

Taylor's No. 9 in program but No. 1 at quarterback

By Mark Derowitsch
Senior Reporter

For the first time since the Turner Gill era, Nebraska fans will know who the Cornhusker starting quarterback will be when the Huskers open their season.

Steve Taylor enters fall camp as the No. 1 signal-caller, a position he said he expects to keep.

"I'll be No. 1 throughout the year as well as my whole career here," Taylor said. "I'm pretty sure coach (Tom) Osborne feels the same way. But you never know what could happen. I could get hurt and Clete (Blakeman) could come in. But as of right now, I'm the No. 1 quarterback and there's no plans in the future for me not to be."

Last year, Taylor was second on the team in rushing with 537 yards. A junior from Fresno, Calif., Taylor also connected on 52 passes in 125 attempts for 808 yards with six touchdowns.

But some, including Taylor, thought his play was inconsistent at times.

"I had one or two games where I really wasn't up to par. But you're going to have those games, especially when you're a true sophomore," he said. "I'm looking forward to my junior year and I have a lot of experience. I believe in

myself very much; I don't think there's anything out there I can't do. I think I should have a super year."

Osborne said that Taylor has improved since he's been at Nebraska. He said the Huskers have a lot of depth at quarterback.

"I think Steve's shown consistent improvement in the past two years," Osborne said. "He had a good spring and he has good physical skills. Plus his confidence has improved. But Clete Blakeman is fairly consistent and is a good player. And Gerry Gdowski played well this spring."

"We are pretty complete (at quarterback)," Taylor said. "We have Clete, who has a lot of experience and who is a pretty good quarterback. So if something happens to me, we do have Clete to come in and play like he did against Kansas."

The Huskers might throw more this season because of the experience, Taylor said.

"We threw the ball against South Carolina, Oklahoma, Florida State, Oregon, and Louisiana State quite a bit," Taylor said. "I think we're going to continue to throw the ball like we have been. Our passing percentage will go up and we'll throw a lot more efficiently."

Two more players will add to the competition for playing time. Mickey Joseph, a highly recruited freshman from Marrero, La., and Keithen McCant, a freshman from Grand Prairie, Texas, might see some playing time with the varsity this year, Osborne said.



Osborne

Sports section plans fall changes

By Jeff Apel
Senior Editor

Welcome to the fall semester sports section of the Daily Nebraskan.

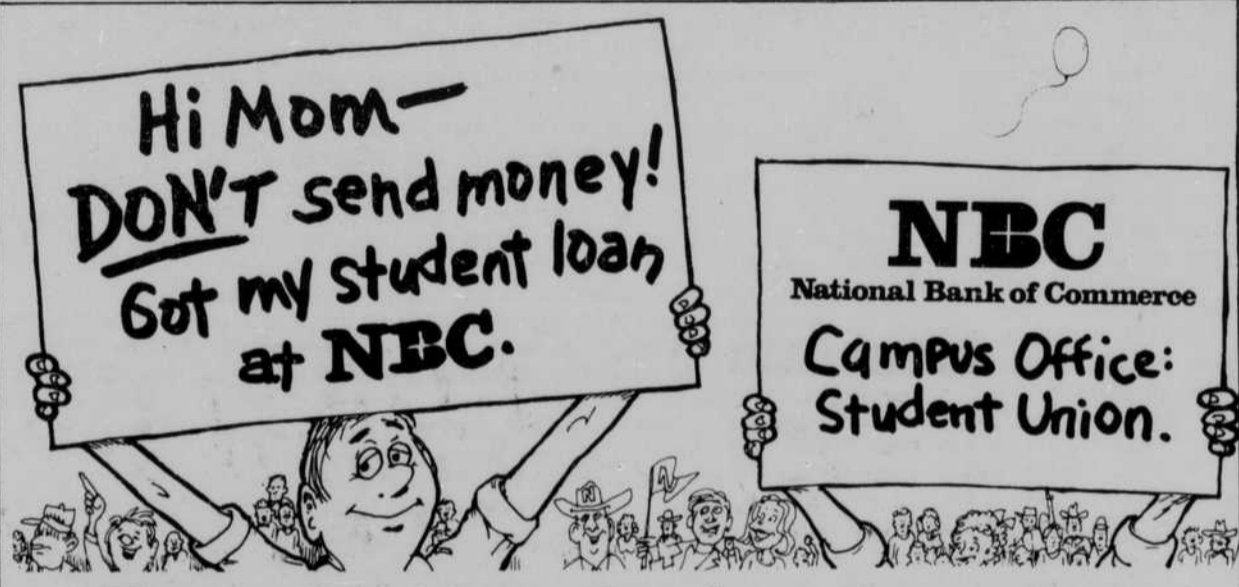
This semester, the sports page will adopt a different look with the addition of a daily scoreboard and the use of more art work. These changes will not only allow students and faculty members to see daily results of their favorite pro and college

teams, but also will allow for a more creative layout.

Along with these changes, the Daily Nebraskan sports staff will provide extensive coverage of all Nebraska sports. The reporters will spend the first two to three weeks focusing on previews of all Cornhusker teams, then switch to profiles and timely stories. The sports staff hopes to improve its coverage of all sports by having each reporter assigned to a particular beat. This

should eliminate some of the problems that arose in the past when reporters were asked to do a story that they weren't familiar with.

The Daily Nebraskan sports staff also will have Mike Reilly and myself writing weekly columns, and Bill Allen and Chuck Green will contribute every other week. A special feature will be the addition of celebrity columnists, who will write once a month about their opinion on sports-related matters.



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