inebackers substitute strength for experien

By Todd Cooper Senior Reporter

Two of Nebraska's youngest linebackers are using strength to over-come the defense's No. 1 weakness

inexperience. Sophomore Mike Anderson, last year's lifter of the year, and redshirt freshman Darren Williams, who benches 400 benches pounds, have emerged to help senior Mike

Kevin Steele said.



Anderson

Petko lead a young defense, inside linebacker coach

"We'll look at the films (Sunday)," Steele said. "But it looks like Darren played pretty solid (during Saturday's scrimmage)

"And with Mike, I think we sometimes forget that he still has three

years left, but he played solid."

Steele said Husker fans can expect great things out of Anderson, the No. weakside linebacker.

"We feel good about that spot right now," Steele said. "Mike continues to work hard and he's a very good linebacker right now.

And although he recorded just 18 total tackles in limited playing time last year, Anderson said he's ready to start this year.

"I was second the whole year last year behind Pat (Tyrance), so I ex-

pected to have the shot to start this year," he said.

Anderson said he learned a lot from Tyrance.

"He was a great linebacker," Anderson said. "He just always worked

Anderson hopes he can lead the same way Tyrance did - with his work habits.

"I don't know if I'm going to be a leader," he said. "I'm just going to work hard and let that show for it-

Steele said Williams is making strides because of his work habits. The redshirt freshman from Chicago has climbed to third on the depth chart behind Petko and junior Matt Penland, who has been hampered with

knee problems this fall. A true junior, Penland might redshirt, pending his

"We still have time on our side to see what happens with Matt," Steele. said. "But based on right now, Darren will see some playing time.

Williams saw plenty of action Saturday, terrorizing the first- and second-team offense most of the day. At 6-foot-1-inch and 245 pounds, the offense saw plenty of him.

"Darren just has great natural instincts," Steele said. "He's a big guy and is very, very strong. And, most importantly, he's developing an understanding of what it takes to play line-backer at Nebraska."

watching Tyrance.

"I'm a great admirer of his," Wil-liams said. "He was just a great linebacker and a great leader.

Williams was a co-player of the year in the Catholic League of Chicago in his senior year. He was re-cruited by Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and Notre Dame.

'But ever since I was in seventh grade, I always watched Nebraska,' he said. "It was an easy choice."

Williams said his only goal this year is to help the defense out wherever he can.

(Petko) has been here a long time and he's started two years," Williams cker at Nebraska." said. "I'm just going to learn from him and fit in wherever I can."

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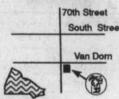








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Freshman quarterback will have to wait

By Todd Cooper Senior Reporter

Rarely does a Nebraska quarterback have the opportunity to see play-

ing time as a true freshman. Tony Veland had that opportunity, and he has seen enough, for this year.

"I didn't do too well today," Veland said after missing on all three of his passing attempts during Satur-day's scrimmage. "I had a few bad audibles and I didn't throw the ball too well.

"But I didn't expect to be there either."

Veland, a 6-foot-1, 180-pound recruit out of Omaha Benson, worked with the second offense against the No. 1 defense during the 3 1/2 hour scrimmage.

Coach Tom Osborne decided to play Veland with the second team because of his "initial test scores."

"He tested better than any freshman we've had here," Osborne said.

Veland ran the 40-yard dash in 4.6 seconds (electronically timed), Osborne said. He also had a 32-inch vertical jump, according to Osborne.

"He's just a good athlete," Osborne said. "I just wanted to give him a chance to make it into the top two (quarterbacks).

But after two penalties, three in-complete passes and a couple of missed audibles, Veland said his playing days

with the varsity may soon be over.
"After today, I'd imagine I'll be redshirted."

Osborne echoed that statement, but Veland wasn't too disappointed.

"It was fun," Veland said. "It was kind of honoring just to be in that

The last quarterback to have a chance to play as a freshman was Steve Taylor, who quarterbacked in Nebraska's loss to Michigan in the 1987 Fiesta Bowl. Taylor went on to



Michelle Paulman/Daily Nebraskan

Quarterback Tom Haase evades linebacker Troy Branch during Saturday's scrimmage.

earn All-Big Eight honors during his confusion he felt Saturday. junior and senior years.

We recruited him as an athlete," Osborne said: "We had intended to develop him as a defensive back, but he said he wanted to play quarterback. We'll keep him there.

Veland said he could tell after Saturday that, unlike Taylor, he needs a redshirt year.

"I had a real hard time reading the defenses," he said. "We didn't do much with audibles in high school, so it was tough.

"I kind of had everything thrown at me."

Veland was also recruited as a defensive back.

Veland said a year to absorb the system hopefully will alleviate the

"I hope after this year I'm in a position to compete for the No. 1 spot," he said. "My arm has to get a lot better and I have to learn how to read the coverages.

Osborne said any one of the three freshman quarterback recruits Veland, Clester Johnson and Brook Berringer - could compete for the starting spot next year.

"All three of them are great ath-

letes," he said. "They all placed in the top five in the freshman testing."

But for this year, Osborne will

play it safe.
"I supposed if they worked hard, they'd have a reasonably good shot of

playing well later on in the season." Osborne said. "But that's a hard thing to ask them to give up a redshirt

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Application forms are available at the Student Activities Financial Service Office, Room 222, City Union; ASUN Office, 115 Vebraska Union or 300 East Union. Students must bring their student I.D. cards at the time of application. Students who are unable to personally return their application to the Student Activities Financial Services Office should contact Kim Underdahl, Room 222 (phone 472-5667) before September 20, 1991 to make arrangements.

Students who have completed a refund application and returned it on or before September 27, 1991 will be mailed a check for the amount of the refund claimed. Refund checks will be mailed between the dates of September 30 and October 11, 1991.

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