

Cornhusker basketball women take crash landing in overtime

By Chris Hopfensperger
Senior Reporter

The Nebraska women's basketball team has come back to earth.

The Cornhuskers flew to a season-opening 5-1 record, their best since an 8-1 start in 1987, but crash-landed Friday night against Wisconsin.

Wisconsin shot the Huskers down in overtime 80-74 in front of 756 people at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Coach Angela Beck said everything the Huskers tried to do broke down against the Badgers.

Defensively, Nebraska held Wisconsin six points below its average, but that was 20 points more than the Huskers had been allowing.

Beck said that meant the team was going to hit the defensive books for the second time this year.

"You've got to be able to do the little things right," she said. "Were getting back to the basics on defense."

After facing man-to-man defenses in their first games, Beck said, the Huskers' play offensively was stymied by the look of Wisconsin's 2-3 zone defense.

"Their defense didn't work at all," Beck said. "It didn't have to work."

Wisconsin coach Mary Murphy said Nebraska tried to figure out how to beat the zone, but the way to beat it is to shoot well.

Beck said she was disappointed with the team's play inside and out. The Huskers shot 33 percent from the field and turned the ball over 33 times.

Murphy said the Badgers' game plan called for shutting down the Huskers' inside game to put more pressure on outside shooters.

The Badgers held the Huskers' leading scorers, Karen Jennings and Ann Halsne, to a combined 18 points, 13 below their average. Murphy said the Badgers knew they had to concen-

trate on the inside because Jennings is a future All-American and, "Halsne's just been kicking people's butts."

Murphy said she was disappointed with the Badgers' 39.5 percent shooting from the line. If Wisconsin would have hit its free throws, "it wouldn't have been a ball game," she said.

But it was as the Huskers battled back from a 12-point, second-half deficit to send the game into overtime, tied at 70.

Jennings led the Huskers back, scoring 11 of her 13 points in two eight-point runs closing the gap from 62-50 to 69-68. She fouled out before the end of regulation, however.

Wisconsin's Robin Threatt, who led all scorers with 21 points, gave the Badgers a 70-68 lead by hitting the second half of a two-shot foul.

But Nebraska tied the game with two free throws from freshman Megan Yedsena, sending the game into overtime.

Wisconsin opened the overtime with a 22-foot bomb by Mynette Clark that putted the Badgers up for good as

they outscored Nebraska 10-4 in the extra period.

Kelly Hubert led the Huskers with 14 points.

Wisconsin 35 35 10 — 80
At Nebraska 34 36 4 — 74
Nebraska—Jennings 5-14 3-5 13, Hubert 5-12 4-7 14, Hesch 3-6 0-1 6, Dahn 5-13 0-0 12, Yedsena 3-9 4-6 10, Halsne 2-9 1-2 5, Yancey 2-11 1-2 5, R. Taylor 0-2 1-2 1, Russell 2-5 0-1 4, S. Taylor 0-0 2-2 2. Totals 27-81 18-30 74.

Wisconsin—Clark 7-20 1-2 18, Lawrence 6-8 3-7 15, Koxelka 4-12 1-6 9, Threatt 8-17 3-7 21, Bauer 1-7 5-9 7, Rademaker 1-5 0-1 2, Leet 3-4 2-4 8, Waterman 0-2 0-0 0, Edmonds 0-1 0-2 0, Landrigan 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 30-76 15-38 80.

3-point goals—Nebraska 2-12 (Dahn 2-4, Yedsena 0-4, Yancey 0-4), Wisconsin 5-18 (Clark 3-11, Threatt 2-5, Bauer 0-1, Rademaker 0-1). **Rebounds**—Nebraska 58 (Hubert 23), Wisconsin 65 (Koxelka 15). **Assists**—Nebraska 21 (Yedsena 10), Wisconsin 23 (Bauer 14). **Turnovers**—Nebraska 33 (Jennings 8), Wisconsin 33 (Bauer 8). **Total fouls** (dq)—Nebraska 30 (Halsne, Jennings), Wisconsin 24. A—1,437.

Huskers

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Husker ran away from Creighton, 97-63.

"I thought a lot carried over," Nebraska coach Danny Nee said. "That intangible, that hard-nosedness, that determination to get after it."

Toledo coach Jay Eck agreed. "It was a video replay tonight," Eck said. "They might have played better."

Forward Beau Reid said the Huskers might have been a bit down and probably wouldn't have performed as well if were not for Toledo's attitude coming in.

"Personally, I was having a tough time getting up for the game," Reid said. "(But) they came in here and started demanding stuff. They were upset that they didn't have a locker room and they made it real clear that they were real cocky and confident and thought they should win in here."

The Huskers brought them down to size, with size.

"I just think size and strength is the bottom line on the boxes," Nee said.

Four Nebraska starters were as

tall as or taller than Toledo's 6-foot, 8 center, J.C. Harris.

The Huskers' big guys — forwards Dapreis Owens (6-8), and Tony Farmer (6-9) and center Rich King (7-2) — combined for 36 points on 94 percent shooting.

"Dapreis and myself and Rich and rest of the big men were beating them up and down the court," Farmer said.

