

Sports

Bluejays end Husker win streak

By Rob White
Staff Reporter

OMAHA — Creighton point guard Tanya Warren got off to a hot start and put Nebraska's women's basketball team into a hole from which it could not recover as the Bluejays held on for a 76-69 victory last night at Omaha's Civic Auditorium.

Warren nailed her first five shots from the field on her way to a 25-point night as the Bluejays ended Nebraska's season-opening winning streak at five games. The Cornhuskers had just entered the nation's top 20 women's basketball poll this week.

"We played some good guards, and she (Warren) is a good guard, but I just don't

think we came out and put enough pressure on her early," Nebraska coach Angela Beck said. "I think she was the key to the game definitely, but we never got untracked defensively the whole game."

Warren also handed out 11 assists while controlling the Bluejays' offense despite playing with an injury. She connected on nine of 15 shots from the field.

"People just don't know how little she's been able to practice and how much pain she is in," Creighton coach Bruce Rasmussen said. "Without her, we aren't a very good team. With her we can be a pretty good team. There were times out there tonight when she was tired and asked to come out, but we just turned and acted like we didn't hear her.

That's how important she is to this team."

A determined Nebraska team hung in the game until the end and closed the margin that had been as much as 12 points during the second half to four points with 23 seconds left in the game.

"They almost came back from having one foot in the grave to win the game," Rasmussen said. "It's a real credit to their team. They were coming off a big win over Texas A&M and they could have folded up the tent when they got behind."

"We don't have great players and we don't pretend we do," Beck said, "but we play to win and I think you saw that tonight."

Behind Warren's shooting, the Bluejays raced out to a 6-0 lead and after trading

baskets until the score was 14-10, Creighton outscored the Huskers 14-4 to take a commanding 28-14 lead and was in control for the rest of the first half.

Nebraska's Maurice Ivy was held to 14 points on seven of 18 shots with six of her points coming in the final two minutes.

"Maurice wanted to do some things offensively that they wouldn't let her do," Beck said. "They had her number and they should, as much as they've played against her."

Amy Stephens kept Nebraska in the game late in the first half by hitting five jumpers and led the Huskers with 18 points. Stephens shot eight of 16 from the field and made two free throws.

Nee says Huskers lack chemistry

By Jim Ballard
Senior Reporter

In his press conference yesterday, Nebraska basketball coach Danny Nee said his team just hasn't gelled yet.

"If I had to sum it up, I don't think Nebraska's chemistry is where it should be. I think that's the key word," Nee said, "and that's the new system, the new coaches, the newness of the whole thing."

'I would like our team to be shooting 50 percent, and I really think we should be shooting 50 percent.'

—Nee

Nee said, however, that he hasn't hit the desperation stage yet.

"We have not hit a wall where we've had problems that we can't improve, and I'm an optimistic person. I'm just aware of our limitations, and I think more of our limitations are mental than physical right now," he said. "Right now our kids aren't thinking, but that will come."

"We're not jumping out of the hatches

and abandoning ship. It's going to get a lot rougher and it's going to be a lot smoother along this road the next 20-some games."

The Huskers' rebounding has pleasantly surprised Nee. In all three Nebraska games, the Huskers have out-rebounded taller opponents.

"One of the things that is real deceiving that pads the rebounding charts, is that we're shooting easy shots, missing and getting the rebound, then shooting again," Nee said. "I'd rather be rebounding less and making shots."

Nee added that because his team has been missing those easy shots, the team shooting percentage has dipped.

"I would like our team to be shooting 50 percent, and I really think we should be shooting 50 percent," Nee said, "but our shot selection has been poor and another thing is that we've been missing too many easy shots."

Nee said point guard Brian Carr could be suffering from a slump. Carr, who averaged more than 18 points a game in Nebraska's first two games, took only three shots and scored three points on a three-pointer late in the game against Creighton.

"I don't think that Brian understands his role. I think he has to be more selfish and look for himself," Nee said. "When he comes around we'll be a better team."

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Tug-of-war today

The UNL Recreation Office's men's, women's and co-rec tug-of-war competition will be today at the Men's Physical Education Building.

No entries are due before the competition. Rosters are limited to 12 participants and must be completed upon arrival at the building.

Competition divisions are: men's, men's 160-pound and under, women's, women's 120-pound and under and co-rec.

Individual intramural champion T-shirts will be awarded to the participants of the first-place team in each class. Trophies will be awarded to the first-place men's unlimited, men's 160-pound, women's and women's 120-pound divisions.

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