

# Sports

## Huskers look for comeback in first-round action

By Ward W. Triplett III

Nebraska and Oklahoma will try to rebound from disappointing setbacks when they meet in a first-round post-season Big Eight tournament game at 7:35 tonight in the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

The Cowboys have lost two straight, including a double overtime loss in Stillwater to Oklahoma, 79-74. The Huskers were defeated by Kansas State 67-50 in their Saturday afternoon game in Manhattan.

"It's sometimes tough to come back after losses like that," Nebraska Coach Moe Iba said at a Monday press luncheon, "but we've been doing that all year. Hopefully, we can do it tomorrow night."

Nebraska and OSU finished the season at 7-7 in the conference and 15-11 overall, but Nebraska won the home court advantage in the tournament because of its defeat of Missouri.

The Cowboys are led by 6-8 center Leroy Combs, a senior averaging 12.1

points and 7.2 rebounds per game, and guard Matt Clark, a 6-3 junior averaging 12.2 points per game.

"Oklahoma State is very much like us," Iba said. "They'll play one super game and then don't show anything in the next. You never really know exactly how they'll come out."

If they play up to their ability, it is going to be a difficult game for us," he said.

Iba said he expects both teams to

bounce back from their recent losses in time for tonight's game.

"Since it is the last game of the season for the losing team, you have to expect both teams to be ready for it and give it their best effort," Iba said.

"Oklahoma State is a very explosive team and we've got to make sure we keep them from getting going on us," he said.

The winner of tonight's game will advance to Friday's semifinals at Kemper Arena in Kansas City.

## Regular season B-ball dims excitement of Big Eight play

It seems kind of funny that the only reward Missouri gets for going through the Big Eight basketball season 12-2 is that it gets to play a first-round post-season tournament game at home tonight.

This year, as every year, you hear seven conference coaches telling how the post-season tournament gives their teams a

Besides, anyone who thinks conference basketball wasn't exciting in the past doesn't remember a thing about the Big Eight Christmas tournament. Not only was it exciting, it gave fans a preview of the season to come but it didn't place undue emphasis on a tournament championship. The winner got a trophy and nothing else.

It just doesn't seem fair to have a team go through the conference season with a good record, then have an off night and be forced to sit back and watch someone else represent the conference in the NCAA tournament.

Of course, Missouri is almost assured of an NCAA bid this year even if it doesn't win the tournament, but there have been years when the conference champion wasn't such a recognized national power.

Even worse than the conference champion getting beat out of the playoff is the possibility that it will be represented by a below-par team that could bring embarrassment to the league.

The bottom line is that the league deserves to be represented by a sound, consistent team, not one that happens to have a three-game hot streak.



**Larry Sparks**

chance to redeem themselves, and they're right. But what's the point of playing 14 regular season games?

Having a post-season tournament to decide the NCAA representative is the big thing these days among most of the major college conferences. There seems to be a general agreement that this playoff adds excitement to the season.

That is true in one sense, I suppose, but it also cuts down on the importance of winning a conference championship. It seems like the teams don't go out to win the title anymore. The goal is just to finish in the top four.

## UNL nets win over KSC

UNL's men's tennis team defeated Kearney State College 9-0 last week in their first dual meet of the season.

Results from the singles matches: Ridge Smidt (UNL) defeated Jeff Fredricks (KSC) 6-3, 6-1; Craig Johnson (UNL) defeated Bryon Swanson (KSC) 6-1, 6-1; Jim Carson (UNL) defeated Dave Schulte (KSC) 6-1, 6-0; Dave Schulze (UNL) defeated

Jeff Luke (KSC) 6-3, 7-5; Scott Baker (UNL) defeated Clark Pannier (KSC) 6-2, 6-1; Brian Edwards (UNL) defeated Mike Scheidegger (KSC) 6-1, 4-6, 6-1.

Results from the doubles matches: Smidt-Baker (UNL) defeated Fredricks-Pannier (KSC) 6-2, 6-1; Carson-Johnson (UNL) defeated Luke-Scheidegger 6-2, 6-1; Elsass-White (UNL) defeated Swanson-Schulte (KSC) 6-3, 6-3.

## Intramurals

John Erickson, Chi Phi; Nick Heng, Sigma Phi Epsilon; Tom Pallas, independent; and Boyd Stuhr, Beta Sigma Psi, tied for first place in the men's intramural free-throw shooting contest by making 48 of 50 attempts. Sigma Phi Epsilon won the men's team title with a 182 total.

Susan Penner, Sandoz 9, made 48 or 50 attempts to win the women's champion-

ship and Nancy Gogan, Pound 9, was second with 45. Sandoz 5 won the women's team title. Penner and Mike Meier of Abel 11 combined to win the co-recreational title by making 93 of 100 attempts.

Entires for men's, women's and co-recreational three-on-three intramural basketball tournament are due at 5 p.m. today in the Recreation Office.

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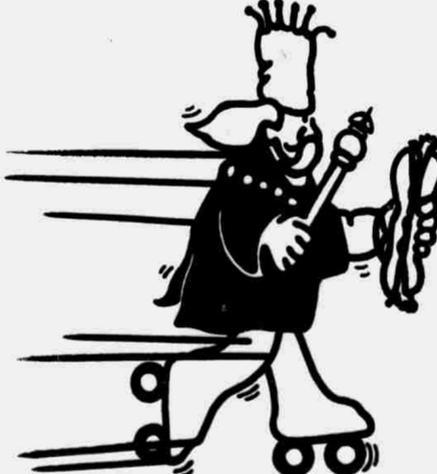
The ride begins June 6th at Lake Ogallala and ends June 12th at Haworth Park in Bellevue. Baggage haul provided and campgrounds reserved for registered cyclists. Registration forms available from local bike shops or by S.A.S.E. to:

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