

# sports

## Missouri clamps down on Husker team

By Paul Martin

Coming into Saturday afternoon's basketball game with UNL, Norm Stewart's Missouri Tigers had never managed to defeat the Cornhuskers on the Bob Devaney Sports Center floor.

The Huskers had beaten Missouri there for three straight years, but when the final buzzer sounded, 13th ranked Missouri changed that by drubbing the Huskers 84-63, and it was Nebraska's worst loss in the Sports Center.

"We just didn't play very well," UNL assistant Coach Moe Iba said. "I think part of it was what Missouri did."

An aggressive man-to-man defense combined with a balanced scoring attack led by freshman Steve Stipanovich's 20 points, kept the Tigers out of trouble.

"If I have a Steve Stipanovich every four years I'll be in coaching for a long time," Stewart said. "He creates pressure at both ends of the court."

### Missouri gains lead

When 6-3 Missouri guard Steve Wallace hit a 17-foot jumper with 11:11 remaining in the first half, he broke a 12-12 deadlock that gave Missouri a lead it never gave up.

Immediately following Wallace's basket, Tiger forward Ricky Frazier reeled off three straight field goals, answered only by a Jack Moore layup and Missouri went up 20-14. Iba called a timeout to try and regroup his Huskers, but it was of no avail. After the timeout Nebraska went ice cold from the field. After an Andre Smith layup, the Huskers were unable to hit a field goal for nearly seven minutes.

An Eric Williams shot from the corner finally broke the drought with 1:43 left before intermission, but by then the Tigers had built up a comfortable 32-23 cushion and went in at halftime on top 36-23.

"Usually when we call a timeout and tell them to do something, they do it," Iba said. "But today it didn't seem to help."

### Huskers no threat

Missouri came out running in the second half and quickly increased its lead to nineteen, 42-23, before Nebraska got a basket from sophomore guard Ray Collins.

The Huskers never really mounted a serious threat in the second half and Missouri led by as many as 26 before posting the final victory margin of 21.

"Regardless of the result, if we play close to the way we did today we're satisfied," Stewart said. "That's what we've been after for some time."

Besides Stipanovich's 20 tallies, four other Tigers scored in double figures. Senior guard Larry Drew had 13 while Frazier and 6-8 power forward Curtis Berry each had 12. Sophomore forward Mark Dressler came off the bench to add ten points to the Missouri total. Nebraska was led by center Smith's 19 points, with Collins adding 16.

### Smith shut off

Missouri effectively controlled Smith throughout the afternoon. With one man fronting him, (usually 6-11



Photo by Tom Gessner

Ray Collins (12) and Andre Smith (40) battle for a rebound with Mark Dressler (24) of Missouri during Nebraska's 84-63 basketball loss Saturday at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Mizzou out-rebounded UNL 40-20, in the contest. Smith's 19 points and Collins' 16 led the Huskers.

Stipanovich) and the weak side sagging to deny the lob pass, Smith made only 35 percent of his shots from the field and pulled down a mere five rebounds. Nebraska again sorely missed the services of forward Tim West who missed his sixth game because of an ankle sprain.

The Huskers were outrebounded 40-20 by the taller Missouri team.

Despite Missouri's domination on the boards, Collins felt Nebraska's main problem lay elsewhere.

"I didn't really think it was the height," Collins said. "It was a lack of aggressiveness. That was the key right there."

Perhaps a combination of semester break still in progress and having the game televised contributed to a sparse turnout of 8,540. Smith said he feels getting more fans to the games and getting them more involved would help the team out.

### Crowd support needed

"The crowds here just don't make enough noise," Smith said. "If we could get the crowd behind us it would

really help a lot. I feel that's what we need."

The crowd, as well as the Huskers, will have a chance to redeem themselves Wednesday night when Nebraska hosts Kansas, a team that stopped Missouri 69-66 last week.

"Against Kansas we'll just have to regroup," Iba said. "They have some real big guards and when you throw big guards at us, we're in trouble."

Smith said Nebraska would prepare for Kansas in much the same way as the Huskers prepared for the Tigers only "we'll have to execute much better."

"Kansas' record (8-5) doesn't speak well for them since they've lost a lot of close games," Smith said.

