

Team must run to win

Trip to NCAA Championships on the line

By Richard Cooper
Staff Reporter

After finishing a disappointing second at the Big Eight Cross Country Championships Oct. 31 in Norman, Okla., Nebraska coach Jay Dirksen said the men's team has something to prove at the District V NCAA qualifying meet Saturday in Columbia, Mo. Dirksen said if the Huskers are to qualify for the NCAA Championships on Nov. 23 in Charlottesville, Va., they have to run like they want to win. The top two teams in the region will earn a trip to the NCAA Championships.

"At the Big Eight Championships I think the team thought they would win," Dirksen said. "But they didn't run like they wanted to win."

Dirksen said Iowa State, the 1987 men's Big Eight champions, and Wichita State threaten Nebraska's chances of making its second consecutive trip to the NCAA championships.

At the Big Eight Championships, Nebraska finished four points behind the Cyclones. The Huskers placed four runners in the top 20, and Iowa State placed five.

Dirksen said this weekend's meet will be just as close as the conference meet because Iowa State and Nebraska have equal talent.

"It is going to be a very close race,"

Dirksen said. "Both of us have excellent depth and some very good individuals. I think we have the edge in experience, and they have a little bit of an edge in talent at the sixth and seventh runner positions."

The key to Nebraska's success will be the performance of senior Jody Fischer, the Huskers' No. 5 runner, Dirksen said. Fischer finished 24th at the Big Eight Championships.

Fischer should run well this weekend because he has something to prove, Dirksen said.

"Jerry wants to show people that he is better than his finish at the conference championships," Dirksen said. "Last year he didn't have a good race at the Big Eights, and he came back and finished 12th at the regional meet, so I think he'll do better this weekend."

The top two runners for Nebraska are senior Jean Verster and Bryan Clark. Verster finished second at the Big Eight Cross Country Championships, and Clark finished third.

Dirksen said he hopes Verster and Clark can finish in the top five this weekend. He said if Verster is having a good race he should challenge Iowa State's Barnaba Korir for the individual title.

Korir, who won the Big Eight individual championship by a 30-second margin, is the best runner in the conference, Dirksen said.

The Nebraska women's team has been a surprise ever since its second-place finish at the Big Eight Championships, he said. "The women have come a lot farther than I thought they would this season," Dirksen said. "We don't have a lot of depth, but everybody has run great all season."

Dirksen said the Husker women will battle two other teams to qualify for the NCAA Championships: Colorado, the 1987 Big Eight champions, and Kansas State.

Dirksen said Kansas State, which finished third at the Big Eight championships, is capable of running better.

"It is going to be a very close race," he said. "Any one of the top three Big Eight teams could win the meet. It will just depend on which team runs the best."

Sam Resh, Nebraska's top runner, should challenge for the individual championship.

"Sam has had an excellent year so far, and if the team doesn't qualify for the NCAA Championships she has as good a chance of qualifying," Dirksen said. "It seems like every meet she gets better and better."

Two other Nebraska runners, Michele Marthaler and Juliet Prowse, also have a good shot of qualifying for the NCAA Championships, Dirksen said. The top three individuals whose teams don't qualify for the NCAA meet will be invited to run at the championships.

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that occurred at 13th & K St. intersection, Thurs. evening, Sept. 3. Car accident involved a red Fiat and blue Datsun. Additional information is needed to complete accurate accident report. Please call 477-5315 or 489-4969.

BODY FLEX

New session starts Nov. 16. New Gateway North location, now open! 1316 N. 476-1492, 464-7969 (Gateway North).

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Will be showing at Sheldon Film Theatre on Sunday, Nov. 15 at 3, 5, 7, & 9 p.m. Admission is \$2.75 for UNL students w/ID & \$3.75 for General Audiences. A Foreign Films Series Presentation.
Procrastinator — It's not too late to apply for ASUN Senate and Committee positions. The deadline has been extended to Friday. Joe Gunner

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