


NINE PAGES OF COVERAGE INSIDE

4

ADAM TAYLOR
 Height: 6-2 Weight: 200
 Position: Running back
 Hometown/School: Katy, Texas
 Katy High School




WHAT IS A WE-BACK?
 The term originated in 1992, when Derek Brown and Calvin Jones shared the Husker I-back spot. Will newcomers Adam Taylor and Terrell Newby become the newest generation of We-backs? Only time will tell.

WE-BACK

I-back recruits Adam Taylor and Terrell Newby have markedly different styles — but similar talent, drive and willingness to compete for time



4

TERRELL NEWBY
 Height: 5-10 Weight: 180
 Position: Running back
 Hometown/School: West Hills (Calif.)
 Chaminade College Preparatory School



By SAM MCKEWON
 WORLD-HERALD BUREAU

LINCOLN — It's fourth-and-one at midfield in the fourth quarter of the Texas 5A Division II state title game. Adam Taylor's team is behind 24-21, and Taylor is getting the ball. There is no deception or surprise coming. Just suspense. Just years and years of training and pain and pressure to reach this carry in this game. ★ He grew up in a football-mad town of Katy — the “Neiman Marcus of football centers,” as Taylor's mom, Fedora, calls it — deep in the heart of a football-mad state. That's why more than 40,000 fans are in Cowboys Stadium watching Katy's offense line up against Cedar Hill's defense for the decisive play. Full house backfield. Toss pitch right. Fullback and guard to lead. ★ “Everybody's eyes are always on you,” Taylor says later, explaining why he likes the running back position. “You're the focal point. They want to stop you, and” ★ See Backs: Page 13

Banderas following dad's path, which now leads to Memorial Stadium

If only the helmet could talk. Tom Banderas' old white Nebraska football helmet sat on a table at Lincoln Southwest like a museum piece. There were scratches on the top, maybe from getting his head slapped by Leslie O'Neal. There was a dark bruise on the side, possibly from the time it collided with Brian Bosworth's crimson Oklahoma helmet. On the back, there was the logo “Our House.” Yep. This helmet participated in the 1987 Oklahoma game in Lincoln, the “Game of the Century II,” when Broderick Thomas and the Huskers relinquished the keys to their house. This is the helmet Tom wore in the family photo next to his young son Josh, who was pretending to be a football player like his dad. “My dad was in his helmet



and I was wearing a (potato) chip bowl,” Josh Banderas said. “That's when I first knew I wanted to play football.” The helmet was there for another historical mile marker in the Banderas family: the day Josh signed to play for the Huskers. Just like his dad. Christmas in February arrived on schedule Wednesday. It's a day to celebrate hope, celebrate the beginning of the journey. Around the country, hundreds of kids, from football

See Shatel: Page 12



JAMES R. BURNETT/THE WORLD-HERALD
 Josh Banderas, left, signed his letter of intent to play for NU on Wednesday. Thirty years ago, his dad, Tom, signed to play for the Huskers. Tom's helmet saw action in the “Game of the Century II” vs. Oklahoma.

NITTANY LIONS STILL FINDING TALENT

Sanctions cut down on numbers, not quality of PSU recruiting class. Page 2C

NEBRASKA SIGNEE CAPSULES

A breakdown of the 26 players who signed with NU. Pages 8C-11C

PELINI TALKS ABOUT THE 2013 CLASS

With the recruiting battles over for this season, NU's coach evaluates the new Huskers. Page 12C



For class of 2013, everything is on the (D) line

LINCOLN — For a half-hour Wednesday, Nebraska coach Bo Pelini conducted his annual signing day soiree in his usual fashion. He emphasized the character of NU's 26 signees — they also play some football — duly took note of the walk-ons and bemoaned the hell-in-a-handbasket that the recruiting business has become. Pelini knows his grim, wary audience and plays it well. Half of Husker nation still thinks Tom Osborne recruited five-heart, two-star talent. Only Nebraskans. God bless us, take

See McKewon: Page 2