

# NU runner places seventh at Big Eight meet

By Richard Cooper  
Staff Reporter

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Nebraska's Jean Verster, from Sasolburg, South Africa, ran his best race of the season as he finished seventh at the Big Eight Cross Country championships Saturday.

Nebraska cross country coach Jay Dirksen said Verster ran a smart race, which is very hard when there is so much pressure involved, he said.

The Cornhuskers finished fifth overall in the race. Dirksen said it was a realistic finish for his team because before the meet they were picked to finish in that same spot.

"The team ran the best possible race they could," Dirksen said. "We had some injury problems, and plus the teams we were up against just had more depth than we did today."

Nebraska's Bryan Clark was the only other Cornhusker to finish in the top 20. He finished 15th.

Dirksen said Leon Havenga, a freshman from Sasolburg, South Africa who finished 22nd, had been bothered by the flu and could have run better.

The Big Eight Men's cross country champion was Colorado, which blew out the rest of the Big Eight teams by placing all five of their runners in the top 20. Three finished in the top 10.

Oklahoma State, which finished second last year, scored 72 points to edge Kansas State for second with 76 points. Iowa State, the Big Eight Champions the last two years, finished fourth with 78 points. Nebraska had 99 points.

Dirksen said the times were very slow because the course was wet and slippery from a week of rain.

The individual race was close until the last 1,000 meters, when Iowa State's Yobes Ondieki broke away from the front pack.

Ondieki covered the course in 31:03.7, almost a minute and a half off the course record set by Colorado's Mark

Scrutton in 1982. Oklahoma State's Joe Metcalf finished second in front of Colorado's Dan Reese and teammate Paul Larkin.

Verster said he started out slowly at the beginning of the race, but once he established contact with the front pack he said he felt well.

He said the Big Eight meet was the toughest race he had run all season because of the hilly course and the caliber of runners at the meet.

Dirksen said he agreed with Verster. He pointed to Ondieki, who has established himself as one of the top runners in the nation.

"Ondieki is a pretty outstanding runner. He was virtually unstoppable in today's race," Dirksen said. "I think he has a good chance of winning the national individual title at the NCAA's since he finished third last year."

Dirksen said his team still has an outside chance of making the NCAA Cross Country Championships, which will take place Nov. 25 in Milwaukee. He said he thinks they can qualify at least one or two people.

Verster and Clark have the best shot of going to the NCAA's, he said, but first they have to run well at the District Five meet Nov. 16 at Stillwater, Okla.

# Tisdale out; Brown in; the season to begin

By the Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Larry Brown's back, Wayman Tisdale's not.

That, in brief, sums up the Big Eight basketball situation this season.

Brown, the much-traveled University of Kansas coach, returns for his third Jayhawk season and finds his team the pre-season favorite among writers and broadcasters who cover the conference.

Tisdale, the Big Eight's all-time scoring leader with 2,661 points in three seasons at Oklahoma, decided to pass up his final year of eligibility to turn professional.

The Sooners, conference champions the past two seasons, are picked second in the poll, but Coach Billy Tubbs has

his eye on a third straight title even without Tisdale.

"Hopefully, we're at the point now where we have great players going through our program who have to be replaced every year," Tubbs said Sunday as he, Brown and the other Big Eight coaches gathered for their annual pre-season press day. "This one just had to be replaced a year sooner than I would have liked."

Nobody really expected that Brown wouldn't be back at Kansas, but much has been made of the fact that he left his last two jobs at UCLA and with the A's New Jersey Nets after just two years.

"We're starting our third year here," Brown said. "That in itself has been kind of a blessing. It's the first time I can remember I've been anywhere three years. To have the kids come back and have a pretty good understanding of what you're trying to accomplish really makes things easier."

Brown said he is both flattered and puzzled to have the Jayhawks picked among the nation's top 10 teams in some pre-season polls, noting that some teams who finished ahead of them last year "have everybody back and had great recruiting years."

Nebraska, picked third in the pre-season poll, got into trouble last month when the university barred Coach Moe Iba and his assistants from practice for five days for practicing illegally before Oct. 15.

"It was an unfortunate thing," said Iba. "I hope it's behind us and we can go on and have a good basketball season."

The Cornhuskers will again build around Dave Hoppen, their 6-foot-11



Photos courtesy Big Eight Office  
Orr

center, who averaged 23.5 points for a 16-14 team last season.