Nebraska slipped to 10-6 overall and 1-1 in the Big Eight with the loss, while Missouri boosted their record to 12-2 and moved to 1-1 in Big Eight play.

Tip-off Wednesday for the Kansas game is set for 7:35 p.m. in the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

## Cipriano to battle illness

Nebraska Head Basketball Coach Joe Cipriano made his first public reference to an illness which has kept him from his head coaching duties this year at a luncheon for him in Moscow, Idaho two weeks ago, the Lincoln Journal reported.

Cipriano, who underwent surgery at Bryan Memorial Hospital on Nov. 12, said:

"I've got a little problem I've got to whip. But I've whipped everything else I've had to."

A recent column in "The Sporting News," reported that Cipriano is receiving chemotherapy treatments.

Chemotherapy is used almost exclusively in the treatment of cancer. However, Cipriano, university officials and attending physicians have refused to reveal the nature of his illness.

The Lincoln Journal also reported that Cipriano spent the last week in the hospital, but Cipriano was on hand to see Nebraska lose to Missouri, 84-63 Saturday.

## Swimmers drop dual

The University of Minnesota downed UNL in a swim dual Saturday, 64.5-48.5.

Anders Rutqvist was a double winner for the Huskers, setting a Cook Hall record in the 200 freestyle with a 1:41.21, and winning the 500 freestyle in 4:45.87.

Bill Booth won the 200 butterfly in 1:58.18 and Steve Elliott won the one meter dive with a 198.70 score. Nebraska's 400 free relay team of Rutqvist, Will Douglass, Jim Korff and Tim Boyd recorded the third best NU time ever to win in 3:10.85.

## Husker wrestling team takes three duals on Saturday

By Pat Beecham

UNL's wrestling team had little trouble Saturday afternoon as it took three duals from Colorado State, Northern Illinois and Northwest Missouri State at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. The three wins raised Nebraska's dual meet record to 11-2.

"No records have been kept up on wrestling, but this is one of the best starts for Nebraska in a long time," said second-year Coach Bob Fehrs. Fehrs should be given credit for Nebraska's good start, according to several UNL wrestlers.

"We have a lot of respect for Coach Fehrs," said UNL 118-pounder John Shearer. "He knows what he's talking about, helps us out a lot and he's really bringing the program along."

### Wrestles 3 times

Shearer was one of two Nebraska wrestlers to wrestle three times Saturday. He won all three matches and raised his season record to 8-1.

"I'm the only 118-pounder we have right now so I had to wrestle all three times," he explained.

"Most of the wrestlers came back from the semester break in pretty good shape," Fehrs said. "A lot of them worked out at home and we had two-a-day practices when they got back."

Rick Whitehead, UNL's 126-pounder said he had a little trouble though.

"I was going to go up to 134 pounds so I lifted a lot during break to try and put on some weight," Whitehead said. "Then I found out that the other 126-pounder would be ineligible and I had to cut some weight and was a little tired today."

Whitehead still managed to beat two of his opponents and received a forfeit in his last match raising his season record to 11-2.

### Controversial call made

In one of the more controversial matches of the day, Court Vining, Nebraska's 167-pounder, lost when the referee penalized Vining for poor conduct by giving his opponent two points when the match was tied. After an exchange of words with the referee, Vining was ejected from the match and Nebraska lost a team point.

UNL's next dual is against national power Oklahoma State, and although the team has a few injury problems, Fehrs said he thinks the Huskers will fare better this year against Oklahoma State than the rest of the Big Eight will.

Here is how the rest of the Husker wrestlers did Saturday: 118-John Shearer won all three matches; 126-Rick Whitehead won all three matches; 134-Boyard Classen won once; 142-Billy Selmon won twice, William's tied; 150-Al Freeman won once, Mark Newman won once; 158-Judd Norman won twice, Joe Scarpello won once; 167-Vining won once; 177-Jim Kimsey won three times; 190-Eric Hoffman won once; Heavyweight-Daryl Meyer won twice, George Rambour won twice.



Photo by Tom Gessner

University of Nebraska-Lincoln wrestler Judd Norman and Colorado State's Allen Brown lock horns in the first match of the 158-pound division. Norman won the match by a decision.