

Daily Nebraskan File Photo

Nebraska's Dave Hoppen waits for a pass while former Oklahoma All-American Wayman Tisdale defends. Since Tisdale moved on to the Indiana Pacers, Hoppen has become the premier player in the Big Eight conference.

Hoppen bounces onto Playboy team

By Kevin Warneke
Staff Reporter

Although the opening game for Nebraska's men's basketball team is still almost three months away, the 6-11 center Dave Hoppen is beginning to feel the pressure.

It's the pressure that goes along with being one of the top centers in college basketball. It's the pressure that goes along with being a projected first round draft choice in the National Basketball Association draft and the pressure of being called a possible All-American selection.

Although he is trying to keep the preseason predictions made about him off his mind, Hoppen said he's glad they were made.

But those preseason projections didn't develop overnight. Hoppen has scored 1,747 points in three seasons as a Husker, averaging 19 points a game. He also has 156 rebounds to top Nebraska's all-time charts. He needs to average about 16 points a game during

his final season to become the Big Eight Conference's No. 2 all-time scorer.

The early departure of Creighton's Benoit Benjamin and Oklahoma's Wayman Tisdale, along with the gra-

duction of other top centers, pushed Hoppen to the top of the collegiate centers.

Even with his credentials, Hoppen said he isn't sure if all the attention he's getting is deserved. There are too many talented centers still playing in college, he said.

Playboy Magazine obviously thinks Hoppen is one of the best. The magazine selected Hoppen as one of the 10 outstanding collegiate basketball players.

Hoppen said it was an honor to be included with the likes of Syracuse's Pearl Washington.

Some of the credit for his success has to go to Tisdale, Hoppen said, because the Oklahoma center brought attention to the Big 8.

Before Tisdale's debut at Oklahoma, Hoppen said, Big Eight games were rarely televised. And then it was only

on regional television, he said. Now Big Eight games appear frequently, he said, sometimes even on national television.

Please see **HOPPEN** on 70


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NU basketball 85-86 schedule

Nov. 18	Czechoslovakia Natl. Team
Nov. 23	Wisconsin-Stout
Nov. 26	Southern Illinois
Nov. 30	Wyoming
Dec. 2	California-Irvine
Dec. 7	Creighton
Dec. 12	Washington State
Dec. 14	Montana State
Dec. 20	Georgia
Dec. 23	Arizona State
Dec. 29-30	Sun Bowl Tournament (Neb., Ala., Tex.-El Paso, Ohio St.)
Jan. 6	Evansville
Jan. 11	Northeast Missouri State
Jan. 15	Kansas
Jan. 18	Missouri
Jan. 22	Oklahoma State
Jan. 25	Iowa State
Jan. 29	Oklahoma
Feb. 1	Colorado
Feb. 5	Kansas State
Feb. 8	Missouri
Feb. 12	Oklahoma State
Feb. 15	Kansas
Feb. 19	Oklahoma
Feb. 22	Iowa State
Feb. 26	Colorado
March 1	Kansas State
March 5-8	Big Eight Tournament

Home games in bold.

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