

Nebraska center Kimani Ffriend blocks a shot of ISU forward Martin Rancik in the second half.

Heartbreaker leaves Huskers below .500

SCYCLONES from page 10

the towel." Nebraska came back, helped by the first-half bench play of senior guard Rodney Fields, who chipped in six points before intermission to help chop the Cyclone lead to 27-24 at halftime.

ISU pushed the lead to 34-24 early in the second half, but the Huskers slowly came back, tying the game at 44 on senior forward Steffon Bradford's free throw with 9:26 left.

At this point, Iowa State turned the game over to Tinsley, its most valuable player, who scored 11 of his team's final 16 points. Tinsley would lead all scorers with 23 points.

"He can make four quality players ... great players," Cochran said. "His confidence is contagious."

Cochran wasn't too shabby himself in the late going. He scored eight of his 16 points

Swimmers hang with Texas elite

BY TOBY BURGER

The Lone Star State didn't make for the most hospitable confines for the Nebraska men's and women's swimming and diving teams this past weekend.

Both teams traveled to Texas for competition on Friday and Saturday. The women went 1-1 in a pair of duals, and the men finished fifth at the Dallas Morning News Classic Invitation.

The women's team opened the weekend with a 165-76 loss to No. 11 SMU on Friday in Dallas. The next day, the team traveled to San Antonio and squeaked by No. 24 Texas A&M 152-147.

Interim Coach Paul Nelsen was pleased with the women's performances. He said the most inspiring part was how the team rallied and rebounded after the SMU defeat.

"It was nice to finish on that note (defeating Texas A&M)," Nelsen said. "I am happy the team came together to support each other coming off SMU."

The NU women won 11 of the 16 events at Texas A&M. Beth Karica, Elvira Fischer, Lindsey Highstrom, Jackie Lobdell and Rebecca Wolf each claimed two individual titles.

With the loss to SMU and the win to Texas A&M, the women are 5-3 and 2-0 in the conference.

The DMN Classic proved to be a challenge for the men. Facing five of the top 25 teams in the nation, the men only mustered a fifth-place finish, placing in front of No. 5 Auburn University.

Such a performance didn't bother Nelsen though. He was pleased with how the men fared.

"We were looking at getting third or fourth place the whole time," Nelsen said. "It was a challenge to be there, but it wasn't like we walked away disappointed that we got fifth or we only beat one team."

Javier Botello led the NU men, winning the 200-yard freestyle, while helping gain a third-place finish in the 800-yard freestyle.

Both teams return home for competition Friday against Kansas as well as Saturday vs. Missouri.

Tinsley too much for Huskers

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saddle to Tinsley's back and rode his 23 points and four assists.

With his big men struggling and his two gunners having sub-par games, Eustachy said he had no choice. But he wasn't hesitant to put it all on the line with his All-American, and besides, he liked the matchup.

"I really think he'll be a better NBA player because all those plays are just one-on-one," Eustachy said.

Iowa State was only up one with 6:05 left in the game when it became Tinsley time. Tinsley completed a 3-point play to make it 49-46 Cyclones and then proceeded to hit five out of six free throws and score eight of his team's last 11 points in the game.

Eustachy said the end of the game just came down to running his team's best set - spreading the floor and letting Tinsley work his magic.

"If I'm strong with the ball and make one strong first move

and go past my guy, nobody can stop my dribble penetration," Tinsley said.

But NU did stop his final drive as Kimani Ffriend swatted Tinsley's attempt into the crowd with .8 seconds left.

Tinsley said he expected to see more pressure on the ensuing in-bound pass but didn't and found Martin Rancik for the win.

"That is what I thought they were going to do," he said. "But they didn't, and I got a clean look."

Hardabura wins title in return

■ The Nebraska men's gymnastics team finishes second in its season opener.

BY KRISTEN WATERS

The return of Jason Hardabura was a happy one for both the senior gymnast and the Nebraska team.

Hardabura, competing for the first time since early February of last season, won the all-around competition at the Rocky Mountain Open on Friday. His titles, coupled with strong performances by several other Huskers, catapulted the Huskers to a second-place finish in the team competition, behind only No. 3 Oklahoma.

No. 15 Air Force, the host

school, came in third with 194.100.

"I didn't think we'd come out and break any records this weekend," Senior Jason Hardabura said. "But the team showed a tremendous amount of heart. Everyone was a leader."

Hardabura did exactly that as he walked away with the all-around title with 51.7000 points, 1.65 ahead of OU's second-place finisher Gabe Hansen. In team competition, Hardabura also claimed first place in the pommel horse with a score of 8.9 and a third-place finish on the vault with a 9.0.

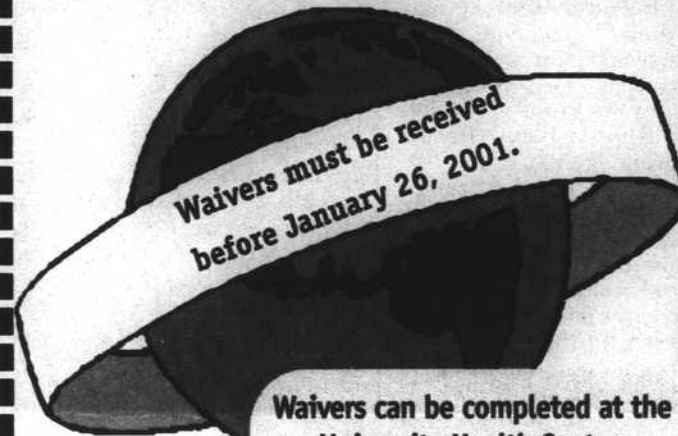
"There were a lot of really good gymnasts there, but I just happened to be the best that day," Hardabura said.

Junior Martin Fournier finished third in the all-around

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