

Cornhuskers' 1988 wrestling recruits No. 2 in the country by magazine

NEUMANN from Page 8

homa State (8th) and Oklahoma (13th).

"We had a real good recruiting year," Neumann said. "On paper, it was probably 2nd-best in the country. As far as filling our needs, we didn't have a lot of needs at the immediate time, but what we did was insure our future."

The 1988 Nebraska recruiting class includes:

• John Buxton, a 118-pound wrestler from Spearfish, S.D. Buxton was a three-time South Dakota state high school champion, where he posted a 156-7 career record.

• Darren Droegemueller, the brother of Nebraska wrestler Dave Droegemueller. He won two Minnesota state high school titles and compiled a 145-9 record. Droegemueller, from Osseo, Minn., will wrestle at 142.

• Jeremie Eckley, a three-time state high school champion from Sidney. Eckley chose Nebraska over Iowa and Northern Iowa.

• Paul Herrera, a 150-pound wrestler from Golden West College in Huntington Beach, Calif. Herrera was a Colorado state high school champion and a two-time California Junior College champion.

• Butch McFee, a transfer from

Garden City (Kan.) Junior College. McFee was the top-ranked junior college wrestler at 118 pounds last season until a knee injury ended his season.

• Jarrod Nelson, a heavyweight from Fort Lupton, Colo. Nelson captured three Colorado state championships and was a runner-up during his other year of high school.

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—Neumann

• Corey Olson, a 167-pound wrestler from Hayfield, Minn. Olson was a three-time state high school champion and compiled a 122-8 career record.

• Tommy Robins, a two-time state high school champion from Tulsa, Okla. Robins, who will wrestle at 177 pounds, chose Nebraska over Big Eight champion Oklahoma State.

• Randy Street, a three-time state high school champion from Butte, Mont. Street will wrestle in either the

142- or 150-pound weight class.

Neumann said this year's recruiting class is comparable to the 1986 class, which was ranked 3rd in the country.

The addition of a talented recruiting class to an experienced squad makes this year's team the most talented one in his five years at Nebraska, Neumann said.

Experience could be a key this season because traditional Big Eight powerhouses Iowa State and Oklahoma have young squads, he said.

Neumann thinks that Oklahoma State will challenge Arizona State for the national title this season.

"Talent-wise those teams are head and heels above the rest," he said. "They're both old and experienced. I would be very surprised of one of those two teams doesn't win it."

Nebraska will get a first-hand look at both Oklahoma State and Arizona State at the 16-team Virginia Duals Jan. 6 and 7 in Hampton, Va.

Neumann said the Huskers' schedule is "exciting" because they will compete against some of the top teams in the country. Neumann is especially pleased the Huskers are traveling east to compete against teams like Lock Haven and Pittsburgh. In the past, Nebraska didn't face eastern teams until the NCAA tournament.

Nebraska still 2nd in AP poll

By the Associated Press

Following Nebraska's 23-14 victory over Texas A&M in the Kickoff Classic on Saturday night, Coach Tom Osborne was asked if he thought the second-ranked Cornhuskers deserved to be No. 1.

"I'll let the voters decide," Osborne said.

The voters in the Associated Press' first regular-season college football poll decided Monday that Nebraska is still No. 2 — but by a much closer margin than in the preseason rank-

ings.

Florida State remained No. 1 by receiving 41 of 53 first-place votes and 1,032 of a possible 1,060 points from a nationwide panel of sports writers and sportscasters. Nebraska received four first-place votes and 939 points.

In the preseason poll, Florida State led 44-2 in first-place ballots — 60 voters participated — and 1,161-952 in total points.

"It's something I've always wanted — unbeaten, untied, unscored upon, No. 1 in the nation," joked

Florida State coach Bobby Bowden, whose team opens next Saturday night against defending national champion Miami, ranked No. 6 this week. "If I didn't have to play that schedule (the Seminoles also face nationally-ranked Clemson and Michigan State in September), I would be happy. If it wasn't for the games, I'd have it made."

By losing the Kickoff Classic, the only college game played thus far, Texas A&M fell out of the Top Ten, slipping from 10th to 11th.

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