

Sports

Huskers beat KSU, 63-56

By Stu Pospisil and Bob Asmussen

Nebraska's balanced scoring tipped the scale in its favor Tuesday night as the Huskers defeated stubborn Kansas State 63-56 before 10,912 at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

The Husker victory, combined with Oklahoma's victory over Missouri, ensures Nebraska hosting a first round game in the Big Eight tournament next Wednesday.

Kansas State fought back from a 26-20 halftime deficit to tie Nebraska at 39 on Ben Mitchell's basket with 10:27 left.

The Wildcats tied the game twice more before Stan Cloudy's jumper with 6:16 left put the Huskers in front to stay.

An Eric Williams layup and a three-point play by David Ponce boosted Nebraska's lead to 50-45 with 3:28 left. Tom Alfaro's basket cut the margin to three, but Nebraska sank 13 of 15 free throws in the final 2:06 to seal the victory.

All five Nebraska starters scored in double figures, led by Ponce's 17 points. Cloudy and Dave Hoppen finished with 11 points apiece, while Ronnie Smith and Williams each added 10.

Nebraska only took 33 shots but made 22 to record a 67 percent shooting percentage from the floor.

The Wildcats used a collapsing 2-3 zone to hold Hoppen to two points in the first half. The Husker center, who

has averaged 20.3 this season, scored six of his points from the line in the final 1:54.

Kansas State did an equally impressive job on Cloudy in the first half, as the Husker forward made one of two shots while picking up three fouls.

Ponce picked up most of the scoring slack early, as he connected on four jumpers from the top of the key and added two free throws.

Ponce said his points "could not have come at a better time. I shot with confidence tonight and made my free throws."

Nebraska broke to a 14-4 lead with 11:16 remaining in the first half. Kansas State's Alfaro helped the Wildcats get back in the game with eight first half points.

Kansas State Coach Jack Hartman said, "We've just got to keep scratching. If we do, things will start falling for us one of these days."

"We did a tremendous job defensively. We played good, but we need a bucket or a rebound here or there and we're just not getting it."

"That's a tough zone to play against," Iba said. "It was one of those things that as you go further in the game, you get better against it."

The Huskers' final regular season game will be Thursday at league champion Oklahoma. Williams said the Sooners' recent antics have shown they're seeking a certain type of image.

"They thrive on being the bad guys of the league," Williams said.



Dave Trouba/Daily Nebraskan

Aggressive defense on the part of Dave Ponce helped stop Kansas State and Jim Roder No. 11 in particular, as Nebraska defeated the Wildcats in their final regular season home game 63-56.



Ted Kauf/Daily Nebraskan

Angie Miller goes up for two of her nine points, but her effort wasn't enough to save Nebraska as the Huskers fell to Kansas State 91-76.

Women Huskers fall to Wildcats

By Bob Asmussen and Stu Pospisil

The Kansas State women's basketball team, looking anything but the nation's 11th-ranked squad early in the second half, regained its poise to defeat Nebraska 91-76 Tuesday night.

The loss dropped Nebraska to 6-7 in the Big Eight and eliminated the Huskers from hosting a first round playoff game. Kansas State now is in a position to tie Missouri for the league title with a victory over the Tigers Saturday.

Kansas State saw a 12-point halftime lead melt away as Nebraska scored 10 consecutive points to open the second half. After two Angie Miller free throws pulled Nebraska to 44-42 with 17:13 left, the Huskers stayed within striking distance for the next eight minutes.

Four consecutive fouls by the Huskers resulted in four Kansas State free throws and a 62-52 lead with 9:05 to go.

Kansas State Coach Lynn Hickey said she didn't panic when Nebraska rallied.

"I was too shocked," she said. "Actually, I had confidence in our kids. Every year we come here and the same thing happens. Tonight I was just trying to find a combination that worked."

Nebraska Coach Kelly Hill said despite the final victory margin for Kansas State, she was pleased with her team's effort.

"Our kids came out and played an inspired game," Hill said, "in the second half, especially. I was proud of their effort."

Kansas State jumped out to a 6-0 lead on two baskets by Tina Dixon and Jennifer Jones. Neb-

raska's first points were scored by Debra Powell.

Following another basket by Jones that made the score 8-2, Nebraska outscored the Wildcats 7-2 to pull within one.

Twice, Nebraska had a chance to gain the lead but was unable to both times. Nebraska never led in the game.

