

Sports



Photo courtesy of UNL Sports Information
Kirsti Voldnes

Osborne announces list of '83 football walk-ons

The list of walk-ons for the 1983 Nebraska football recruiting class was announced Monday by Coach Tom Osborne.

The list includes the names of 46 players. They will join the 23 players who received scholarships and signed national letters of intent Feb. 9.

"We are really pleased with the players who have decided to walk on," Osborne said in a release from the UNL Sports Information Office. "We think that these are some of the state's finest athletes and we are pleased that many of them passed up scholarships to walk on. We are really finished with our recruiting, with the exception of four or five players who are still deciding about walking on."

The walk-ons and their home towns:

Dan Bailey, Gibbon; Bruce Bombeck, Shelton; Jeff Boydston, Huntington Beach, Calif.; Todd Bresee, York; Ron Carson, Tekamah; Kim Colburn, Sandy Creek; Todd Cope, Kearney; Dave Cuddeford, Lincoln; Eric Erickson, Central City; Richard Fish, Superior; Todd Gilliland, Mitchell; Derrick Green, Los Angeles, Calif.; Danny Groskurth, Beemer; Kelly Haecker, Odell; Michael Hall, Omaha; John Hansen, Wahoo; Mike Hedlund, O'Neill; Blake Henning, Crete; Jim Holscher, Cook; Matt Holt, Lincoln; Randy Houser, Lincoln; Bill Hudson, Belvidere; Jeff Jamrog, Omaha; Kurt Janke, Winside; Mike Keeney, Lincoln; Scott King, Stromsburg; Rich Larson, Norfolk; Dave Lowe, Lincoln; Jeff Magsamen, Lincoln; Tom Mattingly, Grand Island; Tony Palmer, Omaha; Lawrence Quadrio, Reno, Nev.; Wade Reeves, Peru; Mike Reuss, Grand Island; Tim Rother, Bellevue; Jim Schaaf, Superior; Shawn Sinner, Aurora; Craig Schnitzler, Battle Creek; Lance Storer, Arthur; Bill Swope, Lincoln; James Teichmeyer, Ravenna; Paul Tewes, Kaukauna, Wis.; Doug Welniak, Ord; Kurk Wiedel, Hebron; Darren Wolfe, Macy; Scott Yost, Grand Island.

Pepin: Norwegian track star Voldnes is a strong runner, leads by example

By Jack Denker

One year ago, Kirsti Voldnes of Kristiansand, Norway, didn't even know Nebraska had a women's track program. In fact, she hadn't even heard of Nebraska before.

But good news travels fast, as today, ironically enough, she is a member of the Cornhusker women's track team and is in the process of learning all about Nebraska.

Voldnes, a 19-year-old freshman, said she never even considered going to college in the United States until Nebraska coach Gary Pepin contacted her in the summer of 1981.

"They (Nebraska coaches) talked to me all year and sent me information," Voldnes said. "I found out they really had a good team and it seemed to be a good opportunity to continue practicing."

Pepin said he started recruiting Voldnes after seeing a foreign track publication that listed results from the 1980 Junior European National Championships, where Voldnes placed third in the 1500-meter run.

"We liked her because she is very talented and has a good background in middle distance running," Pepin said. "Track is extremely important to her and she works hard to achieve high goals in track."

Although running track was the main reason Voldnes chose Nebraska, she said other factors contributed to her decision.

"I felt it would also be good for me to go to the United States and learn another language," she said. "I came here not only for the track, but also for my education. If I like it here I might stay."

There was, however, one problem that forced Voldnes to postpone her decision until the last minute. Torn fibers in the arch of her foot hampered her running during the summer. But when the foot began feeling better two weeks before classes started, she made up her mind to accept a scholarship to Nebraska.

The only other school to recruit Voldnes for track was the University of Texas-El Paso. However, she already had signed with the Huskers.

By recruiting Voldnes, Pepin hoped to fill a team weakness in the middle distance events with a proven runner. So far this season things have been up and down in that respect. But Pepin said that is due to the fact that they have been gearing Voldnes's training so that she will run faster later in the year, in order to avoid injuries.

