

## Jayhawks escape Husker charge

**NU fails to capitalize on its chance to topple No. 1 Kansas.**

**By MITCH SHERMAN**  
Senior Reporter

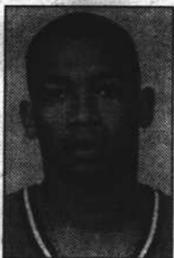
LAWRENCE, Kan. — Eight Nebraska basketball players left every ounce of their energy on the Allen Fieldhouse floor Saturday afternoon, falling excruciatingly short of stealing one of the biggest wins in the 101-year history of Cornhusker basketball.

With 23 seconds to play in the second half, Nebraska held the ball with the score tied at 60 and a chance to shock the nation by ending top-ranked Kansas' 39-game homecourt-winning streak.

But Tyrone Lue's desperation 3-pointer, tipped by Kansas forward Paul Pierce, fell 6 feet short of the rim and sent the game into overtime. KU played nearly perfect in the extra period, winning 82-77 to secure the best start to a season in Jayhawk history.

"No one expected us to have a chance," Nebraska Coach Danny Nee said. "I told the kids last night that we do have a chance. There is an opportunity. But when Kansas had to, they found a way to win it."

NU's fourth straight loss dropped its record to 11-9 overall and 3-5 in the Big 12 Conference, but it also sent a message to the rest of the league that Nebraska refuses to fade silently into the land of forgotten teams.



Lue

"We know we are a good team," NU center Mikki Moore said after Kansas improved to 22-0 and 8-0 before a sellout crowd of 16,300. "We've just been having bad breaks. Once we get everything together, we can be a highly ranked team, just like Kansas."

For much of Saturday's game, Nebraska appeared destined to win in Lawrence for the first time since 1983.

■ NU out-rebounded Kansas 46-33, just the second time this season the Jayhawks lost the battle of the boards.

■ The Huskers shot 50 percent to Kansas' 43 percent, only the fourth time this year an opponent out-shot KU.

■ The Jayhawks made just 5 of 15 first-half free throws and allowed six ties and nine lead changes before halftime.

■ After a 13-2 Kansas run that ignited a frenzy in the stands, Nebraska kept its composure, never trailing by more than 10. NU then

Nebraska	77
Kansas	82

used a 7-0 run of its own to regain momentum but made just 10 of 21 free throws in the second half.

■ The Huskers took the Jayhawks to overtime for the first time this season, held KU to a season-low 60 points in regulation and surrendered only 20 points before overtime to Kansas' top two scorers, Pierce and Raef LaFrentz.

In overtime, however, LaFrentz and Pierce took over, scoring 17 points on 5-of-5 shooting after Moore, Venson Hamilton and Bernard Garner fouled out.

"I'm not very proud of the way I'm coaching right now," KU Coach Roy Williams said. "I'm not doing a very good job. It didn't make

Please see KU on 9

## Huskers collapse; Kansas rolls to win

**By MIKE KLUCK**  
Senior Reporter

Despite holding a 10-point lead with less than 10 minutes to play against 12th-ranked Kansas Sunday, the Nebraska women's basketball team wasn't operating at full power.

So when the Jayhawks (16-3, and 7-1 in the Big 12 Conference) turned on the jets, the Cornhuskers didn't have the firepower to keep up as Kansas soared to a 67-59 victory and the top spot in the North Division of the league.

The loss before a season-high crowd of 5,082 fans at the Bob Devaney Sports Center dropped NU to 16-2 and 6-2. It was the Jayhawks' 13th straight victory over the Huskers, who haven't beaten KU since Feb. 6, 1991.

"Everybody has to arrive," Nebraska Coach Angela Beck said. "We can't have three cylinders working and expect to win the game. Every cylinder had to be on fire and ignited, and we didn't have that. They didn't have that either, and that's why it was a close game."

