

Secondary survives injuries

BY DAVID WILSON
Senior staff writer

Leaving the practice field Wednesday, Nebraska Defensive Backs Coach George Darlington turned around just in time to see true freshmen defensive backs Keyuo Craver and Mike Demps doing back flips in the north end zone of Memorial Stadium.

Craver "I think we maybe better re-evaluate how injured he is," Darlington said of Demps, who pulled a hamstring earlier this fall.

Given the injuries in the secondary, it's probably safe to say back flips aren't high on Darlington's list of things for defensive backs to do in practice each day.

But after suffering multiple injuries and surrendering 590 yards passing in NU's season opener against Louisiana Tech, the confidence of the secondary hasn't wavered, junior cornerback Ralph Brown.

Darlington agreed and said he's satisfied with the progress the defensive backs have made in NU's last two games.

"I think the attitude is good,"

"(Keyuo Craver) hasn't played much, but he has all the talent in the world."

RALPH BROWN
NU defensive back

Darlington said. "The guys are working hard."

The biggest blow depth-wise came when starting free safety Clint Finley suffered a knee strain midway through fall camp. Finley ran on his own Wednesday at practice and is making "slow progress," NU Coach Frank Solich said.

To cover the loss of Finley, junior Mike Brown moved from rover to free safety and Joe Walker became the starting rover.

So because of one injury, the Huskers went from having five returning starters in the secondary to three. Starting left cornerback Erwin Swiney has also been slowed by a groin injury.

The result was less desirable in Nebraska's season opener Aug. 30 against Louisiana Tech. But the Huskers rebounded the following week against Alabama-Birmingham, allowing just 56 yards through the air.

"I think we were just disappointed in ourselves after the Louisiana Tech game," Brown said. "But our attitudes weren't low. We know how good we are."

And the secondary's confidence level doesn't change when Craver — the only one of three true freshman cornerbacks to see playing time this season — takes the field, Brown said.

"He hasn't played that much, but he has all the talent in the world," Brown said. "All of us have as much confidence with him out there as if Swiney was out there. I think that says a lot."

Both Demps and DeJuan Groce, who suffered an ankle injury earlier, likely will redshirt this season.

Craver, on the other hand, said he is pumped about getting the chance to play as a true freshman.

"It's all exciting to me," Craver said. "It's all new to me. But whenever they do need me, I'll be ready."

And as far as extracurricular activities at practice go, Craver said, the coaches don't need to worry about losing another defensive back to a back flip gone bad.

"They never really saw me do it before," Craver said. "But I've been doing it for so long. I took gymnastics since I was 4 years old. It's about like walking to me."

USC, UCLA head coaches prepared for NU challenge

BY JAY SAUNDERS
Staff writer

It is a battle of conferences this weekend at the Fila Challenge in Los Angeles.

No. 11 Nebraska and No. 25 Baylor represent the Big 12 in the two-day invitational against the University of Southern California and the No. 19 University of California at Los Angeles.

"It's the Big 12 vs. the Pac-10," USC Coach Jim Millinder said. "It is going to be a blockbuster weekend."

UCLA (4-1) is the defending Pac-10 Conference champion, and the Bruins are off to another fast start this year.

In five games, the Bruins have allowed only one goal. Starting goalkeeper Lindsay Culp leads the Pac-10 in goals against average (0.22).

The Bruins take on Nebraska (2-1) on Friday and face Baylor (5-0) on Sunday in the Los Angeles Coliseum.

"There will be no easy game," UCLA Coach Todd Saldana said. "Everyone will get a challenge. That is an ideal situation."

USC (2-2) is the only unranked team in the Fila Challenge.

The Women of Troy have nine returning starters from a team that lost to the Huskers 2-1 last year. USC is led by midfielder Kim Clark.

Sophomore Isabelle Harvey, who led the Pac-10 in scoring as a freshman, returns to the team after helping the Canadian national team qualify for the World Cup.

But USC has not gotten off to a quick start this year. The team's losses came against No. 18 Maryland and unranked Towson State.

Millinder said after the Towson State game, he can sympathize with his good friend — Nebraska Coach John Walker — about an unexpected loss.

"It was the worst game I have ever coached," Millinder said. "I know how Johnny felt after that Wisconsin-Milwaukee game."

Both coaches said they are awaiting their teams' matches with the Huskers, but it is the other Big 12 team Saldana said is making a lot of noise.

"Baylor is having a great year from what everyone says," Saldana said. "They are someone that everyone is talking about."

Even though the Bears have started the season without a loss, Millinder said Nebraska is a top 10 team.

Millinder would know, he is very familiar with the Nebraska program and is friends with Walker.

"I know their personnel very well," Millinder said. "They have that aura about them."

That aura, Saldana said, isn't tainted despite Nebraska's loss to UWM.

Saldana said the Huskers' 3-0 win against Stanford, another Pac-10 team, should make people realize NU isn't having an off year.

"They wouldn't be a team we would take lightly even if they lost a game," Saldana said. "The program is very respected."

Huskers help Canadian team

BY DARREN IVY
Staff writer

For years, the Canada women's national soccer team has battled to gain respect.

