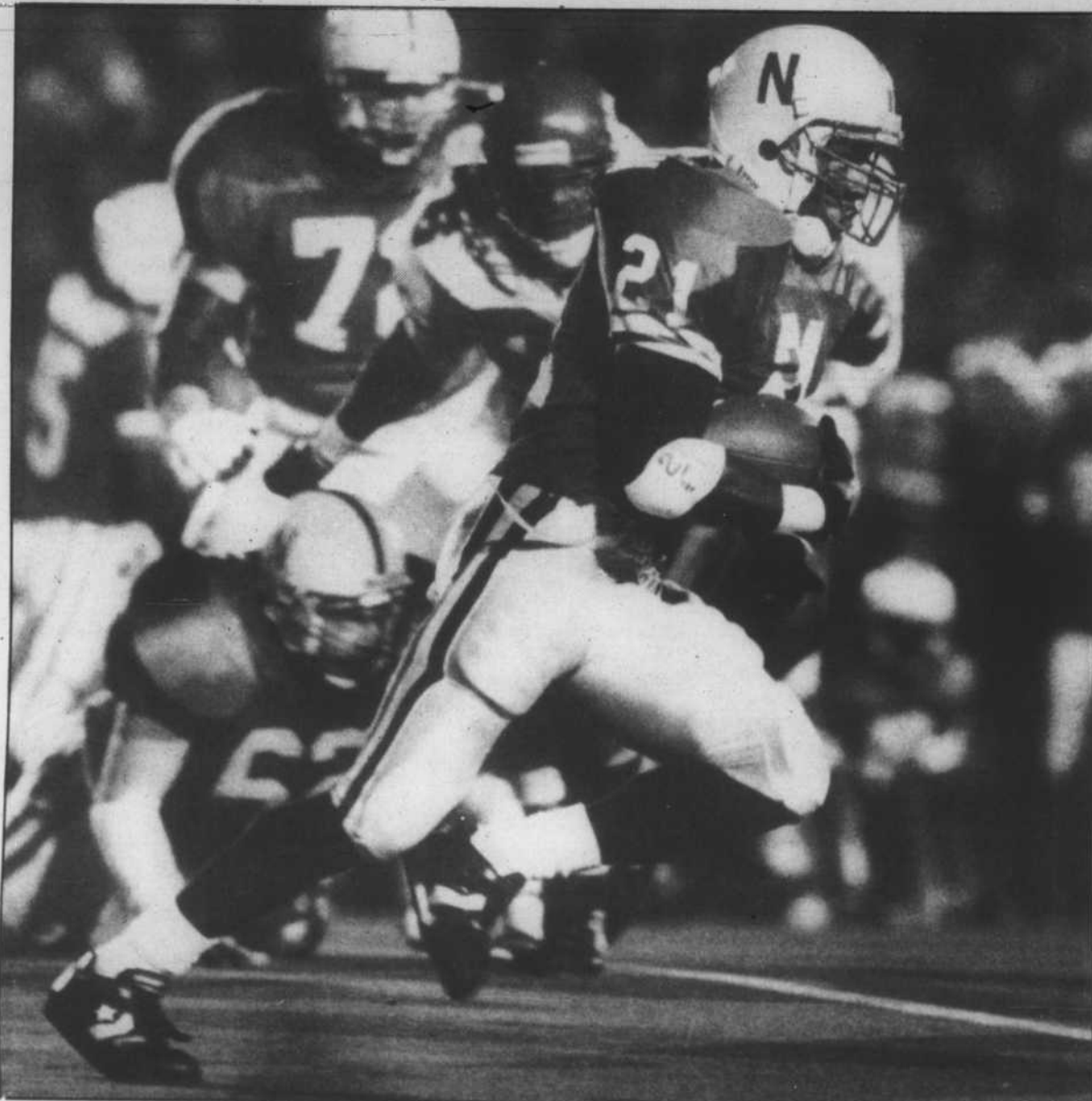


ISU may resemble Oklahoma team



Nebraska I-back Derek Brown runs against Kansas. Brown is the second in the conference in rushing behind teammate Calvin Jones.

Shaun Sartin/DN

Walden wishing NU wasn't next on Cyclones' schedule

By Jeremy Fitzpatrick
Staff Reporter

Iowa State football coach Jim Walden has no illusions about his game Saturday against the No. 7 Nebraska Cornhuskers.

