

On Harrison Beck:

"I really feel good about Harrison. This is a guy that's well-studied. He has a passion for the game. He thinks football 24-7 and he wants to be a great player. He has that desire to do what it takes to become a great player."

"It's hard for a young man of his stature, being the only quarterback we were going to take and then we went in to the process and asked him if it was okay for us to recruit another quarterback and he said OK. We let him know exactly when and who we were recruiting. I just promised Harrison we would not take on another four-year player, and I made that commitment to him."

On current players:

"I don't want to take anything away from the current players we have here at Nebraska. We've got some outstanding quarterbacks here on campus. We've got Joe Dailey who will compete again for the starting position just like every player on this team will compete for starting positions."

On Zac Taylor:

"We're very pleased with what he's accomplished on the playing field."

On filling positions:

"I really believe we went out and tried to balance the board at every spot. We tried to add depth, we tried to add competition. We're pleased with the reception of every player that signed letters of intent here at Nebraska. It's one of those years where you strike fast and you strike early and everything seems to balance out well. We had the good fortune of having that happen."

On spring recruiting:

"We worked the board as hard as we could work the board. The work that goes into spring recruiting and telephone calls and the staff going out and reviewing tapes and evaluating is hard work especially in the middle of the season. I just want to give our staff a lot of credit for their accomplishments."

On signing out-of-state players:

"It's extremely hard. It's tough competitively because everybody is going after the same player. You see a great player on film and you're saying to yourself 'Does he fit this system?' and then he flashes this brilliance of athleticism and you want to go and get him. And then the next question is 'Who else is on this guy?' and that's when you see the SC's and Texas and LSU and you see those schools come into the picture."

"To this staff's credit, they have recruited fiercely players across the board. We just sold our product and we believe we have the greatest product in college football, and we sold it hard. We just focused in on what we had to get done and stuck to our philosophies as coaches and targeted the guys we wanted to go after."

"I think the personal touch of our staff is second to none. Our coaches and their spouses and families will spend an entire off-evening having these players in their homes and that's sacrifice. Everybody just wants to relax and catch a breath before the next game, but to these guys' credit, they brought these recruits and families into their homes and made them feel welcome."

On adding another quarterback other than Harrison Beck:

"I just wanted to increase the competition at that spot. I believe that knowing the players and positions better now, we just needed more competition."

On keeping players in-state:

"In-state is where we start, it's where we always begin from. To have three Omaha kids join our program is big. We want more players from in-state, they get consideration first and foremost at any evaluation."

"We feel good about the three kids that we brought in from in-state. I know that they'll come in and they'll compete and they'll have the chance to make an impact early."

On starting positions:

"Nothing is given to anybody around here and I'll players will tell you that. The players that are coming in understand that there is an opportunity to start but they have to earn that right."

On Marlon Lucky:

"Marlon is a franchise-type back that has the versatility and the completeness to do anything on the football field that he wants to do. I'm extremely excited about Marlon coming to Nebraska because he possesses so many fine traits that you

look for in a back. He can run inside, outside, he's got all of the burst and explosion and the speed that you look for. He's got the whole package and I think our fans will enjoy watching him."

On Cody Glenn:

"Cody is a big back. I think by the time he tops out, he'll be carrying the ball at 240 pounds. He has the lower body and the thickness in his thighs and his legs to really get big. He's a square-shoulder, broad-shoulder young back, and he runs very hard, very explosive for a big man. He has the things that you identify in a smaller back, but he has the capability to carry those traits as well. He is another fine addition."

On Leon Jackson:

"He really excites me because of his ability to play on both sides of the ball, I know he's penciled in as an offensive back in some reports, but Leon Jackson is the type of athlete that can play on both sides of the ball. He demonstrated that at the U.S. Army game down in San Antonio. From what I heard he was the finest defensive back there."

"He has the ability to play the ball in flight, he's got range, he's got size, feet, physicalness. On offense, you see the same thing. He's a play-maker with the ball in his hands. He's got great vision. He can make people miss. I don't know how this is going to shake out, but I know this: It's a good problem to have."

