

Gridirons in fire for '74 season

Pick up any newspaper or listen to any television report on spring practice for the UNL football team. Husker Coach Tom Osborne has made clear what he expects to accomplish.

As 60 degree temperatures welcomed 150 athletes, including 34 lettermen, to the opening of spring drills Monday, Osborne and his staff set out to find replacements for his graduation scarred defensive secondary and line, while trying to fill a fullback spot that lacks any potential players who have had experience.

"I'm anxious to get spring ball started to see what we can come up with at those spots," said Osborne.

Larry Stunkel on record

"Spring is where we try to evaluate our personnel more than anything else. We try to find where our best ballplayers are, and it's really when a player makes the team for next fall because we don't have a lot of time to experiment with different positions in the fall," he said.

Osborne made no secret that one of his experiments will be with last season's leading rusher, Tony Davis, at fullback. Davis will try to make the shift from I-back where junior John O'Leary and senior Jeff Moran return

with considerable experience.

The Husker's fullback woes may be solved by the switch, or additional help may come from sophomore Gary Higgs and Jason Justice. Both candidates were standouts at that position as freshmen.

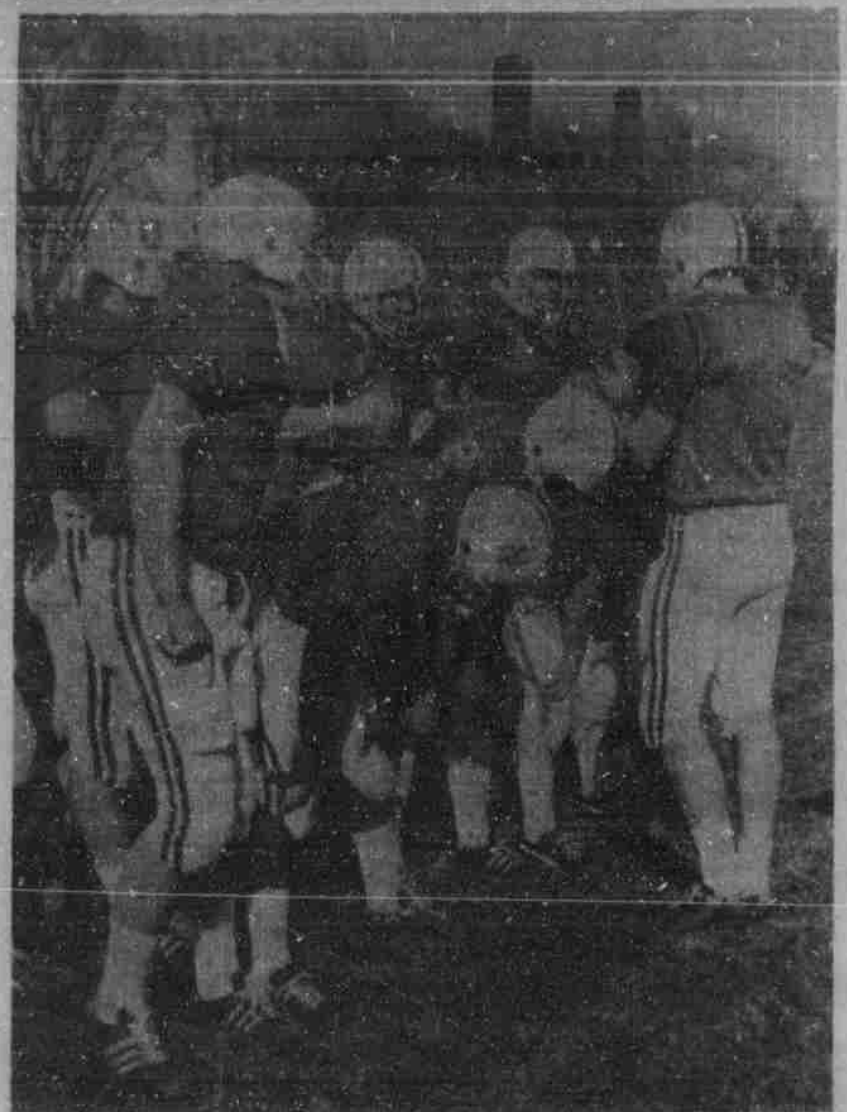
Despite the return of six starters on offense and five regulars from last year's blackshirt unit, Osborne expects competition to be strong for every starting position.

