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# Witter second at Woody Greeno

By LISA VONNAHME  
 Staff writer

Nebraska's Marcus Witter sprinted towards the red, orange and blue flags that led the way to the finish line at the Woody Greeno/Nebraska Invitational with Kansas State's Brandon Jessop.

Jessop beat his former high school teammate Witter by seven-tenths of a second, but Witter wasn't disappointed.

And neither was NU Cross Country Coach Jay Dirksen.

"Marcus has shown phenomenal improvement from last year," Dirksen said. Improvements like Witter's, Dirksen said, were the key to the Cornhuskers' success Saturday and will determine how well Nebraska competes for the rest of its season.

"For cross country, compared to other sports, constant improvement is what matters," Dirksen said. "You have to keep getting better for when it really matters — at conference time."

The NU women came away with the victory in the 5,000-meter race at Pioneers Park with 44 points. Texas was second with 50 and Kansas State finished third with 72. Former NU runner Fran ten Benschel, who ran unattached, won the race in 17:27.40.

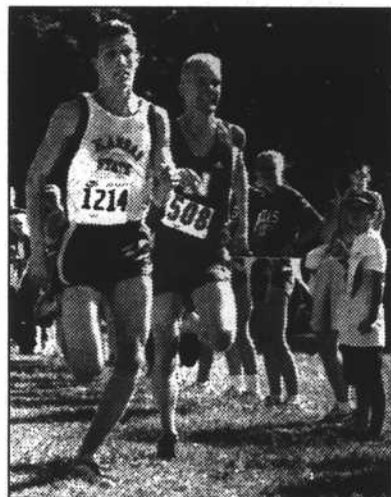
In the men's 8,000-meter run, NU earned second-place honors with a 58 behind first-place Texas. The Blue River Track Club from Lincoln placed third with 59 points. The Huskers finished without their No. 1 runner Jeroen Broekzitter, who went down shortly after the 5,000-meter mark with a strained hamstring. He was leading when he left the race.

For the Huskers, Witter finished second with a time of 25 minutes, 32.9 seconds. Junior Tony Smith was 11th with a 26:30.00, and sophomore Todd Triple finished 17th with a 26:46.20.

"Marcus (Witter) really stepped it up after Jeroen went down," Triple said. "He's got guts and has really improved."

The Nebraska women's team came away with the victory after all of NU's top-five women finished in the top 20. Freshman Jeanette Zimmer led the Huskers as she finished third with an 18:07.70. Sophomore Amy Wiseman came in next for Nebraska with a fifth-place finish time of 18:19.00. Jamie Pauli was 12th with an 18:48.70.

"I was surprised Jeanette beat Amy," Dirksen said. "It was a nice surprise, though. I think they both went out hard, and Amy tried to stay with Fran ten Benschel and just got tired."



SCOTT McCLURG/DN  
 NU's Marcus Witter (right) and Brandon Jessop battle for the lead at the Woody Greeno Invitational.

Dirksen said he was surprised by how some of the teams ran.

"Texas ran well," Dirksen said. "I thought Oklahoma State would have ran better, but they weren't really in it."

"On both sides, men's and women's, we are going to be facing some tough competition this year. We have to keep getting better to keep up with the other teams."

# Golf lineup strong for upcoming tourney

By JOHN GASKINS  
 Staff writer

After his team's impressive performance in last week's season-opening tournament, Nebraska men's golf Coach Larry Romjue has one goal in mind for this week's tourney and the rest of the season.

Win.  
 The Huskers will try to do just that as they take on a competitive field that includes six other Big 12 Conference teams in the Kansas Invitational at the par-72 Alvamar Golf Course in Lawrence, on Monday and Tuesday.

NU is coming off last week's third-place finish at the Falcon-Cross Creek Invitational in Colorado, where the

team shot a 5-under-par 859, which was solid play but not enough to beat tournament winner California.

"We played well and put up a good score," Romjue said. "But we didn't reach our objective, which is to win."

With a crop of four experienced NCAA Championship-qualifying golfers, and three others battling for the fifth spot on the team, the motivation to win certainly won't be lacking.

Senior Steve Friesen is one of the hottest golfers in the nation, coming off of the third win of his collegiate career at the Falcon. The senior fired a 7-under-par 209 and is expected to go low this week and all season.

"Steve's been playing some incredible golf the last couple years," Romjue said. "He has the mindset to shoot low

scores and knows he can do it."

Behind Friesen are seasoned veterans Josh Madden, who tied for fifth last week, Scott Gutschewski and Jamie Rogers. Romjue said Friesen's performance has rubbed off on the other players and kept them competitive.

"They're all solid players," Romjue said. "Jamie was our No. 1 player last year, and I think Steve being No. 1 this year has motivated Jamie to get back there."

Competition also is heating up for the team's fifth starter. Fifth-year seniors Ryan Niefeldt and Judd Brewer and freshman Seth Porter are battling for the position.

After playing Niefeldt in Colorado, Romjue will replace him with Porter in Lawrence.

# Huskers fall to Bruins, shut out Women of Troy

SOCCER from page 7

because starting goalie Karina LeBlanc was red carded in Friday's loss for catching the ball 20 yards outside the penalty box. A red card brings an automatic suspension for the next game.

With Anderson in goal, Walker said the defenders stepped up.

"Meghan Anderson, Sharolta Nonen and Christine Gluck all played tremendously well in the back," Walker said.

He also commended Becky Hogan for marking USC forward Isabelle Harvey one-on-one. Harvey, who played on the Canadian national team, had scored two goals in the Women of Troy's first four games.

Senior striker Kim Engesser got the Huskers (3-2) on the board, scoring 14 minutes into the game. Sophomore Lauren Tatum scored the second goal in the 67th minute off assists from Hogan

|                       |   |     |
|-----------------------|---|-----|
| <b>Soccer</b>         |   |     |
| No. 17 Nebraska (3-2) | 1 | 1-2 |
| USC                   | 0 | 0-2 |

and Kelly Rheem.

Walker called Friday's game one of the strangest ones he has seen.

The Huskers allowed just two shot attempts in the first half, but both of them went in for goals.

Trailing 2-0 at half-time, NU had to take more chances in the second half, Walker said, leaving the defense vulnerable.

LeBlanc's red card, with 25 minutes left in the game and NU trailing 3-1, was too much for the Huskers to overcome.

Walker said despite the split, the weekend games would benefit the Huskers later in the year.

"We learned we need total concentration from everyone," he said.

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