



Nebraska's Derrick Chandler battles Kansas' Eric Pauley for a rebound in the Cornhuskers' 103-78 loss to the Jayhawks on Saturday in Lawrence, Kan.

KU stifles Nebraska with pressure defense

By Nick Hytrek
Senior Editor

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Just about everything that could go wrong did for the Nebraska men's basketball team Saturday as the Cornhuskers fell to Kansas 103-78.

A crowd of 15,800 people gathered in Allen Fieldhouse to watch the Jayhawks hold the Huskers to 39.7 percent shooting — including only 4 of 18 from three-point range — and force 29 turnovers.

Nebraska coach Danny Nee said it was good Kansas defense and poor long-range shooting for Nebraska that led to the loss.

"I think their pressure defense caused a lot of turnovers for Nebraska, and that's the key to the game," Nee said. "I think that also the poor three-point shooting by Nebraska really killed us because we've got to make the three."

Nee said that Nebraska's three-point shooting had not been accurate in conference play.

"Since we've been in the Big Eight, we have not shot the ball well from the three-point line," he said. "We have to be able to make those shots if we're going to be a contender or win a basketball game."

Kansas, however, found the range from the three-point line and found it often.

The Jayhawks, 14-1, 3-0 in the Big Eight, made 11 of 22 shots from that range, including a 6-for-10 performance by Adonis Jordan. Jordan led all scorers with 20 points.

Nebraska's Eric Piatkowski, who tied Derrick Chandler for team-high scoring honors with 17 points, had another perspective about the Husker loss — poor Nebraska defense.

"Until we start playing better defense, we're not going to win any more games in the Big Eight, that's for sure," Piatkowski said.

"You can't even make a run because every time we hit a couple baskets we'd come down and they'd score every time."

Early on, the Huskers, 13-3, 1-2, played Kansas even. The two teams traded leads and Nebraska led 28-27 midway through the first half after a Michael Hughes layup.

That was the last lead the Huskers held.

Kansas' Rex Walters hit a three-point shot to put the Jayhawks up 30-27 and spur a 9-0 run on the way to a 36-28 lead.

After Nebraska responded with four straight points, Kansas outscored the Huskers 16-6 to take a 52-38 lead at halftime.

The Jayhawk run to close the first half wasn't surprising, Nee said.

"I just think the game was going to run in spurts, and I think KU just put

together a couple of real good solid spurts and they weren't going to be denied," he said.

At the beginning of the second half, Nebraska threatened to make a game of it.

It was not to be, however, as the Jayhawks responded with seven straight points to push their lead back to 18. Nebraska could get no closer than 13 the rest of the way.

The Huskers will try to regroup tonight when Oklahoma visits the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Scheduled starting time is 8:30 p.m.

Nebraska 38 40 — 78
At Kansas 52 51 — 103

Nebraska — Owens 1-4 6-6 8, Cresswell 0-5 2-4 2, Chandler 6-10 5-6 17, Johnson 3-8 2-2 8, Piatkowski 6-16 2-2 17, Hayes 4-8 0-1 9, Chubick 2-5 2-4 6, Hughes 3-7 5-11, Glock 0-0 0-0. Totals 25-63 24-30 78.

Kansas — Jamison 3-10 3-3 9, Scott 7-10 3-6 17, Pauley 4-8 1-1 9, Walters 4-6 5-6 16, Jordan 7-18 0-2 20, Davis 3-10 1-3 7, Woodberry 2-7 3-4 8, Gurley 0-2 0-0 0, Osterreich 3-3 2-3 8, Nash 0-1 0-0 0, Johanning 1-2 4-4 6, Czaplinski 1-1 0-0 3. Totals 35-78, 22-32 103.

Three-point goals — Nebraska 4-18 (Cresswell 0-4, Johnson 0-3, Piatkowski 3-8, Hayes 1-3), Kansas 11-22 (Jamison 0-1, Walters 3-4, Jordan 6-10, Woodberry 1-5, Gurley 0-1, Czaplinski 1-1). Rebounds — Nebraska 50 (Owens 10), Kansas 43 (Scott 10). Assists — Nebraska 15 (Cresswell 5), Kansas 21 (Jordan 6). Team fouls (dq) — Nebraska 26 (Hayes, Chandler), Kansas 26 (Pauley). Technical — Nebraska bench. Turnovers — Nebraska 29 (Johnson 7), Kansas 16 (Jamison 4). A — 15,800.

Husker women's second-half rally falls short

By Chris Hopfensperger
Senior Editor

The Nebraska women's basketball team played Kansas' kind of game Saturday night — and lost.

Coming off two conference road wins, the Cornhuskers fell to Kansas 54-51, in front of 4,369 people in the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

"We played KU style the whole game," Nebraska women's basketball coach Angela Beck said. "I don't think we got into a rhythm. We just kind of hung in there to stay with them."

