

Campbell brings NU talent, experience

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understand that the head coach has to answer to a boss and it trickles on down."

With those demands, Campbell said the transition from junior college back to Division I would not be a tough one, despite a few differences.

"Coaching is coaching," he said. "I think that at this level, you sometimes have a better player."

"I had awfully good players at Western Nebraska, and your competition is different. At the junior college level, you are not going to face the caliber of competition you face at this level, but you are still playing a game."

Campbell said he had a list of about 20 duties he must perform as the top assistant, with recruiting most likely taking prominence.

Collier said Campbell's recruiting skills were finely tuned.

"One of his many attributes is that he is an accomplished recruiter and has a lot of contacts and an eye for talent."

But Campbell's eye for talent will be utilized differently in Lincoln—a place that actually has a recruiting budget for travel and expenses.

Campbell said he did all of his past recruiting by telephone, save a trip to Europe that opened up a Yugoslavian pipeline to WNCC.

But despite contacts all around the country on the junior college level, Campbell expects his high school liaisons to be most handy.

"We want kids who are four and five year players," he said. "That is how you get stability in your program."

Campbell said recruiting players on the junior college level was a precise science that didn't always work out.

"It's a big change," he said. "The average person doesn't understand the difference between junior college and the Big 12, and a lot of players can't make those changes."

Campbell said he expected his recruiting to change for the better because of one thing: his title, "Nebraska Assistant Coach."

"I think that helps us because you get national recognition every year," Campbell said. "The name Nebraska gets out there. We utilize all of that and sell the commitment that the University of Nebraska has."

It was an advantage former NU Coach Danny Nee never took advantage of with one of the top junior colleges in the nation on the other side of the state.

In Campbell's entire tenure at WNCC, only one of his players became a Husker—Bernard Garner.

Nebraska passed up on several big-time players, including All-American Bobby Jackson, who went on to play for Minnesota in the 1997 Final Four and is now a member of the NBA's Sacramento Kings.

Jackson's exclusion, as well as others, puzzled Campbell.

"They (NU) never really recruited our program that much," Campbell said. "I guess that was just their choice."

But Campbell shows that Nebraska still can get talent from WNCC. It came in the form of a coach, however.

"I thought it would be a tremendous challenge, and I am loving the opportunity," Campbell said.

Regional pits NU vs. upstarts

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atmospheres," Stone said. "I think we're going to have much more of a problem handling Nebraska's players. The crowd isn't going to be as much of a problem as their players are."

Across from Nebraska and OSU on the other side of the bracket, one could say Arizona may have got a bad draw being in the same regional as the Cornhuskers.

Usually the No. 5 team wouldn't be paired with the top-ranked ranked team in the country.

What probably hurt the Wildcats was a late-season loss to No. 6-ranked Colorado State—also a two seed and a team the Huskers beat back on Sept. 2.

"We were disappointed we dropped the match to Colorado State because it put us out of the top four seeds," UA Coach David Rubio said. "I was disappointed we went down from where we were to eighth."

"To be quite honest, almost every single year we've been in the tournament we've always had to face one of the top seeds in the round of 16, if not earlier."

Looking forward to the possibility of his Wildcats matching up with NU in the round of eight, Rubio said Nebraska posed an impressive threat.

"Their stats are like those of men's volleyball stats," he said. "They're just so major in the numbers and the blocks they're putting up. They're really one of those teams where they're great at every position."

After one bails, Miles OSU coach

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Oklahoma State gave Les Miles some anxious days before finally giving him the one job he wanted most.

Miles was hired Wednesday as Oklahoma State's football coach, ending a wild week in which the job first was accepted by the leading candidate and then rejected hours later.

In taking the job, Miles turned down a financial package worth about \$700,000, saying nearly half should go toward assistant coaches' salaries. He said he would be happy with \$400,000.

"I've never heard of that before," said athletic director Terry Don Phillips.

Miles, 47, who has been tight ends coach with the Dallas Cowboys the past three years, said he applied for just one job.

"I wanted to remove all doubt in the people that would make the decision where I wanted to be," he said. "I wanted to be one place, right here."

Miles served as Oklahoma State's offensive coordinator from 1995-97. During the '97 season, the Cowboys went 8-4 and played in the Alamo Bowl in their only winning season and bowl trip since 1988.

