

the team manager or the water boy. It didn't bother me though. In fact I just laughed about it."

Kyros' rise to the No. 1 position has been rapid. But at one time along the way Kyros thought that he was going to be forced into a very early retirement from football. But his talents and drive somehow kept him going.

Kyros played high school football for Grand Island High School where he started as an offensive halfback and defensive safety. His senior year he made the East all-Big 10 conference team and played in the Shrine Bowl. After high school was over, Kyros thought that maybe his football career had concluded too.

"I wanted to come here to Nebraska,"
Kyros said. "But I wasn't sure if I was
capable of playing football. I was so darn
small. But I figured if I didn't make the
team, I could still have a good time and
get a good education."

Kyros arrived at Nebraska without anybody knowing he was considering playing football. "I figured the coaches wouldn't care one way or the other," he said. "I just showed up as a walk-on."

Soon after his arrival on the UNL campus, Kyros found himself starting at safety for the freshman team. "I was sure surprised to do so well," Kyros said. "I was just lucky."

After the 1971 freshman season was completed, Kyros talked to assistant coach Jim Ross about his future as a Cornhusker and the possibility of receiving a scholarship.

"Coach Ross simply told me I was too small and too great of a risk to receive a scholarship. The coaches were probably right.



Coach Warren Powers . . . advises Huskers' new safety.