

Sports

Returning starters have early advantage

By Scott Ahlstrand

Despite returning nine starters from last year's 12-1 squad, Nebraska's defensive lineup is anything but set as the Huskers started spring practice today.

Nebraska defensive coordinator Charlie McBride said no one is guaranteed a starting role.

"Everything is wide open," McBride said. "We've got a lot of experienced players coming back, but we're definitely going to give everyone a shot at earning a starting job."

McBride said the chief concern for the coaching staff during spring practice will be development of the younger players.

"Spring practice means everything as to who will start in the fall," McBride said. "We're trying to develop everyone's fundamentals so we can improve our depth."

Although McBride said everyone will get a chance at a starting job, he admitted the returning starters would have an advantage over other players.

"Knowledge is the biggest plus for a player," McBride said. "The advantage that the older guys have is that they've learned to cut down on their mistakes. They've gone through our system and they know what it's like."

McBride said several changes could take place in the first two weeks of practice.

"It's a settling in period," he said. "The depth chart could change every day."

Thirty lettermen return on defense for the Huskers, led by All Big Eight performers Mike Knox and Bret Clark.

Knox led the Huskers in tackles last season, recording 125, the highest total by a back since 1978. Clark led the Huskers in interceptions, tallying five from his safety position.

Joining Clark in the defensive backfield are lettermen Neil Harris, Dave Burke and Mike McCashland.

Senior Mark Daum comes back for another season as the strong side linebacker opposite Knox.

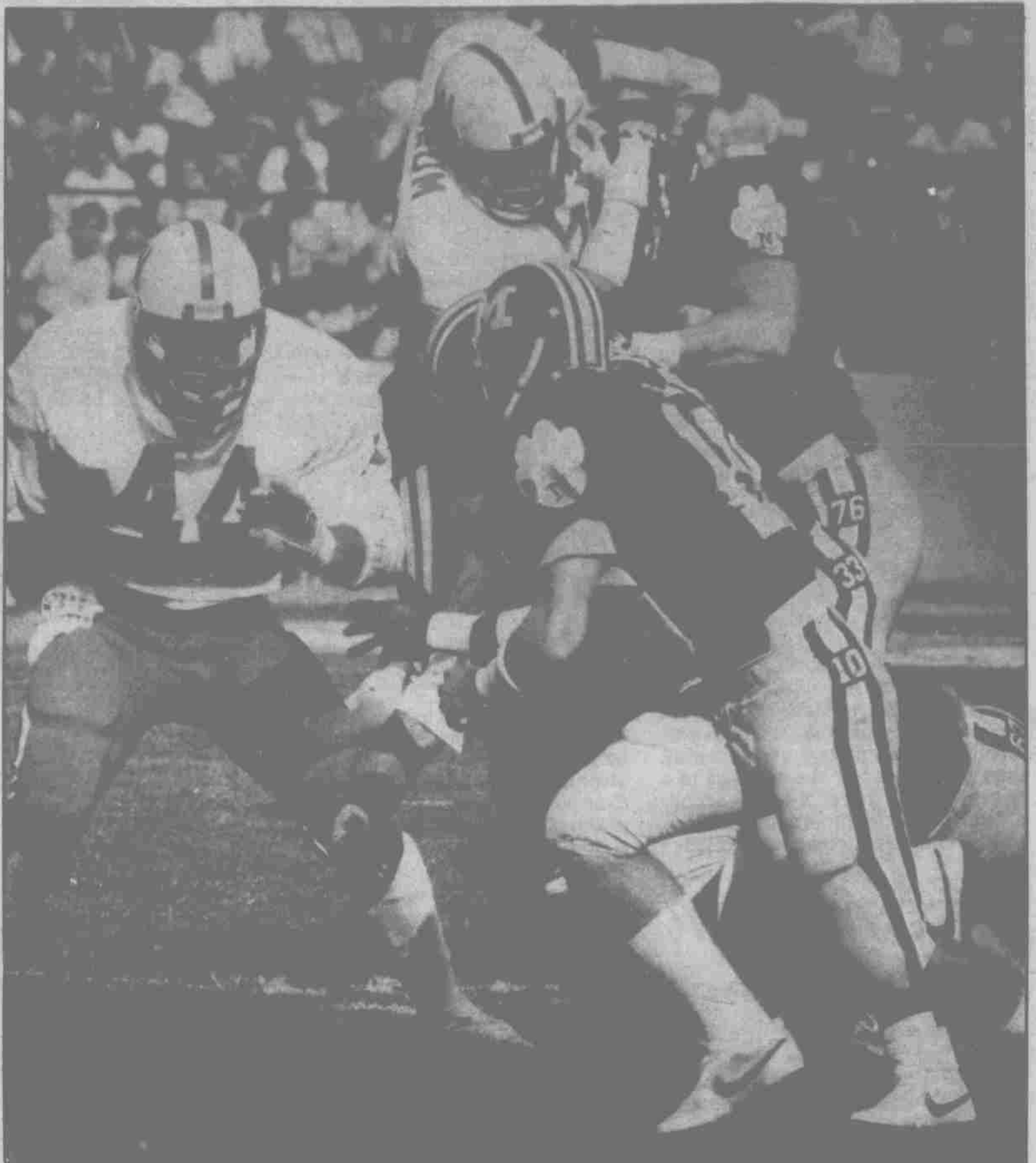
The defensive line is anchored by three returning starters and should be a strong point, McBride said.

