# HUSKERS FROM A TO Z

# Α

- Academic All-Conference- NU has had 94 academic all-league picks in program history, including 41 players since joining the Big Ten in 2011-12.
- Academic All-Americans– The Huskers have produced nine of Nebraska's nation-leading 351 CoSIDA Academic All-Americans across all sports entering 2023-24. Kobe Webster was Nebraska basketball's most recent honoree, as he was a third-team honoree in 2021. Shavon Shields was a two-time first-team Academic All-American in both 2015 and 2016, the only Husker basketball player to be a first-team selection.
- All-Americans- Nebraska has had eight.
- Armory– Home of Husker basketball until the NU Coliseum opened its doors in the mid-1920s.

Attendance – Nebraska ranked 22nd nationally in attendance in 2022-23 with an average attendance of 13,221 per game. The Huskers have ranked in the top 25 nationally every season since moving into Pinnacle Bank Arena.

#### В

- Baack, Tom– Ranks 15th on Nebraska's all-time scoring list with 1,299 points and served as an assistant coach under Moe Iba.
- Belcher, Cookie– Holds Nebraska single-game, season and career steals records, along with the Big 12 steals record at 353. He owns NU's career record for games started and minutes played.
- Big 12– Nebraska's conference from 1997 until 2011.
- Big Eight– Nebraska's conference from 1960 until 1996.
- Big Ten- Nebraska's current conference, as Nebraska joined the Big Ten on July 1, 2011.

Boone, Jaron- Husker swingman from 1993 to 1996 who ranks in the top five in nine career categories, including scoring (7th, 1,609) and assists (3rd, 446).

Branch, Nate– Former Husker who went on to fame with the Harlem Globetrotters. Browne, William– Guided Huskers to 1937 Big Six title.

Bush, Jerry– Known as the "Big Bear of the Coliseum," this popular Husker coach guided NU from 1955 to 1963, and directed two of the greatest upsets ever – a 43-41 victory over No. 4-ranked Kansas and Wilt Chamberlain, and a 55-48 victory over No. 1 Kansas State and Olympian Bob Boozer during the 1957-58 campaign.

#### С

- Carr, Brian- Nebraska's all-time assist leader, with 682 from 1984 to 1987.
- Carrier, Sam– First Husker cager to earn All-America honors (1913).
- Chalk, Leroy- Third on Nebraska's all-time rebounding list with 782 boards.
- Cipriano, Joe– Second-winningest coach in school history with an all-time mark of 253-197 from 1964 through 1980. He was a three-time conference coach of the year and guided the Huskers to three postseason appearances.
- **Coliseum** Home of Nebraska basketball from the 1926-27 season through the 1975-76 campaign.

#### D

Day, Bernard – Ranks as highest-scoring junior college transfer in school history with 802



Cookie Belcher set the Nebraska and Big 12 record for steals and ranks fifth in NCAA history with 353 during his Husker career.

points from 1985 to 1987.

Devaney, Bob– Longtime Nebraska football coach and athletic director who passed away in May of 1997. Nebraska's home court from 1976 until 2013, the Bob Devaney Sports Center, bears his name.

# Е

Ekwall, Rex– Standout for NU in mid-1950s whose 10.4 career rebound average still ranks as a school record.

# F

- First-Round Draft Choices– Nebraska had three in the 1990s, Rich King (1991), Eric Piatkowski (1994) and Tyronn Lue (1998).
- Fort, Jerry– First three-time first-team All-Big Eight selection in school history who finished his career with 1,882 points, which currently ranks third all-time at Nebraska.
- FOX Sports As part of the Big Ten's basketball national television package, games air on FOX Sports, FS1 and BTN.

#### G

Good, Harry– Served as NU head coach from 1947 through 1954 and guided the Huskers to shares of the 1949 and 1950 Big Seven titles. He was enshrined into the Citizens Savings College Basketball Hall of Fame in 1975.

#### н

- Hamilton, Venson– The 1999 Big 12 Player of the Year and Nebraska's all-time leader in career rebounds and blocked shots.
- Hammond Hustlers– Nickname given to Hammond, Ind., natives Brian Banks and Carl McPipe, who finished their careers with 1,150 and 1,300 points, respectively.
- Hare, Fred- His follow-up basket at the buzzer with no time left gave Nebraska a 74-73 upset of No. 1 Michigan and Cazzie Russell in Lincoln during the 1964-65 season.
- Hokuf, Steve– Standout all-around athlete who earned first-team all-conference honors in football, won the Big Six javelin title and earned All-America and all-conference honors in basketball.
- Hoppen, Dave– NU's all-time leading scorer with 2,167 points who was the second three time first-team All-Big Eight pick in school history and the first player in school history to have his jersey number (42) retired.