On John Blake:

"I'm proud to have John on our staff. He's a great addition and a great person. I think that's where recruiting begins. When you build relationships with players and families you have to have a personality and a genuine concern for people. It's not fabricated, it's in his make-up. He's got *it*. Some people have it and some people don't, but he definitely had *it*."

"He loves recruiting. If you don't have a passion for recruiting, it's hard to be successful. If you don't want to pick up that phone and you don't want to get close to people, it's hard to be successful."

On the importance of rankings in the recruiting polls:

"I really believe that being ranked well in the polls you have a better chance to win. It allows you that ability to upgrade yourself. Will it bring championships? I certainly hope so."

On the importance of camps:

"The camps are crucial for evaluation. We had six players in our camps that we offered scholarships to. We found David Harvey, a tight end from Washington, in our camp. We saw David and David had all of the qualities that we are looking for in a tight end. He has speed. He has brains. He has long arms. He can play the ball in flight and those are the things that we were exposed to in camp. If we hadn't have seen him in camp we wouldn't have known who he was and wouldn't have had the opportunity to make him an offer."

On working 31 guys into the program:

"It's one of those situations that you have to look at in training camp and try to find a hole for everybody. A lot of these players that we signed are able to go both ways. It's going to make for an interesting problem, but I believe in training camp we'll be better equipped to handle that as they move through drills."

On the receivers:

"I'm real happy with the receivers we picked up. I look at Chris Brooks from Missouri and he's a big-bodied wide receiver. He's a 6-3 guy. He's over 200 pounds and when you look at his film, he's got all of the characteristics that you look for in a big-time receiver."

On defensive backs:

"The defensive backs that you're seeing these days are bigger. They've got long arms and they're jamming guys and crushing and bumping and running and taking advantage of the college rule. Things have gotten more physical out there."

On Zackary Bowman:

"He may be the fastest and best athlete in the entire class. From every indication of what I've seen and how he's worked out, he has all the tools and all the skills to do a great job for us. The great problem there is that we could use him on the offensive side of the ball as well. He has the athleticism to play the corner as physically as you want him to play. He's a fine athlete, excellent in every respect. I'm really excited about Zack."

On Bryan Wilson:

"He's another one of those big, tall, rangy, lean guys that can play in tight in coverage. He has the ability to run with you and do the types of things he needs to do. He adds another dimension to what we're all about."

On junior college players:

"I don't discriminate against any great player. When it comes to junior college recruiting, there are some great players even right here in Nebraska. I think there have been some great players in the past, Demorrio Williams most recently who really lit it up and made a good career for himself, and those are great players. There are a lot of different reasons why a player goes into junior college and there are a lot of upsides to getting at those players."

On difference makers:

"I think this is an exceptional class of athleticism. I think all of these players have a chance to come in here and contribute to the game of football and contribute to what we're looking to do here at Nebraska."

On the assistant coaches' recruiting efforts:

"All of our coaches have done a great job recruiting. I look at Coach (Phil) Elmassian and what he brought to the table in signing Harrison Beck. I look at Coach (Randy) Jordan going down there and helping with Cody Glenn. There are some upsides with this staff because they work so well with one another. They communicate well, and I think that's essential any time you have seven guys on the road going in seven different directions."

On Zach Potter:

"He shows a type of range and physicalness that you look for in a defensive end. We had him in camp and we drilled him and we did all the types of things that you want to do to a guy like Zack Potter. He has real potential. The sky is the limit. He can really get bigger in the next few years and will be a big factor for us."

On versatility of special teams players:

"The entire roster of the 31, you'll see lots of players that will contribute to special teams."

On Jordan Congdon:

"I think he's outstanding. As you watch him on film, he's accurate. He's consistent and he puts it through the pipes. He's got range and he can do it from either hash. His kickoffs are long, he's consistent with touchbacks and he's fun to watch. To get him early and to have him here at Nebraska is really special."

On getting recruits early:

"To get a player on campus in the early stages of recruiting for us is crucial. We want to expose them to the game-day atmosphere in Nebraska because that's our greatest selling point. It's what Nebraska is all about."