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sports



Photo by Mitch Hrdlicka

Todd Chambers (42) applies defensive pressure to Nebraska's Mike Naderer (10). The Huskers defeated the Sooners, 90-63, Saturday night at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

NU's sharp shooters crumble old scoring high, OU defense

By Pat Clark and Jeff Goodwin

Led by Andre Smith's 25 points, the Nebraska Cornhuskers defeated the Oklahoma Sooners 90-63 Saturday night. The win enabled the Huskers to tie Kansas and Kansas State for second place in the Big Eight.

Nebraska dominated the game from the start, jumping out to an early lead and building it steadily throughout the first half. With nine minutes gone the Huskers held a 13-point lead. By halftime they had built a 42-22 lead.

Nebraska'a defense shut down the Sooners completely in the first half, forcing 13 turnovers and holding the Sooners to a shooting percentage of only 32.2.

"Oklahoma didn't shoot the ball as well as they can shoot it," said Husker Coach Moe Iba. Iba said the Huskers' quick start was an important factor.

"We wanted to make sure we got ahead of them early on."

Oklahoma used a variety of defenses, employing a 1-3-1, 2-3 and 3-2 zones, but none worked. The Huskers shot 54.8 percent from the field in the first half.

"Oklahoma has the type of defense that's going to let you have some shots," Iba said. "The main thing you've got to do is hit them. We were able to do that tonight."

Nebraska started the second half just as they had finished the first, outscoring Oklahoma 10 to three in the first four minutes. That killed whatever hopes Oklahoma may have had of staging a comeback. Not even Buster Rhymes could have helped the Sooners on this night.

The Huskers led in the second half by as many as 32 points while en route to their highest score of the season. The previous high was 84 against Sonoma State.

Andre Smith, in addition to his 25 points, also pulled down eight rebounds as the Huskers out-rebounded the taller Sooners by six. Other Huskers in double figures were Jack Moore with 12 points and Kenny Walton with 16. Mike Naderer, although scoring only seven points, did a superb defensive job on Chuck Barnett, the conference's leading scorer with more than 19 points a game. Barnett was held to only six points.

The win raised the Huskers' record for the year to 15-11 overall and 9-5 in the conference. The Sooners dropped to 9-17 overall and 4-10 in the conference.

The Huskers will play Colorado in the first round of the Big Eight tournament Tuesday night at the Bob Devenay Sports Center. The Huskers and Colorado split their series this year, with each team winning on the road. Other first round games will be Oklahoma at Kansas State, Iowa State at Missouri and Oklahoma State at Kansas.



Final Basketball Standings

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Women set records; win indoor championship

By Cindy Gardner

Merlene Ottev ran the 300-vard dash in :33.11 Saturday, again breaking her own world record, and led Nebraska to its second consecutive Big Eight indoor championship at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Ottey's world mark was only one of the many highlights for Coach Gary Pepin's crew Saturday as it successfully defended its indoor title. Nebraska out distanced second-place Oklahoma 142 to 126. Kansas finished third with 76.

"We were worried about Oklahoma the whole time," Pepin said after the meet. "They didn't sneak up behind us, they earned their way up there. They have a very fine team.

After Friday's competition, Nebraska led the field with 18 team points and 10 qualifiers for Saturday's final events. In the two finals Friday evening, Oklahoma's distance medley squad set a new Big Eight record with a time of 11:45.75. The Husker quartet finished fourth in the event. In the long jump, Kansas University's Tudie McKnight took the honors with a jump of 19-3½. Sharon Burrill was second at 19-12.

Qualifying relay

Ottey, Cheryl Zajic, Julie Seaton and Normalee Murray started things off right for the Huskers on Saturday with a national qualifying performance of 1:39.0 in the 4 x 220 relay. Ottey came back 45 minutes later to tie her own Big Eight and Sports Center record of :6.80 in the 60-

Women's basketball wins one out of two

The Neoraska women's basketball team split its wins and losses against the weekend in Texas. The Huskers defeated Texas A & M Friday night, 71-64, but lost to Texas University 95-63 Saturday.

The Huskers led through most of the game against Texas A & M but the Aggies took a 57-55 lead with 6:13 remaining in the game.

Kathy Hagerstrom then connected on both ends of a one-and-one and Donna Unwin put in two free throws, the second with 1:56 remaining, to give UNL the lead for good, 65-62.

Janet Smith led the Huskers on the boards with 18 rebounds. Hagerstrom and Smith led scoring with 16 points each, followed by Ami Beiriger with 14.

The Huskers were plagued with turnovers against Texas and were never really in the game. Whatever hopes Nebraska had of winning faded in the second half when the Longhorns scored 12 points and took an 87-56 lead.