"(Saturday) would be a great time for me to be playing someone else," Walden said, "but I guess that is probably what all the coaches in America would say."

"I think we have to play with all our hearts and play with a football team that on paper does not have a chance."

Walden's realism is well-founded. The Cyclones are 1-4 in the Big Eight and 3-6 overall. On Sept. 26, they lost to Division I-AA Northern Iowa 27-10. Only Missouri, with an 0-5 record in the conference, has had a worse year.

One of the main reasons for Iowa State's lack of success, Walden said, is that the Cyclones have had to learn a new offense this year.

Walden did not follow the lead of many teams — including Colorado — of switching to a passing attack. Instead, the Cyclones moved to a run-oriented wishbone offense similar to the one Oklahoma ran in the 1970s and 1980s.

"There's a lot to learn," he said. "We threw everything we'd taught these kids out the window and started over."

Walden said he had made the switch to the wishbone because of the players he had to work with.

"I'm in the 'bone because I thought it was the best for the talent we had this year," he said. "We're going to remain with a strong emphasis on the run."

Despite the Cyclones' record, Walden said the year hadn't been all bad.

"There have been moments during the season — against Iowa and against Kansas — that we have played pretty

damn well," he said. "We very easily — in my own heart, I believe — could be 6-3."

"We have done it to ourselves. Nobody else has done it."

But Walden said it would be hard to believe his team could upset the 7-1 Huskers.

"Not many would bet the house on Nebraska losing," he said. "If you look at the last 20 years, they've probably only lost four times to the other five teams (in the Big Eight besides Oklahoma and Colorado)."

"But it's always possible, and we'll play that way to the end."

Walden said he wouldn't try anything new against the Huskers.

"You can't — they won't let you," he said. "Tom's too diverse — to the average man in the stands, they don't understand how diverse his offense is."

The message Walden will give his

— scheduled for November 23 in Bloomington, Ind., — Dirksen has some mixed feelings about the team's chances.

"The men probably won't go, but I would be happy to see them finish in the top 10 teams," Dirksen said. "The women have a good chance to go. They probably won't win, but have a chance at a second-place finish."

Dirksen didn't discount the possibility of the men sending an individual performer to the national meet. The top three individual performers in the men's field will run at the national meet.

Junior David Itteffa, who won the Big Eight Championship, will likely finish in the top three, Dirksen said.

"Itteffa will probably have a great chance at qualifying," Dirksen said.

The women will also have some runners who could fall back on their individual performances to qualify if the team doesn't finish in the top two, he said.

Among the women's contenders is senior Fran ten Benschel, who finished second at the District V championships last season.

"Fran ten Benschel will probably qualify, but we don't want her to

Cyclones' switch to wishbone is smart move, Osborne says

By Nick Hytrek
Senior Reporter

When Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne looks at film of this season's Iowa State team, he can't help but think of Oklahoma teams from the 1970s.

Before the season, Cyclone coach Jim Walden decided to go away from his lone-back, passing-oriented offense and install the wishbone — the same offensive set that Oklahoma made famous.

"Some people may question Jim Walden's decision to go with the wishbone," Osborne said. "I think it probably was an intelligent move."

Osborne said that during the '70s, it was hard to prepare for Oklahoma because few teams ran the wishbone. Because of the lack of exposure to that offense, it was hard to prepare for it, he said, because the wishbone is so much different from most offenses the defense prepares for.

"It's such a radical change defensively," Osborne said. "You have to have somebody on the fullback, somebody on the quarterback, somebody on the pitch every play."

And if the defense fails to set up correctly, the wishbone can be even more effective, Osborne said.

"You've still got to get lined up right," he said. "Against the wishbone you can line up beat and if you're off one guy they can have a big play on you."

Kickoff for the game between the No. 7 Huskers and Iowa State is set for 1 p.m. Saturday at Cyclone Stadium in Ames.

At 3-6 overall and 1-4 in the Big Eight, the Cyclones are in seventh

place in the conference standings.

"I think that obviously they've got to be disappointed in their record," Osborne said. "They've had some games that I'm sure they're not real proud of. You can look at some periods of the season where they've played quite well."

