

Men's Basketball

Probable Starters

Nebraska (26-7)

			PPG	RPG	APG
F	Beau Reid	Sr.	6-8	10.1	4.6
F	Tony Farmer	Jr.	6-9	12.3	7.5
C	Rich King	Sr.	7-2	15.2	7.9
G	Clifford Scales	Sr.	6-2	10.1	3.2
G	Keith Moody	Sr.	5-11	4.9	2.2
F	Carl Hayes	Jr.	6-8	13.5	5.2
G	Eric Piatkowski	Fr.	6-6	11.0	3.7
F	Dapreis Owens	Jr.	6-8	5.8	3.5
F	Bruce Chubick	Fr.	6-7	2.2	1.9

Xavier (21-9)

F	Michael Davenport	Sr.	6-4	14.2	3.6
F	Aaron Williams	So.	6-9	10.2	6.9
C	Brian Grant	Fr.	6-8	11.3	8.4
G	Jamie Gladden	So.	6-0	15.3	3.4
G	Jamal Walker	Sr.	5-11	14.1	3.7
G	Maurice Brantley	So.	6-6	7.1	2.9
F	Erik Edwards	Fr.	6-8	4.3	3.1
G	Colin Parker	Sr.	6-6	3.9	1.1

NCAA tournament veteran Xavier confident facing NU

CINCINNATI (AP) — Xavier's basketball team, preparing for its sixth consecutive trip to the NCAA tournament, is tired of being cast as the David against the Goliaths of college basketball.

After reaching the "Sweet 16" of the tournament last year, the Musketeers consider an underdog role beneath them.

"Since we saw what happened last year, we've said, 'Hey, we can play against anybody,'" senior guard Jamal Walker said.

That's the attitude 14th-seeded Xavier (21-9) is taking into its first-round Midwest Regional matchup against No. 3-seed Nebraska (26-7) today at the Hubert H. Humphrey Metrodome in Minneapolis.

"We know we're going to play a very good team, but we're looking forward to the challenge," said Xavier coach Pete Gillen, who wasn't surprised by his team's seeding.

Nebraska is enjoying the best season in school history and making its

second NCAA appearance. The Cornhuskers are ranked No. 11. They beat 12th-ranked Kansas twice last week. They lost to Missouri 90-82 in the Big Eight championship game Sunday.

Unranked Xavier is impressed but not shaken. The Musketeers beat St. Louis 81-69 Saturday to win the Midwestern Collegiate Conference tournament.

They've won a season-high five consecutive games and nine of their past 11.

"We believe in ourselves," senior guard Michael Davenport said. "(Nebraska) is a tough team, but we're no pushover. We're playing our best basketball of the year right now."

Both teams score a lot of points, but in different manners. The Musketeers look to run; the Cornhuskers pound opponents inside.

"It'll be a contrast in styles between our quickness and fast-breaking against their physical (play), size and strength," Gillen said.

Huskers living a fairy tale

Once upon a time, there was a family of giants called the Huskers living in the Great Flatland.

A dwarf lived with the giants. Snow White and the other Seven Dwarfs kicked him out because, though they could handle a dwarf who was always Grumpy, they couldn't handle one that was Moody.

The giants and the dwarf lived with a Wizard and his Assistant Wizards and his Graduate Assistant Wizard, whatever that is. We know he was a wizard because he wore hideously colorful neckbands, the kind worn only by wizards and weirdos, but we'll give him the benefit of the doubt.

The Huskers were descendants of a great race of giants from the Black Forest.

"Where's that?" "I've been there." Shut up. You have not. It's in Germany.

But these giants couldn't beat a bunch of pixies, let alone other giants. In the annual giant games one year, they went 10-18.

When giants lose a lot, they shrivel up and they hear these ghosts going, "Boooooo," all the time. This happened to the giants. And many people thought the Wizard was a moron.

