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aymon and Sooner kids may again rule Big Eight

By Rich Cooper Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

Oklahoma has dominated the men's Big Eight Conference basketball race the last two years.

Last year, under fifth-year coach Billy Tubbs, the Sooners won the Big Eight regular season title with ease. They went 13-1 in the Big Eight Conference with their only Big Eight loss to Iowa State.

The Sooner came up short in the post-season tournament, to Kansas in the final game and then to Dayton in the second round of the NCAA tournament.

Assistant coach Mike Anderson said the Sooners are an improved team this year. Waymon Tisdale will obviously be the man to watch on the court. After playing for the United States Olympic team, Anderson said Tisdale is a better player. "Wayman is playing with more confidence, he seems to have a better knowledge of the game, and the experience he had this summer improved his leadership capabilities," Anderson said.

Last year Tisdale was voted Big Eight player of the year for the second time. In just two seasons he has become Oklahoma's leading all time scorer with 1,729 points. He finished second in the balloting for the national player of the year, and should be the top candidate for the award this

But Tisdale is not the only player who could give Sooner opponents a problem.

Tim McCalister, a 6-3 guard from Gary, Indiana, was selected as the Big-Eight-Newcomer of the year. The last six weeks of the season he was hampered by a stress fracture, and in May he received arthroscopic knee surgery. Coach Anderson said he hopes McCalister can comeback from the surgery. Last season McCalister averaged 16.1 points per game and according to Anderson he was the Sooners top defensive player with 61 steals.

Daryl Kenney, a 6-5 sophomore from Oklahoma City, and David Johnson, a 6-7 sophomore from Kansas City, Kansas, are again the Sooner forwards.

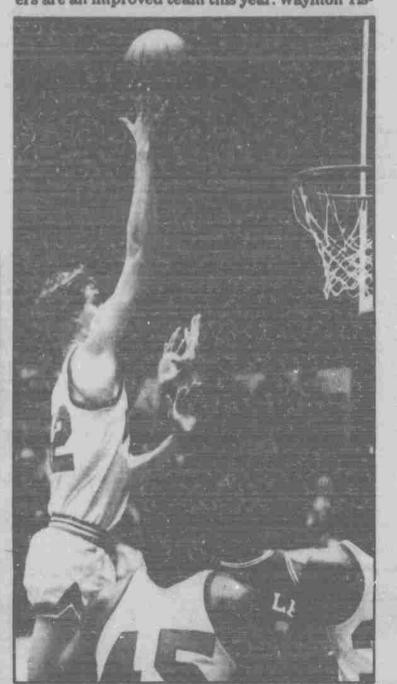
Kennedy last year was voted Big Eight player of the week three times for performances against Missouri, Nebraska and Nevada-Las Vegas. Johnson said Kennedy is one of the better offensive rebounders on the team and that Kennedy passed the double digit mark 11 times last season.

Shawn Clark is a 6-2 junior guard from Brandywine, Maryland, and is the Sooners' best leaper with a 42-inch vertical jump. Last season he scored a career high 37 points against Arizona

The Sooners also signed Anthony Bowie as a junior college transfer from Seminole Junior College in Oklahoma. He was one of the nation's top recruits, with offers from Kentucky, Kansas and Kansas State. Anderson said Bowie will be a positive addition to the team.

Anderson said the conference should be a tough one. The Sooners will get strong challenges

from Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. "Missouri had an excellent recruiting year and when a team like Missouri won the Big Eight Championship four times in a row you cannot count them out," Johnson said. Johnson said Kansas has an excellent coach with Larry Brown and that Nebraska has Dave Hoppen as an excellent center. "It should be an interesting race for the conference championship," Johnson said.



Daily Nebraskan file photo

Nebraska's Dave Hoppen puts up his patented hook shot against Oklahoma last year in Lincoln.

Listed in the WHOS WHO of HAIRSTYLISTS ElToro

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Lincoln and Omaha players head state prep recruit list

By Mike George Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

The basketball season is just around the corner, and college coaches busily are preparing their teams for the season.

While the college teams prepare for the season, coaches will have their scouts look at some of the top basketball players in high schools across the state. A random survey of college coaches across the state revealed this list of the ten hottest prospects. With their names are comments from their coaches:

1. Charlie Burt 6-7, center, Sr., Lincoln Pius. Pius coach Jim Matya: "Burt is an agility player. He has good quickness, and is a good shooting player. Burt is more of a finese player."

2. Mike Bath, Sr., Omaha Westise. Westside coach Tom Hall: "Bath is one of the strongest players I have seen. He has a good shooting touch from the inside, and he is not afraid to shoot from the outside. A solid rebounder for us, works well in the inside."

3. Derrick Helms, 5-7, guard, Sr., Omaha Burke. Burke coach John Johnett: "Helms was the leading scorer for us last sesson. Despite his size he can do it all on the court. He is a great finese player, with a good shooting

Sr., Omaha Benson. Benson coach He uses both hands well. He also Terry Shelsta: "Johnston has over- has great ability in both the outall quickness and agility on the side and the inside. floor. He works well facing the 9. Milton Shobe, basket and is very mobile." He led Sr., Omaha Burke. Burke coach the Metro in scoring last season John Johnette: "Shobe averaged with an average of 23.5 points 16 points for us last season. He last season and 12.5 rebounds.

5. Scott Miller, Sr., Lincoln East. East caoch Paul Forch: "Miller is one of the quickest players around. He shows aggressiveness on the court, has a fine shooting touch. Sr., Elkhorn Mt. Michael. Mt. ing for the open man, and is not afraid to take the open shot."
6. David Moody, 6-7 center, Sr.,

Omaha Central Central coach Jim Martin: "Moody has a good shooting move and touch. Dunks quite frequently, and looks for the dunk. That may be his only vulnerability. He has good coordination. He has good spring, and good vertical ability.

7. Jeff Curtis, 5-10, forward, Sr., Ogallala Coach Terry Kramer said: "Jeff is a very agile player. He looks for the outside shot all of the time. He is very quick. He is a big threat on offense as well as defense. He may not have the exposure that the play- Gdowski, Fremont; Tom Woods, ers do east of us, but he can play Grand Island; Aaron Stauss, with anyone."

8. Scott Sheierman, 6-6, center, damentals. He is probably one of they, Minden.

4. Jerry Johnson, 6-6, center, the best big players in the area.

9. Milton Shobe, 6-2, forward, was also our leading rebounder. He is very aggressive from the inside, but has the capability to be a strong threat from anywhere.

10. Doug Wemhoff, 6-6, center, He works well in the inside look- Michael coach Jim Kane: "Wemhoff averaged 20 points for us last season. He is one of the top five players in the state. He is a good overall athlete. He shoots remarkably well for his size and rebounds well."

Charlie Burt from Lincoln Pius, Derrick Helms from Omaha Burke, and David Moody from Omaha Central have been named to "Street and Smith's" high school basketball honorable mention. In the poll, Milton Shobe from Omaha Burke received the most votes from the coaches.

There were more than seventy nominess in our survey. Here is a list of some of them: Gerry Gothenburg; Bump Novacek, Gothenburg; Jeff Mackintosh, Sr., Sutton. Sutton coach Mark Omaha Creighton Prep; Jeff Bass-Butler: "He is skilled in the fun- ford, Minden; and Shane Mon-