Early in the second half it appeared the game wasn't going to be close. Nebraska went into the locker room on the strength of a half court 3-point shot by freshman Nicole Kubik. The Huskers led 28-27 and took much needed momentum into the intermission.

The Huskers used that momentum in the second half to go on an 11-0 run and open up a 12-point lead when Husker junior Anna DeForge threw an alley-oop pass to senior

Kansas	67
Nebraska	59

LaToya Doage who laid the ball in with 17:15 remaining.

Doage, a 5-foot-5 guard, was NU's second-leading scorer with 13 points. But more important to the Huskers was her defense on Kansas All-American Tamecka Dixon.

Dixon, a candidate for national player of the year honors, has been averaging 21.3 points a game this season, but in the past four games the senior from Linden, N.J., has averaged 27.8 points.

A combination of Doage's tenacious man-to-man defense, Nebraska's zone defense and a hyper-extended knee Dixon suffered in practice Saturday helped hold her to seven points with nine minutes left.

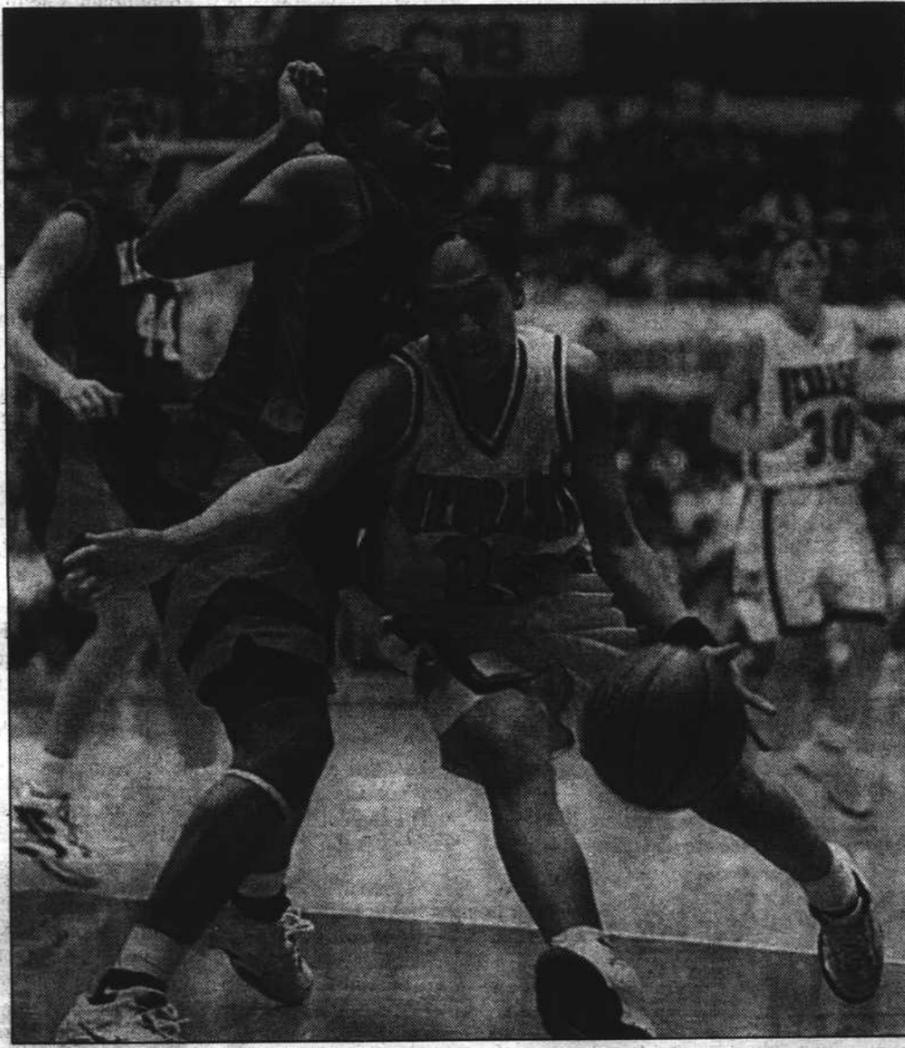
Doage said she was thrilled to play against a big-time player like Dixon.

