

Farley looks to improve

By Jason Brunz
Staff Reporter

In his first spring with the Nebraska football team, Will linebacker Terrell Farley is ready for a fresh start that he hopes will lead to his second national championship.

Farley's first year as a Cornhusker was a stunning success. The 6-foot-1, 205-pound senior-to-be from Columbus, Ga., started the season backing up Ryan Terwilliger.

He took over the starting spot in the seventh game against Kansas State. Despite his late start, Farley led the defense with 62 tackles, including 27 unassisted stops.

Farley had 92 yards on three interception returns, two of which were good for touchdowns. He also had nine tackles behind the line of scrimmage for 45 yards in losses and five sacks for 40 yards in losses.

Farley recorded two blocked punts last season. In the Fiesta Bowl win over Florida, he led Nebraska with eight tackles, including two sacks.

In his first season, Farley earned second-team All-American honors and was a first-team All-Big Eight pick. He also was named Big Eight newcomer of the year.

"He's one of the fastest linebackers we've ever had," Husker coach

Tom Osborne said.

Farley was recruited by the Cornhuskers from Independence (Kan.) Community College in the fall of 1994.

He was the Jayhawk League linebacker of the year in 1994, recording 116 tackles, 12 sacks and blocking 15 kicks.

Now that his first season at Nebraska is behind him, Farley said he was looking forward his senior season. Farley said the Blackshirts were starting to come together to form a dominating unit.

But Farley said he knew that his speed was not going to win games without a healthy attitude to complement it.

"It's a matter of staying focused," Farley said, "knowing the plays that I've got to know."

Last year, Farley said he hesitated too much while playing defense. But his football instincts usually covered his tracks. Knowing the plays better this season, he said, would help him as a player and let him find the ball more quickly.

Farley's first-ever spring football practice at Nebraska has been beneficial to him and the team, he said. After losing four starters from last year's defense, the Huskers need to plug the holes before the fall, he said.

Farley said spring football had made him a better football player than he was at this time last year. The defense that dominated at times last year could be even better next season, he said.

"One year you can have a good year and the next can be a bad year," Farley said. "I think I'm going to have the best football season I ever played."

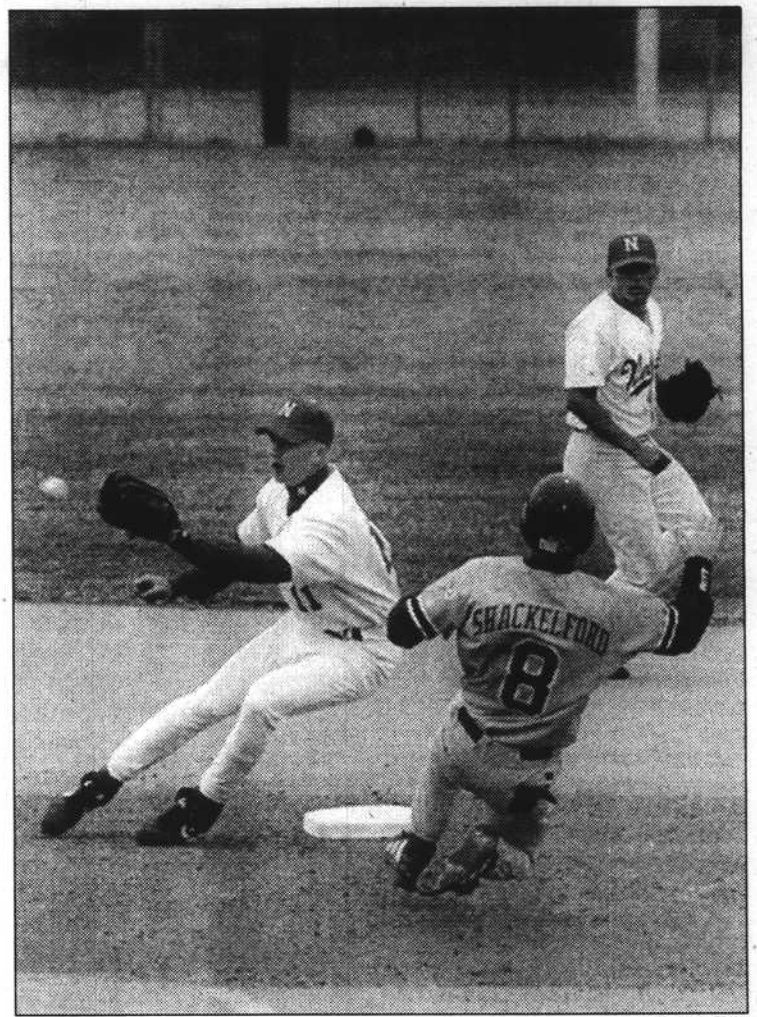
To achieve his goal, he said, he would have to work hard this spring and summer. He said he also needed to work next year to slow down and not overpursue plays.

Farley said he planned to stay in Lincoln this summer to hit the weights and work on his speed. In the past, he has had problems putting on weight, but he will devote time this summer to putting some muscle behind his hustle.

