

Coaches happy with defensive line's depth

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And then, of course, add Jeremy Slecha, Chris Kelsey, Brandon Mooberry and Justin Smith – all of whom will miss spring ball with injuries.

Tally it all up and you have a whole lot of players and a ton of depth. It's something that Defensive Line Coach Jeff Jamrog is grateful for.

"We feel that we've done an excellent job the last few years in recruiting," Jamrog said. "And we're

fortunate to have that many quality defensive linemen.

"It's rare that you'll never sign a defensive lineman in any class. So hopefully that will tell you that the coaching staff has done an excellent job the last couple years signing linemen – which are hard to find."

The defensive line may have quantity and quality, but it lacks experience. Gone from last year are starters Aaron Willis and Steve Warren, or half of the starting group. So returning senior starters Kaiser and Vanden Bosch have taken it upon themselves this winter and spring to "mature" their fellow linemates.

"We've really been pushing them," Kaiser said. "They found that out right away this winter when we made them all be here by 6:30 in the morning to lift weights and be back by 3 p.m. to run."

"We were basically trying to get it into their heads that it's your turn to step up. Your not a redshirt anymore, even the younger guys that were redshirts last year."

So far the defensive line has been

"We were basically trying to get it into their heads that it's your turn to step up."

Loran Kaiser
defensive lineman

met with mixed reviews. Solich has praised the individual efforts of several linemen, but as a whole, he said the defense has been allowing the offense too much consistency running the ball.

And the defensive line, Vanden Bosch said, is where stopping the run starts.

"We saw a couple of years ago that if our d-line is hitting on all cylinders, teams can run up the middle on us, and that's when our defense is vulnerable," Vanden Bosch said. "Right now we're really stepping it up because we realize that it starts with the d-line, and if we don't get a good push, then it's going to be a long game."

Notes:
The Cornhuskers went through

the second station scrimmage of the spring at the end of Wednesday's 2 1/2 hour workout. Solich said most players received about 18 to 22 snaps. Starters Matt Davison, Bobby Newcombe, Correll Buckhalter and Dan Alexander were held out so younger players could get experience with the top units.

For the second straight practice, Solich ripped his defense for its inability to stop the run consistently. The main factors he listed for the problems were inexperience on the defensive unit and the fact that a lot of defensive sets have been put in this spring.

"I was a little disappointed with the No. 1 defense," Solich said. "We were able to run the ball right at them. Generally speaking, that hasn't been the case at this point in time in

DEFENSIVE LINE PERSPECTUS

WHO'S BACK:

- LRE DeMoine Adams
5 tack. 5 sacks
- LRE Chad Kelsay
16 tack. 5 sacks
- LRE Justin Smith
12 tack. 1.5 sacks
- LRE J.P. Wichmann
4 tack. 1.5 sacks
- NT Jason Lohr
33 tack. 3.5 sacks
- DT Loran Kaiser
36 tack. 3.5 sacks
- DT Jeremy Slecha
18 tack. 2 sacks
- RRE Kyle Vanden Bosch
37 tack. 4.5 sacks

WHO'S GONE:

- NT Steve Warren
- LRE Aaron Willis

OUTLOOK:

It's a deep group, but Warren is a big loss. Willis turned into a leader by his senior season. Kelsay has the tools to be a great rush end; Vanden Bosch may be there next season. Kaiser is a big run stuffer. Lohr is undersized, but quick. Adams is a speed rusher capable of big third-down plays.

the spring.
"The first team offense – when they didn't score – they took themselves out of drives with turnovers and penalties. We need to pick it up

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Year holds promise for Sasse

SASSE from page 20

"There's no doubt in my mind. There is nothing on the golf course that Sarah can't do."

Robin Krapfl
NU women's golf coach

girls as many as eight years older than she. And she beat more than half of them.

Two years later, she would win Girl's State. Four years after that, she would capture back-to-back Women's State titles.

And four years after that, the NU sophomore is, in the words of Nebraska Women's Golf Coach Robin Krapfl, "playing the best of any golfer on our team."

You want more superlatives about Sasse's ability?

