

Cornhusker track teams win triangular

By Sara Bauder
Staff Reporter

Sammie Gdowski has said the mile run is not her best event, but she proved Saturday that it isn't exactly her worst either.

Gdowski qualified for the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships by winning the mile run in 4:41.35 minutes during a triangular meet at during a triangular meet at the Bob Devaney Sports Center on Saturday.

Gdowski's performance helped the Nebraska women claim the meet's team title. The Cornhuskers won the meet with 93 points, while Arkansas finished second with 43. Drake was

third with 14.

Nebraska also claimed the title in the men's competition, scoring 81 points. Arkansas finished second with 64 points, while Drake was third with 14.

Although Gdowski said the mile really isn't "her" race, Nebraska coach Gary Pepin said she has the experience and strength to run a variety of distances.

"You'd have to be a pretty solid runner to beat her at almost any distance," Pepin said. "She can even run a good 800 meters, but she improves as the distance is greater."

Gdowski said her goal for the mile

was just to run a good time.

"I had a specific pace in mind and just tried to stick to that," she said. "I wanted to run it in 4:40, but I'll take the 4:41."

Pepin said the 3,000-meter run is an "even better" race for Gdowski.

Gdowski said her next goal is to get a good time in the 3,000.

"I've never run a good time in the 3,000 indoors," she said. "I always do well outdoors, but I want to get a good time inside."

She also won the 1,000-meter run Saturday in 2:49.57.

Gdowski is one of three Husker women who have qualified for the

NCAA championships. High jumper Meredy Porter qualified Saturday with a jump of 6 feet, 3/4 inches, and Ximena Restrepo qualified in the 400 with a time of 53.35.

Restrepo already had qualified for the 400 on Jan. 27.

Nebraska's Kim Walker won the 200 in 24.56 seconds, which was good enough for a provisional national qualifying time. Provisional times are set up so that if not enough competitors reach the actual qualifying times in a given year, there will still be a full slate of competitors at the national meet.

Other Husker champions on the

women's team were Maureen Dunn in the long jump, Anne Brouzet in the shot put, Tranquil Wilson in the 600, Fran tenBensel in the 800 and Katie Fletcher in the 3,000.

Four Husker men set provisional qualifying times. Jacques van Rensburg won the mile in 4:03.56; Tamas Molnar won the 200 in 21.38; Dieudonne Kwizera won the 800 in 1:49.81; and Anthony Adkison won the 55 in 6.26.

The additional men's champions were Jeff Hooper in the shot put, Todd Stanton in the 55-meter hurdles, Jerry Marsce in the 600, and the 1,600 relay team of Ken Waller, Marsce, Keith Logan and Molnar.

Scales proves ability to teams, coaches, himself

By Chris Hopfensperger
Staff Reporter

Clifford Scales had something to prove Saturday against Kansas State.

Scales, who had to match up with pre-season Big Eight Player of the

Year Steve Henson, wanted to prove his ability to, among others, himself. He did just that during Nebraska's 74-71 win against the Wildcats at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.



Scales

"I've been looking forward to this matchup for three years," Scales said. "I'm not sure if I showed it in the past, but I would like to, hopefully, maybe further myself in basketball."

"To do that you have to compete against the best athletes, the best players; the (Anthony) Peelers, the Hensons, the (Kevin) Pritchards, and I felt that until I showed I could do it against them, my work is not done."

Scales proved what he was made of, dishing out five assists and scoring a game- and season-high 25 points, twice his season average, while holding Henson to 14 points and forcing him to commit five turnovers.

"I tried to get my teammates the ball," Scales said, "but as far as defense, it was a one-on-one duel."

Scales said the win -- which was Nebraska's first Big Eight victory of the season -- was a big one.

"It feels real good. By no means was it a national championship, but it was a step in the right direction."

"We're taking it one game at a time, and this shows what we can do," Scales said.

Husker basketball coach Danny Nee praised Scales' performance.

"I thought Clifford Scales really had a hell of a game," Nee said. "I think he came out looking for his game and looking for his offense."

"He was on."

Scales, who averages 12.5 points a game, shot 76 percent from the floor, including 4 of 5 from three-point range.