"Last year I didn't ever get a feel for the way she was playing," Doage said. "I was excited for the game and the chance to get out and compete against her. I played as hard as I could, and I am just frustrated I couldn't help my team more."

That frustration hit its highest level when Doage fouled out with 5:31 remaining. Beck said Doage's loss fired up the Jayhawks.

However, Dixon's fire started in the final nine minutes when she made a 3-pointer to cut

Please see WOMEN on 9



SCOTT BRUHN/DN

NEBRASKA'S LATOYA DOAGE drives against Tamecka Dixon in the Huskers' 67-59 loss.

## Nebraska may lose juco recruit

**Harrison's mother is still unsure of her son's college choice.**

**By DAVID WILSON**  
Staff Reporter

An athlete's verbal commitment is only as good as his word.

For the second time in less than a month, a junior college cornerback may have backed out of a verbal commitment to play football at Nebraska next fall.

Brandon Harrison, a 5-foot-11, 180-pounder from Gainesville, Texas, will not attend NU next fall, Bobby Burton of The National Recruiting Advisor said Sunday.

Harrison, who committed to Nebraska during a trip to Lincoln last month, has chosen to sign with

Texas A&M, Burton said. Harrison will sign his letter of intent on Wednesday, the first day of the signing period.

Without a phone in his new Kansas City, Kan., apartment, Harrison was unavailable for comment.

Harrison — who attended Blinn (Texas) College for 1½ years but now goes to school at Kansas City Community College — originally favored Texas A&M before choosing Nebraska last month. He visited Texas A&M on Dec. 13.

He committed to Nebraska after the Cornhuskers lost a verbal commitment from Kevin Brooks, a Garden City (Kan.) Community College cornerback who chose to attend South Carolina.

Harrison's mother, Deloris Harrison, said Sunday that her son was not going to tell her what

school he would attend until Wednesday.

"He's going to surprise us," Deloris Harrison said.

If Nebraska loses Harrison, it will have 21 verbal commitments and is likely to accept at least one more commitment before Wednesday.

Running back Jamal Lewis, who committed to Tennessee last month, said Sunday that he was still considering Nebraska's scholarship offer.

"They're pretty even right now," Lewis said.

The 6-1, 215-pounder from Douglass High School in Atlanta said he enjoyed his Dec. 20 visit to Lincoln, but he favors the Tennessee facilities and coaches. Lewis said he will make his final decision by Wednesday.

## Munson salvages NU win

**By ANTONE OSEKA**  
Staff Reporter

Wrestling picks unexpected heroes.

Losing 4-2 going into the third period and his team trailing 18-10, Nebraska 190-pounder Scott Munson pulled off a Granby flip to put Iowa State's Matt Mulvihill on his back. Forty-five seconds later, at 6:03 into the match, Munson had a pin.

Nebraska now trailed 18-16 going into heavyweight Tolly Thompson's match.

NU Coach Tim Neumann said it is Munson's biggest win of the year.



Munson

"You pin a guy from Iowa State to win the dual meet ... that's pretty huge," Neumann said.

Thompson, ranked third in the nation, beat Trent Hynek 16-7 to seal the dual for Nebraska.

The 11th-ranked Huskers upset the No. 7 Cyclones 20-18 in front of an estimated 1,000 fans at the Bob Devaney Sports Center track.

Iowa State Coach Bobby Douglas said he wasn't extremely upset with the Cyclones' loss.

"We didn't wrestle bad," he said. "We just didn't get the job done."

Until Mulvihill was pinned, it looked as if the Cyclones were getting the job done. They opened with two victories at 118 and 126. ISU 118-pounder Cody Sanderson got four team points with a 9-1 major decision win over NU's Todd Beckerman.

Dwight Hinson followed that with

Please see ISU on 9