

# Colman ready for Giant season

By Vince D'Adamo  
Staff Writer

Any time a player gets drafted to play in the National Football League, much of the spotlight goes to the first-round draft choices.

When the New York Giants selected former Nebraska middle linebacker and New Jersey native Doug Colman in the sixth round last April, he was ecstatic.

Like most rookies, Colman just wants a chance to prove he can play in the National Football League.

"It means a lot to get drafted especially since there's only seven rounds," Colman said. "That just shows you are one of the top two-hundred players in college."

"The game and practices are much faster," Colman said. "Running backs are bigger and faster."

The Giants currently list Colman as third on the depth chart at middle linebacker.

Proving himself to coaches is nothing new to Colman. While at Nebraska he alternated playing time at middle linebacker with former teammate Phil Ellis.

Colman believes the first two exhibition games are vital toward proving himself to the Giants coaching staff. Because he is a true middle linebacker at 6'3" 240, Colman likes his chances of eventually getting more playing time.

The Giants open their exhibition

## Athlete troubles common in off-season

Sports opinion by Vince D'Adamo

The 1996 NFL off-season, otherwise known as Court TV, has mercifully come to an end. All thirty NFL teams are experiencing their annual training camp rituals today.

Perhaps more than any off-season in recent memory, attorneys and judges seemed to overshadow free agent signings and trades.

Dallas Cowboys wide receiver Michael Irvin pleaded no contest to a second degree charge of cocaine possession. Irvin faces four years probation, a \$10,000 fine and at least a five game suspension.

Texas police caught former Pittsburgh Steelers running back Bam Morris with seven pounds of mari-

juana. The Steelers released Morris three weeks ago. Like Irvin, Morris faces probation, a fine of \$7,000 and a four game suspension.

Courts overturned manslaughter charges of Seattle Seahawks receiver Brian Blades last month.

Also, police charged Chicago Bears cornerback Donnell Woolford, New York Jets linebacker Marvin Jones and former Husker I-back Lawrence Phillips, a first-round draft choice of the St. Louis Rams, for drunken driving.

The Rams signed Phillips to a non-guaranteed three-year, \$5.6-million dollar contract.

Hopefully, now that training camp is here, football will dominate discussions, as opposed to court decisions.

season on Friday night in Jacksonville.

Linebacker is one position the Giants have established a lot of tradition in, with names like Lawrence Taylor, Harry Carson and Sam Huff.

Colman is reunited with his former teammate, offensive lineman Rob Zatechka — who the Giants drafted last year. According to Colman, many of his teammates — including Zatechka — have helped him with the transition from college to the NFL.

"Everyone has been really genu-

ine. There hasn't been any hazing," Colman said. "Rob has offered to help me if I needed anything. In fact, we even banged heads in practice with each other. It reminded me of our Nebraska days."

The once proud Giants suffered through a dismal 5-11 season last year. Colman said this year's Giants squad is determined to restore what had been a proud tradition.

In order to do that, team unity is a must.

Please see **COLMAN** on 10

# Incoming freshman already hitting books

By Heidi White  
Staff Writer

Homework due before classes even start may be unthinkable to some, but for incoming students who enrolled in University Foundations courses for the fall, they are doing just that.

After enrolling in the course, students were assigned to read the book, "Amusing Ourselves To Death: Public Discourse in the Age of Show Business," by Neil Postman, over the summer.

Between 700 and 800 students are expected to take University Foundations courses this year, which are classes developed for credit and designed to help students find their place in the university community, James McShane, director of the program, said.

He said the book is serious but accessible, and it raises issues that can alert students to different ways of thinking, which may help them adjust to college-level work easier.

The reading, along with a study guide, will help students to understand their professors better and access them to intellectual conversation, McShane said.

He said the New Student Enrollment program has made great efforts to integrate students socially and personally, and this program's aim is to extend that to get an academic and

intellectual base for students as well. "My hope is this program will give them a fuller introduction to the university," McShane said.

He said Postman expresses interest in his book in the ways information is gathered and processed in the age of electronic media, and also the way it differs from other books.

"Concerns about electronic media aren't universally shared, so it brings up controversy," McShane said.

A luncheon will be held for the students to discuss the reading the day before fall classes begin.

Robert Knoll, professor emeritus of English, will speak in support of Postman's thesis.

Ron Lee, associate professor of communication studies, will speak at the luncheon in support of electronic media.

Afterward, students will participate in small group discussions led by faculty members and administrators.

"The students will get a sense that the university is a place where ideas are discussed and exchanged and not announced," he said.

An attempt was made to get Postman to come to speak with the students about his writing, but was unsuccessful, because other universities with similar programs are also using the book and had got to him first, McShane said.


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