Kansas State scored the next eight points to pull out to an 18-9 lead at 10:13 on a basket by Sue Leiding.

Kansas State started to pull away, grabbing a 38-22 lead with four minutes left in the half on a basket by Sheronda Jenkins.

"We weren't ready tonight," Hickey said. "We drove up this afternoon and I'll never do that again."

Hickey said her Wildcats had trouble getting back on defense. "We didn't get down the floor well," she said. "A lot of times we got into a transition game. We've had trouble with that all year."

"They (Nebraska) were going for the upset. We were just trying to maintain," Hickey said.

Kansas State hit 71 percent of their first half shots. They were led by Dixon's 16 points on 8 of 9 shooting from the field.

Nebraska shot 37 percent from the field in the first half and was led by Miller's nine points.

"They got some cheap, easy baskets off our press in the first half," Hill said. "But later on we did a good job with our press."

Jenkins led the Wildcats for the game with 22 points. Dixon followed with 18. Leiding scored 15 and Angie Bonner added 14.

Stacy Imming led Nebraska with 21 points. Miller scored 18, Cathy Owen scored 16 and Powell added 11.



(Sportsmanship ratings in parentheses) Men's Basketball Playoffs

Lightweights

Sigma Phi Epsilon (3.6) 39, Reds I (3.3) 36
Hosers (4.0) 52, Temporary Heroes (4.2) 22

Faculty and Staff

Aggies (3.6) 28, Animal Science (3.6) 23
Wreck Crew (4.3) 54, Pseud-Psych Squad (4.3) 39
CBA One (3.0) 42, Math (3.3) 20
Hamilton Lunatics (3.3) 54, CBA Two (3.6) 35

Independents A

Shrooms (3.0) 54, Swatta Fratta Ratta (3.6) 32
Norgas (3.6) 76, Running Rebels (3.6) 46
Hosers (4.3) 78, Bloto's Streak (3.3) 45
Sixers (3.4) 50, Brass Rail (2.8) 48

Independents B

Shorter Plugs (3.2) 55, Crete Hosers (2.5) 53
Executioners (3.6) 43, Airballers (2.0) 36

Jammers (3.5) 71, Blackball Express (3.5) 53
Casuals (3.0) 54, Tigers (2.6) 53
High Rizers (4.0) 70, Reds II (3.3) 40
Pearl Harbor Crew (3.7) 64, Hoyas (3.2) 47
Panthers (3.3) 56, C. J. and Boys (3.6) 38
Doc Jocks (4.0) 45, Clash (4.0) 37

Fraternities A

Sigma Phi Epsilon (3.0) 37, Alpha Gamma Rho (4.0) 35
Beta Theta Pi (3.5) 66, Beta Sigma Psi (3.5) 59
Delta Tau Delta (3.3) 68, Beta Sigma Psi (3.5) 59
Delta Tau Delta (3.3) 57, Lambda Chi Alpha (3.3) 44

Fraternities B/C

Delta Tau Delta B (3.5) 55, Sigma Phi Epsilon C (3.5) 51
Delta Sigma Phi B (3.0) 45, Beta Theta Pi C (2.7) 40
Sigma Chi C (3.3) 37, Beta Theta Pi #1 (3.6) 36
FarmHouse B #2 (2.7) 44, Phi Gamma Delta B #1 (2.2) 36

Residence Halls A

Harper Eight (3.5) 49, Schramm Four (3.2) 25
Harper Five (3.2) 73, Burr Three West (3.5) 42

Abel Nine (3.0) 44, Burr Two West (3.0) 39
Schramm Ten (3.7) 41, Abel Eight (2.5) 35

Residence Halls B/C

Cather Three B (3.0) 44, Selleck 7200 B (3.6) 36
Cather Nine B (4.3) 54, Harper Seven B (4.0) 45

Small Fry

Alpha Tau Omega (4.0) 70, Sigma Alpha Epsilon I (3.0) 45
Culture Center (4.0) 46, Sigma Phi Epsilon (3.6) 41
Hosers (3.6) 42, R Street (2.6) 41
Average White Team (4.3) 60, B. C. Boys (3.6) 47

The UNL Rugby Club began official practices Tuesday at Mabel Lee Field.

Practices will be every Tuesday and Thursday at Mabel Lee, or at the mushroom gardens under the north stadium at 5 p.m. New players are welcome.

The club's first scheduled match is against the Elgin River Rats March 17 in Chicago.

Rec Scoreboard