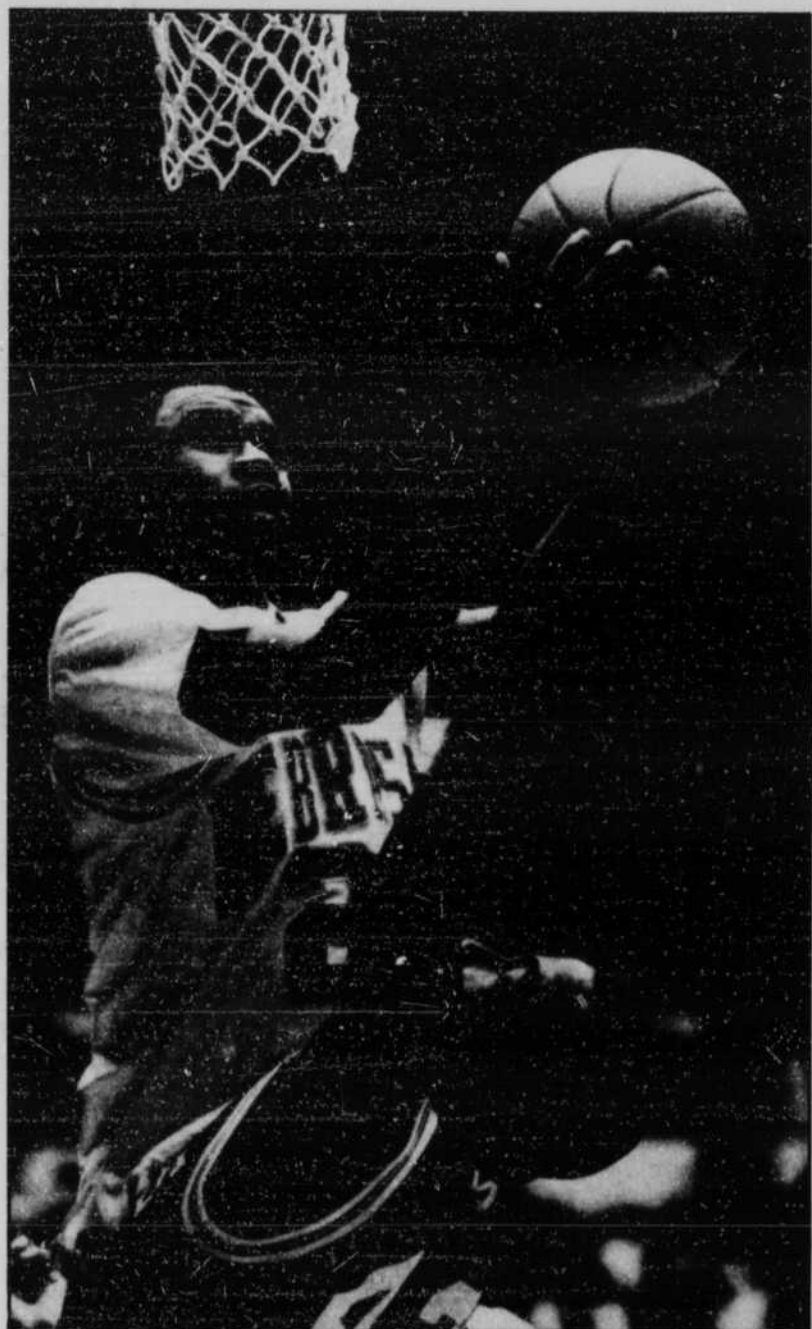
"I don't know," Scales said. "I have no idea (where the three-pointers came from)."

"During halftime Coach Nee was talking about the zone they had, and he said if you reverse the ball enough times the top of the key would be open. I don't know if it was open, but I took it, and fortunately I hit the shots."

Kansas State coach Lon Kruger also was impressed with Scales' performance.

"Scales shot awfully well," Kruger said. "He hit some open jumpers and some guarded jumpers -- he had an outstanding ball game."

The win, which upped the Huskers record to 8-11 overall and 1-5 in the Big Eight, was a needed boost for the Cornhuskers, who now return to the road to play Colorado and No. 1-ranked Missouri.



Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska forward Carl Hayes shoots over Kansas State's Tony Massop.

Lady Buffs down Nebraska, 75-74

By Paul Domeier
Senior Reporter

A long-shot comeback fell one long shot short in the Nebraska women's basketball team's 75-74 loss to Colorado on Saturday afternoon before 1,341 spectators at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Nebraska devoured an 18-point deficit in the last six minutes to close to 75-72. The Cornhuskers then had a chance to tie with a three-point shot with 10 seconds left. Husker coach Angela Beck, however, said that long shot wasn't the team's best option.

Kim Yancey, who has made 13 of the Huskers' 15 three-pointers this season, already had fouled out. Beck put in Sara Offringa, who has hit the other two, just in case the Lady Buffs felt like giving the Husker freshman an open jump shot, but the coach said the plan was to work the ball inside.

"We don't have a three-point shooter," she said. "It would have

been a Hail Mary for us."

Beck said she was hoping for a quick shot and a foul; if that didn't happen, Nebraska would go for the foul again. But the Huskers were slow in getting the ball upcourt, and Sarah Muller's uncontested jumper went in with :03 left. A Colorado player walked out of bounds with the ball to preserve the Lady Buffs' fourth-straight victory over Nebraska.

"I don't think that lost us the game," she said. "Not showing up at 12:30 lost us the game."

