

## Blackhawks sign four

Published: Thursday, March 22, 2007 2:00 AM CDT

The Iowa Blackhawks, Council Bluffs' professional indoor football team, signed four more players to contracts for the upcoming 2007 season - three newcomers to the organization and one who started on offense last season for the Blackhawks.

Steve Rush, Kaylon Price and Ryan Dennhardt are fresh faces expected to make strong contributions based on their ability to play a number of positions.

Dave Liebenritt returns after starting several games last season for the Blackhawks at offensive guard. The Waldorf College product has excellent size (6-foot-6, 270 pounds).

"Liebenritt gives us an experienced left guard," said Blackhawks head coach Mike Wolff, "who's got great size, strength and footwork."

Rush and Price are both tremendous athletes, have game-breaking skills and experience in the indoor game. They both have the capabilities to play a number of positions on the field.

Rush was an all-region quarterback while at Iowa Central Community College, then all-Gateway Conference wide receiver at Southwest Missouri State in 2004 when he snagged 56 passes for 741 yards and eight touchdowns. He returned 20 kickoffs for 502 yards and one touchdown, 10 punts for 153 yards and finished with 1,403 all-purpose yards. He still holds several school records and had two 100-yard kickoff returns. In 2006 he spent time with on the AFL2's Memphis Xplorers practice squad. He has the speed and size (5-10, 210) that will allow the Blackhawks to use him all over the field.

Price spent last season with Omaha as a running back, carrying the pigskin 14 times for 46 yards and catching four passes for another 17 yards. A product of both Butler Community College and Emporia State University, Price will likely play defense where the Blackhawks can take advantage of his good size (6-1, 220), quickness and strong field presence.

"Rush can play wide receiver," said Wolfe, "running back, quarterback, kick returner and could probably play defensive back in a pinch."

"Kaylon looks good right now at safety and cornerback positions. He'll probably fit better at strong safety and play closer to the line of scrimmage."

Dennhardt played his college football at Wayne State in Nebraska, playing free safety and outside linebacker and is another fine addition to the Blackhawks defense. The 6-1, 215-pounder is a native of Kearney, Neb.

"Dennhardt looks to be settling in at linebacker," said Wolff, "and brings what we believe will be a hard-nosed attitude to the defensive side of the ball."