

Hesse is best on Wonderlic test

At combine, former Husker answers 46 of 50 questions correctly.

By SAM MCKEWIN
Staff Reporter

Out of all of the 1997 NFL draft prospects, former Nebraska linebacker Jon Hesse is at the head of the class.

Hesse, a first-team All-Big 12 selection, finished first out of 362 former college players in the mental portion of the NFL Scouting Combine last month.

The mental portion of the combine consisted of taking a test — called the Wonderlic test — to measure upcoming prospects' overall intelligences.

Athletes were given 12 minutes to complete a test that consists of 50 questions ranging from vocabulary to high-level algebra.

Hesse, who graduated with a 3.5 grade-point average in psychology in December 1995 — three-and-a-half years after he entered school — and was a Burger King Scholar Athlete of the Week in 1996, said the test was not one of the easier exams he has taken.

"It was hard," Hesse said. "It was a lot like the SAT, and we didn't have a lot of time to do it. It was a speed test."

Hesse, who showed his athletic ability along with other Cornhusker seniors in front of numerous NFL

scouts on Tuesday at Cook Pavilion, said he had an advantage going into the test that some of the others did not.

"The Wonderlic is culturally biased," he said. "I was fortunate enough to get a good education at a good high school. Some guys I took it with didn't have that."

Hesse answered 46 of the 50 questions correctly.

In contrast, former Iowa State running back Troy Davis, who left Ames a year early to enter the draft, answered only six questions right.

Hesse, 6-foot-4, 250-pounds, doesn't think the test is that important in determining a player's position in the draft. A better determinant is a player's physical abilities, Hesse said.

"It doesn't hurt to do well on it, but hey, it's football," he said. "The scouts pay a lot more attention to how fast you run the 40 and how well you

do on the agility drills than to a test."

In his senior year at NU, Hesse recorded 85 tackles — 32 unassisted — starting every game for the Huskers.

Hesse said the whole scouting process in the spring has been difficult and sometimes nerve racking.

"The uncertainty is the hardest part of it all," Hesse said. "You don't know if one team is interested in you or not. It ends up being the guy who never talked to you at all that drafts you."

Being selected as a mid-round selection in April's draft or becoming a free agent are two of the possibilities facing him, Hesse said.

Either way, Hesse said, he wants to be with a team that has a long-term commitment to winning.

"I've won at every level of football," he said. "It would be hard for me to go to a team where all they care about is making money."



Hesse

Syracuse falls to FSU

NIT Roundup

From The Associated Press

After getting snubbed by the NCAA tournament, Syracuse was looking for redemption in the NIT. The Orangemen didn't get it.

Florida State's Randall Jackson scored 20 points and LaMarr Greer added 16 as the Seminoles beat Syracuse 82-67 Wednesday night in the first round of the NIT.

Florida State (17-11), making its first postseason appearance in four years, will play Michigan State in the next round.

Three other Big East teams had better results in their first-round games.

Richard Hamilton scored nine of his 25 points down the stretch as Connecticut (15-14) held off Iona (22-8) 71-66. Pittsburgh (18-14) rolled past New Orleans (22-7) 82-63 behind Vonteego Cummings' 25 points, and West Virginia (20-9) beat Bowling Green (22-10) 98-95 as Seidon Jefferson scored 29 points.

The Eagles had a chance to tie at the end of regulation, but Antonio Daniels missed a 3-pointer at the buzzer.

In other first-round NIT action Wednesday night; Michigan State beat George Washington 64-50, Notre Dame defeated Oral Roberts 74-58, Arkansas beat Northern Arizona 101-75, TCU beat Alabama-Birmingham 85-62, North Carolina State bounced Southwest Missouri State 77-66, Nevada-Reno won at Fresno State 97-86 and Bradley beat Drexel 66-53.

Huskers beat Drake in tennis

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska women's tennis team swept all six singles matches as the Cornhuskers beat Drake 8-1 on Tuesday.

NU (5-3 and 0-3 in the Big 12 Conference) did not lose a game in all six matches. The Huskers also took two of three doubles matches from the Bulldogs.

