

No. 12 JOE ROTH QB 6-4 205 SR.  
 Exp. ONE VARSITY Hometown: Twin Falls, Idaho

Roth took over as the starting quarterback for the Bears in the second half of the Washington St. game. The Bears never looked back as they won eight of the next nine games with Roth at the helm and tied for their first conference championship of any sort since 1958 when Joe Kapp led the Bears to Pasadena. Roth enters the 1976 season as virtually everybody's All-American quarterback, as well as one of the top three Heisman Trophy candidates along with Ricky Bell of USC and Tony Dorsett of Pitt. In directing the Bears to an 8-3 season, their best since 1952, Roth led the Pac-8 in both passing and total offense as well as finishing eighth and ninth respectively among the national leaders. He passed for 1,880 yards and gained 1,815 in total offense. Both totals rank as the third best single season marks ever by a Bear, only Craig Morton and Steve Bartkowski had better seasons. He also broke the single game record for total offense against Washington with 375 yards. Also tied Morton's single season record of 14 touchdown passes. Behind his direction, Cal led the nation in total offense averaging 458.6 yards per game and incredibly gaining 2,522 yards rushing and 2,522 yards passing. It was one of the few times that any team has averaged over 200 yards in both categories. Most notable game from a statistical standpoint was the Washington game when he completed 24 of 37 passes for 380 yards and four touchdowns. For that performance he was named Associated Press "Back of the Week," UPI's "Backfield of the Week" and Pac-8 "Back of the Week." He also led the NCAA in fewest interceptions thrown (7) and in the longest average gain per completion (8.4 yards). Roth finished the season with 126 completions for 226 attempts for a 55.8 completion percentage, 14 TDs, seven interceptions, and an average gain of 8.4 yards. Had a brilliant spring. In four scrimmages he completed 91 of 172 passes for 953 yards. In the final scrimmage he connected on 22 of 35 attempts for 333 yards. Roth entered Cal from Grossmont JC where he won All-America as well as conference MVP honors. Attended Granite Hills H.S. in San Diego where he was raised. Parents recently moved to Twin Falls which he now calls home. Brother Tom quarterbacked Washington St. in 1965 to one of its finest seasons in recent years. Joe is carrying a 3.0 GPA in Physical Education and has his sights on a Masters Degree. Chances are a pro career might alter that a bit.



1975 Statistics						
Atts.	Comp.	Pct.	Avg. Gain	TDs	Int.	Yds.
226	126	55.8	8.4	14	7	1,880