

Nee says Huskers are better than ever

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — If this were last year, or the year before, Nebraska men's basketball coach Danny Nee would have been shocked by a victory over Oklahoma. Not this year.

"Nebraska's better," Nee said. "I just think Nebraska's a lot better than we've ever been."

The 14th-ranked Cornhuskers proved it Saturday night by whipping No. 13 Oklahoma, 111-99. It was Nebraska's first victory over the Sooners in 10 tries and its first in Norman since 1981.

The bigger, quicker Huskers took a 25-8 lead in the first 6 1/2 minutes and never allowed Oklahoma to get

closer than seven after that. Nebraska led by as many as 22 and set a school-record for most points in a Big Eight game.

"I would say if they played like that in the NCAA tournament, I could see them going a awfully long way," Oklahoma coach Billy Tubbs said.

Six players scored early as the Huskers (17-2, 3-1 in the Big Eight) grabbed the big lead, and a school-record eight players wound up scoring in double figures.

Tony Farmer, who led Nebraska with 22 points and 12 rebounds, set the tone on the first basket of the night by going down the lane and dunking over a Sooner player. Farmer was

called for a foul, but the play typified the way Nebraska went about things all night.

"This was a great team effort," Nee said. "I thought our defense was solid, we rebounded, we attacked the basket, we handled their pressure."

And Oklahoma didn't. Nebraska shot 57 percent to Oklahoma's 41 percent. The Huskers had a 44-36 rebounding edge and played well enough that 25 turnovers weren't a factor.

Both teams were coming off tough losses. Nebraska lost by 17 points Tuesday night at Colorado. That stopped a 14-game winning streak and had some people wondering about

the Huskers.

Oklahoma (14-5, 3-2) also lost Tuesday night, losing Southwestern Louisiana, 103-101.

"We were very concerned because Oklahoma was coming off a loss," Nee said. "I have tremendous respect for Billy Tubbs and I know his kids always play hard. And playing here, they're always going to be well coached, play defense, score and be aggressive."

"We were just very fortunate to catch them the way we caught them. . . Everything clicked for us and went into place."

Tubbs said his team wasn't flail, as it was against Southwestern Louisi-

ana. It simply wasn't good enough to win.

"There's really not much for me to say other than I thought Nebraska played as good as I've ever seen anybody play in this arena," he said. "They beat us in every phase of the game."

Nebraska picked up its second conference road victory; the Huskers are the only team to win a Big Eight road game. Nee refused to say that his team had the upper hand in the conference race, however.

"We're not in command of anything, guys," he said. "I just feel we're

See BETTER on 8



Michelle Paulman/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska freshman Shelley Pendley concentrates on the vault Sunday. Pendley scored 9.15 on the event and 36.85 overall.

Uneven bar event proves to be Tigers' downfall

By Erik Unger
Staff Reporter

Nebraska coach Rick Walton anticipated the turning point in the women's gymnastics meet Sunday, and the Huskers had 45.6, but not the result.

Walton said the uneven bars would be the weakest event for the Cornhuskers because of injuries and inexperience, but the bars proved to be Missouri's downfall instead.

Missouri scored 44.35 points in the event, and the Huskers had 45.6. Nebraska opened up a two-point lead in the vault and bars and went on to win with 185.25 points to Missouri's 182.65 at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Although Walton said he was happy with the victory, he added that the Huskers would have to increase the

difficulty of their routines to get to the mid-190s and be competitive in the bigger meets.

Walton said the team's performance was better than last week's and that it would only continue to improve. He said his gymnasts hit their routines better and cut down on mistakes.

Sophomores Shane Foster and CeCe Ocel returned from injuries to compete in three and four events, respectively.

Nebraska was led by all-around winner Lisa McCrady with 38.15 and freshman all-arounder Debbi Bryan, who placed third with 37.2.

The Cornhuskers handed the Tigers, thought to be Nebraska's biggest challenger in the Big Eight, their first loss of the season. Nebraska is 2-0.

