

Blackhawks shuffle, prepare to host Missouri

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The Iowa Blackhawks, Council Bluffs' indoor professional football team, announced the signing of quarterback Chris Raff and defensive back Burton Bosen for tonight's home game at the Mid-America Center.

Raff, a 6-foot 7-inch 285-pound quarterback, comes from Lincoln, Neb., where he was a three-year starter for the Lincoln Crush of the Nebraska Indoor Football League.

The signing of Raff helps fill the void left by suspended quarterback Troy Travis. The Blackhawks announced that Travis had to be suspended indefinitely when he did not report for last Saturday's game in Topeka, a game the Blackhawks lost 48-13.

"We were unable to get Troy to communicate with us," said Blackhawks owner and general manager Jake Hiffernan. "We were forced to suspend him and move forward.

"Now that we have Raff working out with the team, we were able to focus our energy where it should be - winning our game Saturday."

Defensive back/wide receiver Bosen comes from the University of Northern Kentucky.

Head coach Mike Wolff was optimistic about the signing of both players.

"We were impressed with their workouts at practice this week. I believe they will do just fine."

The Blackhawks (2-2, 2-2) host the Missouri Minutemen (2-2, 2-3) tonight at the Mid-America Center with a 7:05 p.m. kickoff.

For ticket information, call the Blackhawks office at (712) 366-9326. To watch the game live on the internet, visit their Web site at www.iowablackhawks.com.