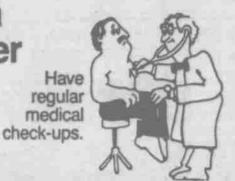
## Don't be a heartbreaker





# '84 finish buoys runners' coach

By Tom Kisicki Staff Reporter

With his third season as coach of the men's and women's cross country team approaching, Jay Dirksen is looking forward with optimism.

"Last year was the most successful

HUSKER

TRACK

Daily Nebraskan File Photo

year ever for the women's team and sophomores," he said.

The men's team is coming off a third place finish in the Big Eight last year and Dirksen is hoping for improvement.

"This could probably be the best team since I've been here and the last two years have been two of the best ever," he said.

Dirksen's optimism for the women's team is based on last year's performance at nationals, where it finished 11th. He said four of those runners who participated in nationals will help the team challenge for the conference title this year. Those four are juniors Mary Amen, Karlene Erickson, Jill Noel and Laura Wight.

"Our top four are as good as anybody in the conference's top four," Dirksen said. Dirksen is hoping for support from newcomers to the team, especially freshman Sammie Resh.

"We're expecting good things from her," he said. "She's got the ability."

Added depth should also strengthen the team, Dirksen said. He warned, however, that the team must avoid injuries.

"The people that provide depth haven't had experience," he said. Dirksen expects a five team race for

the women's conference title. "Oklahoma State, Iowa State, Missouri, Kansas Stae and Colorado are all tough," he said. "This year we'd like

to be in the top three." Although the men's team lost All-American Kurt Russell, Dirksen said the team will still be strong. Depth is the key, he said.

"Last year we just didn't have that kind of strength," he said. "The balance, on paper looks better than last year."

Bryan Clark, Gerard O'Callaghan and Nov Jean Verster are among the top performers on the team, Dirksen said. Clark finished 14th in the conference championship last year.

After finishing third last year, they (five of the team members who Dirksen said he would like to finish in qualified for nationals) were all the top two in the conference. "Iowa State is considered the Invorite," he said. "They have an outstanding team. I look for Iowa State to be the overwhelming favorite in the conference."

> Dirksen said he thinks his team can challenge for the title.

Men's roster: Bryan Clark, sophomore, Auburn; Kyle Foster, sophomore, Lincoln; Kirk Gottschalk. senior, Wahoo; Frank Graham, freshman, Nebraska City; Harold Graham, freshman, Nebraska City; Mike Herrell, senior, Bellevue; Scott Hollestelle, freshman, Lincoln; Keith Lein, freshman. Rapid City, S.D.; Gerard O'Callaghan, senior, County Cork, Ireland; Don Pobanz, junior, Lincoln; Kraig Vanderbeek, sophomore, Lincoln; Jean Verster, sophomore, Sasolburg, South Africa; and Leon Havenga, freshman, Port Elizabeth, South Africa.

Women's roster: Mary Amen, junior, Lincoln; Karlene Erickson, junior, Ericson; Lori Henning, senior, Lincoln; Sara Korte, freshman, Lincoln; Allison Laack, freshman, Sioux Falls, S.D.: Jill Noel, junior, Lincoln; Carol Nunnally, junior, Lincoln; Sammie Resh, freshman, Shelton; Laura Wight, junior, Letchworth, England; and Lisa Carro, freshman, Bellevue.

### 1985 Cross Country Schedule (Men & Women)

t. 14	HUSKER INVITATIONAL
t. 21	Jayhawk Invitational
t. 28	Illini Invitational
. 5	Cowboy Jamboree
. 12	Meyers-Vincent Memorial
	Invitational
. 19	Arkansas Invitational
. 26	SDSU Invitational
1.2	Big 8 Conference
	Championships
. 16	NCAA District 5
	Championships
. 25	NCAA National
	Championships

Men — 10,000 meters (6.2 miles) Women - 5,000 meters (3.1 miles)

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