

Jayhawks live up to reputation in season opener

By Ward W. Triplett III

Although they started two freshmen, got bench strength from another and two sophomores and played without a three-year starter, the Kansas Jayhawks lived up to their reputation Friday night by downing Nebraska women's basketball team 88-56 in the season opener for both teams.

The Jayhawks, who were ranked as high as number five in pre-season polls, outplayed the Huskers from the start, showing strength in all phases of the game before a sparse crowd at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

"We made a lot of 'first game jitters' types of mistakes," Nebraska Coach Colleen Matsuhara said. "We need to show a little bit more patience. We weren't good on the weak side rebounding or boxing out, as they got a lot of second and third efforts they shouldn't have."

Nebraska's Kathy Hagerstrom, who finished with 15 points and nine rebounds, led a short-lived Nebraska comeback at the beginning of the second half, but Kansas continuously came up with steals and rebounds to pad its lead.

"I think Nebraska is a very good team," Kansas Coach Marian Washington said. "When we were able to use our quickness to force more turnovers, we were able to control the game."

Claxton, a 6-0 freshman from New Haven, Conn., provided Kansas with offside help for Woodard, who goes into this year as a three time All-American. Both scored

23 points and pulled down 25 rebounds between them. Mary Myers, another freshman, who was also a Parade All-American with Claxton, scored seven points.

"They did a fine job," Washington said. "This was the first game for a lot of our players and they all did very well."

Citing what she called great depth, Claxton's play lessened the effect of three-year starter Shebra LaGrant's momentary loss because of a bruised knee.

"The more she was into the game, the better she got,"

Washington said of Claxton.

One of the few Nebraska highlights, Matsuhara said, was the play of some first year players of her own, namely Susie Wickham, who had nine points, and starter Kelli Benson, who had 12, all in the second half.

"I also thought Donna Unwin did an excellent job for us defensively," Matsuhara said. Unwin had the task of covering Woodard, who is also the leading candidate for this year's Wade trophy, given to the best player in the nation.

UNL gymnasts win Windy City Invitational

The Nebraska gymnastics team captured the championship at the Windy City Invitational in Chicago Saturday.

Jim Hartung won the all-around competition with a score of 112.20 to lead the Huskers to the title. Teammates Jim Mikus and Scott Johnson were second and fourth with scores of 108.65 and 108.10, respectively. Brian Babcock of Southern Illinois was third at 108.50.

Nebraska was without number two competitor Phil

Cahoy, who was involved in an international meet in China the past week.

Nebraska's winning score was 538.4. Iowa State and Oklahoma were second and third with totals of 537.4 and 535.9, respectively. Southern Illinois was fourth with 515.95 points, followed by Minnesota with 503.4.

Individual winners for Nebraska were Hartung on pommel horse, Mikus in vaulting, Johnson on parallel bars and Steve Elliott in floor exercise.

Ticket policy for bowl game is announced

The UNL Athletic Department has announced its ticket policy for the upcoming bowl game.

Tickets for the Sun Bowl game will be \$12 each. If the Huskers should get the Orange Bowl bid, tickets will cost \$15. Nebraska will go to Miami only if Oklahoma State upsets Oklahoma this week.

University students and staff will receive top priority for the tickets, followed by major contributors, season ticket holders, travel agencies and alumni.

Sports Information Director Don Bryant said that fans who have already sent in a written request need not apply again.

The Sun Bowl has allotted 5,000 tickets for the Big Eight school involved while the Orange Bowl has 12,500 tickets reserved for the conference host.

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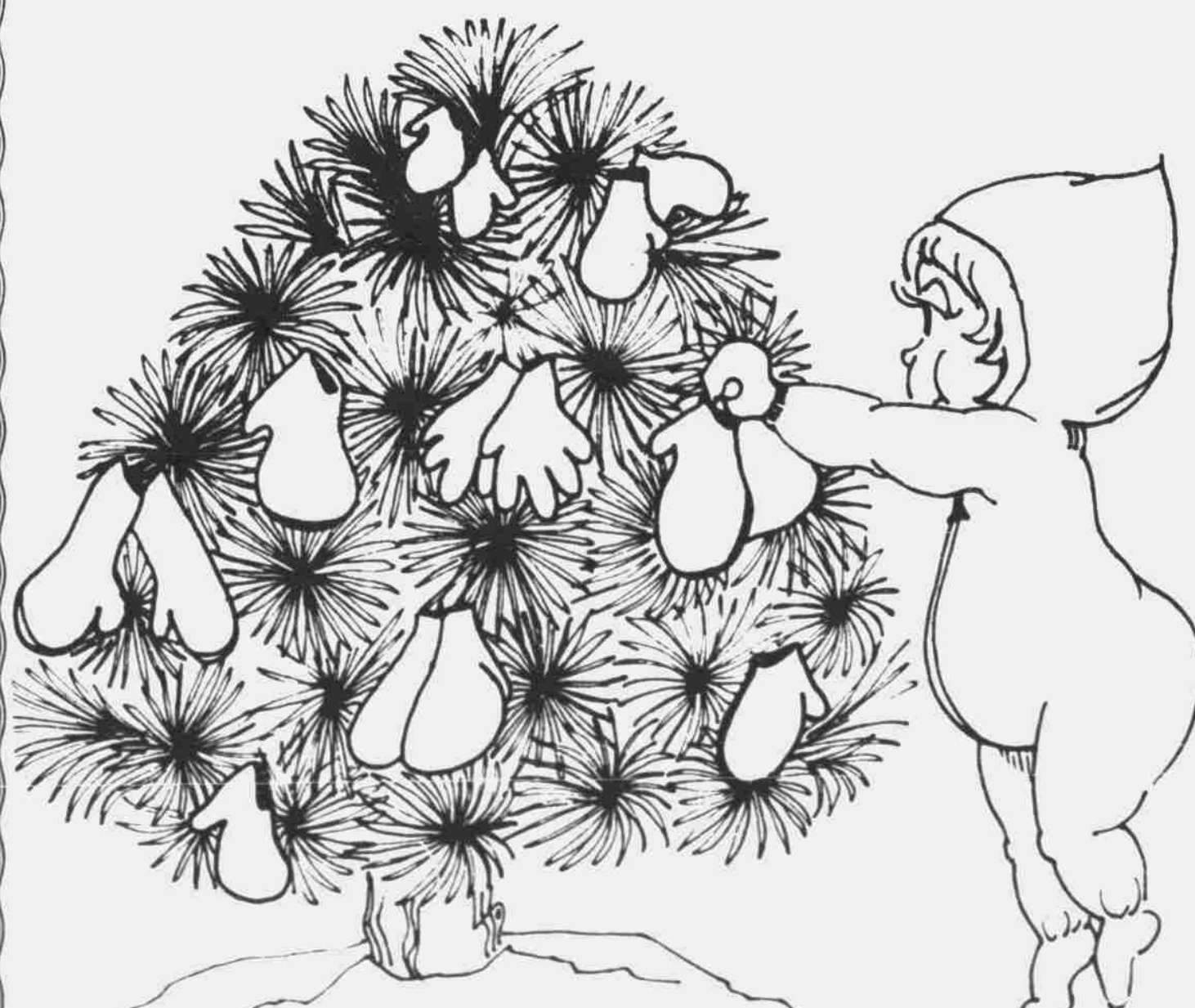



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