Colorado, now 12-9 overall and 5-3 in the Big Eight, jumped to a 13-4 lead in the first six minutes. Nebraska, capped by a steal and short jumper by LeeAnna Hiestand, came back to tie the game, 15-15, but after a Colorado timeout the defending conference champions controlled the half on their way to a 48-30 lead.

Colorado coach Ceal Barry shuttled in 12 players, seven of them fresh-

men, all of whom played physically (56 fouls were called in the game). Two seniors, Annan Wilson and Benita Martin, controlled the Lady Buffs on offense.

Martin led Colorado with 18 points, and Wilson spent most of the day near the ball with 11 points, 10 assists, eight turnovers, seven steals and a couple dives over the press table. Beck had to move Yancey to point guard to run the offense, which kept Yancey from getting open for shots.

The Lady Buffs, who entered the game hitting 64 percent of their free throws compared to 67 percent for the Huskers, gained a huge advantage at the free-throw line. Colorado hit 12 of 12 free throws for the period, while Nebraska missed 10 of 16, including the front end of three one-and-ones.

Ann Halsne, who led Nebraska with 17 points and eight rebounds, said she and her teammates had trouble getting on track partly because of

19 first-half turnovers and poor shooting. Whenever the Huskers could gain momentum, an errant pass or missed free throw swung the game back to the Lady Buffs.

Both teams coasted through the first 14 minutes of the second half. Then, with six minutes left, Nebraska started playing almost flawlessly. For the next five minutes, the Huskers outscored the Lady Buffs, 21-4.

"We decided at about the 10-minute mark we were sick of this," Halsne said.

Halsne scored 16 points in the last five minutes, and Wilson fouled out with 2:36 left. The women's crowd and early arrivals for the men's game started to cheer again.

But the comeback was a long shot, and the game was still a loss for the Huskers, something Beck knew well.

"I think it says a lot to come back the way we did," she said. "Not being able to finish it off hurts."

Huskers end losing streak, post 74-71 win over KSU

By Chuck Green
Senior Reporter

Before Saturday's game against Kansas State, the Nebraska men's basketball team was 0-5 in the Big Eight.

Saturday afternoon, Nebraska guard Clifford Scales decided to change all that...with some help by the rest of the Cornhuskers and a rowdy crowd of 12,274 at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Scales led the Huskers with 25 points, and center Rich King pulled down 10 rebounds as Nebraska beat the Wildcats 74-71 for its first conference win this season.

King and Dapreis Owens each scored 11 points for Nebraska, and Richard van Poelgeest added 10. Nebraska coach Danny Nee said every player contributed in some way to the win.

"We're just very, very excited," Nee said. "We needed this in the worst way, and I was just so pleased with so many guys. It was a team victory, from my standpoint."

But Nee couldn't help singling out Scales' performance.

"I thought Scales was a force today," he said. "I think Clifford just came out looking for his game and his offense. He was attacking the basket. He played great."

The game was nearly a repeat of last year's game against Kansas State in Lincoln, when the Wildcats overcame a large deficit to beat Nebraska.

The Huskers led throughout the game, extending their lead to as much as 14 points. During one first-half stretch, Nebraska outscored Kansas State 19-4.

But the Wildcats chipped away at Nebraska's lead, cutting it to 34-32 with 3:03 remaining in the first half.

But Kansas State never led -- until the second half.

The Wildcats took their first lead

of the game on a three-point jump shot by guard Steve Henson with 3:42 remaining. The shot made the score 65-63.

The teams traded leads until Owens connected on a reverse layup with 35 seconds left, which put the Huskers ahead for good. Carl Hayes sank two free throws to ensure Nebraska's win.

Nee admitted that he was worried when Kansas State took the lead.

"But I just wanted to stay calm and keep encouraging our guys and be positive with them," he said. "I didn't want to let them know how scared I really was."

Kansas State had two seconds left to attempt a three-point shot to tie the game, but the ball fell harmlessly into Scales' hands.

Kruger said Nebraska's early success affected the Wildcats.

"There was a big deficit early, but we fought and got back into it," he said. "We scrambled around and got back into the game, but we didn't do the things we had to do to finish it."

"There were a lot of chances at the end -- it was 63-60 for a long time -- but we couldn't get it down."

Kansas State guard Jean Derouillere led all scorers with 29 points, hitting 10 of 23 from the field -- including two three-point shots -- and 7 of 8 from the free-throw line.

Henson added 14 and Askia Jones scored 10 for the Wildcats, now 12-10 overall and 2-4 in the Big Eight.

Nebraska, 8-11 and 1-5, will play Colorado on Wednesday night in Boulder, Colo. Kansas State will face Missouri on Thursday night in Manhattan, Kan.

Nee said the win will aid the Huskers' confidence through the rest of the season.

"Now you can stop writing about us being 0-5 in the conference," he added, directed at members of the media.

The reporters laughed. Nee didn't.