

# Hot-shooting Cyclones blow past Huskers

By Jeff Singer  
Senior Reporter

AMES, Iowa—Nebraska's men's basketball team went to the well once too often in finding good fortune at Iowa State.

The Cornhuskers, who had won in their previous two games at Hilton Coliseum, had their winning streak at Ames broken as the Cyclones administered a 96-69 pounding Wednesday night.

Nebraska couldn't overcome Iowa State's balanced scoring as well as their own shooting woes in the loss before sellout crowd of 14,202 fans.

With the loss, the Huskers' two-game Big Eight winning streak was broken and Nebraska dropped to 2-4 in league play and 14-7 overall.

In a near flawless performance by the Cyclones, Iowa State outshot the Huskers 55 percent to 45 percent from the field in the game to even its Big Eight record at 3-3 and remain undefeated at home.

Cornhusker freshman guard Jaron Boone, who scored 14 points in the loss, said Iowa State's hot shooting could be attributed to poor Nebraska defense.

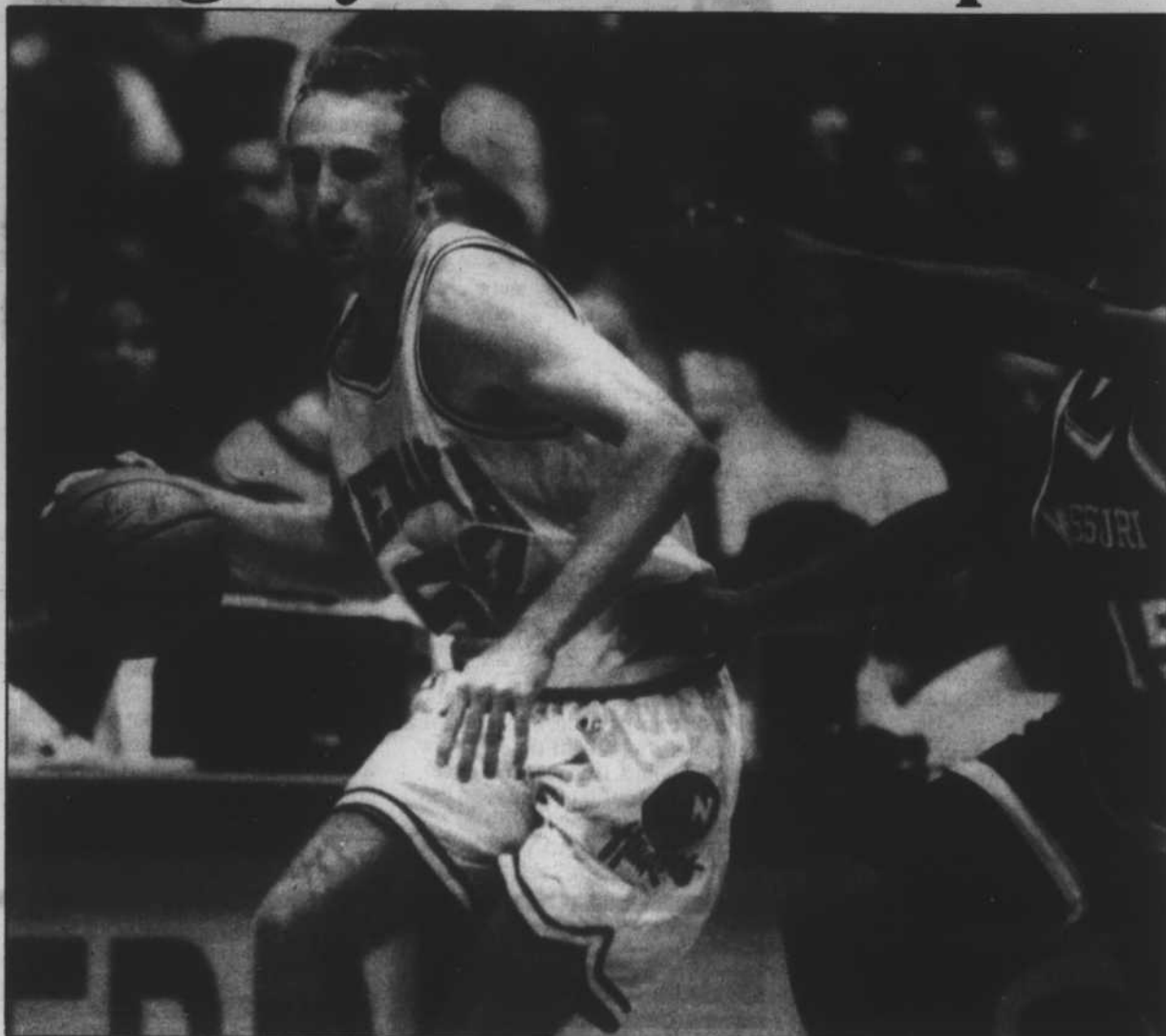
"They shot the hell out of the ball," Boone said. "I think our trouble is that weren't playing together on defense."