Toledo 31 37 — 68
At Nebraska 54 51 — 105

Toledo—Martin 1-3 0-0 2, Best 5-17 0-0 11, Harris 3-12 3-5 11, Riley 3-11 0-9, Wade 5-11 4-6 14, Sutters 3-7 4-10 10, Righetto 1-3 1-3 4, Murphree 1-3 1-2 4, Heck 0-0 0-2 0, Dallas 1-1 0-0 2, Jordan 0-1 0-0 0, Williams 0-0 1-2 1. Totals 23-69 14-30 68.

Nebraska—Owens 5-5 4-4 14, Hayes 5-11 1-6 11, King 6-7 0-0 12, Scales 2-7 2-2 7, Reid 5-11 3-4 14, Farmer 4-4 2-3 10, Moody 3-5 1-2 7, Piatkowski 5-12 9-10 21, Chubick 0-0 3-4 3, Cresswell 2-3 0-6, Lively 0-0 0-0 0, Hoffman 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 37-66 25-35 105.

3-point goals—Toledo 8-21 (Riley 3-10, Harris 2-5, Righetto 1-2, Murphree 1-2, Best 1-1, Wade 0-1), Nebraska 6-15 (Piatkowski 2-3, Cresswell 2-3, Reid 1-5, Scales 1-2, Hayes 0-1, Hoffman 0-1). **Rebounds**—Toledo 38 (Harris 9), Nebraska 52 (Reid 12). **Assists**—Toledo 12 (Wade 6), Nebraska 27 (Reid 8). **Turnovers**—Toledo 23 (Wade 6), Nebraska 22 (King 4). **Total fouls**—Toledo 24, Nebraska 24. **Technical fouls**—Toledo bench. A—10,102.

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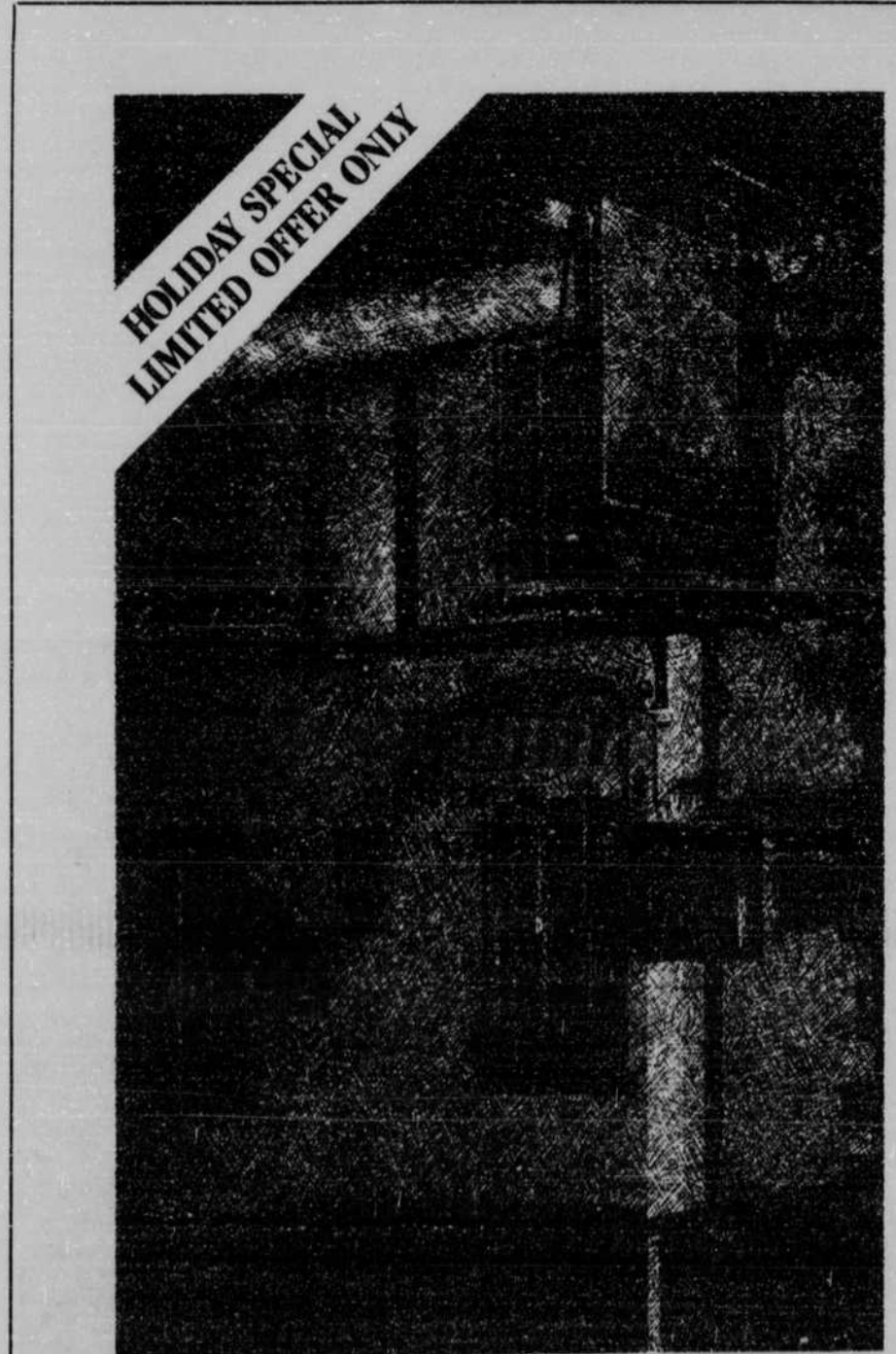
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