

sports

Huskers give Missouri a lesson in ball handling

By Bob Asmussen and Bill Dunbar

Nebraska showed Missouri how to win with basic fundamentals Saturday at the Bob Devaney Sports Center en route to a 66-53 upset against the Tigers. No one was more convinced of this than Missouri Coach Norm Stewart.

"Nebraska gave us some lessons in ball handling and fundamentals," he said.

"We played the best basketball we've played all year in those final seven minutes," Nebraska Coach Moe Iba said. "We knew we had to play smart basketball to beat Missouri and we did play smart basketball."

Both teams struggled at the beginning of the game with the Huskers' first points coming at 16:45 on a layup by Andre

Smith.

Nebraska received a boost at 10:45 of the first half when Missouri center Steve Stipanovich picked up his third foul.

"We were fortunate to get Stipanovich in foul trouble early," Iba said. "Missouri had to bring in (Carl) Amos who hasn't played much and that really helped us."

The relative absence of All-Big Eight forward Curtis Berry was a surprise to Iba. Berry played only six minutes and was scoreless.

"Missouri's a very physical team with Berry in there and frankly I don't know why he wasn't playing," Iba said.

The Huskers were sparked in the first half by Greg Downing. Downing scored all

eight of his points before intermission. After intermission, a fired-up Nebraska team came out and added to its lead.

With 13:45 left in the game, Jack Moore hit two free throws to hike the Nebraska lead to 10 points. After that, the Tigers never got closer than six points.

Despite playing with a bruised thigh from the Colorado game, Moore was a catalyst for Nebraska in the second half. He shot 100 percent from both the field and free-throw line to chip in 11 second half points.

Iba said he was extremely happy with Moore's play especially after two lackluster performances against Oklahoma and Colorado.

"Jack played with pain tonight. I didn't know how he'd hold up, but he held up well," Iba said.

Nebraska was led by Smith with 23 points and Moore with 20. Missouri guard Jon Sundvold led the Tigers with 16.

The Huskers built a 33-24 rebound edge against a taller Missouri team. Smith and Downing led the Huskers rebounders with eight each while Jerry Shoecraft chipped in five.

Shoecraft played more against Missouri than any other game this year.

"Jerry has played well in practice lately and I knew he wouldn't take bad shots," Iba said.

The game left Nebraska and Missouri with 2-2 marks in the Big Eight and tied for third in conference standings. The Huskers face Iowa State at Ames Wednesday night and will return home Saturday afternoon for a regionally televised game with 20th-rated Kansas.

Husker swimmers hopeful despite first loss of season

By Deb McGinn

Missouri handed the Nebraska men's swimming team its first loss of the season Saturday at the Bob Devaney Sports Center, 57-56. But according to diver Scott Hinrichs, the team still has its sights set on the Big Eight championship.

"We worked right through this meet, looking ahead (to the conference meet)," he said.

Husker freshman Matt Goodrich echoed Hinrichs' feelings.

"We've done a lot of quality work this week which was tiring," Goodrich said. "As a result, our times may have been a little slower than last week's."

"Missouri is more dual-oriented than we are. They don't improve as much as we do at the Big Eight meet, though," he added.

According to diver Steve Elliott, coming off a difficult meet last week (the Nebraska Invitational) may have caused some of the lower scores against the Tigers.

Event winners for UNL included Mike Hayhurst in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of :21.64, Matt Rye in the 200-yard individual medley at 1:56.76 and the 200-yard breaststroke at 2:11.71.

David Welchel won the 200-yard backstroke in 1:58.51, Dave Keane won the three-meter diving event with 318.40, and Hinrichs scored a 306.8 to win the one-meter diving event.

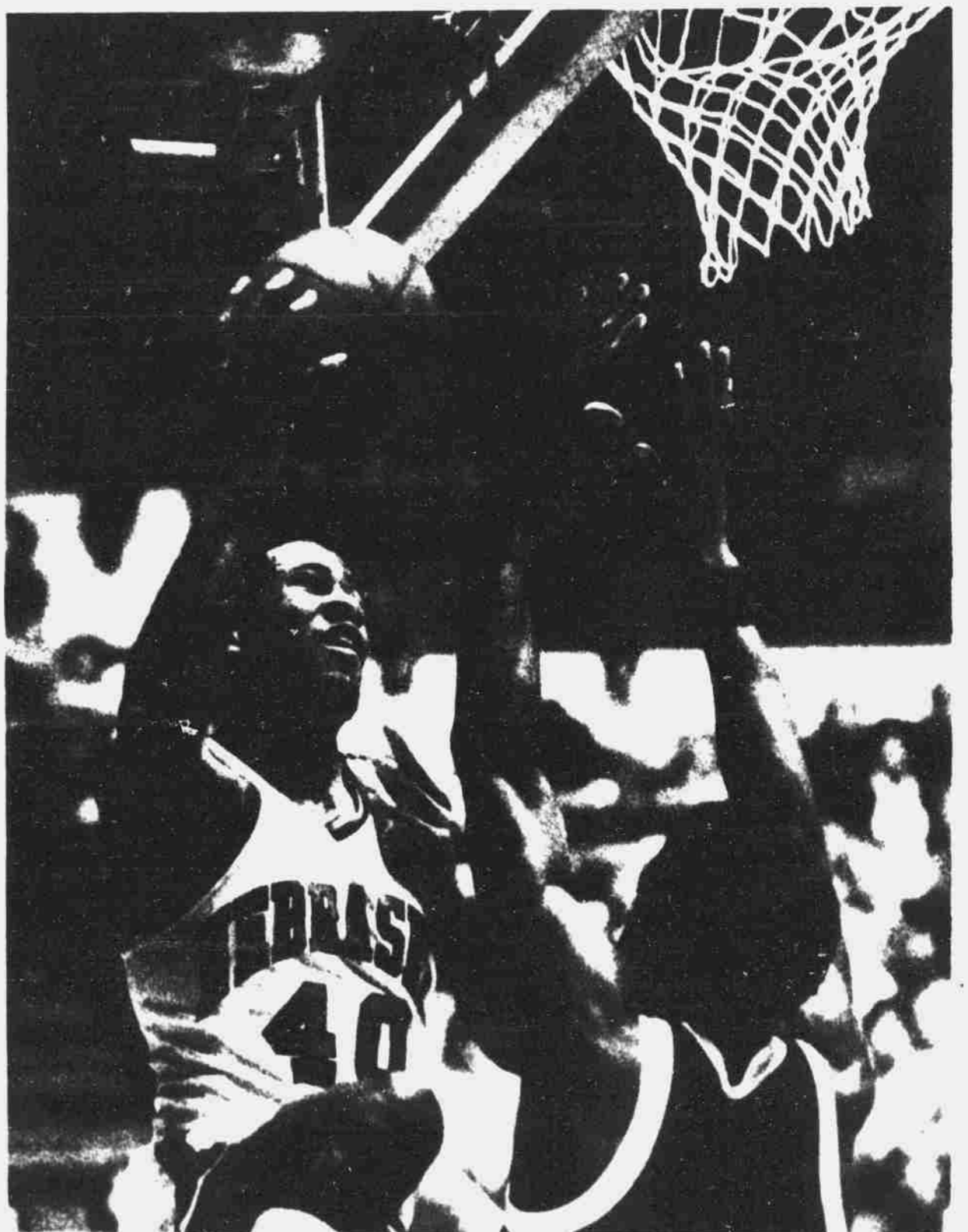


Photo by Jon Natvig

Nebraska's Andre Smith (40) goes in for a lay-up against Missouri's Mike Foster (32). UNL won the game, 66-53.

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