#### I

- Iba, Moe– The son of legendary coach Henry P. Iba, Moe posted 106 wins on the Husker bench from 1981 to 1986 and guided the school to its first NCAA Tournament berth in 1986.
- International The NCAA allows schools to take a foreign trip once every four years, allowing the Huskers to visit Australia (1988, 2004), Europe (1992), the Bahamas (2010), Spain (2015, 2023) and Italy (2019).

#### J

- Johnson, Bill– Grabbed a school single-game record 26 rebounds against lowa State in 1954. He was also the first Husker to play in the FIBA World Cup, helping the United States to a gold medal in 1954.
- Jura, Chuck– Earned first-team All-Big Eight honors on the court and in the classroom as a senior in 1972. Averaged a school-record 11.7 rebounds per game in 1971-72.

#### к

- King, Rich– Became the first first-round NBA draft pick in school history when the Seattle SuperSonics selected him with the 14th selection of the 1991 draft.
- Kubacki, Jim– Hit the game-winning jumper to beat No. 1 Kansas and Wilt Chamberlain, 43-41, during the 1957-58 season.

#### L

- Lantz, Stuart– Two-time first-team All-Big Eight pick (1967-68) who went on to an eight-year NBA career and had his Husker jersey number (22) retired in 1989. He has been a broadcaster with the Lakers for 36 seasons, spending the last 20 years as a broadcaster on the Los Angeles Lakers' television network as of 2022-23.
- Lehmer, Frank– First basketball coach in school history (1897-99), he finished his career with a 7-3 record.
- Lue, Tyronn- 1998 All-Big 12 pick who ranks ninth in career scoring at Nebraska and is tied for the school record with seven 30-point games. A first-round NBA draft pick in 1998, Lue won two NBA titles and played for seven teams during an 11-year NBA career and was inducted into the Nebraska Basketball Hall of Fame in 2013. He won an NBA title with the Cleveland Cavaliers in 2016, and is currently the head coach of the Los Angeles

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Clippers. Lue had his No. 10 jersey retired at Nebraska on Feb. 2, 2017.

#### Μ

Maclay, Don-Earned All-America honors in 1931.

- Maric, Aleks– Australian big man finished his career fifth in scoring (1,630 points) and second in rebounding (1,080). He was only the third player in Big 12 history with more than 1,500 points and 1,000 rebounds. He represented Australia in the 2012 London Olympics.
- Matzke, John and Stan– Stan lettered from 1952 through 1955, while his son, John, was a second-team academic All-America pick in 1984.
- Moore, Jack– One of the most popular Cornhuskers ever, he earned the 1982 Francis-Pomeroy-Naismith Award as the nation's top player under six feet. Nebraska's most valuable player award is named in honor of Moore, who was killed in a 1984 plane crash.
- Moore, Mikki– One of four Huskers to play in the NBA after signing as a free agent. Led the NBA in field-goal percentage in 2007, the first undrafted player in league history to accomplish the feat. He played for nine teams during his 13-year NBA career.

#### Ν

- National Basketball Association- 29 Huskers have been drafted by NBA teams over the years, including Bryce McGowens (2022), Dalano Banton (2021) and Isaiah Roby (2019)
- National Invitation Tournament– NU has made 19 appearances in the nation's oldest postseason tournament with its most recent berth coming in 2019. NU captured the 1996 tournament title, defeating St. Joseph's in Madison Square Garden.
- NCAA Tournament The Huskers have earned seven bids to the "Big Dance," including five bids in the 1990s. The Huskers made their most recent appearance in 2014.
- Nee, Danny– Winningest coach in Nebraska history, who posted a 254-190 record in 14 seasons from 1986 to 2000 and led NU to 11 postseason appearances.

#### ο

Overtime– The Huskers are 66-54 all-time in OT games heading into the 2023-24 season. Olympians– Three Husker basketball players have played the Olympic Games, including Aleks Maric (2012, Australia), Ade Dagunduro (2012, Nigeria) and Keisei Tominaga (2020, Tokyo).

#### Ρ

- Parsons, Robert– Two-time first-team All-Big Six performer who earned All-America honors in 1937.
- Pinnacle Bank Arena– The home of Nebraska basketball that opened in August of 2013. The \$179 million facility seats 15,000 and is located in the Haymarket District of Lincoln.
- Polish Rifle- Nickname of two-time All-Big Eight pick and 1994 Big Eight Tournament MVP Eric Piatkowski, Nebraska's second all-time leading scorer before spending 13 years in the NBA with four teams. He was inducted into the Nebraska Basketball Hall of Fame in 2006, the same year he had his jersey (No. 52) retired by Nebraska.
- Postseason– Nebraska has made 26 all-time appearances.