Giants keep ball, hold off Buffalo

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — The New York Giants left the Buffalo Bills no time for the no-huddle offense.

Controlling the ball on touchdown drives at the end of the first half and the beginning of the second, the Giants won their second Super Bowl by beating the Bills 20-19 when Scott Norwood missed a 47-yard field goal with 8 seconds left.

The winning points in the closest Super Bowl in history came on Matt Bahr's 21-yard field goal with 7:20 left in the game.

But the game really was won by New York's ball control offense, which

moved the ball 87 yards to a touchdown just before the half to cut a 12-3 deficit to 12-10, then held the ball for nearly 10 minutes at the start of the second half to take a 17-12 lead.

The Giants held the ball for 40:33, leaving the Buffalo offense on the field for only 19:27.

One hero of the game in which the lead changed hands four times was 33-year-old Ottis Anderson, who picked the most important game of his career to notch his first 100-yard game this season — 21 carries for 102 yards. He went in from the 1-yard line for a touchdown to cap the third quar-

ter drive. Anderson was selected the game's most valuable player.

Another hero was Jeff Hostetler, the backup quarterback who directed the New York offense almost impeccably, running his career record to 7-0 as a starter. He completed 20 of 32 for 222 yards and a 14-yard touchdown pass to Stephen Baker.

The Giants held the Bills without a first down on Buffalo's opening possession, only the fourth time in the last 13 games the Bills had been held without a touchdown on their first possession.

NU women run over Oklahoma

By Chris Hopfensperger
Senior Reporter

The Nebraska women's basketball team ran around, past and through Oklahoma's defense Saturday.

They ended up running the Sooners over 95-67.

Nebraska coach Angela Beck said Oklahoma had to pay for the Huskers' 20-point loss to Kansas Wednesday night, and pay they did.

Nebraska grabbed a 17-point lead in the first half and pulled ahead by as many as 26 to blow the Sooners away in front of a season-high crowd of 3,127 at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Guard Meggan Yedsena said the Huskers' offensive output benefited

from stressing defense after Wednesday's loss.

"Our defense is ignited by our offense," Yedsena said. "That's where it all starts."

"When the defense is flat, everything is flat."

The Nebraska defenders threw curves at the Sooners all afternoon, holding Oklahoma to 36 percent shooting from the field, making 12 steals and forcing 25 Sooner turnovers.

That defense, and the presence of the Prime Sports Network, lit a fire under Yedsena.

Yedsena's family watched the game on a satellite dish as the freshman from Mahanoy City, Pa., quietly collected 10 points, five rebounds, five steals and 12 assists, one short of the

school record.

The Huskers, led by sophomore Reuben Jennings' 18 points and nine rebounds, displayed an unusual balance with five players scoring in double figures.

The Sooners scored 27 of their points on three-point goals, but hit only nine of their 22 long-range shots.

Beck said she would like to see a few more three-pointers out of the Huskers, who shot 16 of 23 shots from within 10 feet of the basket.

Nebraska traded baskets with the Sooners for the first 4 1/2 minutes of the game. Leading 13-11, the Huskers went on a 21-6 run that helped them take a 44-27 halftime lead.

See RAN on 8

Injuries fail to stop NU track teams

By John Gardner
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska men's and women's track and field teams used victories in all but seven events to post easy wins at the University of Nebraska Quadrangular at the Bob Devaney Sports Center Saturday.

The Nebraska men won with 100 points, followed by Colorado State with 36 points, Wichita State with 15 and Nebraska Wesleyan with 13. The Nebraska women had 93 points, beating Wichita State with 23, Colorado State with 19 and Nebraska Wesleyan with 18.

Coach Gary Pepin said he was pleased with his teams' performances.

"Just like any meet, there were some good parts and some not so good parts," Pepin said. "But it's early in the season."