Smith pulled down 14 rebounds to again lead Nebraska on the boards. Scoring leaders were Hagerstrom with 14, Smith with 12 and Susan Wickham with 10.

yard dash. Murray finished third in the race with a time of :7.07. Oklahoma's Felicia Moore was second.

The Sooner's Kellie Cathey joined Ottey as the only other double winner on the track. After running a national qualifying time of 4:47.50 in the mile run, Cathey wowed the fans with a Big Eight and Sports Center record performance of 15:48.16 in the three-mile run.

In what was one of the day's most exciting races, Nebraska's mile relay team edged second-place Oklahoma in a Big Eight and sports center record time of 3:44.8. After a strong third leg by Ottey, Murray did battle with OU's Annette Campbell. The two ran nearly neck-and-neck until the last curve when Murray began to pull ahead.

Pepin said he likes to run Murray on the fourth leg of the relay.

Important event

"To me, the mile relay is one of the most important events in track," Pepin said. "It's exciting to have a tradition in the event. By running Normalee on the fourth leg we hope to give her more confidence and take a little pressure off of Merlene. Every time she (Merlene) goes out there she's expected to win."

In field events, Burrill set a new Big Eight record with a leap of 6-0 in the high jump. Oklahoma's Cecil Hansen broke the Big Eight and sports center shot put records with a throw of 51-10⁴. Karen Woods of Nebraska finished second with a national qualifying toss of 46-3¹/₄.

Two Huskers met the national qualifying standard in the pentathalon. Seybold won the event with a Big Eight record score of 3,826. Kindig finished in third place with a score of 3,766. Kansas State's Kim Hagger was the second-place finisher. Christy Lee of Nebraska finished sixth.

The Huskers' Essington finished second to Iowa State's Diane Vetter in the 1000-yard run. Essington's time of 2:32.03 qualifies her for nationals. UNL's Lisa Kramer placed sixth in the race. Essington also placed fifth in the 440-yard dash.

Other UNL place winners included Pam Schubarth who finished third in the 880-yard run, Cheryl Zajic who was fourth in the 60-yard hurdles and Seaton who placed third in the 600-yard run.

Murray placed second to Ottey in the 300-yard dash. Murray ran a personal best and national qualifying time of :34.70.

Men's track finishes close second

By Bob Asmussen

The Kansas men's track team successfully defended its Big Eight Indoor Championship Friday and Saturday at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. The Kansas victory came as a surprise to no one. What was a surprise, however, was the performance of the Nebraska Cornhuskers. Nebraska finished a surprisingly close second.

"The credit was more towards the excellence of Nebraska's performance than towards us doing poorly," Kansas Coach Bob Timmons said. "I was surpried they did as well as they did. They gave us a real scare."

Final totals in the meet were Kansas with 98, Nebraska with 86, Kansas State 68, Iowa State 63, Oklahoma State 62. Missouri 55, and Oklahoma and Colorado with 47 points each.

Deon Hogan of Kansas broke the World Record in the 440-yard dash with a time of 47.20. Hogan, a junior from Detroit, said he was confident he would do well.

"I was pretty well in control the whole way," he said. "The only record I was thinking about was the fieldhouse record."

Another outstanding performance was turned in by Brian Dunnigan who won the mile with a clocking of 4:04.84, setting a Nebraska College record. Dunnigan has now qualified for the NCAA Nationals in the mile and the 1,000.

"I thought I had it," Dunnigan said. "After today, the mile is my favorite event."

Nebraska's other individual champion was Randy Brooks who ran the 60-yard high hurdles in :07.35. Brooks expressed the concerns he had before the season.

"At the beginning of the season, I was a little worried about my progress. The last couple weeks I've really been improving," he said.

Other outstanding performances were turned in by Joe Staub who finished third in the shot, Everton Da-Costa who finished second in the 600, Paul Downes who finished second in the 1,000, Jeff Keeler who finished third in the triple jump, and Jon Jones who finished fourth in the long jump.

The pole vault lived up to its pre-meet build-up with Kansas State's Doug Lytle winning it with a leap of 17-3¼". Nebraska's Randy Raymond finished second. Big Eight record holder Mark Newton tied George Buckingham of Kansas for third.

The mile relay was won by Kansas. The Jayhawks Mike Ricks barely edged out Sugar DaCosta to give Kansas the victory.

Kansas State's Ray Bradley defeated his main challengers, Jon Scheetz and Joe Staub in the shot put. Bradley threw it 65-01/2 and still wasn't totally satisfied.

"I really wanted the Big Eight record (65-8)," Bradley said. "I'm pleased to have gone because there are only four that have done hat in the country."

Timmons said the meet keeps getting better.

"This meet is " iting closer every year. We can't expect to walk in e championship without performing our best."