



## **PAUL KUCERA – LAWRENCE HIGH SCHOOL**

As an offensive and defensive lineman, Paul was a dominating force at the line of scrimmage for the powerful Lawrence teams of the early 1980's. He helped lead his team to the state finals 3 times in his career, including runner-up finishes in his sophomore and junior seasons. His proudest moment as a player then came in 1982, when he helped the Panthers to an undefeated season and the Class D-2 State Championship. He finished his career with over 300 tackles and 50 tackles for loss on defense while also paving the way for a backfield that averaged over 10 yards per carry on offense. Those Panther teams cemented a foundation of hard-nosed football that would see Lawrence go on to win two more state titles in the 80's and contend for and win several championships in future decades. In his prep career, Paul was chosen 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-Conference 2 times, 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-State in 1982, and was selected to play in the 1983 Eight-Man All Star Game. After high school, he was a 3 time letter-winner and a 2 year defensive starter for Kearney State College (where he was named All-Conference in both 1986 and 1987). The NEMFCA is honored to welcome him into the Eight Man Football Hall of Fame Class of 2020-2021.