

## Redshirting Davis would save eligibility

by Jim Johnston

You've probably heard this story before. It's as old as college football.

There's this freshman kid, you see, who didn't enter the college football world with a great deal of fanfare.

He wasn't a walk-on. He had a scholarship and all that. But he just wasn't regarded as one of those kids that comes around once in a generation.

But suddenly, during the middle of his freshman season, people start to take notice. This stocky running back from Tecumseh is lowering his head into the bellies of those 250-pound linemen and making them step aside.

Fans start buzzing. "This kid is gonna make it. He might become one of the all-time greats."

The kid lives up to his freshman season billing during spring drills. He leads all rushers in the spring game and enters fall practice as the No. 2 I-back on the varsity.

Then it happens. Two weeks before fall practice opens he injures his knee while playing handball. Surgery is required. He's lost for the start of the season and perhaps the entire year.

Tony Davis can give you more details about the story. He's just experienced it.

"It's the most disappointing thing in the world," Davis said. "It just knocked me on my tail when I learned I needed knee surgery just before fall ball started."

Davis didn't play in Nebraska's first three games this year. His first varsity appearance was in the closing minutes against Minnesota. And his showing wasn't too impressive.

"I wasn't happy with the way I ran in the Minnesota game," Davis said. "My knee didn't bother me, but I just didn't have my quickness. My execution just wasn't very smooth."

His performance against Minnesota didn't solve the question of whether Davis would be redshirted this year. But his showing in Friday's scrimmage indicated that he has recovered from the knee surgery and could play this season.

"I feel more confident now," Davis said after Friday's scrimmage. "There's no question that my knee is strong again. I feel like I'm ready."

But Nebraska's coaching staff still hasn't reached a decision. A hardship case can still be pleaded for Davis and he still can be redshirted this season. But if he plays in another game, he cannot be considered a redshirt.

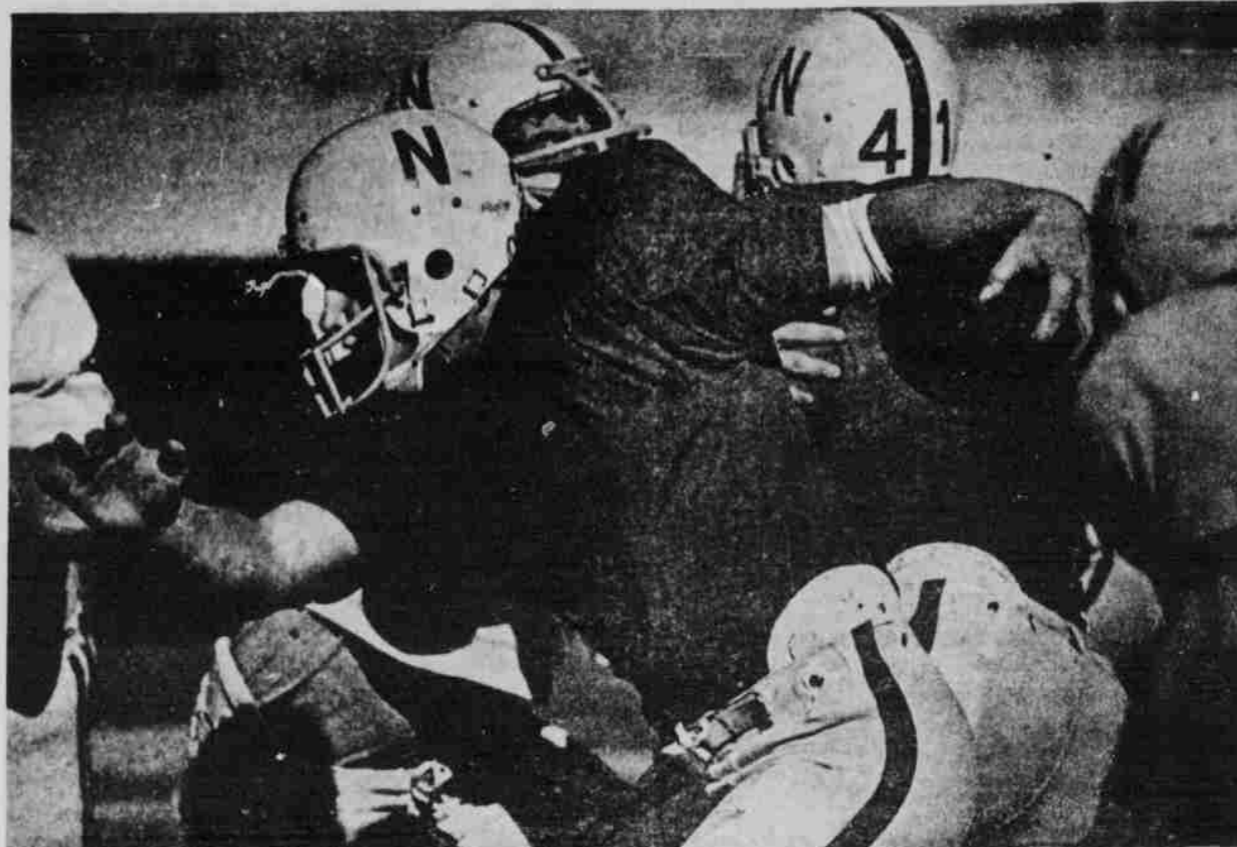
Even if Davis is completely recovered from knee surgery, stepping into Nebraska's I-back spot will not be easy. Dave Goeller, who was behind Davis entering fall practice, has filled Nebraska's No. 2 I-back position with success. He won't be easy to push aside.