Offensively, Beck said, Nebraska didn't execute well.

"We missed a ton early," she said. "We just struggled the whole game to stay in the game."

Sophomore guard Meggan Yedsena said the Huskers tried to force the ball inside to leading scorer Karen Jennings.

"We knew the skip pass wasn't there and we kept throwing it," she said.

Jennings, who scored a school-record 48 points Wednesday night at Kansas State, was held to 14 by the Jayhawks. That snapped a 24-game string of 20-point performances by Jennings.

The personal marks didn't matter, Jennings said.

"I could score zero points as long as we win the game," she said. "The fact that we lost is the worst disappointment of the night."

The loss was even worse because it came at

home, Yedsena said.

Nebraska fell to 13-4 on the season and 3-1 in the Big Eight. All but one of the Huskers' losses have come at home.

The Jayhawks moved to 14-3 and 3-1.

After trailing by five at halftime, the Huskers closed the gap to one. But Kansas exploded for nine straight points and, with a 10-point lead, began to spread the floor.

Kansas' winning margin grew to as many as 12, but a late Husker run kept the game close.

With 3:40 remaining, Nebraska's Carol Russell tied the game 46-46.

Stacy Truitt, who scored a game-high 17 points, put Kansas up 48-46, and Nebraska tied the game with Sue Hesch's 20-foot baseline shot.

Two possessions later, Truitt was fouled by Russell. Truitt hit the first free throw, but her miss was recovered by Daniele Shareef.

Kay Kay Hart then nailed a three-pointer that put the Jayhawks up 52-48 with 38 seconds left.

But Yedsena responded with a 22-foot shot that closed the gap to one with 16.8 seconds on the clock.

Truitt pushed Kansas' lead up to three, 54-51, with free throws after she was fouled by Yedsena on the inbounds play.

Nebraska had two more chances to tie the game, but Jennings' attempted three-pointer on the next possession and Yedsena's shot from midcourt after a missed free throw bounced off the glass.



Staci McKee/DN

Marthea McCloud (left), an unidentified player from Kansas and Nebraska's Karen Jennings (right) fight for a loose ball as Carol Russell dives in. Kansas won Saturday night's game 54-51.

Husker track makes good showing

By John Gardner
Staff Reporter

On a day when many athletes were just doing a little training, several Nebraska track and field athletes turned in exceptional performances.

Husker coach Gary Pepin said Saturday's all-comers meet at the Bob Devaney Sports Center was good, especially for the younger team members.

"We basically trained through this meet with most of our kids," Pepin said. "It was a good one for the younger kids to get an idea of where they stand."

One youngster in particular showed she's ready for big-time competition. Freshman Kathy Travis competed in three events, placing first in two of them. Travis won the 55-meter dash in 7.0 seconds and led off the UNL A 1,600 relay team, which won in 3:51.83. She also finished second in the 400, behind only Kim Walker, a former Nebraska standout who was competing unattached.

Fran ten Benschel continued her winning ways, taking the mile in 4:47.97 and the 1,000 in 2:51.47.

For the men, Stephen Golding, Kevin Coleman and Peter Malesev posted national qualifying marks in their respective events. Golding

won the 55-hurdles in 7.31 for a provisional qualifying mark. Coleman automatically qualified in the shot put with a 61-5 3/4 mark, and Malesev cleared 7-1 1/2 for a provisional qualifying effort.

Other Nebraska winners included Kwani Stewart in the women's 55-hurdles (8.06), Shanelle Porter in the 600-yard run (1:23.80), Chrystall DeNaeyer in the 800 (2:20.19), Denise Lucas in the 200 (24.66), Krista Mader in the shot put (48-0 3/4, a provisional qualifying mark) and Renier Henning in the men's 1,000 (2:27.98).

DeNaeyer, Stewart and Porter joined Travis on the winning relay team.

NU gymnasts dominate meet

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska men's gymnastics team used its highest regular-season score in four years to win a Big Eight triangular at Oklahoma's Lloyd Noble Center.

The Huskers dominated the meet, finishing with 284 points to Oklahoma's 279.80 and Iowa State's 265.55.

Sophomore Dennis Harrison paced

Nebraska by finishing third in the all-around with a 56.85 score. Freshman Richard Grace came in fourth with 56.70.

Coach Francis Allen said he knew his team could perform well.

"This is the way I expected this team to perform. We just looked really polished tonight," Allen said. "If we can keep this up the rest of the year, we're going to have a lot of fun."

Women's gymnastics team falls to Alabama

The Nebraska women's gymnastics team lost to defending national champion Alabama 193.30-188.00 Saturday at Tuscaloosa, Ala.

The Cornhuskers were led by freshman Martha Jenkins, who placed second in the all-around with a score of 38.45. Alabama All-American Dee Dee Foster won with a score of 38.70.