"The thing that we always try to talk to our players about is that we want to look at a team at their best and figure that they can certainly do that again if not better," he said.

“They've got a lot of Nebraska players playing for them. A lot of those kids are going to play their very best game.”

Osborne
NU coach

One of those periods when Iowa State was at its best was its 50-47 loss to Kansas earlier this season, Osborne said.

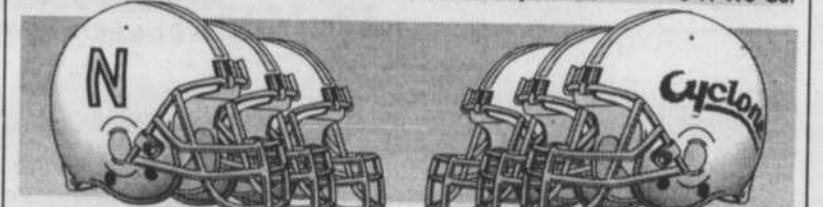
"If you look at Iowa State offensively against Kansas, you'd be quite impressed. They scored 47 points," Osborne said. "There are only two teams that have moved the ball on Kansas this year and that's Nebraska and Iowa State, so we were impressed with that performance."

And Osborne said his 7-1, 4-0 Huskers could expect Iowa State's best effort.

See CYCLONE on 11

Probable Starters

Pos	No.	Name	Ht	Wt	Class
SE	80	Trumane Bell	6-3	210	Jr.
LT	77	Lance Lundberg	6-4	300	Jr.
LG	62	Ken Mehlis	6-0	265	Jr.
C	51	Jim Scott	6-2	265	Sr.
RG	75	Will Shields	6-1	305	Sr.
RT	72	Zach Wiegert	6-5	310	So.
TE	88	Mike Vedral	6-3	230	Sr.
QB	15	Tommie Frazier	6-0	190	Fr.
FB	26	Lance Lewis	6-0	225	Sr.
IB	21	Derek Brown	5-9	185	Jr.
WB	27	Abdul Muhammad	5-9	155	So.
PK	13	Byron Bennett	6-1	180	Jr.



Pos	No.	Name	Ht	Wt	Class
SE	89	Chris Spencer	6-4	202	Sr.
LT	62	Doug Skarvacki	6-3	290	Jr.
LG	52	Jim Thompson	6-5	225	So.
C	78	Scott Ambrust	6-2	275	Sr.
RG	60	Mark Konopka	6-3	288	Fr.
RT	73	Tony Booth	6-3	282	So.
TE	83	Dan Dostal	6-5	246	So.
QB	10	Donnie Smith	5-9	179	Jr.
LHB	1	James McMillion	5-9	175	Jr.
RHB	26	Jim Knott	6-0	203	So.
FB	39	Chris Ulrich	5-10	208	Jr.
PK	2	Ty Stewart	5-11	175	So.

Scott Maurer/DN

players before the game, Walden said, is to play hard even if the odds are against them.

"You just do the best you can and say win for the moment," he said. "Play with your heart — it's no dis-

grace. "Winning is always possible," he said. "What else do the downtrodden have to look forward to except the day in the sun when you upset somebody?"

Although the course is new to most of the runners, Dirksen said he was confident that his runners would adapt well.

"This is a good course (in Ames) and they run a good meet," Dirksen said. "This meet will not be easy, but I feel the runners will run well on it."

Although some of his teams' goals weren't accomplished this season, he said, the district meet will be a good chance to make up for a long season.

"We are ready to run our best race of the year and we need it."

Meet marks last opportunity for cross country teams

By Tony West
Staff Reporter

For the Nebraska men's and women's cross country teams, this weekend's District V meet in Ames, Iowa, will be the end of the season for some, but just another step for others.

Time is not a factor at this point of the season, coach Jay Dirksen said.

"If we had more time, I don't think it would make a difference," Dirksen said. "We are as ready as we are going to be."

With only the top two teams in the District meet qualifying for Nationals

destroy herself in the attempt to win the meet," Dirksen said. "We just want her to finish in the top three, because nationals are right around the corner."

Junior Theresa Stelling may also have a chance to qualify for nationals, Dirksen said.

"Stelling has been running really well," he said.

Dirksen said the athletes might be coming into the meet somewhat blind in terms of knowledge of the course.

"None of the athletes might have run on the course before," Dirksen