The Canadians wanted respect worldwide, said current Nebraska player Isabelle Morneau, a four-year veteran on the Canada team.

But the respect was hard to achieve because they weren't respected in their own country — even after qualifying for one of the 12 spots in the 1995 World Cup.

"The men's teams received a large percentage of the \$4 million Canadian Soccer Association budget.

Even with all these resources, the men failed to qualify for the 1998 World Cup, costing the CSA \$1 million.

Meanwhile, the women's teams were making the same sacrifices.

"We gave up school and jobs for that team and didn't get any compensation or recognition," Morneau said.

On Sept. 6, that all changed.

Nearly 5,000 fans in Etobicoke, Ontario's Centennial Stadium watched as Canada defeated Mexico

1-0 in the finals of the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football tournament and qualified for the World Cup for the second straight time.

The attendance was surprising, said first-year Canadian national team and fellow Husker player Amy Walsh, especially after the CSA had predicted 600 people in attendance at each game.

"We gained support throughout the tournament, Walsh said.

"We got people interested in women's soccer. That's going to help in the future."

After the game, they were greeted in the locker room by the president of the CSA, Morneau said.

Coming into the tournament, NU Head Coach and Canadian Assistant Coach John Walker said the coaches felt the team had a realistic chance of winning the tournament.

But in the championship match

"We gained support throughout the tournament. We got people interested in women's soccer. That's going to help in the future."

AMY WALSH
NU soccer player



Walsh in their own country — even after qualifying for one of the 12 spots in the 1995 World Cup.

Even with all these resources, the men failed to qualify for the 1998 World Cup, costing the CSA \$1 million.

Meanwhile, the women's teams were making the same sacrifices.

"We gave up school and jobs for that team and didn't get any compensation or recognition," Morneau said.

On Sept. 6, that all changed.

Nearly 5,000 fans in Etobicoke, Ontario's Centennial Stadium watched as Canada defeated Mexico

1-0 in the finals of the Confederation of North, Central American and Caribbean Association Football tournament and qualified for the World Cup for the second straight time.

The attendance was surprising, said first-year Canadian national team and fellow Husker player Amy Walsh, especially after the CSA had predicted 600 people in attendance at each game.

"We gained support throughout the tournament, Walsh said.

"We got people interested in women's soccer. That's going to help in the future."

After the game, they were greeted in the locker room by the president of the CSA, Morneau said.

Coming into the tournament, NU Head Coach and Canadian Assistant Coach John Walker said the coaches felt the team had a realistic chance of winning the tournament.

But in the championship match

Northeast tight end commits to Huskers

BY DAVID WILSON
Senior staff writer

The Nebraska football team received its seventh verbal commitment Wednesday morning from Lincoln Northeast tight end Trevor Johnson.

The 6-foot-4½, 225-pounder, who also plays outside linebacker, is the Rockets' leading receiver and leading tackler through their first two games.

"He's the total package," Lincoln Northeast Coach Mark King said. "He's got real nice strength and nice speed and he's a real smart player."

Against Bellevue West last week-

end, Johnson caught three touchdown passes as the Rockets (1-1) rolled to a 56-25 victory.

"He kind of took the ball game over and kind of set the tone for us," King said.

King said Johnson's play reminded him of former Lincoln Northeast standout Erwin Swiney, now the Cornhuskers' starting left cornerback.

"I would say the capabilities he has in the game are similar to what Erwin had," King said. "If it's third-and-10, we found a way to get the ball to Erwin. It's the same way with Trevor. I think they both could dominate a high school game."

As a junior last season, Johnson

broke his leg midway through the season and went virtually unnoticed by Husker coaches until King brought his name to them this spring.

Johnson attended Nebraska's June football camp, and evidently caught the eye of the Husker coaches.

But his talents, King said, go beyond his athletic ability.

"He's one of our captains," King said. "He's kind of a quiet leader. He's not a vocal leader at all. He leads by example. He puts together talent and hard work."

Johnson, who has qualified academically, runs a 4.69 hand-timed 40-yard-dash and has a 32-inch vertical jump.

NO INSURANCE?

Rest Assured. Be Insured.

Your University Health Center, together with GM Southwest of Dallas, TX, offers UNL students a comprehensive and affordable medical insurance plan specifically designed to suit the needs of undergraduate and graduate students. The plan offers students:

- An annual premium of only \$399!
- Convenient services of the University Health Center (15th & U Sts.) for initial treatment!
- Dependent coverage is also available!

Brochures and applications are available at the University Health Center, International Affairs Office or by mail. Enrollment is open until 9/20/98. Questions? Call our 24-hour information line at 472-7437.

Dancing Every Thursday

Lessons from 7-8
Dance Music from 8 on

Coming to the Pla Mor
Classic Rock N' Roll by
The Rumbles
Sept 18
7:00

For More info
call the Pla Mor
Party Line @
475-4030

UNPLANNED PREGNANCIES...

...can change your life in an instant. Perhaps you would like to consider the possibility of creating an adoption plan for your child. Our case workers can answer your questions confidentially. If you would like to visit with us, please call today.

children's home

4600 Valley Road, Ste. 314 • Lincoln, NE 68510
(402) 483-7879 • 800-390-6754