

NU women breeze past two foes

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remaining in the first half. NU then out-scored the Bison 29-11 to take control of the game.

On Saturday, St. Louis led 8-7 with 4½ minutes gone in the first half. But in the last 15 minutes of the half, Nebraska went on a 34-17 run.

"I like the way they focused and played," Beck said. "We wanted to keep them under 55 points and we did it. We wanted to keep them at 35 percent field-goal percentage. We wanted to out-rebound them, and we did."

Nebraska junior Anna DeForge led the Huskers both nights with 12 points against Bucknell and 19 against St. Louis. DeForge, who was named the tournament's most valuable player, scored 26 of her 31 points this weekend in the first half.

Husker senior Tina McClain and freshman Nicole Kubik were also named to the all-tournament team. Kubik and McClain both averaged 10 points in the two games.

"It doesn't matter how much we are ahead by, we had a goal in each game to hold them to so many points," Kubik said. "It doesn't matter who's in the game, we all have the same goal to hold them to a certain number of points. Everybody takes pride in that."

NU will play Creighton in Omaha at 7 p.m. Tuesday.

NU earns No. 4 seed in NCAA Tournament

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NU has played with a lot of poise since losing a five-game match at Texas Tech on Oct. 26. Nebraska has won 10 consecutive matches and has won 30 of its last 33 games.

Nebraska enters the tournament after playing a difficult schedule. The Huskers are 14-2 against 10 teams that made the tournament field of 48, which included six Big 12 schools.

The Huskers wrapped up the first-ever Big 12 title by winning 15-11, 7-15, 15-8, 15-5 at Texas Friday and 15-3, 15-13, 15-7 at Texas A&M Saturday. Nebraska, which finished the season with a 19-1 conference record, earned the championship Friday night.

At home, the Huskers have been almost unbeatable. NU has won 30-straight home matches — and 29 straight at the coliseum. In post-season play, Nebraska is 21-3 all-time at the coliseum.

"That's really neat and very important for a lot of reasons," Pettit said. "If we are fortunate enough to win, our players would get to stay in school another week and then Nebraska has tremendous fan support."

Nebraska setter Fiona Nepo agreed. "We knew if we got to host a regional, we'd have a really good chance at making the Final Four," said Nepo, Nebraska's sophomore captain.

Stanford is the tournament's No. 1 overall seed and the top team in the West Region. Florida is the



tournament's No. 2 seed and seeded No. 1 in the Central Region. Hawaii, which lost to Brigham Young in the Western Athletic Conference tournament final Saturday in Las Vegas, earned the No. 3 seed overall and the No. 1 seed in the Mountain Region.

"Every region is a tough region," Pettit said. "There are two or three teams capable of winning a Final-Four match in each region. There are four or five teams capable of beating anyone in a given region."

Huskers down Buffs 17-12

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seal the win.

"The best thing we did offensively all day was the last drive, where we didn't give the ball back to them and we were able to hammer away," Osborne said.

For the game, Nebraska out-gained CU 294 yards to 277 yards.

"The defense came up with the stops that we needed," Frost said, "and it's a team game, so we are all out there playing for the same thing. The defense picked us up, and we picked them up in the end."

In the beginning, Colorado marched the ball 52 yards in 10 plays on the opening series of the game, taking a 3-0 lead when Aldrich's first career field-goal attempt bounced off the crossbar and skipped through the uprights.

It was the first time Nebraska had trailed since losing to Arizona State 19-0 on Sept. 21.

Less than four minutes later, the Buffs capitalized on an Ahman Green fumble, which was recovered by Ryan Black at the NU 35. Aldrich then drilled a 40-yarder moments later to give CU a 6-0 lead.

The next time Colorado's offense took the field, Detmer's first down pass was tipped by defensive tackle Jeff Ogard near the line of scrimmage at the CU 16.

Foreman picked the ball out of the air and returned it 21 yards for a touchdown, putting NU in front 7-6 despite the ineptitude of its offense, which had yet to gain a first down.

“There is a time in the game where you've got to come together like brothers and sisters out there and step up.”

JAY FOREMAN
NU linebacker

"We always like to make something happen," Foreman said, "and it was my turn to make the big play."

The Huskers extended their lead to 10-6 on a 30-yard field goal by Kris Brown with 12:46 left in the second quarter.

Then Evans, who became NU's offensive workhorse because of a toe injury to Green and Damon Benning's ankle sprain, took over.

No. 4 I-back Jay Sims (sore ankle) was also unavailable Friday, leaving NU with no depth behind Evans, who missed a day of practice last week because of a groin injury. Schuster, a full-back, was next in line to play at I-back, said Frank Solich, NU's running backs coach.

But Evans, a true freshman from Wichita, Kan., held up. He rushed for 59 of his game-high 123 yards on a seven play, 78-yard second-quarter drive that he capped with a 7-yard spinning touchdown. The lone offensive touchdown of the game widened NU's lead to 17-6 with 6:47 left in the half.

That was one of few bright spots for Nebraska's offense, which lost four

of five fumbles — three of which were inside its own 39-yard line — and gained only 13 first downs. NU also hurt itself by committing 11 penalties for 70 yards.

"Our defense did a great job of holding us in there," Osborne said. "We didn't have a great offensive day."

Playing without suspended linebacker Terrell Farley, Nebraska threw a defensive loop at the Buffs.

Mike Minter, who started the first 10 games of the season at rover, moved to the Will linebacker position. The 5-foot-9, 190-pound Minter harassed Detmer all day, recording four tackles and breaking up one pass.

Frost, who competed 6 of 14 passes for 56 yards and rushed for 32 yards, said the offense played well enough to win.

"We were in that mode again where we were hurting ourselves," Frost said. "The turnovers kill you, and that let them back in the game."

"We feel like we are playing good enough football to beat anyone in the country right now, and we are going to have a chance to prove that."

NU wrestlers take 5th at Mat Town Invite

From Staff Reports

by Oregon's Scott Norton on an overtime tie-breaker.

Nebraska heavyweight wrestler Tolly Thompson was beaten 8-5 by top-ranked Kerry McCoy of Penn State Saturday in the finals of the Mat Town Invitational in Lock Haven, Penn.

The Cornhuskers finished fifth with a score of 90, trailing team champion Penn State, which was followed by Rider, Lock Haven and Pittsburgh.

The heavyweight battle pitted the 1994 national champion, McCoy, against the 1995 champion, Thompson.

Other than Thompson, only 158-pounder Jason Kraft reached the finals for Nebraska. Kraft was beaten

"I was disappointed Tolly lost his match to McCoy," NU Coach Tim Neumann said, "and that Jason Kraft lost in the finals. You hope that once a guy reaches the finals, he is trained to be a champion. But they both just fell a little short."

Jeramie Welder at 126 pounds and 134-pounder Brad Canoyer finished third for Nebraska; 118-pounder Darin Giese and 142-pounder Allen Hankins were fourth; Ryan Bauer finished fifth at 150 and Terry McCreary was seventh at the same weight.

"Placing someone at every weight from 118 to 158 was encouraging," Neumann said, "but finishing fifth was a little disappointing."

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