

# Basketball team fires up for game with Wildcats

By Bob Asmussen

With Nebraska having clinched a home court advantage in the first round of the Big Eight tournament the importance of Saturday's game with Kansas State in Manhattan, Kan. is diminished. But the history of the last few games between the two teams should be enough to get the Huskers fired up.

Twice in the last three years the Huskers have been defeated in the Big Eight post-season tournament by the Wildcats. Another motive for the Huskers is that Kansas State defeated them 75-64 earlier this year in Lincoln.

"We've got three new kids playing so we don't bring the past up," Iba said. "I think if we win the game we can get closer to getting an NIT (National Invitational Tournament) bid if we don't win the Big Eight tournament."

The 19-6 Wildcats will have a height advantage over the Huskers. Their front line runs 6-10, 6-7 and 6-7.

"They'll go inside to (Randy) Reed and (Ed) Nealy and (Tyrone) Adams," Iba said.

Kansas State has three starters scoring in double figures led by Reed's 14.7 average. Adams, a 6-6 guard from Chicago, is

second with a 14.6 average. Nealy, a 6-7 forward, is the third Wildcat in double figures with an 11.4 average.

The Wildcats' other two starters are 6-10 center Les Craft and 6-0 guard Tim Jankovich. Of the five Kansas State starters, Craft is the only non-senior. Iba said Jankovich is a player the Huskers have to be aware of.

The Huskers will start Terry Smith at center, Claude Renfro and Ray Collins at forward, and Handy Johnson and Jack Moore at guard.

Kansas State is coming off a victory against the fifth-rated Missouri Tigers Wednesday.

"Anytime you beat a top team on its homecourt, it's going to help you," Iba said of Kansas State's victory. "Kansas State is a ranked team and that will be an incentive for us."

The game is being regionally televised by NBC-TV. It will not be seen in the Lincoln area because of a decision by NBC affiliate KMTV to show the Iowa-Minnesota game.

The Wildcats are 9-4 in league play and have clinched second place. A win against the Huskers will give KSU its sixth 20-win season in the last eight years.

## Sports Shorts

The Nebraska Educational Television Network will present taped coverage of Thursday's Nebraska-UCLA men's gymnastics meet Saturday. The meet will be shown at 3 p.m. over all NETV stations.

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The men's and women's intramural indoor track meet will be Sunday at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Field events will begin at 2 p.m. with running events set for 2:30 p.m.

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The Nebraska baseball team lost its first two games of the season Wednesday afternoon in the Las Vegas Invitational Tournament. Nevada-Las Vegas dropped the Huskers 8-7 and 12-3.

In the first game, Nebraska took a 7-1 lead after a seven-run fifth inning. Nevada-Las Vegas came back with two runs in the

bottom of the fifth and five more in the eighth.

Nebraska took a 3-0 lead in the second game but the Rebels scored two runs in the first inning, nine in the fifth inning and one in the sixth inning. The game was called after seven innings because of darkness.

The Huskers were ranked 10th in the most recent poll issued by *Collegiate Baseball*.

Omaha television station KETV will televise two Big Eight postseason basketball tournament games next weekend from Kansas City.

If Nebraska advances to the semifinals, Channel 7 will televise the Husker game March 5. If Nebraska does not make the semifinals, the 7 p.m. semifinal will be televised. Channel 7 will carry the championship game at 8 p.m. March 6.



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