Jeff Moran also has enjoyed a good season running at the No. 3 spot.

Davis stands 5-11 and weighs 205. He is a punishing runner. But his talents may have to wait for another season.

"We hate to gamble on a kid and have him lose a year's eligibility if he isn't fully recovered," Nebraska coach Bob Devaney said. "If we need him this season and we feel he's ready, we won't hesitate about using him. But there's no need to waste a year."

That's the situation Tony Davis lives with now. But he's not alone. It's been shared by many.



Rambling Tony Davis . . . passes scrimmage test.

## Overtime touchdown saves Pro Students

by Kim Ball

The Pro Students remain No. 1 in the Daily Nebraskan's All-University ratings after defeating the Hawks in one of the most exciting games of the flag football season. The Pro Students now have won 18 straight over a two-year span.

The Hawks and the Pro Students were tied after regulation play, 27-27. Each team also was deadlocked in penetration points. (A penetration point is awarded to a team each time it crosses midfield and advances into its opponent's side of the field. Penetration points were installed in order to break ties.)

The contest then went into overtime. The Hawks were given the ball at mid-field, but failed to score in four plays. The Pro Students advanced and on the fourth play scored on a pass from Guy Ingles to Billy Carver. The final score went down as 28-27.

Another battle involving rated teams was rain-shortened at the half. Previously No. 3-rated Delta Tau Delta was leading No. 2-rated Delta Upsilon, 26-13, when the game was postponed.

Delt lineman Steve Fallon proved to be a defensive stalwart as he batted down three DU passes. Charley Beard, the offensive star, had a hand in three of the four Delt touchdowns. The Deltas and DUs switched positions.

Other changes in this week's ratings are slight with only two teams entering the ratings for the first time. Gooding replaces Kiesselbach (4-1) in the Dorm League. Phi Gamma Delta, whose only loss was to top rated Phi Delta Theta, is No. 4 after defeating previously ranked Triangle (2-2).

