

# Solich: Revenge not factor

WILDCATS from page 12

Dame and Oklahoma, the junior has learned that the field is the same size and has learned to tune out the rowdies in the stands.

Matt Davison said KSU has great fans, but it is not the most hostile crowd he has seen.

As far as his memories of the Wildcats as a kid growing up in Tecumseh, Davison said his view has changed.

"I wouldn't say I hated them, but I always remember them being bad," Davison said. "Now the last few years they have come along, and they are a team that has to be reckoned with in the Big 12."

But, like Crouch, Davison still hurts from the loss in 1998.

"It was one of the toughest losses I have ever had to take," Davison said. "That game was a big game for us, and with the way our season was going, that game was going to, I don't want to say salvage our season, but we really wanted that one."

Although many of the Huskers said that they distinctly remember the game two years ago, Coach Frank Solich, who lost to Kansas State in his first-ever meeting with the Wildcats, would soon forget it.

"That was then, and this is now," Solich said. "There is no sense looking back at what happened that year."

But Solich, while downplaying the aspect of revenge on the game, showed that he does remember a little from the game, but quickly reverted back to keeping focus.

"There are two different football teams - maybe it is the same crowd," Solich said. "It really doesn't matter."

"What does matter is how you prepare for the game and how you play the game. There are so many reasons to play with great intensity in this game, so anything that has happened in the past doesn't really enter into it as far as this team is concerned."

# NU loses in mistake-filled exhibition

BASKETBALL from page 12

NU within striking distance as both Ford and Boeker struggled in their first action for the Huskers, totaling 0 points and three turnovers apiece.

Struggling alongside the newcomers in the first half was senior guard Cookie Belcher, who missed all eight of his shots in the first half - five of which were 3-point attempts.

"He settled too much in the first half for the perimeter shot and took the ball to the basket in the second half and made a number of really nice plays," Collier said.

In the second half, Belcher settled in and ended with 16 points on 7-19 shooting for the game.

The defensive specialist, who is in reach of the NCAA career steals mark, got three steals in the game, but also committed six turnovers.

Overall, the Huskers had only three other players score for the game, with Brian Conklin and Craig Wortmann totaling four points apiece and Ben



Nebraska guard Cookie Belcher and the Huskers struggled in their exhibition opener. Belcher missed all eight of his shots in the first half.

Chesnut adding two.

Global Sports was led by guard C.J. Bruton, who played at Indian Hills Community College. Bruton had 18 points and four steals.

Bradford and Cochran said it was tough to play shorthanded, but neither was making excuses for the loss.

"I got myself out of position a lot and it hurt me both offensively and defensively," Cochran said.

"There is a lot more to my game than the numbers and, as far as the overall game, I am disappointed."

"Thankfully, it doesn't count against our record."

# KSU, NU stats nearly identical

IDENTICAL from page 12

them," said Bohl, whose defense is coming off a dominating performance against Kansas on Saturday.

Bohl said NU will look to pressure Beasley and throw him off his game and out of his comfort zone - something that did not work against Oklahoma but was effective last season against Beasley, when the quarterback was three for 19 passing against NU.

Nebraska's secondary was torched by OU's Josh Heupel two weeks ago, but pasted KU 56-17 after losing to the Sooners. In similar fashion, Kansas State bounced back from its loss to A&M with a convincing 56-10 win against Iowa State.

"Kansas State did Iowa State in all phases of the

game and consequently, are on top of their game right now," NU Coach Frank Solich said.

KSU has suffered two losses, compared to NU's one, but both teams enter Saturday night's matchup having traveled down comparable roads.

Aside from the statistical comparisons that range from punting to turnover margins, and vary only in passing offense and kickoff returns, both teams lost convincingly to Oklahoma at pivotal points in their seasons and are looking for a route that leads back into their goals for the year.

The game will most likely decide the Big 12 North's participant in the conference championship game and for NU, could have national title implications as well.

"This is what we play for every year," Raiola said.

# Nebrasketball looks the same in opener

"Bring Danny Nee back," a voice shouted.

Men choked on their hot dogs at the sound of such a thing. Women covered their children's ears.

"Boooo..." the crowd retaliated, condemning this loud-mouth for yelling such an obscene gesture during Barry Collier's coaching debut.

This is a new team, a new coach. Final Four or bust ...

However, it was hard to cover up the fact this Nebraska team looked like a mirror image of last year's 11-18 bunch.

Nebraska lost 76-62 to Global Sports, and it may not have been that close.

There were countless turnovers. Cookie Belcher was back on the floor but looked rusty, going 0 for 8 in the first half.

Kedrick Ford drew the start at point guard, but dare I say, Kedrick has seen better days than his 0 for 5 output.

The hoop looked the size of a golf hole for every Husker who dared to cast a shot.

Nebraska scored 24 first-half points. All 24 belonged to Cary



Brian Christopherson

Cochran and Steffon Bradford. Two guys scored in one half. TWO!

"Jitters," was the term Collier used to describe his team's first game.

At least Collier hopes it was jitters. If not, it's going to be a long year.

In fairness, there was a bright spot. The second half was better.

Cookie started taking the pill to the basket. NU's defense began to contest Global Sports, and the Huskers began to claim a few boards.

They even cut the lead down to nine and got the crowd into the game before a fatal Global Sports stretch run ended comeback hopes.

When asked what the bright spots were, Cochran thought for a moment ... or two. "The best thing is that we didn't have our full team out there tonight," he said.

Indeed, Kimani Ffriend and Rodney Fields were sitting out the first of a three-game suspension. That twosome would have eased the bleeding.

But the best news on this night was that it was only an exhibition.

It was all a dream in the record books. NU is 0-0. Barry is undefeated as a Husker, and nobody in the crowd ever mentioned Danny Nee.



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