Dirksen

Continued from Page 13

Kentucky round out the field.

Nebraska coach Jay Dirksen said ophomore Fran tenBensel and Lisa Darley-Graham must carry the load

this weekend.
"TenBensel and junior Lisa Darley-Graham are our top-two runners, and they compare favorably with the other four teams' top runners," Dirksen said. "We want to get one of our first runners as close to the first-place runner

The first-place runner is likely to and have everyone else fall in be-

be Wisconsin's Suzie Favor, the NCAA champion in 800- and 1,500-meter runs at last year's track and field championships.

"Wisconsin has one of the better distance runners in senior Suzie Favor, and they have one of the premier programs in NCAA Division I cross country," Dirksen said.
But Nebraska can run with Wis-

"We have a lot of depth, and our fourth and fifth runners compare favorably with the runners from the other teams. But the question will be how well our first runner can finish

hind," Dirksen said.

TenBensel, the Huskers' front runner, missed the team's last big meet in Montana to attend her sister's

After Saturday's meet, the Big Eight Championships is next for the Huskers. The meet will be Oct. 27 at Pioneers Park

"Throughout the season, I've seen better improvement in our team, and we're looking for momentum heading into the conference champion-ships in two weeks," Dirksen said.

The team finally has been nursed back to health, he said. Captain Katie Fletcher and Kelly O'Donnell have healed and should compete Saturday.

"We'll be facing better competition, which will help us improve for the Big Eight meet," tenBensel said.

After Saturday's meet, the Big Eight.

With everyone healthy, and the entire team making the trip, this meet will be used as part of the process of selection for the conference team, Dirksen said.

'This is the first time we've really had a team together, so we will be able to find out what we've got," he

Injured Walker should be ready to play Missouri

From Staff Reports

Defensive tackle Kenny Walker was held out of practice Wednesday because of a groin injury but should be ready for Saturday's matchup with Missouri, coach Tom Osborne said.

Offensive guard Erik Wiegert and tight end William Wash-

ington also missed practice with injuries. Wiegert is probable for Saturday's game despite a jammed neck. Washington is doubtful after suffering a sprained

ankle in the Kansas State game.
"If (Washington) can't get out and do some running (to-day), there's no way he can play," Osborne said.

Back-ups Daryl Leise and Johnny Mitchell would fill in fine in Washington's absence, Osborne said.

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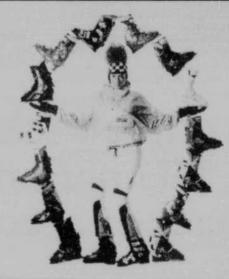
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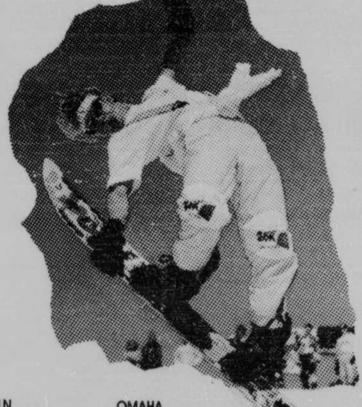
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