

Logger defensive front four tough

By BILL NIXON
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FLAGSTAFF—Lomas, Duley, Holmes and Anderson.

When the Northern Arizona University 1969 football season is complete, those names will be indelible on the minds of Lumberjack rooters.

Mark Lomas, Ed Duley, Steve Holmes and Tom Anderson comprise the front-four of defense for NAU, rated one of best defensive groups in Axer history.

Lomas, voted the Axers' outstanding lineman last season, could play for anybody. In the classroom he isn't bad either. Mark's grandfather has a science building at Northern Illinois that bears his name.

At home or on the road, Lomas is a complete football player — whistle to whistle — a giant on defense, a durable 6-4, 230.

The talent gets better up the line. There's Duley, 6-7 and 254, armed with quick reactions and accustomed to being double - teamed all his football life. Most Lumberjack fans focus their field glasses to the Lomas - Duley side of the line.

Holmes, 6-4, 241, has talent plus. He was an offensive tackle exclusively until last year. Then he went both ways. Montana States's Bobcats remember the big guy.

At right end is Anderson, 6-2, 210, who brings the front-four weight average down to 233. Tom's best talent is his quickness.

Experience reigns, too, at the three - man linebacker corps. Cocaptain Rusty Tillman, 234, stands tall with 226 - Mike Boettcher and 210 Rich Correa.

The 4-3 pro-type defense has pressure for starting positions, a healthy situation for coach John Symank. Capable of replacement without much difference in talent and experience are tackle Ed Kelly, 230 - pound senior, and middle - linebacker Jim Farley, a UA starter two years ago.

The defensive secondary is the paradox for Symank. Al Clark, late of Grambling U., Mike Hlavac and Dick Bowers are brand new; the only veteran is Jim Fuller, the Scottsdale senior who missed 1968 because of a knee surgery.

There is little depth on defense. Nine of the 11 second - string defensive team are freshmen.

The defensive analysis by The Arizona Republic:

Pass defense is the weakness, at least until the Axers' deep four are game tested.