Linebackers coach Craig Bohl said Farley had done a great job for the Huskers, and had the tools necessary to be successful at any level.

Even this early in the spring season, Farley and the Huskers have a clear goal for the 1996 season, he said.

"We want to be the first team ever to win the third national championship," Farley said.



Scott Bruhn/DN

Nebraska's Josh Dalton tries to apply a tag to Oklahoma's Brian Shackelford on Wednesday. Nebraska will play host to Oral Roberts in a three-game series this weekend.

Fry's improvement awaits Oral Roberts

By David Wilson
Staff Reporter

Though its record does not reflect consistency, the 11-18-1 Nebraska baseball team has been steady at the plate this season.

And with only two seniors in the starting lineup on a regular basis, much of the offensive support has come from freshmen.

In the last six games, freshman Jason Fry has stepped up his play, going 10 for 22 with two home runs and 14 RBI.

Fry raised his average from .231 on March 23 to his current .297, which is the best average among the Husker freshmen.

"I've been working harder myself," Fry said. "I've been coming in extra and putting in more time—the time that I need to be putting in to hit at this level."

Fry was drafted in the 10th round by the Pittsburgh Pirates in 1994 after his senior season at Grand Island High School.

"Most of the players who come out of high school definitely have the talent to play at this level," said Fry, who was granted a medical redshirt season last year, "but the biggest thing is confidence. I'm gaining that confidence."

The 6-foot-5 right-hander made his college pitching debut in the first game of a doubleheader against

Peru State on March 27. Fry, who was clocked throwing 89 miles per hour at a pro tryout camp before coming to Nebraska, allowed four earned runs in 1/3 of an inning.

In the second game against Peru, Fry hit his only two homers of the season, going 3 for 4 and knocking in six runs.

"He's done a good job," Nebraska coach John Sanders said. "He's worked hard and put a lot of time in."

Nebraska will play host to 23-11 Oral Roberts in a three-game series, beginning Friday night at 7 at Buck Beltzer Field.

The Golden Eagles defeated the Huskers in two out of three games when the two teams met in February in Tulsa, Okla.

"They're a talented team," Sanders said. "They're playing all of the Big Eight teams. They're solid. It will be a real challenge for us."

Oral Roberts defeated Oklahoma 8-2 in Norman, Okla., on March 20. The Eagles finish their schedule playing 15 of their last 20 games against Big Eight opponents.

Nebraska junior Steve Fish, 3-3, will start for the Huskers on Friday. Fish, who owns a 5.87 earned-run average, made his last start on March 20 against Iowa State. He held the Cyclones scoreless in eight innings while striking out 10.

The Huskers, 3-8 in the Big Eight, close the season by playing 13 of their final 21 games against conference opponents.

"We want to keep working hard, stay intense and win as many ball games as we can," Fry said.

Huskers look to reload during signing period

By Antone Oseka
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska wrestling team starts looking toward the future now.

The Cornhuskers, who finished fifth at the NCAA Championships, March 21-23 in Minneapolis, are losing three seniors from the starting lineup.

Tony DeAnda at 134 pounds, All-American Chad Nelson at 167 pounds and 177-pounder Erik Josephson will not be back for the Huskers.

Nebraska also will lose freshmen Jake Roe and Matt Infranca and sophomore Troy Williams, who have decided to transfer.

The spring signing period begins Wednesday, and Husker coach Tim Neumann said he was still working to fill some key weights.

One of those is 150 pounds. Junior Jason Kraft wrestled there this year, but will probably move to 158 pounds.

Nebraska signed three wrestlers in the fall, 167-pound state champion Brad Vering, from Howells, heavyweight J.R. Plienis and 118-pounder Todd Beckerman.

Neumann said he expected Plienis to learn from All-American heavyweight Tolly Thompson, who won the national title as a sophomore and finished third as a junior.

"Tolly will be a great mentor for J.R.," Neumann said. "Then he can step right in after Tolly and do a great job."

All-Americans Ryan Tobin at 190 and 158-pounder Temoc Terry have decided to redshirt next year. Both Terry and Tobin placed third at the NCAA Championships, and after redshirting, Neumann said, both will have a good shot at winning a national championship.

"(Tobin) does need a year to work on his technique; then he can win the national championship," Neumann said.

NU tennis to start for Big Eight

From Staff Reports

It has been a difficult season for the Nebraska men's and women's tennis teams.

Both squads will take their act on the road this weekend to get their conference seasons under way. On the men's side, the 4-10 Cornhuskers take on Missouri on Saturday morning at 9 at Lake of the Ozarks, Mo., Sunday. Nebraska also will battle Kansas at Lawrence, Kan.

Sophomore Thomas Wheat and freshman Dinko Verzi are the leading singles players on Nebraska's squad. Wheat's overall record is 7-4, including a 7-2 mark in the No. 5 position. Verzi has racked up an 8-4 record, playing mostly in the No. 3 singles spot.

The 3-10 Husker women will travel to Kansas State on Saturday, followed by Kansas on Sunday and Missouri on Monday.

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