

# Mizzou wins with Husker shirts

By Mitch Sherman  
Senior Reporter

In 28 years as coach of the Missouri basketball team, Norm Stewart had never been applauded by a Nebraska crowd, before Saturday afternoon.

Stewart, whom Nebraska fans have loved to hate over the years, led the Tigers onto the Bob Devaney Sports Center floor before pregame warmups wearing T-shirts congratulating Tom Osborne and the Nebraska football team for winning the national championship.

The Missouri players then gave the Cornhusker fans the shirts off their backs, jumped to an early lead and held on to beat the Huskers 82-74 in the first game of Big Eight conference play.

"We were watching the bowl games," Stewart said, "and we said, 'You know what, we ought to go up there and do something. It's a national championship.'"

In improving to 10-1, the Tigers extended their recent dominance

over Big Eight opponents. Missouri, which was 14-0 in conference action last year, has now won eight consecutive games since losing to defending national champion Arkansas Dec. 3.

The Tigers have also won 10 straight road games, something Stewart said was not a coincidence.

"Our ball club is pretty confident in themselves," he said, "but not overly so. They are pretty confident about some of their skills, particularly on the defensive side, and that gives you a chance to win."

Statistics backed up Stewart's comments about the Tigers' defensive dominance. Nebraska shot a season-low 37 percent from the field, including 34 percent in the second half.

Meanwhile, Missouri nailed eight 3-pointers in the second half, 11 for the game. Stewart said a road victory over No. 19 Nebraska was an ideal way to begin the grueling conference season.

"It's great," he said. "I think the conference every year is just getting stronger. I don't know if anybody in

our league has established themselves as a team that people are going to be watching nationally to go to the Final Four. I think that will happen.

"But I think if our eight teams went out and played eight teams from another league," Stewart said, "I think we'd win more games."

Missouri senior guard Paul O'Liney, who led the Tigers with 31 points, said a victory over the Huskers was the first step toward repeating as conference champions.

"This is just the first game," said O'Liney, who sparked Missouri by drilling six shots from behind the 3-point line. "It was a good win on the road. We came out and played real aggressive."

Part of the reason Missouri has experienced so much success away from home, O'Liney said, is a result of mental toughness gained from Stewart's teachings.

"I don't hear a crowd whenever I'm playing," he said. "I just kind of block it out. They are talking and I don't know what they are saying, so I just block it out."

# Area residents saddened by move to new stadium

By Kara G. Morrison  
Staff Reporter

MIAMI — When the Nebraska Cornhuskers left the Orange Bowl Stadium at 1:30 a.m. EST on Jan. 2, an era ended.

After next year's game, the Orange Bowl Classic will no longer be played at the stadium, but will be moved across Miami to the newer Joe Robbie Stadium, home of the Miami Dolphins.

More than a few were saddened by the move, including Kim Usiak, who spent hours before the bowl game helping distribute about 3,000 "Save the Orange Bowl" flyers to Husker and Hurricane fans alike. Usiak said the Orange Bowl

Coalition pressured the Orange Bowl Committee to accept the move or risk losing corporate sponsorships. The committee decided to go along with the move without any community input, he said.

"It was shoved through too quickly," Usiak said of the decision. "A 61-year tradition is being moved away overnight."

Besides the nostalgia of having the event at the Orange Bowl Stadium, Usiak said the move would mean an estimated \$127 million loss in bowl-related revenue for the Little Haiti area of Miami.

"That's a big chunk of money to be moving away from the community," he said.

# Huskers

Continued from Page 15

point line. Tiger guard Paul O'Liney knocked down the majority of the shots for Missouri. The 6-foot-2 senior had 31 points, including six 3-pointers.

O'Liney carried the Tigers through most of the second half, scoring 23 points.

Seven of Missouri's first eight baskets in the second half were 3-pointers, and the other was a 3-point play finished off at the free-throw line by O'Liney.

Jason Sutherland hit the Tigers' first two shots after the half, and then O'Liney scored 14 of the next 19 Missouri points.

Jaron Boone kept Nebraska close by scoring seven straight Husker points in less than a minute, but then the Husker attack broke down.

"We didn't execute like we were supposed to at times," Boone said. "That happens, though. We hurried a

couple of shots and didn't pass the ball six or seven times to break down their defense. We had our chances, but didn't get it done."

Nebraska regained the lead on a Mikki Moore free throw with 7:38 left, but the 68-67 advantage was Nebraska's last lead of the game.

"I think the better team absolutely won," Nee said. "Missouri knocked down the shots when they had to. They came in and played a very controlled, smart basketball game from start to finish."

"Missouri made the plays. I think the game was played down to the last five or four minutes, but then the way Missouri played early was the way they played late. They were very controlled. They never lost composure and they did a nice job."

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