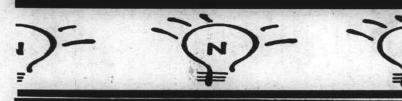
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Strickland disputes ca

By Todd Walkenhorst Staff Reporter

COLUMBIA, Mo. — For the last 14:35 of Wednesday night's game against Missouri, senior guard Erick Strickland did not have the best seat in the house.

In fact, Strickland was forced to sit in the locker room while scores were relayed to him after he was ejected in the second half.

With Nebraska trailing the Tigers 71-58 early in the second half, Strickland was charged with a technical foul for an illegal pick. When the senior from Bellevue reacted to the call, he was charged with a second technical and ejected from the con-

"I don't know," Strickland said. 'He (the referee) told me it was an illegal pick. I didn't think it was, so I just reacted. Oh, well.

The two technical fouls resulted in Strickland's fifth and sixth personal fouls of the game. After the game, Strickland said he was not pleased with referee Duane Smith's calls.

"That same guy was calling all kinds of stuff on me all night. So I was just like, 'Whatever.'"

ERICK STRICKLAND

Nebraska guard

"That same guy was calling all kinds of stuff on me all night," he said, "So

was just like, 'Whatever.'
"I didn't think it was a foul. It was just the time that he made the call from the position he made the call — I just didn't think he could make the call. That's why I got mad."

Strickland left the game with eight points and two rebounds and shot 4of-10 from the field.

Missouri senior guard Jason Sutherland went to the free-throw line to shoot four technical foul shots after Strickland's tirade. Sutherland made all four to put the Tigers ahead 75-58.

Missouri went on to win the game 99-

As Sutherland was sinking free

throws, Strickland came back to the Nebraska bench yelling, "My fault, my fault," as he apologized to team-

Strickland remained on the Husker bench until 11:08 remained in the game, watching Missouri go up 79-63. During a media timeout, Strickland retreated to the Nebraska locker room, where he relied on the doorman to keep him posted of the score as Nebraska mounted a comeback.

'The doorman would run down here and yell the score back, Strickland said. "I was real proud of the guys that they came back."

Strickland said he heard that there were a couple more critical calls down the stretch in favor of the Tigers, but he was proud his teammates stayed in

the game.
"It happens," he said. "But they up. They obviously did the right things because they came back."

Brown

Continued from Page 9

"We don't have a strict timetable," Dungy said. "But we do need to get this decided relatively quickly." Brown could not be reached for

Dungy will leave today for the NFL Scouting Combine in Indianapolis, but

said he hoped to receive Brown's decision within a week.

Brown arrived in Tampa Bay, Fla., about 1 p.m. Wednesday afternoon, Dungy said, and spent the day interviewing and meeting Buccaneer personnel, including new Buccaneer offensive coordinator Mike Shula.

Dungy said Brown was well received by other Buccaneer personnel, and the meetings he had with them were positive.

"All of our meetings today weren't long and formal," Dungy said. "We just enjoyed talking to each other and getting to learn each other's styles." Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said

late Wednesday night he had not talked to Brown. From all he knew, Brown was still an assistant coach for the Cornhuskers.

Brown has been in charge of the

"We don't have a strict timetable. But we do need to get this decided relatively quickly."

TONY DUNGY

Tampa Bay coach

Huskers' receivers since 1987. During his nine seasons, the Nebraska receiving corps has never been ranked lower than third in the Big Eight in touchdown receptions.

Seventeen of Brown's former players have gone on to play professional football, including tight end Johnny Mitchell of the New York Jets and Pro Bowl punt returner Tyrone Hughes.

Dungy, while he was defensive coordinator with the Kansas City Chiefs, said he first met Brown six years ago in Lincoln on a recruiting

trip.
"Ron's an outstanding coach,"
Dungy said. "I have watched him coach
for six years, and my knowledge on him comes from specifically accumulative information I have seen. I haven't

talked to people this year about him." Besides coaching, Dungy said he and Brown had other areas in com-

mon. Both are about the same age and are very spiritual people.

Brown has served as a national pokesman for race reconciliation with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and writes a monthly column in FCA's national magazine, Sharing the Vic-

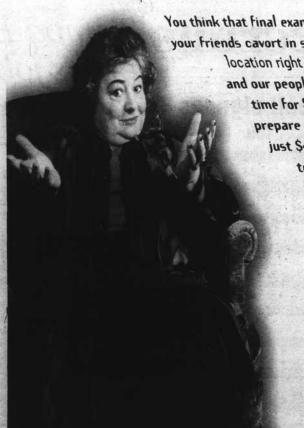
Nebraska recruit J.R. Edwards said Brown played a major role in his decision to sign a letter of intent on Vednesday to play for the Huskers.

"Coach Brown has always been honest with me and told me there was the chance I could walk right in and play," Edwards said.

Before coming to Nebraska, Brown had been an assistant coach at Brown University from 1984-86 and was the head freshman coach in 1983. He began his coaching career in 1982 as a defensive coordinator with the semipro New Jersey Rams.

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