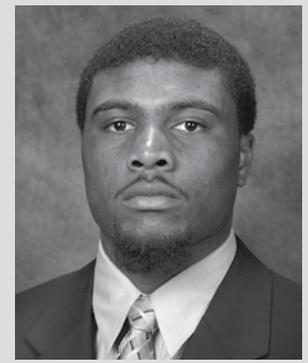


SENIOR FEATURE: DAVID HARVEY



**6-4 | 270 | D-END
LaPLATA, MD.**

By Scott Pulverenti, Nebraska Media Relations

If you're ever strolling through the Nebraska football offices and your ears happen to stumble across somebody singing some slow R&B, chances are it's David Harvey. Regarded as one of the best singers on the football team, Harvey is hoping he can hit the right note on the field this season, as he enters his fifth and final year as a Husker. As for his actual singing career?

"I just do it for fun," Harvey said. "It brings joy to my heart. It's me having fun. I've always listened to music and have had fun with it."

For many of the 2009 seniors, having fun seems to be a common goal this year. The group has seen its fair share of ups and downs over the last four or five years. Harvey, who was one of the first recruits to accept a scholarship offer from former head coach Bill Callahan in 2005, has been a part of a Big 12 North championship team in 2006, endured one of the worst seasons in Nebraska history in 2007 and was part of a coaching change that brought in current head coach Bo Pelini before his junior year. Even with a roller-coaster career, Harvey has taken it in stride and tried to learn from each situation differently.

"Everything happens for a reason," Harvey said. "We've been through a lot. (We've) had a lot of fun and a lot of disappointing times, but we fought and came back. We're making the most of it now, trying to do the best we can as seniors."

Along with all the changes the program has seen over the past two seasons, Harvey went through a change of his own after his redshirt year. Recruited as a tight end out of high school, Harvey made the switch to the defensive side of the ball after his first year in the program. The switch stuck for Harvey, who has worked with the defensive line

ever since and saw playing time in the Huskers' 35-17 victory over Iowa State in 2007.

"They (coaches) told me that they saw me on the defensive side of the ball," Harvey said. "That's where they saw my future, so I just went with it."

While some players may have been discouraged about a position change to the opposite side of the ball, Harvey embraced the move and hoped to contribute in any possible way.

"I just like playing ball. Defense is fun. I love defense now. It doesn't matter to me. Anywhere is fine for me."

With Barry Turner and Pierre Allen entrenched as the starters at the two defensive end spots, Harvey works hard every day and said he focuses on the little things that it takes to become a better player, something he has learned over the past four seasons.

"There's a lot (that I have learned)," Harvey said. "Putting in time and putting in work and learning the little things. There are a lot of little things that I learned from older guys, and I'm still learning and trying to teach the new guys."

With his experience as a Husker almost over, the LaPlata, Md., native hopes to make his senior year a memorable one.

"I just want to finish up strong and have fun," Harvey said. "Do the best that I can do. (I want to) finish my senior year and enjoy the rest of my time with my teammates and things like that."

And his expectations for the team this season?

"There's no point in playing if you aren't trying to win every game. That's what everybody's expectations are."

Harvey's attitude sounds like sweet music to the ears of Husker fans all around the nation.

David Harvey is a senior defensive end in his fifth season with the Nebraska football program. Born on May 16, 1987, Harvey is on track to earn his sociology degree this December. Harvey saw his only game action in a 35-17 win over Iowa State in 2007. When he signed with Nebraska in February of 2005, Harvey became the first Maryland prep player to sign with the Huskers since 1990.

QUICK HITTERS

Favorite food?

French fries.

Favorite television show?

Anything on the Food Network.

Favorite movie?

Do the Right Thing.

Favorite sport besides football?

Basketball.

Favorite musical genre?

Anything slow rhythm and blues.

What would you do with one million dollars?

Have fun.

Most notable thing about your hometown?

Great seafood.

Favorite activity in your spare time?

Sleeping.

COACHES' TAKE: JOHN PAPUCHIS

"David is a great guy. He's good for us on the field, in the meeting room and in the community. David Harvey is the kind of guy you want on your football team. He's really excelling right now with his pass rush. I think that's where he's going to help us the most. He's showing signs of getting better every day."