"But this year, we've got experienced players around Hoppen, where a year ago we didn't," Iba said.

Iowa State's Johnny Orr, whose Cyclones breezed by Kansas in the Big Eight tournament last season and then lost by two points to Oklahoma in the championship game, said he has more depth this year than any time since arriving in 1981 from Michigan.

"We think this is our best chance since I've been here to make a run for the title," said Orr, adding that fan enthusiasm is at a high pitch after the team made the NCAA tournament for the first time in 41 years.

The Cyclones must fill a scoring gap left by the graduation of Barry Stevens, second to Tisdale in Big Eight career scoring with 2,190 points. Orr said he expects a more balanced attack, and



Tubbs

points to guard Jeff Hornacek as "one of the greatest players I've ever coached."

Missouri's Norm Stewart said he could have the best group of freshmen players since 1973 to go with a nucleus consisting of Jeff Strong, Derrick Chievous and Dan Bingenheimer.

Stewart, who said he may have been doing "a little too much coaching" the last couple of years, has switched to shorter practices and even occasional days off.

"Basically, the young men know how to play the game," he said. "You can't get it all done in one day. You can't get it all done in one year."

At Colorado, Coach Tom Apke said the Buffaloes will be much more athletic this year, helped by recruiting and a new weight training program.

"Our biggest problem a year ago was lack of athletic ability," he said. "When



Brown

we were playing well, we could play with anybody in the league. When we were just a little off, we weren't very competitive."

Kansas State's Jack Hartman has eight new faces among his 13 scholarship athletes.

"I've been pleased with our progress, but we've got a great deal more material to put in, offensively and defensively," said Hartman, who missed the second half of last season after undergoing heart surgery.

Paul Hansen of Oklahoma State is trying to rebound from what he called his most frustrating season.

"I thought I had a fourth-place ball club but I didn't develop it like I should have," said Hansen, whose Cowboys are picked to finish last again this year. "There was no leadership. This year, I'm still looking for that leadership."

# Missouri gets first victory at Iowa State

By the Associated Press

AMES, Iowa — Darrell Wallace scored on a 1-yard run with 1 minute, 11 seconds left and Warren Seitz followed with a two-point conversion pass to Herbert Johnson to give Missouri its first victory of the season, 28-27 over Iowa State in Big Eight Conference football Saturday.

Missouri rallied from a 24-14 halftime deficit to break a 10-game losing streak that dated back to last season, the longest in school history, and give first-year Coach Woody Widenhofer a long-awaited victory.

The Tigers are 1-7 overall and 1-3 in the Big Eight. Iowa State, losing for the fifth time in the last six games, fell to 3-5 and 1-3.

Missouri drove 69 yards in eight plays to get the winning points after Rick Frank's 30-yard field goal gave Iowa State a 27-20 lead with 2:09 left. The big play was Seitz's 37-yard completion to Johnson, which put the ball at the Iowa State 8.

Wallace then ran for 4 yards and Seitz for 3 before Wallace squeezed through a hole in the right side of the line for the touchdown.

Iowa State dominated the first two quarters, but the Cyclones' offense stagnated in the second half and Missouri, capitalizing on two turnovers, kept chipping away until it pulled out the victory. Iowa State's last hopes ended when Frank was short on a 57-yard field goal attempt as time expired.

Missouri's Thomas Whelihan kicked a 36-yard field goal in the third quarter to cut the ISU lead to 24-17 and booted a 30-yarder to make it 24-20 with 5:35 left in the game.

The first kick came six plays after a Missouri punt hit Iowa State's Randy Richards in the helmet and Cory Cathcart recovered for the Tigers at the Cyclone 35. Bo Sherrill's fumble recovery at the Iowa State 18 set up the second kick.

Missouri 14...0...3...11:28  
Iowa St. 7...17...0...3:27  
IS Poprilo 2 run (Frank kick)  
MU Thetford 52 pass from Seitz (Whelihan kick)  
MU Wallace 1 run (Whelihan kick)  
IS FG Frank 19  
IS Espinoza 37 run (Frank kick)  
IS Suffren 5 pass from Espinoza (Frank kick)  
MU FG Whelihan 36  
MU FG Whelihan 30  
IS FG Frank 35  
MU Wallace 1 run (Johnson pass from Seitz)  
A 40, 015

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