"We'll be a little deeper up front than we've been in the past," McBride said. "And we should have five good defensive ends."

Seniors Bill Weber, Scott Strasburger and Rob Stuckey return for one more year on the line. Strasburger and Stuckey were academic All-Americans last year.

Joining the three on the line on the pre-spring depth chart are senior letterman Ken Graber and sophomore Chris Spachman.

Nebraska will work out five days a week and finish spring practice with the annual spring game April 28.



Craig Andresen/Daily Nebraskan

Senior linebackers Mark Daum and Mike Knox close in on Mizzou quarterback Marlon Adler in Nebraska's 34-13 victory in Columbia last season. Daum and Knox lead a group of 30 returning defensive lettermen as the Huskers begin spring football practice today at Memorial Stadium.

ATO, Abel Six, Holysmokers lead in men's point standings

By Kirk Zebolsky

A collection of sparkling trophies, most of them resulting from intramural championships, adorns one corner of the living room in the Alpha Tau Omega house. The trophies are a proof of the house's excellence in intramurals. They also are an indication of what to expect this year.

After winning the fraternity division of the all-university point standings two of the past three years and nine of the past 11, ATO sits atop the 1983-84 standings.

ATO holds an 849-708 lead over Beta Theta Pi with points from two Class 1 sports and two Class 2 sports yet to be tabulated.

Teams in the A league (The A league consists of each fraternity top team) receive 30 points for winning a Class 1 sport. In addition, each A league team participating in a Class 1 sport receives 30 points.

B and C league teams receive fewer points for winning and participating in Class 1 sports. Class 2 sports are worth fewer points than Class 1 sports, but more than Class 3 sports. There are about 75 intramural sports.

ATO also leads in the team sports award standings. Tau Kappa Epsilon leads in the Esprit de Corps standings, with ATO fifth.

The recreation department awards trophies to the end-of-the-year leaders in each standing. The fraternity, dormitory and independent winners all receive trophies.

Abel Six won the dormitory division of the all-university point standings in 1980-81 and finished second the last two years.

Tim Sherman, Abel Six intramural chairman, said he has tried to concentrate on the team sports and the Esprit de Corps sports. Sherman said he thinks the total-points trophy will belong to Abel Six if they concentrate on the other two trophies.

Abel Six is one of the few all-male floors in Abel. Abel has more residents per floor than any other dormitory. Sherman said Abel Six's size is a distinct advantage.

Sherman is happy with the participation of the floor members this year.

"I don't think we've had a forfeit except for water polo," Sherman said.

Abel Six holds a 151-point lead over Abel 11 in the dormitory division of the all-university point standings. Abel Six also leads in team sports and Esprit de Corps standings. The only independent team with any points given by the recreation department is the Holysmokers.

Joe Heater, ATO intramural chairman, said ATO participation is the main factor in keeping them on top this year. Although ATO is fifth in the Esprit de Corps standings, which indicates total numbers of participants from each house and floor, Heater said ATO teams enter every team sport and house members participate in all individual events. This means ATO gets a lot of participation points, Heater said.

Rec Scoreboard



All-University Point Standings Fraternities

1.	Alpha Tau Omega	849
2.	Beta Theta Pi	708
3.	Sigma Phi Epsilon	546
4.	Tau Kappa Epsilon	506
5.	Phi Gamma Delta	447
6.	Phi Kappa Psi	424
7.	Acacia	400
8.	Delta Tau Delta	385
9.	Lambda Chi alpha	270

10. Sigma Nu Dormitories

1.	Abel Six	475
2.	Abel Eleven	324
3.	Cather Eleven	249
4.	Harper Seven	246
5.	Abel Nine	228
6.	Schramm Four	215
7.	Cather Six	187
8.	Cather Three	184
9.	Abel Eight	170
10.	Schramm Ten	169

Orioles will disprove rumor, begin World Series dynasty

Analysis by Kevin Warneke

This is the first in a series previewing the major league baseball season.

Sometime during the past decade, a rumor was started that teams don't repeat as World Series champions. This is the year the Baltimore Orioles will push aside those rumors and begin a dynasty.

If the Orioles had been put in the American League Western Division years ago, the season could be interesting, as the Orioles would have to fight off the potent Chicago White Sox and California Angels. But, with Baltimore being in the talent-void Eastern Division, no apparent competition is in sight. The real battle this year will be the dog fight for runner-up honors.

BALTIMORE ORIOLES

When one thinks of Baltimore, pitching comes to mind. The current pitching staff ranks with Baltimore's best ever. Even with Jim Palmer aging, the Orioles still boast Mike Flanagan, Tippy Martinez, Dennis Martinez, Mike Boddicker, Scott McGregor, Storm Davis and Tom Underwood.

Besides pitching, the Orioles include a one-two hitting attack that makes opposing pitchers cringe. Most Valuable Player Cal Ripken and runner-up Eddie Murray combined for 60 home runs and 213 runs batted in. The supporting cast of Ken Singleton, Gary Roenicke and Rick Dempsey provide security should Ripken or Murray have an off day.

Continued on Page 11