

Huskers pluck top JC transfers

NU recruits five

By STEVE SINCLAIR
Assistant Sports Editor

Nebraska football recruiting is already showing visible signs of success with five junior college transfers enrolled for classes this semester.

The new prospects are Carl Johnson, offensive lineman from Phoenix, Ariz., Junior College; Keith Wortman, offensive lineman from Rio Hondo Junior College, Whittier, Calif.; Dick Rupert, defensive lineman from Harbor Junior College, Los Angeles, Calif.; Woody Cox, wide receiver from New Mexico Military Institute; and Percy Kight, running back from Fairbury Junior College.

Offensive end coach Tom Osborne said the coaching staff was pleased with the new additions. "We think they will definitely contribute to our program," he offered.

"We felt we could use some help in our offensive line and on defense also," he said. The Huskers lose five starters in the offensive line and eight defensive starters from last fall's Big Eight conference co-championship team.

"We usually try to fill gaps if we can," Osborne added, "but if we can get a good man at another position, we will take him."

Osborne said that none of the new prospects has played center. He added, however, that if any of the prospects produce, it might free someone to shift to the key center position.

Each of the new players was on the

all-league team of his respective conference Osborne said.

Johnson was recruited by 14 schools, including Kansas State, Colorado, Southern Cal, Arizona, Arizona State and San Jose State.

The 6-3 240-pound Johnson says he is used to playing for good coaches and admits that he based his decision to come to NU on his impressions of the Husker coaching staff.

"I liked the coaches," he said. "They were very honest with me."

The Phoenix, Ariz., native's first impression of the Lincoln campus was that it "gets pretty cold," but he won't have time to be bothered by it, since the Huskers start their off-season workouts on Monday.

Johnson's goal at Nebraska is to take advantage of one of the offensive line's losses and earn a starting position. Offensive tackle Bob Newton established a precedent for the newcomers last season, moving from Cerritos Junior College (Calif.) to the starting tackle position.

Johnson said the major difference between playing for a junior college and playing for a Big Eight team is that "everybody here is good."

Johnson is moving to Nebraska from a school with solid football tradition. "We had a bad year last year (5-4-1)," he says. In Johnson's freshman year his team was the second ranked junior college outfit in the country. The team's four losses last fall were the most suffered in 11 years, he said.



Garth Case
Big 600 Test



Dan Morran
880 Challenge

Huskers' Morran, Case face difficult tasks

Nebraska's indoor track team faces a tougher test Friday night at Kansas State after easily handling Southern Illinois last Saturday, 91-38.

Kansas State coach Deloss Dodds boasts three individual stars on a team which finished second behind Kansas in the Oklahoma City Invitational last weekend.

Dale Alexander, a transfer from Butler County (Kan.) Junior College has the best Big Eight Conference times in the 600, (1:10.0) and in the 440, (:48.6). Friday night he will face defending conference champion Garth Case in the 600. Case currently is ranked fourth.

The Wildcats' Ken Swanson

also leads the conference in two events. His times are 1:51.7 in the 880 and 2:07.7 in the 1000. He faces a tough competitor in Nebraska's Dan Morran. Morran won the Big Eight 880 title when he was a sophomore, but Swenson captured it last year.

The Wildcats' third individual standout is high jumper Ray McGill. He has the conference leading jump at 6-9. Nebraska freshman Dan Brooks ranks second in the conference with a 6-6 effort.

Dodds expects a competitive meet. "We hope we can stay close," he said. "Nebraska is possibly one of the top two teams in the conference."



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