Krapfl is happy to provide them. "She could win the NCAA Championship before she graduates," she said. "There's no doubt in my mind. There is nothing on the golf course that Sarah can't do."

As long as the clubs are the right size, at least.

The prodigy wasn't a prodigy until Sasse's father, James, noticed that his tiny daughter's set of junior clubs were still too large when she was nine.

Sasse's scores were in the 70s at the Jim Ager Junior Golf Course, a par-27 layout.

That was until the elder Sasse cut seven inches off the clubs.

The next day, playing with the shortened clubs, the 9-year-old nearly broke 40.

And the rest has been, well, prodigious.

As a prep athlete, Sasse was, by all accounts, exceptional. She won two

state championships for Lincoln High and 50 tournaments overall. She was the state's most acclaimed young female golfer since Val Skinner, the same Val Skinner now competing on the LPGA Tour.

Krapfl and Nebraska won the recruiting battle, in large part because Sasse said she wanted to stay in her comfort zone.

But, despite living in the same city, Sasse's comfort zone disappeared.

Last season, her game descended into disarray. Her scoring average ballooned to over 79.

The prodigy was frustrated, confused, maladjusted – and maybe a little scared.

"I wasn't prepared for college," Sasse said. "It was too much freedom at once, with the homework and all the other freshman experiences."

Sasse laughs. It is funny now, to look back at her freshman year, to see how lost she was.

She isn't lost anymore.

After improving last year's stroke average by more than three strokes during the fall season, Sasse won her first collegiate tournament at the Longhorn Classic in Austin, Texas, on March 19. The win was also Sasse's third top-10 finish of the spring in only four tournaments.

The sophomore is content with those results.

"After last year, which was a terrible, terrible season, it is really nice to know that I can still compete with anybody out there," Sasse said.

Sasse's turnaround has much to do with her impressive short game. At 5-foot-3, she doesn't drive the golf ball tremendous distances, Krapfl said. But Sasse makes up for it when she has a shorter club in her hand.

"She can't hit the golf ball 250 yards, but it doesn't really matter, because her chipping and putting will save her from a shorter drive almost every time," Krapfl

Sasse said her short game was molded at Jim Ager; that, and the repetition of playing the course every single day.

"A couple friends and I always bought those 10-round punch cards from Jim Ager, and they'd be gone a couple days later," she said. "I mean, we were playing six days a week, two to three rounds a day. It got to be a little pricey, but the course was still a pretty cheap baby sitter for our parents."

The short game never truly disappeared last season, though, Sasse said her putting wasn't very good at times.

More than her short game, more than anything else, Sasse said the main difference this season has been her attitude.

"I came out this year with a revolutionary idea that made me a much better player," she said. "The idea was that I was playing for a Division-I college. My school was getting paid for, I was able to travel all over the country and play the absolute best golf courses."

"It's great. And, as long as I'm trying my hardest, I have nothing to complain about."

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N Sport Clubs

This Weekend at Home

Climbing - Flatland Climbing Competition
Saturday 11:00 am Campus Recreation Center.

Women's Soccer - Game Sunday 1:00 pm
Whittier Field (22nd & W Streets).

On the Road

Women's Ultimate travels to Lawrence, KS to compete in Fool's Fest Tournament.

Water Polo will be at University of Iowa.

Men's Rugby competing in Omaha Sat. vs. UNO at 11:00 am.

Special Events

Canoe & Kayak - Buy a raffle ticket to win a sit on top kayak! Tickets available through April 28th.

Crew • Pepsi One Challenge • All day April 5th • City Union Plaza

Results

Women's Rugby defeated Lincoln City, Fri. March 24 14-0. The women split games in Cedar Falls, IA Sat. beating University of Wisconsin and losing to University of South Dakota.

Crew - Heart of the Texas Regatta
Town Lake in Austin, TX March 19, 2000
2000 meter race

Varsity Men's Open 8+	3rd	7:34.3
Varsity Women's Open 8+	4th	8:42.5
Novice Men's 8+	4th	8:08.7
Novice Women's 8+	2nd	9:35.7
Novice Women's 4+	3rd	10:18.9

For more information regarding any of the UNL Sport Clubs events - Please contact the Office of Campus Recreation 472-3467

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