Nebraska coach Danny Nee said his team wasn't able to get going soon enough against the Cyclones.

"Iowa State did a great job tonight," Nee said. "They came out ready to play and did the things necessary to win the game."

Early in the game, both teams exchanged leads. But after Chandler's layup put the Huskers up 12-10, Iowa State went on a tear, outscoring Nebraska with a 29-16 run in the remainder of the first half.

The Cyclones built a 17-point lead late in the half before Nebraska



Nebraska forward Eric Piatkowski drives by Missouri's Melvin Booker in a game earlier this year.

Robin Trimarchi/DN

whittled the lead to 39-28 at intermission.

The second half was no easier for the Huskers, although Nebraska made its first 12 shots after halftime. But 67 percent shooting by Iowa State never

let Nebraska get closer than nine points for the remainder of the game.

Nebraska was led in scoring by center Derrick Chandler's 19 points, but that was offset by four Cyclones who scored in double figures.

Guard Justus Thigpen led Iowa State with 23 points, followed by Julius Michalik (17), Ron Bayless (15) and Loren Meyer (12).

Chandler said one of the biggest problems Wednesday was several

Husker players tried to force too many shots.

"The shots just didn't fall — everybody was just trying to do too much," Chandler said.

Iowa State coach Johnny Orr said his team executed well in improving its overall record to 13-6.

"We were hot," Orr said. "It was a good win, a win we really needed."

Thigpen said he didn't want to see Nebraska leave Ames with another victory.

"We didn't want them to beat us two years straight," Thigpen said. "It was good to beat them by this large of a margin."

Husker forward Bruce Chubick said if there were any positives from the loss, it was that "maybe it will wake us up." Nebraska, now in sixth place in the conference, will host No. 3 Kansas on Sunday.

Nebraska . . . 28 41 — 69  
at Iowa State . . . 39 57 — 96

Nebraska (14-7) — Badgett 3-7 0-0 6, Chubick 2-6 3-4 8, Chandler 8-13 3-3 19, Johnson 2-2 0-0 4, Piatkowski 3-8 2-9, Gregory 1-2 0-0 2, Strickland 0-5 2-3 2, Boone 5-11 2-2 14, Woolridge 2-4 1-2 5. Totals 26-58 13-16 69.

Iowa State (13-6) — Eaton 4-11 1-2 9, Hoiberg 4-7 0-0 9, Meyer 3-7 6-6 12, Bayless 5-8 3-4 15, Thigpen 10-15 1-2 23, Wheat 1-4 5-6 8, Michalik 7-11 1-1 17, Beechum 1-1 0-0 3. Totals 35-64 17-21 96.

3-point goals — Nebraska 4-14 (Chubick 1-3, Piatkowski 1-3, Strickland 0-3, Boone 2-4, Woolridge 0-1), Iowa State 9-18 (Hoiberg 1-2, Bayless 2-4, Thigpen 2-4, Wheat 1-3, Michalik 2-4, Beechum 1-1). Rebounds — Nebraska 32 (Badgett 9), Iowa State 34 (Hoiberg 7). Assists — Nebraska 15 (Boone, Woolridge 3), Iowa State 30 (Bayless 14). Total fouls — Nebraska 18, Iowa State 13. A — 14,202.

## Osborne signs 19 recruits

By Susie Arth  
Senior Reporter

Even the cold weather, the state's isolation and the late start by Nebraska football coaches didn't keep 19 athletes from choosing to become Cornhuskers.

"All that aside, we still did fairly well," Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said Wednesday.

Osborne said he received 19 letters of intent Wednesday on National Letter of Intent Day, the first day universities are allowed to extend scholarships to athletes.

Osborne compared this recruiting class to the class of 1992, which he said was one of his best ever.

"I'm not saying this is the best group in the country, but it is a good group," he said.

— “  
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— Osborne  
NU football coach

Speed, he said, was the quality he tried to emphasize in his recruits during the past few years.

"We've got good speed here, and I think it's going to show up over the next couple years."

Seven of the 1993 recruits are from Nebraska.

"We're very pleased with the re-

sponse we've gotten from Nebraska players," he said. "If that ever slips, we've got big problems."

Of the eight scholarships that were offered to Nebraska players, seven were accepted, he said.

The only in-state player who rejected Nebraska's scholarship was Scott Frost of Wood River, Osborne said.