The men won 11 of the 15 events without injured sprinters Tamas Molnar and Stephen Golding. Phouphet Singbandith pulled out of the triple jump because of an injured right knee after winning the long jump with a 22-foot, 5-inch jump.

Pepin said none of the injuries were serious. He said he wished Singbandith could have competed to gain some confidence and consistency. Last week at the All-Comers Meet, the freshman had a winning jump of 49-9.

"I was hoping Phouphet could have

consistently jumped 50 feet today," Pepin said. "But his knee was really bothering him, so he scratched."

Senior Jerry Marsee led the Cornhusker men with a victory in the 600-meter dash (1:20.65) and ran a leg on the winning 1,600 relay team.

Sophomore sprinter Travis Grant won the 200 with a time of 21.8, placed second in the 55 with a time of 6.40 and took third in the long jump with a leap of 22-2 1/4.

For the women, Kim Walker captured three of her team's 11 first-place finishes, getting victories in the 55 (6.97), the 200 in a provisional national qualifying time of 24.22 and ran a leg on the winning 1,600 relay team. Freshman Shanelle Porter won the 400 in 55.15 and also competed on the winning 1,600 relay

team.

Next week, Nebraska will play host to another quadrangular with Washington, Rice and Kansas State. In two weeks, the Huskers will compete in the Frank Sevigne Husker Invitational.

Other Nebraska individual winners:

Men: Tyson Smith, high jump, 6-11; Rick Schwiager, 55 hurdles, 7.71; Ken Waller, 400, 48.05; Jeff Hooper, shot putt, 53-9; Anthony Adkison, 55, 6.33; Andrew Mittan, pole vault, 15-8 1/4; Chad Muma, triple jump, 46-2 1/2; 1,600 relay team (Marsee, Mark Jackson, Keith Makell, John Gerber), 3:19.28

Women: Tina Hergott, shot put, 44-8 3/4; Fran Ten Benschel, mile, 4:51.17; Kwani Stewart, 55 hurdles, 8.07; Meredy Porter, high jump, 5-8 1/2; Lisa Graham, 600, 1:33.80; Becky Lund, 3,000, 10:26.77; Joanne Gomez, triple jump, 39-9 3/4; 1,600 relay team (Walker, Porter, Tranquil Wilson, Ximena Restrepo) 3:49.96.

NU swimmers pound Tigers

The members of the Nebraska men's swimming and diving team broke away from their regular events and pounded Missouri on Saturday. The Cornhuskers defeated Mizzou 170-54.

Nebraska coach Cal Bentz said numerous swimmers, swimming in different events, had their best times ever.

"William Campbell, among many, was excellent in all his

Women swim past Missouri

Nebraska women's swimming coach Ray Huppert wanted to give his team members a taste of dual competition, and he got his chance Saturday against Missouri.

The No. 20 Cornhuskers moved their dual record to 5-1 and conference record to 2-0 with the 149-74 thrashing of the Tigers at the Bob Devaney Sports Center Saturday afternoon.

"It was an overall good meet because everyone was well met and our No. 4 and 5 swimmers got some valuable meet experience," Huppert said. "I was pleased, because we swam aggressive considering we were performing tired."

events," Bentz said.

Bentz attributed the wide point spread to a rebuilding Missouri team.

Diving coach Jim Hocking said his team looks like they're back on track, competing officially against one Missouri diver.

"It's really you against you," Hocking said. "Diving is a mental game, so we weren't just competing against Missouri."

— Vicki Burge

Nebraska co-captain Kristin Neuenfeldt said that despite the strong win, the Huskers didn't perform near their potential.

"Our performance could've been stronger, but we're beginning to see what we're capable of doing," Neuenfeldt said. "Our season is almost over, and the big meets are yet to come."

Nebraska won nine of 13 events, but the Huskers had some of their strongest performers competing in exhibition meets to give some other swimmers that experience. Nebraska had exhibition scores that would have won the other four events.

— Benji Greenberg