



Nebraska's Tom Best attempts to block the shot of Kansas State's Deryl Cunningham on Saturday. The Huskers won by a score of 80-59.

Robin Trimarchi/DN

Huskers

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"We know what the black uniforms mean — that it's time to go out and do it," said Boone, who had 14 points off the bench, two behind Eric Piatkowski's team-high 16 points. "It's a sense of pride, just to reach down, come out and play basketball."

Forward Terrance Badgett said Nee gave the Huskers the inspiration they needed to play well.

"I think it's our biggest win — I think we played together with the team concept that we had," Badgett said. "Coach Nee said 'I'm depending on you; I think you're the best team in the Big Eight'. He said a lot of positive words that made us play hard."

Kansas State coach Dana Altman, whose team dropped to 5-3 in league play and 15-5 overall, didn't have too many positive things to say about the Wildcats' play.

"We weren't sharp all day — we didn't prepare ourselves well enough physically, mentally and emotionally," Altman said. "They did what they had to do to take us out of the game."

Nee said he's finally seeing his team play like it's capable of playing.

"I think we're getting better in every aspect of the game and we're coming together at the right time," he said.

Badgett said it's time for the Huskers to peak if they're going to make a

third-straight trip to the NCAA Tournament.

"I think our team is coming together," Badgett said. "We want to go to the NCAA's real bad — there's not much that can stop us but ourselves."

Another team hoping to make it to the NCAA tourney in March is Oklahoma State.

The Cowboys, who, after Saturday's win against Colorado, have a half-game lead on Nebraska in the Big Eight with a 5-4 mark, will play Nebraska tonight at 8:30 p.m. at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

The game will be televised live as part of ESPN's "Big Monday" package.

But what looms large for Nebraska on "Big Monday" is Oklahoma State's "Big Country."

Bryant Reeves, the Cowboys' 7-foot sophomore center, is leading the conference in scoring and rebounding, and was instrumental in Oklahoma State's 78-73 win over the Huskers last month in Stillwater, Okla.

Nee said containing Reeves is the key to beating Oklahoma State.

"I think Oklahoma State is an improving basketball team," Nee said. "I think when you have a center like Reeves who dominates the stats — he creates a presence and he's gotten better."

Huskers keep Big Eight title hopes alive with weekend wins

By Tim Pearson
Staff Reporter

Two conference wins at home over the weekend kept the Nebraska women's basketball team's flickering Big Eight title hopes alive.

Friday, the Cornhuskers beat Kansas State for the second time this season, 69-50, behind Karen Jennings' 26 points.

On Sunday, the Huskers avenged an earlier loss to Kansas with a 66-52 win over the Jayhawks at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

With three conference games remaining, the Cornhuskers stand at 8-3 in third place behind Colorado and Oklahoma State, who share the top spot.

The Huskers most likely need to win the rest of their games to win the title, including a win at Boulder, Colo. against the No. 4 Buffaloes.

Senior guard Sara Offringa said the win over the Jayhawks would be a tremendous confidence booster going into this Sunday's game against Colorado.

"It's a win," she said. "It's a big

— 66 —
If we can't get the title, we want to get the (Big Eight) tournament.

—Offringa
NU guard

conference win. It will give us a new air of confidence each day in practice."

Earlier this season, on Jan. 22, the Huskers upset the Lady Buffs in Lincoln to give them their sole loss of the season.

Even though Nebraska beat Colorado 62-50, Offringa said that in no way are the Huskers the favorite.

"I look at us as the underdogs. They're still up in the conference and ranked No. 4," she said. "We're going to have to play almost flawless, and we're going to have to execute offensively."

In their first game, the Husker defense held the Lady Buffs to 24 of 62 shooting for 39 percent.

Offringa said the same kind of

defensive effort is needed to sweep Colorado.

"We need to play an errorless game to beat them."

Forward Nafeesah Brown, who scored 20 points and grabbed 16 rebounds, agreed.

"This game gave us a lot of confidence," she said. "To beat Colorado, though, we're going to have to maintain the same intensity as today and have the same intensity as the last time we played Colorado."

The Huskers are looking for a good seed in the Big Eight tournament March 6-8, and, hopefully, a spot in the NCAA Tournament.

Offringa said that if the Big Eight title can't be won, then the Big Eight tournament title will be tops on the Huskers' wish list.

"You always want to say you like your chance (of winning the Big Eight), but we can't look past our next game," she said. "We've got to depend on Oklahoma State and Colorado getting knocked off by somebody."

"But if we can't get the title, we want to get the (Big Eight) tournament."

Beck

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ference. Nebraska built a 33-28 half-time lead into a 21-point spread, as the Huskers cruised to a 69-50 win against Kansas State at the Devaney Sports Center on Friday.

Nebraska went on a 24-8 run to begin the second half and took a 57-36 lead on a Jennings basket with 10:51 to play. Jennings scored nine of her game-high 26 points during the run.

Beck said the tenacity of the Huskers after intermission propelled the

team to victory over Kansas State.

"These guys played real aggressive in the first five minutes (of the second half)," Beck said. "It took them (Kansas State) out of their game."

The Wildcats were held to 22 points in the second half and shot only 36 percent on the night, which included a 0-for-6 performance from the three-point line.

Besides Jennings, Nebraska had a balanced scoring attack, as four other Huskers finished with at least eight points. Senior Sara Offringa scored 12 for the Huskers.

Yedsena said that this weekend's performance was indicative of the real Husker team stepping up.

