

MEN'S BASKETBALL PROBABLE STARTERS

CORNHUSKERS (17-8, 5-5)

	PPG	RPG
F Bruce Chubick	8.2	6.0
F Terrance Badgett	7.1	4.3
C Derrick Chandler	11.0	7.6
G Jamar Johnson	9.4	3.2
G Eric Piatkowski	16.0	5.9

Nebraska vs. Colorado 7:05 p.m. Bob Devaney Sports Center

BUFFALOES (10-12, 2-8)

	PPG	RPG
F Randy Robinson	15.9	4.5
F Ted Allen	7.7	5.9
C Poncho Hodges	12.4	7.6
G Johnny Terrell	4.2	0.9
G Donnie Boyce	18.8	6.0



Scott Maurer/DN

Bufs

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But both of those wins were at the Coors Events Center, and Colorado has just one victory in its last 70 Big Eight road games, that being at Iowa State two years ago.

At the Devaney Center, the Buffaloes haven't won in their last 11 tries. And if CU is to end its Lincoln woes, it will probably be up to the high-scoring tandem of Donnie Boyce and Poncho Hodges.

Boyce is the Buffaloes' leading scorer with 18.8 points per game. But the 6-foot-5 guard has been getting the job done on the boards as well, ranking second on the team in rebounding with six per game.

Colorado's main man on the glass is Hodges, a former roommate at Alvin (Texas) Community College of Nebraska's Derrick Chandler.

Hodges averages 12.4 points and 7.6 rebounds per game.

Nee said the pair was a big concern for the Huskers.

"I think they're getting great basketball out of Poncho Hodges," Nee said. "Boyce is one of the premier players in the league; he's a dynamite scorer and a good all-around player."

As Nebraska challenges for its third straight trip to the NCAA Tournament, the Huskers will not only have to concern themselves with the Buffaloes, but with the Iowa State game on Saturday, which will complete a three-game, six-day Big Eight stretch for Nebraska.

Nee said it was important for his team to keep its focus through the Iowa State game.

"We've got to get it done this week — if we get it done this week, then we're going to have a lot of success and probably a post-season tournament bid," Nee said.

Baseball team motivated despite snowy weather

By Jeff Griesch Staff Reporter

Ready or not, baseball season is here. Most of the major league players have reported to spring training in Florida and Arizona, and the college baseball season has started.

No. 1 Louisiana State opened its season Monday night in Baton Rouge, La., defeating Northwestern Louisiana State 8-3.

And, if you can believe it, the preseason No. 32 Nebraska baseball team is scheduled to open its season at 7 p.m. Friday at Buck Beltzer Field against Western Illinois.

The outlook for the Cornhuskers taking the field on Friday is bleak.

Buck Beltzer is covered with snow, and subfreezing temperatures are predicted for the rest of the week. The players have been relegated to practicing inside at Schulte Field House, and they are eager to get outside and play.

"We are getting cabin fever," outfielder Marc Sagmoen said. "Every day a different guy is coming to practice and telling us about a dream they had about getting out on the field in a real game."

Husker coach John Sanders said the players were doing a good job of staying focused, but they were desperate to see some real action.

"If the Dodgers flew in tonight, I think we would be ready to play them 25 innings," Sanders said.

Sagmoen said that despite the monotony of

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—Sanders
NU baseball coach

practicing indoors everyday, the players are concentrating and working hard.

"We are trying to keep that game attitude in practice," Sagmoen said. "I have never been on a team that works this hard to improve themselves."

Not only are the Huskers working hard during regular practice, they are making sacrifices to stay after practice to take extra batting practice.

"Everyday we have nine or 10 guys staying after practice to work on their hitting and defense," Sagmoen said.

Nebraska is scheduled to play a four-game series with Western Illinois this weekend and then not play until a three-game series March 9 and 10 at Buck Beltzer against Oral Roberts.

The bad weather and gap in the schedule has sent Coach Sanders looking for more games to schedule before the Huskers travel to Fresno, Calif., for the Johnny Quick Classic March 15-20.

"We have been trying to get more games for us, either here or on the road, but so far we don't have anything scheduled," Sanders said.

Sooners are wrestlers' last hurdle

By Tim Pearson Staff Reporter

First there was the second-place finish at the Las Vegas Invitational. Next was the first-ever upset of Iowa at the National Dual Meet Championships.

Then came the No. 2 national ranking, the highest ever for a Nebraska wrestling team.

Tonight, the Cornhuskers will try to add another chapter to their record-breaking season in a 7:30 p.m. dual against Oklahoma in Norman, Okla.

The Cornhuskers stand at 9-2, and with a win against the Sooners, will complete their first-ever Big Eight season in which they've beaten all the members of the conference.

"Anytime you wrestle the Sooners at their place, it's tough," Husker coach Tim Neumann said. "We're going to have to crank it up like we did against Iowa, Minnesota, and Iowa State."

Neumann said the Huskers need to beat the Sooners to get a No. 1 or No. 2 seed at the Big Eight meet.

"We want to beat them bad," he said. "First of all because we recruit against them head to head, and if we beat Oklahoma, it'll be the first time we've beaten all of the Big Eight teams in one season."

Nebraska is coming off a 35-6 win against Northwestern, even with the absences of No. 1 Matt Lindland at 158 pounds and Ovanes Oganisian at 190 pounds.

Both Lindland and Oganisian were held out because of an NCAA rule limiting the number of days in which a wrestler can compete.

"Holding Lindland and Oganisian out created a worry for me," Neumann said. "When you can compete that well without two of your top wrestlers, it really raises the team's confidence."

Neumann said that he was pleased with how the team wrestled, particularly Tony Purler, Corey Olson, Rick Colvet, and Rulon Gardner.

"Rulon, Corey, and Purler all wrestled rated guys, and they just crushed them," he said. "The guys we have that are supposed to be national finalists are wrestling like national champions."

Both Lindland and Oganisian will wrestle against the Sooners.

Neumann said the Huskers have improved every week, but there is still room for more improvement with the March 6 Big Eight meet and the NCAA Championships.

"We just want to keep the ball rolling. We're on a roll right now," he said.

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