

Husker women... Dynasty: College basketball's magic 4

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"Pam twisted her ankle on her first vault," Schalk said. "There was some doubt that she would be able to continue. She did a very good job. I was very pleased."

Despite the team's difficulties with the balance beam, Schalk remained confident that the problems could be solved.

Sunday's victory gave Nebraska wins against every team in the Big Eight this season. Schalk believes this gives the team an edge heading into the Big Eight championships.

"I believe it does give an extra edge," she said. "But I was hoping for a bigger advantage."

The team will now compete in an invitational next weekend in Corvallis, Ore., before traveling to Ames, Iowa, the following weekend for the Big Eight championships.

College basketball has seen only four modern dynasties — by modern I mean in the last 25 years — and they are UCLA, Kentucky, Indiana and North Carolina.

The dynasty is the school that does not recruit, but selects. When it calls the blue-chip high school athlete, the phone is always answered. It is usually the school in the state as far as tradition and prestige, the school that is habitually on national television.

Most obvious, of course, is the world created by John Wooden, the Wizard of Westwood, at UCLA. Nobody won more than John Wooden. Starting in 1964, he won 10 NCAA titles in 12 years, a record that will never be

is a Hoosier Hysteria that makes football take a rumble-seat and lights up the moonlight on the Wabash. Bobby Knight's dictatorial style of yesterday is also the envy of every coach who has a fear of administration, parents or ballplayers. Knight is his own man, the master chef of his own restaurant who tells you what to order, cooks the food his way . . . and it's so good the customers keep coming back for more!

Rounding out the magic four are the Tar Heels from Chapel Hill, who have won everything in sight with the dynasty, starting with Frank McGuire when North Carolina was the NCAA Champ in 1957. Now they have broken through the sound barrier under Dean Smith, who made it to the Final Four six times and finally grabbed the brass ring last year.

Now just what makes a dynasty? As I said, that school has to be the school in the state, it has to govern its conference, and it's always the team the other seven or eight schools vote against. It has to come from a basketball state, which all these four do, and it has to be the sport in the school. It also has to get network exposure.

The coach of a dynasty is a power broker inside his own school, and many times in his home state; a guy everybody wants to see run for governor. If he has a basketball camp in the summertime, it's always SRO, and without any big advertising campaign. He has his own TV and radio show, and is a key clinic speaker, a guy his fellow coaches want to hear.

The last, and maybe more important, criterion of a dynasty is that it has to repeat again and again. Kind of like the popularity given to Miller High Lite. The four teams I mentioned — UCLA, Kentucky, Indiana and North Carolina — have won the NCAA Championship 20 times among them; UCLA 10 times, Kentucky 5, Indiana 3, and North Carolina 2. The NCAA is 26 years old, which means these four have won the title more than half the time.

There is one school, in my opinion, that is knocking on the door to join the dynasty club and that's Louisville. All the ingredients are there: Denny Crum has brought the Cardinals out of the shadow of Kentucky, they're almost there, they've come close. But they still don't have the key to the executive washroom yet, because of the Wildcats at Kentucky, who are in the process of building their own Ming dynasty.



Al McGuire

matched. That makes him the Caesar of College Basketball, and Larry Farmer — his disciple, his Marc Anthony — is carrying on today.

The Bruins normally go nine deep with every kid being an all-stater and potential first-round draft choice. They normally win more than half their games during warmups, and their cheerleaders are better known than the winning teams of some major conferences.

Second is the University of Kentucky, which started with "The Baron," Adolph Rupp, who won 880 games in 41 seasons; the dynasty is being continued today by Joe B. Hall. The Wildcats seat 23,000 for every home ballgame at Rupp Arena, and have done more damage to the Southern Conference than Sherman did when he went through Atlanta.

The Wildcats are true thoroughbreds. They have won the NCAA Championship five times, and they run probably the best college basketball program in the nation today. Basketball in Lexington is a way of life, socially oriented, the Park Avenue sport for the in-crowd, and Hall is just one of hundreds of thousands who bleed blue in the commonwealth.

At Indiana, again the baton has been passed, this time from Branch McCracken, who won the national title in 1953, to Bobby Knight, who has won it twice since he took over for McCracken in 1972. Basketball in Indiana

Husker victory...

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"We should have made a run at them at the end of the first half, when they had only two starters in," Johnson said. "When we didn't do it, we had no choice but to do it in the second half."

Clutch free throw shooting helped Nebraska complete its comeback. The Huskers made 12-of-14 charity tosses down the stretch, including two by guard Greg Downing that gave Nebraska a 65-62 lead with 38 seconds left.

Those free throws by Downing followed what was perhaps the game's most controversial play.

Hornacek stripped the ball from Downing following an Iowa State miss, and went in for a layup.

If Hornacek's shot has counted, the Cyclones would have taken a 64-63 lead. Instead, the ISU guard was whistled for a foul, enabling Downing to shoot his free throws.

"It was a late, late call," Iowa State Coach Johnny Orr said. "He (the official) didn't even see it, and called it a second late. But that's the way it goes. There's nothing you can do about it."

F. LEE BAILEY
 schedule to speak
 Thursday, February 24,
 has been
POSTPONED
 due to his work as defense attorney.
 His appearance will be rescheduled
 for later this semester.

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Center Dave Hoppen added two free throws with seven seconds remaining, which put the finishing touches on Nebraska's 16th consecutive victory at home.

"I felt they were both in," Hoppen, who scored a game-high 25 points, said. "When Greg made his free throws, I felt I had to make mine, too."

Harris' uncontested layup for ISU with four seconds left accounted for the final margin.

"We were very fortunate to win the game," Iba said. "I was very happy for the players. I would have felt very bad for them if they had played so hard and we hadn't won."

The Huskers, who are now 16-6 overall, face what is certainly their stiffest challenge of the season this week. After traveling to Norman, Okla., to face the Sooners Thursday, they will host 10th-ranked Missouri Saturday.

Those games could make or break Nebraska's post-season tournament chances, but Johnson is eager to take on the two Big Eight pre-season favorites.

"We've heard a lot about finishing in the top half of the standings," he said "But I want that Big Eight championship ring."

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