

Frost forecast to fill giant quarterback hole

FOUR QUARTERBACKS battle for spots behind starter.

By **TREVOR PARKS**
Senior Reporter

An inexperienced but talented group of quarterbacks is ready to fill in for Tommie Frazier and Brook Berringer, the engineers of Nebraska's offense the past four seasons.

After sitting out for a year and a half, Stanford transfer Scott Frost appears ready to take over. But the job for which he has been preparing for may not be his just yet.

Coach Tom Osborne said the starting quarterback would be officially announced the week before the Sept. 7 opener against Michigan State.

Senior Matt Turman, sophomore Monte Christo, redshirt freshmen Frankie London and Jeff Perino will battle for depth-chart positions in the last two weeks of fall camp, which includes two major scrimmages.

Quarterbacks Coach Turner Gill said the competitive practice atmosphere should help all five quarterbacks.

"They all have the potential," Gill said. "Matt is the senior statesman of the group, and they are all going to get a chance to get out there."

"Right now Scott's the leader of the pack, and it's a big battle for that second-team job. Anyone could move around from being No. 1 to No. 5."

Frost earned the No. 1 spot in the spring.

"There is some talent, and I think that's why Coach Osborne isn't real eager to say that I'm the starter yet," Frost said. "I feel confident that I will be the starter."

Osborne said Frost's experience — he started two games for Stanford as a freshman — was a major plus.

"I feel as good about the quarterback position as I could under the circumstances," Osborne said. "Scott Frost has a great deal of athletic ability, and he's not an unproven player."

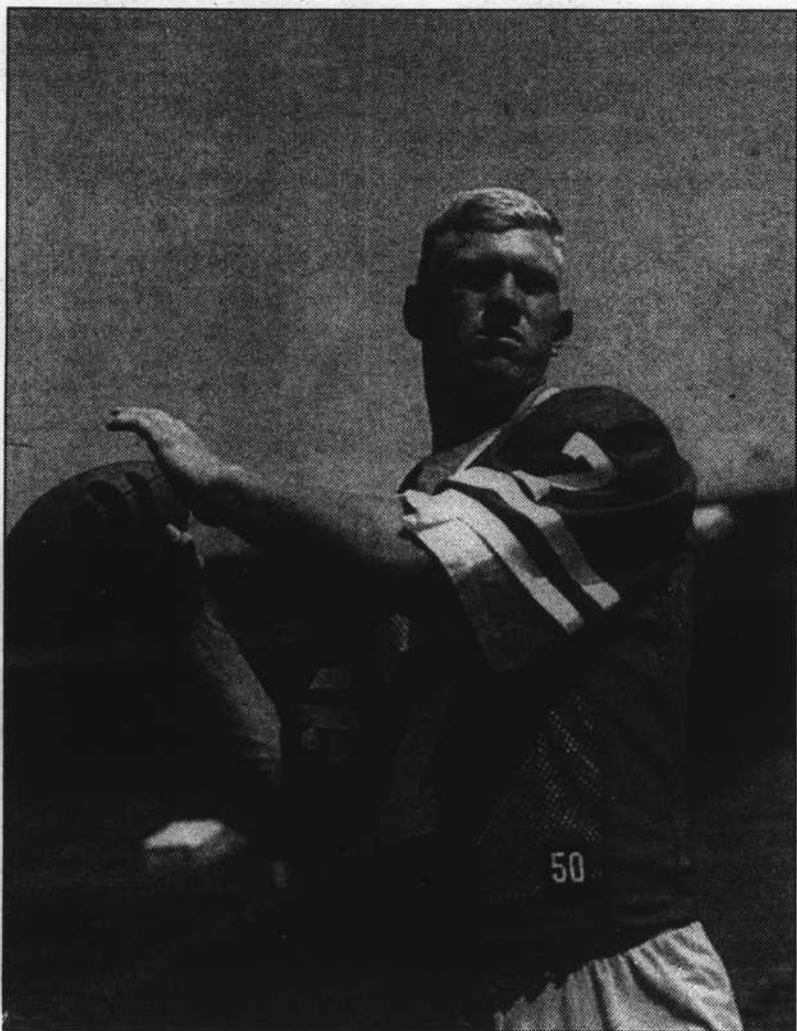
Frost's signal-calling mates agree that he is the man to beat.

Christo, a 6-foot, 195-pound sophomore from Kearney, missed last fall with a torn knee ligament. Christo said if Frost starts, it's because he earned the job.

"The best player is going to be out on the field, and right now that's Scott," Christo said. "If nothing changes, he's going to be the one and we shouldn't have any problems with that."

Turman, who played a major role in two 1994 wins and entered spring football ahead of Frost on the depth chart, said he hadn't given up hope of starting.

"A lot of people have thought Scott is the No. 1 guy for sure, but that doesn't bug me," Turman said. "I know what the coaches have told us, and if



LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN

SCOTT FROST leads the race to become Nebraska's next starting quarterback. Frost, from Wood River, started two games at Stanford in 1994 before transferring to NU in January 1995.

Quarterbacks



Matt Turman is the only senior among NU's quarterbacks

Name	Ht.	Wt.	Passing yds.	Rushing yds.
Scott Frost	6-3	215	-	-
Matt Turman	5-11	185	73	35
Jeff Perino	6-2	195	-	-
Monte Christo	6-0	195	-	-
Frankie London	6-0	170	-	-

things go well for me and I have a good fall ball, who knows what will happen."

Perino, a 6-2 195-pounder from Durango, Colo., said he liked the competition.

"If you're trying to work for your job, and you're not sure you are going to get it," Perino said, "you've got to put forth more effort knowing some-

body could take that job away from you."

Gill agreed with Perino.

"You saw it with Brook and Tommie as it made them even better quarterbacks," he said. "It's going to carry over into this group, too. Everyday in practice, every snap is going to be important."

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