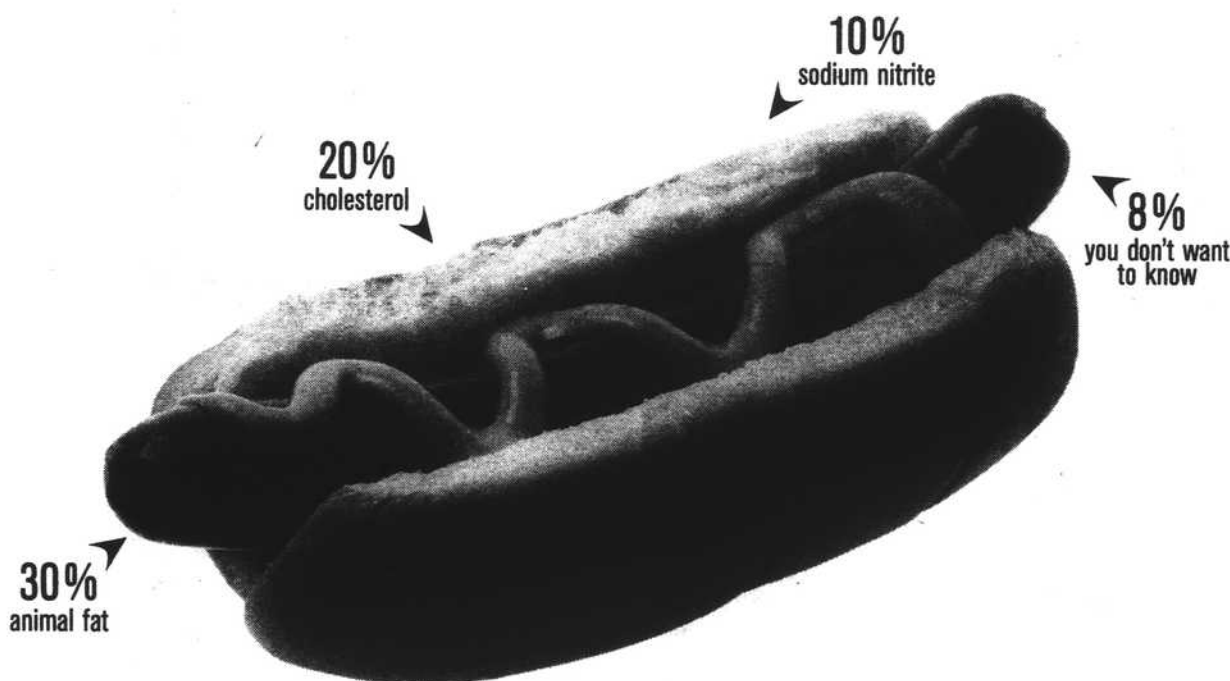
Freshman Sandra Noetzel (5-3) won in No. 1 singles with a 6-3, 6-1 win over Marianne Motte. In No. 2 singles, junior Lisa Hart (5-3) beat Lindsay Bell 6-3, 7-6. Senior Annie Yang (4-2) won No. 3 singles with a 6-2, 6-1 win over Amy Hanson. In No. 4 singles, junior Jennifer Thoste won 7-5, 6-1 over Meredith Lavelle.

NU closed out the sweep of the singles with a win by No. 5 singles player sophomore Lara Botts. Botts defeated Emma Edwardsson 6-3, 6-0. In No. 6 singles, Adriana Dulic defeated Aleksa Huns 6-1, 6-0.

In the doubles matches, the No. 2 team of Yang and Hart improved to 8-0 this season with an 8-0 win over Motte and Edwardsson.

In No. 1 doubles, Noetzel and Thoste defeated Bell and Hanson 8-4. The only Husker loss of the day came by the No. 3 doubles team of Botts and Dulic. The duo lost to Lavelle and Huns 8-4.

NU is next in action at the Cal State-Fullerton Tournament in Fullerton, Calif., this weekend. NU plays Indiana State at 9 a.m. Friday, duals Fairfield at 9 a.m. Saturday and the Titans at 1 p.m. Sunday.



1-800-COLLECT

44% SAVINGS

Dial 1-800-COLLECT and save up to 44%.*

*For long-distance calls. Savings based on a 3-minute AT&T operator-dialed interstate call.