

Huskers upset Alabama

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good team that we just beat." Nebraska pounded the Crimson Tide on the boards 44-33 and recorded 15 steals, but the big difference was at the free-throw line where the Huskers made 26 of 31 attempts, compared to 18 of 33 for the Tide, including 11-24 in the second half.

UA Coach Rick Moody said NU's performance at the line did in the Tide.

"I think you look at one key statistic in this game and it's what they did at the free-throw line," he said. "They shot 84 percent from the line, and they got there often."

Sanderford said had a simpler explanation for the victory.

"We had more will than Alabama tonight," he said. "It was ugly, but I'm not going to give it back."

In the first quarter, it didn't look like a game that would be Sanderford's to give.

Alabama outscored the Huskers 18-6 in the first 10 minutes, holding Nebraska to only 3-of-12 shooting. The Tide also forced 12 NU turnovers.

"I think we came out a little intimidated," DeForge said. "We weren't going as we wanted to."

The game changed completely

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in the second quarter, when the Huskers scored 12 straight points and outscored Alabama 27-7 to take a 33-25 lead at halftime.

Sanderford said Nebraska attacked Alabama after the first quarter.

"The big push was when we got on the boards," he said. "We beat a very good rebounding team, and we limited them to one shot."

The Crimson Tide raced back to take the lead early in the third quarter, but senior guard Jami Kubik tied the game at 47 with a 3-pointer and the Huskers never trailed again.

Alabama guard Brittany Ezell said Nebraska had an answer for every Crimson Tide run.

"Every time we got on a roll, they would pound it inside, or DeForge would do something huge," said Ezell, who finished with a game-high 17 points. "You have to give them a lot of credit for what they did."

Sophomore Cisco Gilmore had career highs in leading the Huskers with 13 points and eight rebounds. DeForge also scored 13 points, and sophomore guard Nicole Kubik added 12.

"*We beat a very good rebounding team, and we limited them to one shot.*"

PAUL SANDERFORD
women's basketball coach

The Huskers' win built upon its first victory in the WNIT, an 88-54 victory over Miami (Ohio) Friday. DeForge led Nebraska with 26 points in the season opener.

NU next plays Western Kentucky - which defeated New Mexico 77-76 Sunday - in the semifinals Thursday in Storrs, Conn. Before coming to Nebraska, Sanderford coached the Hilltoppers for 13 seasons.

Sanderford didn't want to talk about a reunion with his old team Sunday.

"I just want to enjoy this one right now," he said. "Come Monday morning, I'll start worrying about who we play next."



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Women run to second, NCAA berth at districts

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S.C.

"Those three ran the races of their lives," NU Coach Jay Dirksen said. "I can't tell you how proud I am of how much they stepped up this weekend."

Nebraska finished with 81 points, five points behind the Tigers and 26 points ahead of third-place Minnesota. But the score didn't reflect the scrambling the Huskers had to do to finish second.

NU's second runner, sophomore Jaime Pauli, was hampered by a stress fracture in her leg, and NU's third runner senior, Nora Shepherd, suffered an asthma attack during the race, forcing Centerwall, Mohr and Osteen to step up. The three responded well, finishing 11th, 13th, and 28th and securing the second-place finish for NU. Pauli finished 24th, good for fourth on the team, while Shepherd was 33rd.

Centerwall said she knew it would be a big race with two runners having problems.

"Coach told us that we had to run well and that we would have compete hard," she said. "Nora and Jaime weren't able to run their best race, but we ran better than ever."

The Huskers were led again by freshman Amy Wiseman, who finished fifth with a time of 18:28.

Nebraska attack impresses Iowa State coach McCarney

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"They were big, aggressive and fast," Davis said. "I think the game last week made them really angry, plus they dropped in the polls. I guess they took it out on us."

In the second half, Nebraska - led primarily by second and third stringers - outscored the Cyclones 14-7. Fifteen Huskers shared 63 carries for 473 yards on the day. NU also added 121 yards passing.

ISU has dropped five straight to Nebraska and the Huskers have outscored the Cyclones 276-71 in those games.

But McCarney, who took over at Iowa State before the 1995 season, said this year's Husker squad was possibly the best he had ever seen.

Dirksen said Wiseman and the rest of the newcomers showed their poise under adversity Saturday.

"The freshmen and sophomores have been so patient this year and in this race," he said.

In the men's competition, Nebraska freshman Jeroen Broekzitter and senior Cleophas Boor both individually qualified for the NCAA Championships by finishing first and second at the district meet.

As a team, though, NU finished third behind Oklahoma State and Minnesota, knocking the team out from a trip to the NCAA Championships.

Broekzitter ran the snow-packed course in a time of 32 minutes, 38 seconds, four seconds better than Boor.

"Jeroen showed how in control he was of the conditions and the rest of the field Saturday," Dirksen said. "He keeps getting better and better."

Rounding out the finishers for NU was senior Aaron Johnson in 25th (33:33), junior Lou Petricca in 36th (34:03), and freshman Marcus Witter in 37th (34:03).

Dirksen said he has been pleased with the men's performance this season.

"We lost two great runners before the year even began and we didn't throw in the towel," Dirksen said. "We competed as hard as we could have through all the adversity."

Flanker Tyrone Watley disagreed. Watley, the Cyclones' leading receiver, caught three passes for 64 yards and one touchdown. The senior faced Nebraska in 1994 and 1995 with Pacific before joining Iowa State last season.

"They've been great all four years," Watley said, "but I feel that they had just a little more talent overall and their defense was a little bit better when we played them in '94."

Despite the loss, the Cyclones can't just forget about the game, Bandhauer said.

"You have to learn from every situation," Bandhauer said. "We'd probably like to throw away the film, but we can't. It happened. It's not like it didn't happen. We just have to learn from our mistakes."



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