



Photo by Bob Pearson

Nebraska forward Andre Smith out rebounds Missouri's Kenn Stoechner (20) and Brad Droy (54) during the Big Eight Holiday Tournament.



Photo by Bob Pearson

Coach Joe Cipriano at the Big 8 Holiday Tourney

KU champions again, Huskers third in preseason Big Eight tournament

Nebraska, which won the Big Eight Preseason Holiday Tournament only once, picked up third place in the 33rd and last tourney held Dec. 27-30 in Kansas City's Kemper Arena.

For the 13th time, Kansas won the tourney, while Missouri, which had won five of the last seven titles, finished eighth in this year's gathering.

The Jayhawks captured the championship by defeating a surprising Colorado team, 72-66. Nebraska placed third by trouncing Oklahoma 69-53, although the Huskers were without the services of senior guard Brian Banks. Oklahoma State won fifth place against Iowa State 87-75 and Kansas State whipped Missouri 75-62 for seventh.

Nebraska was able to edge Missouri, 58-56, to move into the semifinals against Colorado, a 66-64 winner over Oklahoma

State. In other first round games, Kansas beat Iowa State 75-55 and Oklahoma nipped Kansas State 62-61.

The defense of Banks, who injured his knee against Missouri, was missed in the semifinals as Emmet Lewis piled up 31 points against the Huskers. Colorado's Brian Johnson added 20 points in the 74-61 win.

Kansas rolled over Oklahoma 86-75 to gain a place in the championship game against the Buffs, and then successfully took the title.

The tournament which will not be held in 1979, was thrown out by the Big Eight in favor of the post-season tourney, which is now in its third year. It was announced after the tournament that Kansas State and Missouri plan to continue the Holiday play in Kemper Arena and will invite two teams for a four-team field next year.

Nebraska loses again, but it's the last time at Colorado's Balch Fieldhouse

Comebacks are supposed to produce wins, but that wasn't the case Saturday night in Boulder, Colo.

A pressuring Nebraska comeback in the final four minutes, culminated in Andre Smith's tying three-point play with 11 seconds left, fell short as Colorado pulled out a 64-61 victory.

It was the 13th time in 16 years that Joe Cipriano's teams have lost in tiny Balch Fieldhouse. It may have been Nebraska's last trip to Balch, however, because the Buffs expect to have a new basketball arena completed next year.

After Smith pulled Nebraska into a 61-61 tie, Colorado's Mike Gorman drove the length of the court and broke away for a layup to give the Buffs the lead with two seconds left.

Nebraska was assessed with a technical foul after the basket when they called for a timeout and had none left. Gorman made one of two shorts and Colorado inbounded the ball to end the game.

Nebraska's comeback began with 3:58 left in the game when Colorado sophomore

Brian Johnson hit a free throw to give the Buffs their biggest lead of the game at 58-49.

Carl McPipe, Bob Moore and Smith led the Husker comeback down the stretch until Smith's tying basket. NU's comeback might have been more impressive if they could have converted any of the five free throws they missed late in the game.

Smith and McPipe scored 17 points and Bob Moore added 16 for Nebraska, which trailed 29-28 at the half. Senior guard Brian Banks saw action for Nebraska for the first time since being sidelined with an injury in the first game of the Big Eight Holiday tournament.

Colorado, which also beat Nebraska 74-74-61 in the semifinals of the Big Eight Holiday tourney, moved to 11-3 on the year and 1-1 in conference play. The Buffs are 8-0 at home this year.

Nebraska is now 8-6 overall and 1-1 in Big Eight play. NU will play at home for the first time since Dec. 13, Wednesday night when Kansas State comes to town for the Big Eight home opener.

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The Nebraska women's basketball team moved its record to 12-6 for the season with a 71-63 win over Oklahoma Saturday night in Norman. Mathaline Otis led Nebraska with 21 points while Diane DelVigna and Carol Garey added 14 points each. The two teams will meet again in the first round of the Big Eight Women's Basketball Championship which will be Jan. 18-20 in Lincoln.

Gale Wiedow, Director of the Department of Recreation, announced that there will be a meeting of all intramural basket-

ball and volleyball officials on Tuesday, Jan. 16, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 5 in the lower level of the Coliseum. All students planning to officiate in the intramural program should plan to attend.

Although Nebraska quarterback Tom Sorley threw for two touchdowns, the Big Eight All-Stars lost the Challenge Bowl game to the Pac-Ten All-Stars, 36-23, in Seattle's Kingdome Saturday night. Sorley threw touchdowns to Charlie Green of Kansas State and to Thomas Lott of Oklahoma, who played fullback.