Part of it was that their leaders didn't really lead. Their leaders were Clifford, er, I mean, the Thief, the Giant o' Giants and the Psycho Thug. Some thought the Psycho Thug was really a machine, the Brutally Effective Arrogant Unit, or BEAU.

"I'm telling what you said, and you'll get your mouth slapped." Shut up. I'll deny it.

Finally, though, the leaders grew



Paul Domeier

up and got ready for their last giant games. Early in the year they fought another group of giants, the Spartans.

"That's Titans." No, it's not, it's Spartans. The battle was close and hard-fought, and finally the Psycho Thug threw a spear that killed all of the Spartans at once.

In fact, they slew 15 of the 16 opponents from outside their region. They beat three giant families from a race called the Overrated Big Ten Conference.

Then they started beating up on the giants that used to pick on them all of the time. They lost to the Mountain Goats of Colorado early in the season, but they beat the Goats later in their home cave.

They beat their archrivals, the Little Redmen of the South, three times. They beat the Kansas Pterodactyls twice.

They lost once in their own cave. Losing in their home cave put a magical curse on the team and Die Huskers couldn't be the best group of giants in their region. In the combined giant games, though, they almost won their region, losing only to the Evil Cheaters of the Southeast.

The Giant o' Giants finally acted like a giant. The Thief always fought hard, the Psycho Thug didn't hurt himself or anyone else. The Youngsters did well. Sco did well. The

Western Transfer did well. The giants didn't need the Southern Transfer to do that well, after all.

All in all they had a wonderful winter, and they magically grew until they were ranked. They weren't shriveled any more, and everywhere they went they heard, "Yeah!" from the ghosts.

They went 26-7 in the giant games, and people from across the land heaped praise on them, asked them to marry their daughters and sent them myrrh, flowers and copies of the Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue. Scribes and bards asked them to share their near-death experiences with the people.

"Shut up. You're making this up." Can it, you sniveling twerp, I am not.

"You're not making this up, you loser. You're talking about the Nebraska basketball team."

Yeah, so? Would you have preferred Goldilocks? You ask for a fairy tale today, that's what you get. The Nebraska basketball team has been the biggest fairy tale around this year.

A story of giants doing well in giant games and killing Pterodactyls makes more sense than a college basketball with largely the same personnel going from 10-18 to 26-7 in one year. Now that's a fairy-tale season.

"So how does the story end?" Well, we don't know. They will play again tonight. That might be The End.

"I know how I want it to end." How's that?

"Happily ever after."

Domeier is a senior news-editorial major and the Daily Nebraskan sports editor.

NU game on TV

OMAHA (AP) — KMTV, Omaha's Channel 3, will televise today's first-round NCAA basketball tournament game between Nebraska and Xavier, General Manager Howard Kennedy announced.

The five-game lineup that CBS Sports will show on its Omaha affiliate station with approximate game times are Oklahoma State vs. New Mexico, 11:20 a.m.; Iowa vs. East Tennessee State, 2:05 p.m.; New Mexico State vs. Creighton, 4 p.m.; Louisiana State vs. Connecticut, 7:10 p.m.; and Nebraska vs. Xavier, 9:40 p.m.

Henderson dislikes A's offer

By The Associated Press Rickey Henderson, the American League's MVP, is unhappy with his four-year, \$12 million contract.

Henderson wants it extended at a higher rate. The Oakland A's offered a solution Wednesday, saying they were willing to shorten the deal, which has three years to go.

"There will be no extension," Oakland general manager Sandy Alderson said. "We see no benefit to the Oakland A's in offering an extension."

There could be benefits to both sides in a shortening of the deal.

Henderson could file for salary arbitration but would lose his no-trade clause, giving the A's the option of moving him to another team.

"I don't want to be traded," Henderson said. "But when your back is up against the wall, you have to do what is right. I'm going to do what is right for Rickey."

"I don't want to go out there with my head messed up," he said. "Sandy and I have a difference of opinion right now. He knows my side. He knows what can happen. He knows I'm not happy."