In addition, the Huskers have received 12 letters of intent from out-of-state players, he said.

The Huskers, Osborne said, are still waiting for one more letter of intent.

Eric Alford, a junior college player who gave the Huskers a verbal commitment, was not listed among those who had submitted his letter of intent.

Osborne said he was still waiting

See RECRUITS on 14

## Husker combination racks up the records

### Players to face Oklahoma next

By Derek Samson  
Staff Reporter

Nebraska senior center Karen Jennings hit a free throw Tuesday against Southwest Missouri State to become Nebraska's all-time scoring leader.

As usual, Meggan Yedsena helped put her there.

Yedsena, the Cornhuskers' starting point guard, and Jennings have torn up Big Eight opponents for three years, and Jennings is always more than appreciative for Yedsena's assists after the game.

Jennings was presented with the game ball during a timeout shortly after she broke the record.

"I feel like I should cut the ball in half and give it to Meggan," Jennings said. "She's the reason I got most of my points."

Yedsena, a 5-foot-8 junior from Mahanoy City, Pa., said she's enjoyed being part of the combination that has helped give the Huskers a 14-4 record.

"We've been a combo that the Big Eight has feared," Yedsena said. "I'm definitely going to miss her."

Yedsena's leadership was again obvious Tuesday against the Bears.

See YEDSENA on 14

## Jayhawks face first conference loss if jinx isn't broken

"Toto, I don't think we're in Kansas anymore, but thank God we're not in Lincoln."

If Dorothy were playing for the Kansas men's basketball team, I'm sure she would have said something like that.

Over the years, the Jayhawks have been college basketball's equivalent of the 1927 Yankees, the Dom Perignon of fine wines and the Ferrari Testarosa of automobiles.

But when they come to the Bob Devaney Sports Center, they usually resemble the Cleveland Indians, a 69-cent bottle of Super Saver wine and a well-running Yugo.

So what gives?

Why is it that one of college basketball's elite programs has only been able to muster four wins in the 17-year history of the Devaney Center and will be sure to have its hands full when the two teams meet Sunday in Lincoln?

True, the Cornhuskers have become a force in the Big Eight as of late, but through the pre-Danny Nee era and up until a couple of years ago, Nebraska's big winter sport was not Husker Hoops. It was the football recruiting period.

Just looking at recent Nebraska-Kansas showdowns at the Devaney Center can help chronicle the Jayhawks' woes at the Bobfather's house.

1988 — The Huskers were just going through the motions, ending the season 13-18. But they made up for the dismal season by beating a Danny Manning-led Kansas team that would end up winning the national title. It was the only time Nebraska had ever beaten the eventual NCAA champs.

1991 — Co-Big Eight champion Kansas came to the Devaney Center hoping to put Nebraska's best team ever in its place in the final game of the season. But the Devaney Center



Jeff Singer

jinx again hit the Jayhawks, and Kansas lost 85-75 in a game they were heavily favored to win.

1992 — In the most exciting Nebraska basketball game ever, the No. 3 Jayhawks (which ironically is Kansas' current ranking) were about to solve the Devaney Center mystery and beat the Huskers.

The Jayhawks held a 79-78 lead with just a second left in overtime, but Jamar Johnson's miraculous three-pointer at the buzzer forced Kansas to take another Lincoln loss out of the jaws of victory.

So why can't Kansas seem to get on track at Nebraska?

Let's look at some typical reasons why any team might have trouble winning somewhere, and see if they stack up in this case:

1. "It's hard for us to travel that long of a distance and have to play." A reasonable excuse, but considering Kansas is one of Nebraska's closest conference neighbors, a better reasoning might be, "We couldn't adjust to the time difference."

2. "We're not use to playing in front of large crowds." The problem here is that all of Allen Fieldhouse's games are usually sold out, as well as the majority of the Big Eight arenas the Jayhawks play in on the road.

3. "Nebraska's a different team at home." True, the Huskers do have a good home record, year in and year out, but a dynasty like the Jayhawks shouldn't be affected by such minimal distractions.

Kansas coach Roy Williams said it's probably the level of talent the Huskers have been able to put on the court, because "their teams have just been so doggone good."

But more often than not, Kansas' teams have been as doggone good or better than the Nebraska teams they've faced over the past 17 years.

The real reason seems to be an unidentifiable circumstance, similar to the Bermuda Triangle, that we could call the "Devaney Center mystique," which seems to entrap these Jayhawks and turns them into helpless fowl.

But the "mystique" better be in high gear Sunday, because if it isn't, it will mean an undefeated Big Eight season for the eventual conference champion Jayhawks.

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