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**Daily Nebraskan** 

Tuesday, November 26, 1991



## **NU survives USC's Miner threat**

## **By Nick Hytrek** Senior Editor

The Nebraska basketball team's young lineup gained a season's worth of experience as the Cornhuskers pulled off a 93-84 win over highly-touted Southern California Monday night.

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A crowd of 13,620 fans at the Bob Devaney Sports Center watched an inspired Husker team break to a 5-0 lead, which eventually grew to a 19point advantage shortly into the second half, and then withstand a late Trojan charge.

Nebraska Coach Danny Nee said the win was very important to the younger members of his team.

"I think tonight really helped our young players get some confidence," Nee said. "It was a big game, a bigtime crowd, Big Eight competition, and we rose to the level that we had to to find a way to win.

"I don't think we did anything pretty but we found a way to win." Carl Hayes led six Huskers who

scored in double figures. The senior co-captain scored 18 points, including three three-point baskets, and also pulled down a team-high 11 rebounds. Hayes has turned into a quality

leader for the Huskers, Nee said. "We haven't had that (leadership) in a long time," Nee said. "He's keeping his composure. I think Hayes did

a remarkable job.' Hayes said he was just doing what he has to do.

"I'm a senior and I'm one of the leaders," Hayes said. "That's what I'm going to have to do day-in and day-out.

Nebraska also withstood a 43-point performance from USC guard Harold Miner, a player mentioned by many for post-season honors. The 43 points were a Sports Center record for total

points by any player in one game. "It was a quiet 43, if there's any such thing." Nee said. "But he's a magnificent player. We were trying to stop him, but I thought we were guarding him respectable.

Both teams opened the game fir-

Sophomore point guard Jamar Johnson opened the scoring with a turn-around jumper in the lane and Hayes hit the first of his three-pointers from the top of the key for the early 5-0 lead.

See USC on 11

93-84 win Monday night. Piatkowski scored 12 points, one of six Huskers to score in double figures.

Volleyball team to begin early trek to nationals

By John Adkisson

According to the Nebraska volleyball team's calendar, the road to the national championship begins a weekend early.

That weekend will kick off Friday night at Omaha's Civic Auditorium,

Lincoln's oldest Designated

322 South 9th

Drink in

moderation

and don't



nament in nine years. Nebraska Coach Terry Pettit said

the conference tournament is really an extension of the national champifirst weekend in December.

"We're going to prepare for it just like we would prepare for the na-tional championship," Pettit said.

If Nebraska had been as successful in the NCAA tournament as they have been in the Big Eight Tournament, the Cornhuskers already would have a huge collection of national-championship banners.

Since the conference tournament began a four-team format in 1982, Nebraska has run up a 15-1 record, losing only to Oklahoma in 1987.

But Pettit said this year's field, which includes 23-8 and probable NCAA entrant Colorado and 23-7 Kansas, is as strong it has ever been.

"It's a very strong field," Pettit said. "Both Kansas and Colorado have over 20 wins, and Iowa State has had a good year."

Colorado Coach Brad Saindon agreed, and said the tournament field gets stronger every year.

"All of the teams play an exciting brand of volleyball," Saindon said. "I think that the tournament will be as exciting as the regular season."

Last season, the same four teams were in the tournament, with Neonship tournament, which begins the braska taking the crown with victo- got to be motivated coming into the ries over Kansas in the semifinals and Colorado in the final.

> dangerous first-round foe in Iowa State. tournament. The Cyclones beat Missouri in straight games last weekend to clinch the final spot in the tournament over Okla-

"They had to win a critical match, and they did that," Pettit said. "They've played Nebraska close in two three- the two teams meet on Saturday night.



tournament.

Pettit said his team will not worry Pettit said Nebraska will face a about experimentation during the

> "I don't think we'll use any com- -is paramount with us." binations that we haven't used in the past," he said.

game losses this season, said his team would love to have another shot at Nebraska should the two teams meet in the final.

"All of our goals revolve around beating Nebraska," Saindon said. "That

Saindon said having played Nebraska twice before may work as an Saindon, whose Buffaloes have advantage for the Buffaloes should



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Nebraska forward Eric Piatkowski shoots over USC's Phil Glenn during the Cornhuskers'