"I had a hard time with injuries when I first came here," Voldnes said. "I didn't run as fast as I wanted, but it's getting better. I'm not really in shape yet, but I hope to get better later."

The brightest moment of the season for Voldnes came two weeks ago at the Husker Invitational, where she played first in the mile run with a time of 4:46.63. That time was good enough to break both the Bob Devaney Sports Center and meet records. Voldnes also placed third in the 1000-yard run that same day.

"In addition to being such a strong runner, I think she (Voldnes) has helped some of the younger athletes see what it takes to be a good athlete," Pepin said. "She leads by example."

Despite having turned in her best performances in the mile so far, Voldnes still claims the 800- and the 1500-meter runs as her best and favorite events.

Voldnes began her running career at the age of 10 with the Kristiansand Track Club. She continued running with private clubs because her high school didn't participate in organized sports. During the next few years, she became a Norwegian champion in the 800, 1,500 and cross country events. At age 16, Voldnes used those credentials to earn a spot on the Norwegian National team that competed internationally.

Track almost became a lifestyle for Voldnes during that time in her life, she said. And if she had stayed in Norway to go to college, she would have been forced to practice on her own because Norwegian colleges don't participate in school sports.

Therefore, Nebraska was the only logical choice for Voldnes if she wanted to improve her track career with the proper coaching. Since then, Voldnes said that she has learned things here that she never would have back home, such as running properly and lifting weights.

"But Nebraskans are famous for their weightlifting," Voldnes said.

Voldnes also said that her goal for the season is to learn as much about track as she possibly can so that if she doesn't come back next year she can try to improve by coaching herself back home.

Going home is something that Voldnes hasn't done since August, and she said she is very homesick.

"I should have gone home for Christmas, but I'm getting used to it here, in a way," Voldnes said.

Voldnes didn't go home for Christmas because she ran in a track meet in Saskatchewan, Canada Dec. 29. She placed fourth in the 1,500 against a very strong field at that meet.

"I was real pleased," she said.

When Voldnes is not running track or studying, she said she enjoys cross country skiing, sailing, bike racing and watching basketball.

"I like to go out and do what the other people are doing," Voldnes said. "The things people do in Nebraska aren't that much different from what people do back home."

JOIN THE MEDICAL ELITE

and Get the Best Start When You Finish

After earning your degree, you want the best start in your new career. The United States Air Force is prepared to give you the best. We need 81 and 82 graduates in the medical disciplines of pharmacy, medical technology, physical therapy, and many others.

Bring your expertise to the Air Force and we'll give you the opportunity to become an immediate working member of our elite Bio-Medical Science team. You'll get the experience you need in an environment of updated facilities and equipment. What a way to start! Call your Air Force Medical Representative today!

Archie Summerlin
402-221-4319 (Collect)

AIR FORCE
A great way of life.

SPECIAL SALE

Genuine Diamond \$9.99
Pierced Earrings Reg. \$19.50

Ear Piercing Done Daily
Using Surgical Steel Earrings which are ALLERGY-FREE.

.01 Total Weight
Allergy Free Mounting.

THE Pierced Ear

Street Level-Centrum

KFPX Welcomes

LIVE IN CONCERT!

ADAMANT

Special Guests

INXS

Sunday, March 13th

Pershing Auditorium - 8:00 PM

Tickets \$9:00 Advance \$10:00 Day of Show
Tickets On Sale Saturday, February 19th

Tickets available at Pershing Auditorium Box Office, Dirt Cheap Records, both Pickles Records, both Nebraska Unions, all Brandeis locations, tickets by mail - send self addressed stamped envelope with cashier, check or money order to - Pershing Auditorium, P.O. Box 81126, Lincoln, NE 68501. (Include 50 cents per order handling charge). Charge tickets by phone 471-7500. Tickets may be subject to a handling charge.

Bring Your Dancin' Shoes!

Produced by Contemporary & Terry Drea