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Stewart anxious to see MU respond

By DAVID WILSON
Staff Reporter

After suffering its biggest loss of the season in Lincoln on Saturday, Missouri will be looking for revenge tonight when Nebraska travels to Columbia, Mo.



Stewart

But Tiger Coach Norm Stewart said he isn't sure how his team will respond to the 76-53 loss it suffered at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

"It will be interesting to see how we come back," Stewart said. "Certainly we ought to be able to play better than that. But we'll have to wait and see."

Missouri (9-8 overall and 1-4 in the Big 12 Conference) opened Saturday's game with a 7-0 run in the first three minutes, but NU responded with a 15-2 run and took a halftime lead of 43-26.

"We got three quick buckets — good shots," Stewart said. "And that was the end of it. They beat us back down the floor. That's how they got ahead."

Although the Tigers attempted six more shots than the Cornhuskers, MU shot just 27.4 percent from the field.

"That's the poorest we've shot (this season) and we had trouble rebounding," Stewart said. "It was just a poor ballgame."

Freshman guard Jeff Hafer, who

injured his leg on a second half dunk, said the Tigers cannot afford another conference loss to the Huskers — especially at home.

"The loss hurts," the 6-foot-5 Hafer said. "We had a bad game and we have to bounce back. We have to come back and get them."

"A lot of times when you lose to a team, you say you wish you had them again right away. We have that chance."

But after the loss, Stewart said his players did not appear too excited about a quick rematch with NU.

"It's the old thing," Stewart said. "A guy beats you and you say, 'Wait 'til you get to our place.' I didn't hear anybody say that in the dressing room."

After finishing first in the Big Eight Conference in 1993-94, the Tigers finished fourth in 1994-95. They were sixth last season.

After five league games, Missouri owns a 1-4 league record, the second-worst mark in the conference's North Division. The Tigers' only conference win, 82-66 over Baylor, came on Jan. 14 at the Hearn Center. Only Kansas State at 0-4 ranks below Missouri in the North Division.

"Right now our pride is a little bit stung," Hafer said. "We're not playing like the University of Missouri should. But we're going to come together. I'm confident in our team."

Stewart wasn't as confident.

"We'll have to wait and see," said the Tigers' coach, who has spent 30 years on the MU sideline. "There are ballgames left. We just have to keep working and see if we can't get something put together."

Coaches split on rule

By VINCE D'ADAMO
Staff Reporter

Most parents would like their son or daughter to get the chance to work during their college years.

Until last Monday, student-athletes' main job was seen in an athletic venue or in the classroom and not flipping burgers. Now that has changed.

Delegates at last week's NCAA Convention passed a rule that allows college athletes to hold a part-time job while they are in school. Big 12 men's basketball coaches have varying opinions on whether this is good or bad for college athletics.

Some coaches agreed with the rule, others were indifferent and some felt it made as much sense as salting the ocean because of the time demands placed on student-athletes.

Colorado Coach Ricardo Patton said it's in everyone's best interest to make rules that help student-athletes.

"And I think this rule is best," Patton said. "I think it's good to allow the kids to put a little money in their pocket for when they go away from school."

But Texas A&M Coach Tony Barone thinks the rule will have little or no impact.

"I think it's a totally meaningless situation," Barone said. "I don't have a player on my team that can work and take care of his basketball world, academic work and religious world."

Nebraska Coach Danny Nee echoed Barone's sentiments.

"There aren't that many jobs in Lincoln," Nee said. "Besides, physically any player would have trouble finding the time."

Oklahoma Coach Kelvin Sampson took an economist's point of view to explain the grueling schedule of an athlete.

"Holy smokes!" Sampson said. "The idea and intent is good, but I don't know if supply and demand will be met because of the time elements."

Baylor Coach Harry Miller agrees that time demands make it hard for student-athletes to work. But there is an even greater problem, Miller said. "People say, 'Well, you can wait tables,'" Miller said. "But what if an agent drops a \$100 tip. Is that against the rules? I would have favored some sort of stipends instead."

NU goes for fifth straight win

TIGERS from page 7

Last season, Nebraska walloped Missouri 76-58 in the Bob Devaney Sports Center only to lose by one on the road.

"The same thing happened to us last year," NU point guard Tyrone Lue said. "We beat them here by 18, and went down there lost by one, but I expect us to be a lot more aggressive."

For Lue and freshman Cookie Belcher this game will be a good chance to show Missouri fans what

they are missing. Belcher, a 6-3 guard, is from Mexico, Mo., only 30 miles northeast of Columbia. Lue lived in Mexico before moving to Raytown, Mo. in high school. Both spurned MU to come to Lincoln.

Lue, who is averaging a team-leading 16.5 points and 4.7 assists per game, had just eight points while making 4 of 12 from the field against Missouri last Saturday.

"I guarantee I'll play a lot better than I did Saturday night," Lue said. Belcher — who leads the confer-

NU walk-on has talent to become great

By SHANNON HEFFELFINGER
Staff Reporter

The honors keep pouring in for future Nebraska volleyball walk-on Kim Behrends.

After receiving numerous in-state awards, Behrends, from Class D-1 Chappell High School, finished as the runner-up to Janae Henry of Bakersfield, Calif., for national player of the year honors.

Behrends was selected as a member of the Volleyball Magazine 1996 High School All-American team. Angie Oxley, who has given a verbal commitment to play for NU, was named honorable mention All-American. Jill McWilliams of Des Moines, Iowa, and Nancy Meendering of Hull, Iowa, have also given commitments to attend Nebraska.

Bill Feldman, a talent scout of Midwest Volleyball, said Behrends' ability to play a solid all-around game makes her a player to watch.

"She can do it all," Feldman said. "Kim has the size and speed and skills to play a more complete game than anybody else I've seen."

"It is extraordinary that Kim can have such a high profile and such a national reputation while playing at Chappell."

Behrends led Chappell to its second consecutive state championship pouncing a state record 42 kills in the title match. In 24 matches for the Buffaloes her senior year, Behrends posted 418 kills — averaging eight kills per game — and 166 blocks.

"She has to be a great player to get that kind of production," Feldman said, "because she was not surrounded by elite players."

Henry edged Behrends for the national player of the year, an award that Stanford outside hitter Kerri Walsh won last year.

Feldman said Henry, who has committed to USC for the 1997 season, had the advantage of competing for the high-profile Centennial High School volleyball team in Bakersfield.

Henry's team won the California state championship and finished the 1996 season ranked fourth in the nation.

Feldman said he expects both players to have continued success on the collegiate level.

"Lots of big players lack ball-control skills," Feldman said. "Conversely, there are great ball-control players who can't play at the net. Kim is a player who has everything covered."

"Kim has gone a long way on natural talent. When she gets elite college training, who knows what she can do?"