

Sports

MONDAY, JANUARY 27, 1997

PAGE 7

NU splits with Oklahoma

Anna DeForge scores 27 points to lead the Nebraska women.

Oklahoma	59
Nebraska	87

By **MIKE KLUCK**
Senior Reporter

Nebraska Women's Basketball Coach Angela Beck allowed Anna DeForge to act a little "cheesy" before the Cornhuskers game with Oklahoma Sunday afternoon.



DeForge

In turn DeForge, a 5-foot-11 junior forward from Niagara, Wis., who showed up at the game wearing a No. 4 Green Bay Packers jersey, responded with a game-high 27 points as NU beat the Sooners 87-59 before a season-high crowd of 3,525 fans at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

With their fifth-straight win the Huskers continued their best start in school history at 15-1 and 5-1 in the Big 12 Conference. NU has a half-game lead over Kansas in the league's North Division. Oklahoma fell to 5-12 and 1-6 in the conference.

"Early on I got a little nervous when she came out of the locker room with her Packer gear on and everyone else was in their uniform," Beck said. "She's come this far to go to school that I've got to let her feel the cheesehead material."

"She really, really bleeds that stuff. I guess, that's my obligation when I pluck a kid from that far away."

Beck's concern about DeForge's focus before the game became a reality in the game's first six minutes. DeForge struggled making just one of her first six shots. Her only basket came after she put back her own miss to give the Huskers a 7-6, 4 minutes, 51 seconds into the game.



MATT MILLER/DN

TYRONN LUE drives against two Oklahoma defenders in NU's 84-77 loss Saturday in Norman. Lue scored a career-high 30 points against the Sooners.

Please see **WOMEN** on 8

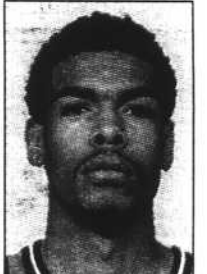
Cornhusker men lose despite Tyronn Lue's 30-point effort.

Nebraska	77
Oklahoma	84

By **MITCH SHERMAN**
Senior Reporter

NORMAN, Okla. — Frustration poured from Mikki Moore's eyes, and each word from his mouth carried a harsh tone reserved for times like Saturday.

The normally loose locker room of the Cornhusker basketball team radiated a tense and angry feeling. No yelling. No clapping. Few words of encouragement.



Moore

Nebraska lost Saturday. But to the eight Huskers who played, this 84-77 defeat at Oklahoma was more than a loss. It was a missed opportunity to jump start a season beginning to head in the wrong direction.

Asked what each Husker must do to turn the corner, Moore sat quietly and then stopped in mid-sentence, throwing his towel to the ground and raising his voice.

"Play like a man," the 6-foot-11 senior said.

"Each player has got to look at themselves in the mirror and push themselves from now until the end of the season. I know for a fact that I am because I don't want my season ending after the Big 12 Tournament."

Before a crowd of 9,617 at the Lloyd Noble Center, NU fell to 11-7 overall and 3-3 in the Big 12 Conference, losing for the 15th time in its last 16 trips to Norman. OU (11-5 and 3-3) used a 14-5 run late in the second half and out-scored Nebraska 30-18 in the final 12 minutes, capitalizing on numerous Husker errors down the stretch.

Please see **MEN** on 8

Packers roll past Pats

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Green Bay finally has a present to go with its past.

The Packers' 35-21 Super Bowl victory over New England on Sunday hardly brought back memories of Vince Lombardi's grind-it-out champions of the '60s.

Instead, this was a high-powered Pack — doing it with big plays, especially by MVP Desmond Howard — who returned Green Bay to NFL prominence and put the title back in "Titletown, USA."

"I think it's time that the Lombardi Trophy goes home to Lambeau Field, where it belongs," Packers President Robert Harlan said.

Not that Lombardi would have recognized the way this team won. There were no pulling guards, none of his classic power sweeps.

Rather, it was Brett Favre finding Andre Rison for a 54-yard touchdown on the Packers' second offensive play of the game. Then Favre threw an 81-yard touchdown pass to Antonio Freeman — the longest in Super Bowl history — in the first minute of the second quarter to put Green Bay ahead for good.

And it was Howard scoring on a 99-yard kickoff return, then striking an abbreviated

Super Bowl

Heisman pose in the end zone, a dagger in the heart of the Patriots, who had just closed to 27-21 the play before.

Howard, the first special teams player to win MVP, finished with a record 244 return yards.

"Through all the adversity and the trials and tribulations, I've always had confidence in myself," Howard said.

Two former Nebraska football players overcame adversity as well Sunday night. Cornerback Tyrone Williams overcame many off-the-field distractions and reserve running back and special teams player Calvin Jones both helped the Packers.

The win was the 13th straight for the NFC and kept Bill Parcells, who had two of the 13 with the Giants in 1986 and 1990, from becoming the first coach to win a Super Bowl with two different franchises.

"I'm disappointed, because I do think we had a chance there for a moment," Parcells said. "We played hard. We just cracked a little bit under pressure."

Track teams win 14 events

By **VINCE D'ADAMO**
Staff Reporter

Although more than 25 teams and 600 athletes competed in the non-team scored Nebraska Open Saturday, the meet lacked the scintillating atmosphere of other invitational and championship meets.

Nevertheless, Cornhusker Coach Gary Pepin said both the men's and women's track and field teams had many positive results in front of a crowd of 1,706 people at the Bob Devaney Sports Center track.

"Considering it was not a real hyped up meet," Pepin said, "we still had a lot of good performances."

On the women's side, nine Huskers claimed first place titles and they also won the 4 x 400-meter relay.

Shot putter Tressa Thompson won her event with a career and school-best toss of 57 feet, 5½ inches. Although her throw is an automatic NCAA qualifying mark, Thompson said she plans to reach greater heights.

"I'm setting my goals," Thompson said. "Now my next mark is 59. The collegiate record, I plan on getting that in the next couple weeks."

In the 20-pound weight throw, Doreen Heldt earned first place with a heave of 53-5½. Sherri Macfee won the 1,000 meter in a time of 2 minutes, 55.5 seconds.

Two NU freshmen posted NCAA qualifying marks in their event wins. In the high jump, Carrie Branes leaped 5-10 and in the triple jump, Dahlia Ingram had a jump of 41-1¼.

Angee Henry won the long jump (20-6¼) and the 200-meter dash (24.54 seconds). In the 4 x 400-meter relay, Henry, Stella Klassen, Jill Myatt and La'Tisha Croom won with a time of 3:44.56. Croom also won the 400-meter dash title with a time of 55.65 seconds.

"She did a great job," NU Sprints Coach Billy Maxwell said. "We're expecting even better things from her this year."

The Husker men won four individual events. In the 35-pound weight throw, Scott Warren triumphed with a toss of 63-10¼. Alex Lamme won the 1,000-meter run in 2:28.46 and Benji Prebyl won the triple jump with a leap of 49-6¼.

In the long jump, junior Chris Wright, a transfer from Kansas City Community College, had the right stuff winning the event with a leap of 25-6.

"I just came out each day and worked on my approaches," Wright said.