### All-University

1. Pro Students (5-0)
2. Hawks (3-1)
3. Phi Delta Theta (3-0)
4. Phi Delta Phi (5-0)
5. Delta Tau Delta (3-0)

### Independent League

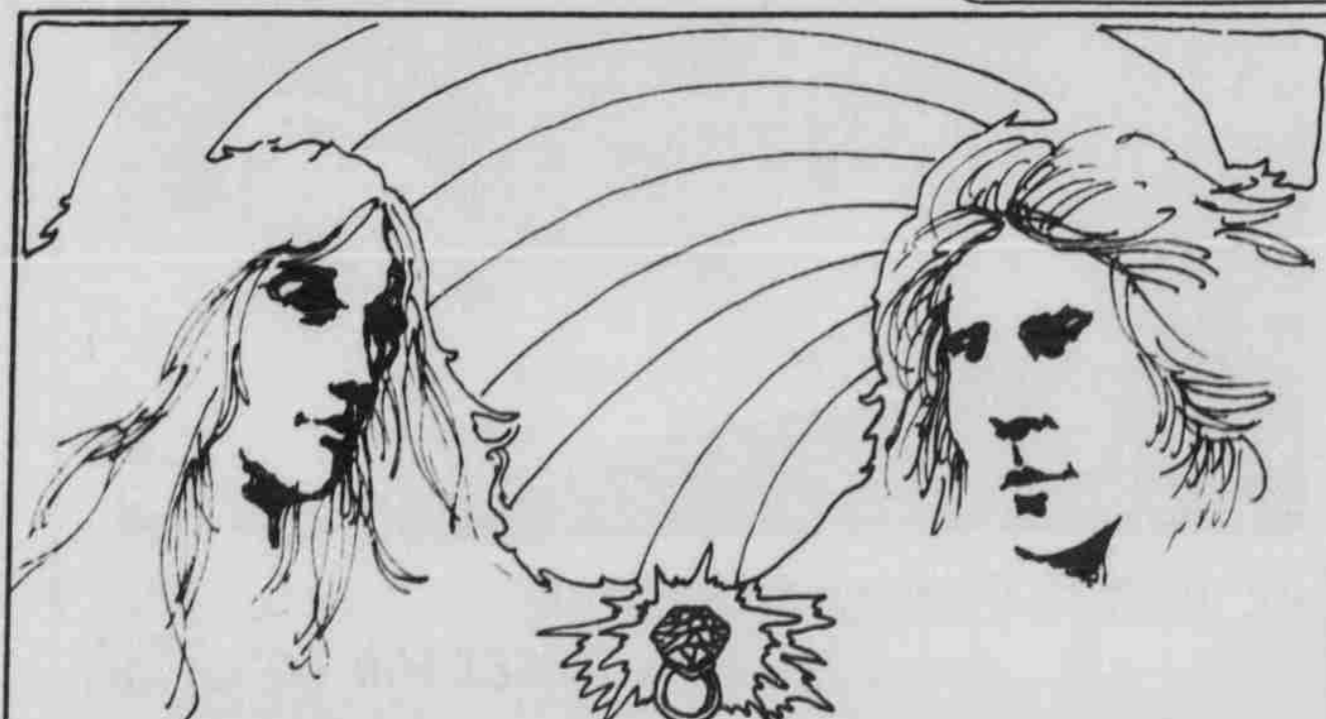
1. Pro Students (5-0)
2. Hawks (3-1)
3. Phi Delta Phi (5-0)
4. Fumblers (4-0)
5. Bang Gang (4-0)

### Fraternity League

1. Phi Delta Theta (3-0)
2. Delta Tau Delta (3-0)
3. Delta Upsilon (3-0)
4. Phi Gamma Delta (2-1)
5. Tau Kappa Epsilon (5-0)

### Dorm League

1. Gus II (6-0)
2. Glenn 7 (4-0)
3. Abel VI (4-0)
4. Gooding (4-1)
5. Abel VIII (3-1)



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## Cross country team loses second meet to KSU

by Steve Kadel

Nebraska's cross country team lost its second meet of the season Saturday, dropping a 31-25 dual to Kansas State at Pioneers Park.

Lynn Hall was the top Husker finisher, third in 25:14 over the five mile course. Bob Unger was fourth and Jim Hawkins finished fifth. Kansas State freshman Jeff Schemmel won the race in 24:55.

Jerome Howe, former Kansas State distance standout, found himself in the unfamiliar role of spectator at Saturday's meet. Howe, a 1972 K-State graduate, is a graduate assistant and helps coach cross country at Kansas State.

Howe was last year's Big Eight cross country champion and ran the fastest 1500 meters of the year by an American, 3:38, in last year's AAU meet.

He was picked as an alternate for Munich and made an extensive European tour shortly before the Olympics, running in Norway and Italy.

He works out with the K-State team, but admits that they're ahead of him at the moment.

"I took a three week vacation after I got back from Europe," Howe said. "These guys are really coming along well. Our best runner didn't even make the trip—he's got an injured knee and stayed in Manhattan."

Howe said the difference in Saturday's meet was the background of the Kansas State runners.

"They all worked real hard during the summer," Howe said. "Nebraska will be catching up all season. They'll probably be even by Big Eight meet time."