



Nebraska-Omaha 91, North Dakota 75

First Round: Wednesday March 19, 2014

OMAHA, Neb. – The Omaha men’s basketball team made history on Wednesday night, earning its program’s first Division I postseason win with a 91-75 triumph over North Dakota in the first round of the CollegeInsider.com Postseason Tournament (CIT). In front of a crowd of 2,158 at Ralston Arena, the Mavericks improved to 17-14 on the season, while UND closed its year with a record of 17-16.

Omaha was led by a magnificent performance from junior forward Mike Rostampour, whose third career double-double came with 16 points and a career-high 21 rebounds. His rebound total was the sixth-highest for a single game in school history, tying Terry Sodawasser (1983-84) and Al Lainio (2000). Rostampour, a native of West St. Paul, Minn., had 14 boards in the first half alone, the most since former Maverick Justin Petersen had 12 in the first half against St. Cloud State on Feb. 2, 2008.

Four other Mavericks joined Rostampour to score in double figures for the night: senior center John Karhoff (17), junior guard CJ Carter (14), senior guard Alex Phillips (13) and sophomore guard Marcus Tyus (13).

North Dakota was led by Alonzo Traylor’s 15 points, while Aaron Anderson added 13, and Troy Huff had 12. Anderson and Huff both pulled down a team-leading five boards each.

As a team, Omaha shot 55 percent (33-of-60) from the field, including 61 percent (19-of-31) in the second half. North Dakota finished at 41 percent (29-of-71) for the night.

Rostampour was the key for Omaha in the first half, securing his double-double early with 12 points and 14 rebounds. It was back and forth from the beginning before the Mavericks used a late run to surge ahead. Phillips had a bucket to cap an 8-0 run to make it 32-27, prompting a North Dakota timeout at (:). The spurt stretched to 14-2 with two Tyus free throws and eventually 18-6 to close the half, as Rostampour tipped one in at the buzzer to spot Omaha a halftime 42-33 lead.

Omaha went on a 14-2 run to start the second half, pushing the lead to 54-37. The Mavs kept the pressure on with layups by Tyus and senior guard Justin Simmons, followed by a Phillips jumper that made it 60-39 with 14:09 to go. UNO took its largest lead of the game at 64-41 with a Tyus 3-pointer, after which North Dakota put up a short 7-0 run to get it

back under 20. The Mavericks, however, kept it up, surging ahead 91-69 with a Matt Hagerbaumer dunk with 1:06 left before taking the win with a final score of 91-75.