Fraternity men's basketball B finals set

By Brian Busenbark
Staff Reporter

On a night when temperatures in Lincoln fell below freezing, the Alpha Gamma Rho 'B' basketball team froze the Delta Tau Delta 'B-2' team's offense long enough to get away with a 49-43 victory.

Wednesday night at the Lee & Helene Sapp Recreation Facility, Alpha used a tenacious man-to-man trap defense to jump out to a 13 point lead. Delta failed to convert a field goal until Steven Kirchner's layup with 7:45 left in the first half. In the second half, the Deltas rallied behind a barrage of three-point shots to cut the lead to three with five minutes left in the game.

"Our matchups weren't working as well as they had earlier," Alpha's Roger Gentrep said. "So we decided to switch to a zone and play more aggressive."

The Alpha zone defense halted the Delta comeback, and Gentrep hit 4 of 6 free throws down the stretch.

Gentrep scored 13 points and Mark Thayer added 11 for Alpha, 7-2. Kirchner led the Deltas, who ended the season 7-2, with 17 points.

In the other Fraternity 'B' men's basketball semifinal game, Delta Tau Delta 'B-1' ran past Sigma Alpha Epsilon 'B-1' 86-47. The Deltas used their size advantage to earn a 45-26 rebounding edge over Sigma.

Jason Moxness, Delta's 6-foot-7 center, scored 22 points and pulled down 19 rebounds while Gregg Dahlgren led the Deltas with 25 points.

Delta 'B-1', 9-0, will face Alpha Gamma Rho in the Fraternity 'B' tournament final tonight at the recreation center.

Gentrep said Alpha isn't intimidated by the size of Delta 'B-1' players.

"We've been outsize all season,

so we'll just stick to our defense and count on our three-pointers," he said.

Delta's Moxness has other plans, though.

"If there is a mismatch inside, we'll definitely try to attack it, and from there we'll try to run and gun," he said.

Rec Scoreboard

Results from Tuesday's games.

Men's basketball

Fraternity A

Beta Theta Pi 60, Sigma Alpha Epsilon 58; Sigma Phi Epsilon A1 63, Delta Upsilon 51; Sigma Chi A1 44, Sigma Phi Epsilon A2 32; Alpha Tau Omega A2 85, AgMen 54.

Fraternity B

Alpha Gamma Rho 58, Alpha Tau Omega B2 34; Delta Tau Delta B1 65, Lambda Chi Alpha B2 61; Sigma Alpha Epsilon B2 57, Phi Gamma Delta B2 37; Delta Tau Delta B2 55, Sigma Phi Epsilon B1 50.

Fraternity C

Alpha Gamma Sigma 63, Sigma Chi 49; Delta Upsilon 38, Phi Kappa Psi 35; Farmhouse C2 72, Beta Sigma Psi 41.

Independent A

Dribblers 63, Beer Nuts 54; The Hosers 74, Boneheads 62; Heavy C & the Boyz 66, No Way 44; Burnt Toast 54, Team 3 51.

Liteweight

DAWGS 66, Scramm 2 52; Delta Tau Delta 71, Vanilla Gorillas 55.

Faculty/staff

Pseudopsych Psquad 53, Donut Dunkers 42; Moving Crew 63, Atom Bombers 43; Fire & Ice 63, ECA 50; Chemistry 55, Eulers 35.

Women's basketball

Independent

Volleyballers 69, Nay Crusaders 27; U.N. Nuns 33, Grant/Aurora 29; Your Loss FYI 51, Brew Crew II 34; Holy Hits 44, Musketeers 40.

Residence

Schramm 7 39; Burr 2 East 36.

Sorority

Alpha Omicron Pi by forfeit over Delta Delta Delta; Alpha Delta Pi by forfeit over Gamma Phi Beta; Alpha Xi Delta 52, Delta Gamma 46; Alpha Phi by forfeit over Chi Omega.

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