oklahoma 80-74, Missouri defeated Southern Illinois 68-65, Colorado defeated South Dakota St. 66-62 and Tulsa defeated Oklahoma St. 87-78.

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