

sports

Husker pros return to UNL in off-season

By Scott Jones

Remember those "20 Years Later—Where Did They Go?" articles found in sports magazines?

In this case, it's one or two years later and "they"—Husker footballer turned professional—have all returned to Lincoln, either to assist with spring practice, attend classes or work out.

Monte Johnson, for example, has returned to assist with spring football practice after a successful second year with the Oakland Raiders.

Johnson played second string defensive tackle behind John Dutton and Bill Janssen at defensive tackle his senior year at Nebraska in 1972. He was shifted to linebacker by the Raiders, played extensively last year and said he expects to start next season.

'Natural position'

"I have to say to myself that it's a natural position for me and from what I've done I think I've proven that I can do the job," said Johnson, who intercepted three passes in one game against Kansas City last year.

"I think I'll probably be the starting middle linebacker next year," he said.

John Dutton also is enjoying success as a professional with the Baltimore Colts. He was named to the all-rookie team at defensive end last year.

Dutton said a lack of offense and experience—33 of the 47 players were either rookies or first year players—hampered the Colts last year.

"The difference between each team is so minute that it's whoever makes the mistakes and the older teams usually don't. Defensively, we held our own," he said, adding that a change of head coaches should help the offense.

Colts a letdown

Dutton said he likes the Colts, but was critical of the practice fields, training equipment and other facilities provided for the team.

"It was really a big letdown from here," he said.

Steve Manstedt was one of several former Huskers injured last season. He started at outside linebacker as a rookie for the Birmingham Americans of the World Football League but broke his hand on almost the first play of the season.

He missed 12 games, but started the last five, including the WFL title game against Florida which Birmingham won.

Manstedt, a fourth round draft choice of the NFL's Houston Oilers, said he received only about three-fourths of his salary from Birmingham but was still happy with the team.

"Even though a lot of people didn't get paid I still ended up better than I would have in the NFL," he said. "I really enjoy it. I think there are some good teams there."

Manstedt, who is completing his requirements for an industrial education major and assisting with spring football, said the Birmingham fans "might be a little crazier," than Husker fans and "really followed us well."

Trying to regain position

Larry Jacobson will be trying to regain a starting defensive tackle position with the New York Giants during his fourth professional season next year.

Jacobson said he started 10 games as a rookie, missed the next season entirely after he severely cut his foot on some glass, and hurt first his back, then his hamstring and groin last year after starting the first five games.

Jacobson expressed an opinion shared by other former teammates concerning their new homes.

"New York is a good place to visit for a night and then get the hell out of there," he said.

Frosty Anderson, an eighth round draft choice of the New Orleans Saints, also was injured last year. He said he started at wide receiver the first three exhibition games while the veterans were striking, but separated his left shoulder during the fifth exhibition contest.

Rookie year again

Anderson separated his right shoulder during his senior season at Nebraska in 1973.

He said he is now recovered and is approaching next year "just like I was a rookie again."

Jim McFarland, who recently obtained his masters degree in social education, will be "looking to see if I can start," in his sixth season at tight end for the St. Louis Cardinals.

McFarland has played behind Jackie Smith and said if there is no chance to start in the future he'll "get out."

Beyond football, he said, "I'm trying to be flexible and try for various careers and not get locked into one."

College teaching

High on his list are teaching or coaching on a college level which he said are very similar and rewarding because, "if you see someone improve, you like to feel you've had something to do with it."

Among the other former Huskers now in Lincoln, Zaven Yarialian started as strong safety for the Philadelphia Bell of the WFL last year and expects to be traded to Birmingham next year.

Maury Damkroger did something. "I've always wanted to do," by playing outside linebacker for the New England Patriots last year although he played mostly on the special teams as a rookie. He is taking his final 15 hours toward his business degree.

Rich Sanger has signed a two-year contract with the Los Angeles Rams as a punter.



Steve Manstedt (left) and Maury Damkroger (right) have returned to UNL to help with spring football drills. Manstedt played outside linebacker for the Birmingham Americans of the World Football League. Damkroger also played linebacker and special teams for the New England Patriots of the National Football League.

Women's tennis team to compete at Kansas

The UNL women's tennis team will face tough competition this week at the Missouri Valley Women's Tennis tournament in Lawrence, Kan.

The Missouri Valley title of the tournament designates the competition as a tournament of the United States Lawn Tennis Association, according to coach Gail Whitaker.

Top individuals from Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma, as well as Nebraska, are entered in the meet.

"We are going mainly for the competition experience," Whitaker said. "We're excited to face some of these top players but I really don't expect us to do very well."

Number one UNL netter, Kathy Hawkins, is seeded in the tournament, Whitaker said.

Five other UNL women will make the trip. They are Vicki Maseman, Cindy Gossard, Barb Scribner, Helen Glover and Geri Fisher.

The tournament begins today and ends Saturday. Sunday is a rain date. There will be both singles and doubles competition.

One teams dominates intramurals 1641 adds track title to list of wins

There has been one team that has dominated UNL's intramural program this school year: 1641. The team has won the football, basketball, co-rec basketball and indoor track championships. Thursday night they added the outdoor track title to the list.

1641 won the meet with 47 points. Runner-up Alpha Tau Omega (ATO) had 30 points while third-place Tau Kappa Epsilon (TKE) finished with 23.

Bob Matthews, a junior in law school, led 1641. During the first session of the meet, held Wednesday night, Matthews won the 100 and 440 yard dashes with times of 10.25 and 51.7 seconds, respectively.

Thursday night he won the 220 in 23.1 and was a member of 1641's winning 880 yard relay team, along with Mark George, Steve Leffler and Steve Morrison.

The intramural meet was the fourth at UNL for Matthews, who never participated in track while in high school at Creighton.

"I had been working out a couple of times a week for about a month, with my roommate Steve Leffler," Matthews said.

"You have no idea before a meet if you'll win an event," he said. "You never know who will enter. There is a big variance in talent from year to year."

Matthews credits 1641's success this

year to the large number of people they have to pick players from.

"When you win one or two events and then ask people to be on your team, they're pretty eager to play," he said.

The team, which derives its name from a house at 1641 N. 26th St., where Matthews, two other law students and an attorney live, has had about 75-80 people play on its various teams, according to Matthews.

Tom Fagot, assistant intramural

director, said he was pleased with the way the meet was run.

"It went pretty good; however, we didn't get as many people as I would have expected," he said.

ATO won both the 440 and mile relays. Pat Hossle from Sigma Chi won the 880 yard race. In the field events, 1641's Hal Anderson won the long jump; Russel Hallberg from Schramm 6 won the high jump; and independent Pat Garvey won the shot put.



photo by Ted Kirk

Pat Garvey throws the shot-put during the intramural track meet Wednesday and Thursday. Garvey won the event with a throw of 51 ft. 11 in.

sports shorts

UNL's Crew travels to Madison, Wis., to compete in Midwest Sprints. Among the teams competing will be Wisconsin, defending national champion, Purdue, Notre Dame, Washington State, Kansas State and Oklahoma State.

UNL will enter the men's varsity eights, men's varsity fours, men's lightweight fours, men's junior varsity eights, freshman men's eights, women's varsity eights and freshman women's eights.

Still leading the Big 8 conference, the UNL baseball team will host third place

Iowa State in a crucial three game series today and Saturday. The two teams will play a doubleheader today starting at 1 p.m. and will play a single game Saturday starting at 1:30 p.m.

Entries are due today for the Intramural Department's bike race, to be held Sunday.

The UNL soccer club will travel to UNO tonight for an 8 p.m. game with the Mavericks. In their last outing, the Mavericks beat the Huskers 3-2.