

# NEBRASKA FOOTBALL FAMILY

Family. It is a word that is synonymous with Nebraska Football. No one takes more pride in the Nebraska football program than its former players.

Head Coach Bo Pelini and former Head Coach and now NU Athletic Director Tom Osborne have made embracing the tradition of the storied Husker program an even greater priority in the past year. Pelini and his new coaching staff have made a strong effort to connect with former players through a series of activities.

“There is no in-state player, no out-of-state player, no walk-on player and no scholarship player. We were all equals when we got here, and we all came here for the same reason – to contribute to something much bigger than all of us. At Nebraska, all lettermen are the same. We’re hundreds of guys who paid the price to be part of one of the greatest traditions in all of college football. And the greatest honor any of us ever achieved was being able to say: ‘I played for Nebraska!’”

Damon Benning  
Nebraska I-Back, 1993-96



*Top left: The 2008 Nebraska seniors enter Memorial Stadium for their final home game against Colorado.*

*Top right: Coach Bo Pelini is pictured at the annual football banquet with 2008 captains, Nate Swift, Zach Potter, Joe Ganz and Ty Steinkuhler.*

*Top right, middle right: Pelini and Osborne unveiled the Nebraska Football Lettermen Wall the night before the 2008 spring game. The wall lists the name of every varsity football letterwinner. The display spans nearly 90 feet, is comprised of 3,202 bricks and weighs just less than 6,000 pounds.*

*Left bottom column: The lettermen’s golf outing has become a must for former players on the Friday before the spring game. In 2008 former players began honoring new letterwinners at a private ceremony the night before the spring game. Sophomore offensive lineman Mike Caputo (center) is pictured with former Husker All-American offensive lineman Brenden Stai and former Nebraska quarterback and N Club President Clete Blakeman. Pelini is pictured with Nebraska players from left, Terry Connealy, Zach Wiegert, former assistant coach Milt Tenopir, Erik Wiegert and Pat Engelbert.*

*Middle left: Hundreds of former Huskers welcomed the 2009 team onto the field prior to the Red-White Spring Game. The Spring Game Weekend has become a reunion of sorts on an annual basis with Huskers from across the country re-connecting with former teammates.*

*Middle right: Coach Pelini greets 2008 senior Todd Peterson before kickoff of the 2009 spring game.*

*Bottom: The Nebraska family extends beyond football. Coach Bo Pelini and his staff are regulars at other Nebraska sporting events. Pelini shares a laugh with wrestling coach Mark Manning and men’s basketball coach Doc Sadler before a spring practice.*





## CORNHUSKERS FROM COAST TO COAST

The family atmosphere of the Nebraska football program brings together players from all across the country. The Huskers have always taken a national approach to recruiting and the family type of setting in Lincoln makes players from all corners of the United States feel at home.

The 2009 Nebraska roster has players from 20 states, including 70 homegrown Huskers. Next on the list is Texas with 22 players on the Cornhusker roster and California with 14 Huskers.

In the history of the program, Nebraska's 92 football All-Americans hail from 23 states and the District of Columbia. Home-grown Cornhuskers have accounted for 37 of Nebraska's All-Americans.

All time, Nebraska football letterwinners have come from 45 states, Washington D.C. and five foreign countries (Australia, Canada, Finland, Germany, Mexico).