One of the more interesting battles could be between senior Dave Humm, whose passing laurels fill the record books, and sophomore Earl Everett for quarterback. Humm appears to have the edge here because he has led the Huskers for two seasons. But the abilities Everett displayed last fall could spice what Osborne calls a potentially strong offense.

Another position to watch this spring will be the middle guard spot. Admittedly the hub of traditionally one of the nation's stingiest defenses, defensive coordinator Monte Kiffin is looking for a top athlete to fill the shoes of John Bell. Juniors Willie Thorton and John Lee appear to be leading contenders for the spot, but sophomore Joe Collura also bears consideration.

Coming off a winter conditioning program, the team has excellent overall speed and is in good condition, according to Osborne.

Practices will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings every week until the sessions climax with the annual Red-White scrimmage May 4.



Husker football players began spring practice Monday.

Freshman paces women's tennis team

Freshman Kathy Hawkins is the kind of all-around athlete coaches dream of. At Omaha Burke High School, she participated in track just as that sport was opening for girls. This winter she was a star on the UNL women's basketball team. Now, she has firmly established herself the No. 1 player on the UNL women's tennis team.

She will lead the tennis team in its rematch with Concordia College Thursday at Seward. In the team match earlier this season, UNL won 9-0. Hawkins not only won her singles game, but teamed with Cindy Gossard for a first-team doubles victory. Gossard also won her No. 2 singles match.

"I've always enjoyed playing doubles

more," Hawkins said. "It's more of a net game, and I enjoy playing the net."

Each team match consists of six singles matches and three doubles matches. Gossard said that eight women now participate in the matches, although there are 16 on the team. The players are rated in order and are given a chance to move up through challenge matches during practice. The season ends with the Missouri Valley Tournament in late April.

Gossard, in her second year of competition, said this year's team has more depth than last year's. Although no cuts were made last year, this year Coach Gail Whitaker had to cut twice from the original 35 or 40 that tried out.

Last year, one member of the UNL

team advanced to the semifinals of the tournament. According to Gossard, Hawkins has a good chance of doing that this year.

Hawkins isn't as openly confident. She said she has played the women who finished first and second last year and has never been able to beat them. Another factor might keep her from even making it to the tournament. She said she is a bridesmaid in a wedding the same weekend.

Although more women throughout the country are participating on men's athletic teams such as tennis, Hawkins said she wasn't going to make that move for women's liberation here. She said playing against men's team members, as she does, is good practice, though.

JON VOIGHT IS "CONRACK." HIS STORY IS TRUE. IT WILL MAKE YOU LAUGH . . . IT MAY MAKE YOU CRY. YOU WILL NEVER SEE A BETTER MOTION PICTURE!



JON VOIGHT IS "CONRACK"

ONE BEAUTIFUL MAN. HIS STORY IS TRUE.

PG PARENTAL STRONG CAUTION

DAILY AT
1:30-3:30-5:30
7:30-9:30

"Various people have been screwing up my name. It's a swell name. It belonged to a bartender, a minister, a classics scholar, and a burlesque queen. It's Conroy, not Conrack, but if you want to call me that, go ahead. I'm beginning to like the sound of it."

CALL FOR GROUP RATE INFORMATION



LATE SHOW FRI. NIGHT

SLAUGHTERHOUSE FIVE

sports shorts

The UNL tennis team makes its first home appearance at Woods Park today.

...

The Husker baseball team

ended an 11-game losing streak and captured its first victory of the year by defeating Morningside College Tuesday 8-5 in the first game of a doubleheader.

East Campus & Nebraska Union Concerts Committee

PRESENTS

"GRAMMY AWARD NOMINEE"

JIMMY MARTIN

& the Sunny Mountain Boys

"BLUEGRASS ENTERTAINER of the Year"

Friday April 12

7:30 p.m.

Adm \$1

EAST CAMPUS UNION

—also starring—

The Bluegrass Crusade

FREE WORKSHOP IN UNION SOUTH CRIB, FRIDAY APRIL 12 3:00 pm.

Tickets Available at: East Union, Nebraska Union South Desk & Dirt Cheap