He takes over for his former boss, Bob Simmons, who was forced out after a third straight losing season and the fifth in his six years at OSU.

"I would not be here if I didn't think that we could win and win consistently," Miles said.

Boise State Coach Dirk Koetter emerged as the top choice of Phillips, and on Friday accepted the job. But Koetter called back only hours later to say he was taking the job at Arizona State.

Miles said he was disappointed to be passed over the first time. But during the day Friday, he said, other Dallas assistants told him they were hearing Oklahoma State's deal with Koetter might fall through.

"By Friday night at 6:30, I knew that this was not a done deal," Miles said.

He traveled to Tampa with the team on Saturday and found out from his wife after returning to

Dallas on Sunday Phillips had called. The men met Monday in Dallas, where an agreement was reached.

Miles said salary was not an issue.

"I have never in my life taken a job for a buck, ever," he said. "I have only wanted to service the people who I work for. I told him in the first interview, 'I will not negotiate. I will take the job.'"

Miles' hiring went over well with several Oklahoma State players who attended Wednesday's news conference.

"He's loyal to the program," tailback Reggie White said. "We don't want a coach who had two or three options. We wanted a coach who only wanted to be here."

Quarterback Aso Pogi agreed. "You always want somebody who wants to be in a program," he said. "This is his passion. This is where he wants to be."

Miles has served on staffs under such coaches as Bill

McCartney at Colorado and Bo Schembechler at Michigan. He also played for Schembechler at Michigan from 1972-75.

Miles takes over a program that, in terms of talent, is in better shape than when Simmons was hired in 1995. But it's also a program that has had just one winning season since 1988.

The Cowboys finished 3-8 this year, 1-7 in the Big 12.

Miles said the administration had demonstrated a commitment to turning things around. Phillips wants to renovate the stadium, and work is wrapping up on a \$54 million athletic center that includes new offices for coaches, a new weight-training facility and an academic center.

"The leadership here has removed the limits," Miles said. "The view is up and going. Let's raise it, let's do it, let's take this program forward."

"Had there been any other feeling here, we wouldn't be back."

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Sport Clubs

WATER POLO

Congratulations to Tim Daniel, Tom Butler and Kevin O'Neil for making the All-Conference Water Polo Team.

The club wishes to thank team members David Lempp and Josh Fry for their dedication and contributions to the team. Josh will be graduating in December and Dave will be studying abroad in Spain.

HANDBALL

The UNL Handball club faces a tough challenge in the spring semester. They will be traveling in February to compete against some of the best collegiate teams in the nation for the Handball National Championship. With 2000 National Champion's Emily McPherson and Jason Meisner on the club's roster, the team has the chance of finishing in the top three.

The club will travel to SMSU next weekend to compete in a seeding tournament.

The UNL club roster includes:

Senior
Chris Talley
Juniors
Katee Wolf Heather McPherson
Charlie Bills
Sophomore
Emily McPherson
Freshman
Jacob Knapp Christian Knapp
Ben Johnson Jason Meisner
Travis Kulwicki

WOMEN'S RUGBY

Congratulations to Tia Tomlinson for being selected to try-out for the Western All-Star team.

Special thanks to our coaches, Judd Davis, Nate Driml and Adam Beltz for all their help this past season. Congratulations to Nate on your graduation.

RIFLE

Interested in joining a fun, safe shooting club that teaches firearm safety, marksmanship, and promotes sportsmanship? If so, please contact Jared at 436-9866 or Becky at 436-0246.

The club has an exciting spring semester planned including:
Jan 20-21 Junior Olympic Regional Competition
Feb. 17-18 NRA Intercollegiate Sectionals

GET INVOLVED

Challenge yourself to become more involved in the spring semester. There are many sport clubs for you to join at UNL - Baseball, Climbing, Crew, Cycling, Handball, Hockey, Judo, Men's and Women's Lacrosse, Rifle, Roller Hockey, Men's and Women's Rugby, Runners, Women's Soccer, Sport Officials, Swimming, Tae Kwon Do, Men's and Women's Ultimate, Men's and Women's Volleyball, and Water Polo. Interested in a sport not on the list? See Leah at the Office of Campus Recreation for information on how to start a new club.



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