# Q

Quadruple- Nebraska has played two quadruple overtime games in program history. NU and and UAB played four overtimes on Dec. 22, 1979, (NU won 92-84), while NU and North Carolina State also reached four overtimes on Dec. 1, 2021 (NC State won 104-100).

# R

- Rankings– Nebraska posted its highest year-end national rankings ever in 1990-91, finishing at No. 9 in UPI and No. 11 in AP.
- Red Zone– The Nebraska student section at Pinnacle Bank Arena. The group has nearly 1,000 seats in the lower bowl of Pinnacle Bank Arena.
- Retherford, Claude– Leading scorer on NU's 1949 Big Seven championship team and a twotime first-team all-conference selection.

# s

- Sadler, Doc– Husker head coach from 2006-07 until 2011-12. He is fifth on Nebraska's win chart with 101 in six seasons and guided Nebraska to three NIT appearances.
- Sauer, George– The only Husker football All-American to earn a basketball letter, he was an All-America fullback in 1933 and lettered on the hardwood in 1932 and 1933.
- Simmons, Grant– First-team All-Big Eight pick in 1966 and the school's first first-team academic All-Big Eight selection.
- Smith, Andre– 1981 Big Eight Player of the Year, and NU's first conference player of the year until Venson Hamilton in 1999. Smith passed away in 2023.
- Stewart, Marvin– The first player in school history to reach the 1,000-point plateau in fewer than 70 career games. He was later joined by Terran Petteway in 2014-15 and James Palmer Jr. in 2018-19



Andre Smith was the Big Eight Player of the Year in 1981, one of only two Huskers to earn the conference's top honor.

- Stiehm, E.O.– NU's first full-time basketball coach (1912-15) and the only man in conference history to win league titles in football (1912, 1913, 1914) and basketball (1912, 1913, 1914) in the same year.
- Strickland, Erick– A three-year starter for Nebraska who is second on the Huskers' steals list and seventh in scoring. Strickland played in the NBA for nine seasons and was inducted into the Nebraska Basketball Hall of Fame in 2009.

#### т

- Three-Pointers- Nebraska hit a school-record 267 3-pointers during the 2001-02 campaign. Brian Carr hit the first 3-pointer in school history in a game at Cal-Irvine during the 1986-87 season.
- Titles– Nebraska won or shared seven league titles, all prior to 1951. NU also captured the 1994 Phillips 66 Big Eight Tournament title.
- Turner, Herschell– All-American player who was the first Husker to score 1,000 career points. Later went on to fame with the Harlem Globetrotters.

#### υ

Upset– NU has knocked off three No. 1 teams, handing Kansas a 43-41 loss in 1958, Michigan a 74-73 loss in 1964-65 and Missouri a 67-51 loss at Columbia during the 1981-82 campaign. Nebraska nearly added a top-ranked victim in 1996-97 when it took Kansas to overtime before losing 82-77, and another in 2001-02 when it fell to Kansas by just one point, 88-87, in Lincoln as NU hit a school-record 18 3-pointers.

#### v

- van Poelgeest, Richard– Born in The Netherlands, van Poelgeest was a four-year letterwinner from 1987 through 1990.
- Volz, "Mutt"- First-team All-Missouri Valley Conference guard in 1925.

contributions to the Husker program following his death in 2010.

# w

Wahlquist, George – All-America guard on NU's 1936 Big Six championship team.
Walsh, W.W. – The first first-team all-conference performer in school history (1909).
Whitehead, Bus – Two-time first-team All-Big Seven pick and the catalyst of the Huskers' 1949 and 1950 league title teams. Named as the captain of NU's all-time basketball team and earned the first Distinguished Hall of Fame Alumni award in 2003. The practice court at the Hendricks Training Complex is named after Whitehead for his

#### Х

Xavier- Ended Nebraska's most successful basketball season ever by handing the No. 3-seed Huskers an 89-84 loss in the first round of the 1991 NCAA Tournament at Minneapolis, Minn. NU finished with a school-record 26 victories against just eight losses.

# Υ

YMCA– Nebraska's first basketball game was played against a team from the Lincoln YMCA, Feb. 1, 1897. NU won 11-8.

# Ζ

Zero– Number of home losing seasons by Nebraska in Devaney Center history, as the Huskers went .500 or better in all 37 seasons in the building.