"We have gotten back to Nebraska defense," Yedsena said.

Yedsena said the weekend's Husker wins would be "confidence-builders," as the team embarked on a crucial road trip against Colorado, a team tied for the lead in the Big Eight and ranked No. 4 nationally.

Nebraska will play the Buffaloes on Sunday afternoon and then travel to Columbia, Mo., to face Missouri on Tuesday night.

Nebraska ends 72-year drought after thrashing Oklahoma State

From Staff Reports

Nebraska's wrestling team broke a 72-year losing streak to Oklahoma State on Sunday.

The Cornhuskers, ranked No. 2 in the country, beat the Cowboys 39-12 in a dual at Stillwater, Okla. The win upped Nebraska's dual mark to 8-2 for the season.

The last time Nebraska beat Oklahoma State was in 1921.

"It's really nice to beat Oklahoma State for the first time in my career," Nebraska coach Tim Neumann said. "We wrestled with the type of inten-

sity that we are going to need at the NCAA Championships.

"Our guys are geared toward the Big Eight and NCAA meets right now."

Nebraska notched eight major decisions, technical falls or pins in the victory. Senior Matt Lindland, ranked No. 1 at 158 pounds, registered a 16-7 decision over the Cowboys' George Parker. The victory improved Lindland's record to 33-0 this season.

Husker Corey Olson, ranked No. 2, won his match at 177 pounds by pinning Oklahoma State's Travis

Gittins in 3:48.

On Friday, Nebraska delivered Neumann his 100th career victory by scoring a 37-3 dual win over Missouri at Columbia, Mo.

In the Missouri dual, the Huskers got major decisions from Tony Purler at 126 pounds and No. 2 Rulon Gardner at heavyweight. Gardner defeated Jeremy Lay by a score of 16-5.

"We wrestled with a lot of intensity," Neumann said. "Our guys seem to be staying focused and are continuing to improve."

Husker swimmers blast Southern Illinois

From Staff Reports

Nebraska ended its home swimming and diving seasons with a bang Saturday. Both the men's and women's teams blew out Southern Illinois at the Bob Devaney Sports Center pool.

The men won by a score of 180-98, while the women won by a score of 217-80.

Captain Alan Kelsey once again led the Nebraska men, touching first in the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 49.37 seconds. Husker Laren Tiltmann recorded a season-best in the 50-yard freestyle with a time of 21.11.

For the women, Melanie Dodd won both the 50 and 100-yard freestyles. The Nebraska 200-yard freestyle team won with a time of 1:35.84.

In diving, Kevin McMahon earned two seconds behind Southern Illinois' Rob Siracusano.

But it was the women's team that Nebraska diving coach Jim Hocking said was impressive.

"Wow, our ladies had some of the best dives of their careers," Hocking said. "We are peaking at a time we need to be at our best with the conference meet and the NCAA meets to look forward to."

Nebraska swimming coach Cal

Bentz said the teams' performances against the Salukis were encouraging.

"We had some swimmers swim as well as they ever have unshaven," he said.

Nonetheless, Bentz said his team needed to look now towards preparing for the Big Eight Championships, which will be held March 4-6 in Oklahoma City.

"As a team, we need to work on our mental focus for the Big Eight Championships," Bentz said. "The team is in a transitional stage, and we need to refocus our attention to the task at hand."

Tennis team sweeps pair of duals

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska women's tennis team swept two duals to open its season Saturday.

The Huskers beat Creighton 6-3 and defeated Northern Illinois 9-0 at Woods Tennis Complex.

Cornhusker coach Scott Jacobson said he was pleased with his team's first outing, but he gave Creighton credit for playing close in the first match.

"I thought Creighton played well," Jacobson said. "They earned every

point they got."

The biggest match of the day for Nebraska may have been in No. 4 singles, where Husker Tina Coutretsis came back from a 5-2 deficit in the third set to beat Creighton's Cori Komori 7-6, 2-6, 7-5.

Jacobson said Coutretsis's win pushed the momentum in Nebraska's favor.

"The match in No. 4 singles was critical for us," Jacobson said. "(Coutretsis) came back to score five straight, and her victory put us up 4-2."

Against Northern Illinois, the Huskers didn't lose a set and cruised to the win. No. 1 singles player Zarina Galvan cruised in her match against Janelle Crabtree, winning 6-2, 6-2.

In doubles, the Huskers' No. 1 singles team of Galvan and Heidi Junius won by a score of 6-2, 6-4.

"We felt more confident after the Creighton match," Jacobson said. "We went on to beat Northern Illinois 9-0 so we feel pretty good."

The Huskers will next be in action on Feb. 21, when the Huskers face Drake in Des Moines, Iowa.

IMPROVE YOUR NIGHT LIFE.

Too many accidents are caused by car drivers who didn't see the motorcyclists. That's why reflective vests, bright clothing, and reflectorized tape are so important. They help you be seen. And standing out on a dark, crowded road can keep your evening from being ruined. **MOTORCYCLE SAFETY FOUNDATION**

Micro Madness
Free Microcomputer Classes

The Computing Resource Center is offering free microcomputer seminars to UNL students. The seminars will feature an introduction to Microsoft Word for the Macintosh and WordPerfect for IBM machines. No reservations are required.

Lab Location	Dates	Times
Advanced Microsoft Word for the Macintosh		
Andrews	Wednesday, February 17	3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Introduction to WordPerfect 5.1 for IBM		
Sandoz (IBM)	Monday, February 15	3:00 - 4:30 p.m.