

## 1925 Football Coaching Staff Very Successful

Directors Headed by Ernest Bearg, Assisted by Frank, Scherer, Weller and Day

### TEAM CONSIDERED ONE OF MOST POWERFUL

XXIV

(Editor's Note)

This is the twenty-fourth chapter of an historical resume of Nebraska athletics which has been compiled by a member of The Daily Nebraskan sports staff. A chapter of this account will appear in each issue of The Daily Nebraskan for the remainder of the school year.

By Jack Elliott

The football coaching staff for the year 1925 was the best that the University of Nebraska ever had. The staff of football directors was headed by football coach Ernest Bearg, assisted by Owen Frank, Leo Scherer, Raymond Weller, and Bill Day. Coach Bearg was coaching Cornhusker football for his first year at Nebraska and turned out an eleven that was considered one of the strongest in the country.

Ed Weir, All-American tackle, led the Husker football team for his second year. Although Nebraska did not win the championship of the Missouri Valley, it defeated such teams as Notre Dame, Illinois and held the strong University of Washington eleven to a 6 to 6 tie. Nebraska finished in fifth place in the Missouri Valley conference, one of the lowest places that a Cornhusker team has held for a long time. The season's record consisted of 4 games won, two lost and two tied, for a total number of 69 points to the 29 scored by the opponents.

#### Weir Outstanding

Edwin Weir, Nebraska's All-American tackle captained the Husker machine again this year and was the outstanding player of the season on the gridiron. The first game of the year was with Illinois on the Illinois gridiron. Defeated by the Illini team in 1923 and 1924, the Husker machine was out for revenge and to stop "Red" Grange. The Cornhusker team beat Illinois and stopped "Red" Grange in one of the classic gridiron games of the season. When the game was over the score board read Nebraska 14 and Illinois 0. Captain Ed Weir's deadly tackling and charging was greatly responsible for the Husker victory.

Returning from Illinois the Husker team entrained for the camp of the

Mizzou Tiger to suffer the first defeat of the season, going down before the Missouri eleven 9 to 6. This was the first time a Missouri football team had defeated Nebraska since 1899. The third game of the 1925 schedule was with the University of Washington eleven which resulted in a 6 to 6 tie. The Washington-Nebraska game was one of the most thrilling football games ever seen on a Nebraska gridiron, consisting of spectacular forward passes, line plunges and wide end runs. The most brilliant run of the game was when Roland Locke, Cornhusker speed demon caught a fifty-yard kick from a Washington back and ran forty-six yards through a broken field of Husky defense men.

#### Kansas Falls

Kansas was the next team to fall before the Cornhusker machine, losing a desperate battle 14 to 0. This was Nebraska's twenty-first victory over the Jayhawkers on the gridiron. "Choppy" Rhodes, stellar Husker back was the outstanding star of the Kansas encounter, carrying the ball down the field for numerous gains. The Oklahoma Sooners came to Lincoln to repeat their victory of 1924 but Nebraska was out for revenge and the Sooners went home with the short end of the 12 to 0 score. The work of Captain Ed Weir and Hutchinson featured the game, and the terrific line plunging of the Nebraska backfield was responsible for the victory.

The second Valley defeat of the season was at Des Moines when the Nebraska eleven was defeated by Drake 14 to 0. In a blinding snow storm, a game filled with fumbles and handling an icy ball, the Bulldogs dedicated their Memorial Stadium by beating the Huskermen and winning second place in the Valley race.

#### Weather Is Jinx

The weather jinx seemed to be on the trail of the Cornhusker machine and when the Nebraska eleven met the Kansas Aggies at Manhattan on a wet, sloppy field, straight football was impossible and the best Nebraska could do was hold the Kansas farmers to a scoreless tie. The Aggies were on the defense most of the

game but in the last half opened up with a series of line plays and kept the Huskers on the defense. The game ended with a punting duel between Captain Ed Weir and Cochran, Aggie quarterback.

The final game of the season was a fitting climax to the season. The Huskers had been pointing all season to the Thanksgiving day game with the powerful Notre Dame eleven. Before a crowd of 50,000 eager football fans, the Cornhusker team beat the Notre Dame team 17 to 0 for the greatest victory of the season. The game evened the victories won by the two teams in their eleven years of gridiron games, and also took away Notre Dame's claim to a Western championship.

#### Great Classic

It was one of the greatest football classics ever seen on a Nebraska gridiron and the Husker warriors outplayed the "Irish" eleven from the opening whistle until the final gun. "Choppy" Rhodes, stellar Cornhusker back took the pigskin over the Notre Dame goal line four minutes after the game started. The stands were still in a roaring frenzy when Avard Mandary snatched a pass out of the air from the hands of "Jug" Brown and ran thirty-two yards through a broken field of "Irish" players for the second touchdown of the game.

Rockne had been using his reserve line up and after the Huskermen had scored two touchdowns he sent in his first string but the fighting Nebraska eleven was out for victory and no team in the country could have stopped it that day. Six Cornhusker gridiron players ended their

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careers at Nebraska in the Notre Dame-Nebraska game that day.

#### Team Personnel

The team was as follows: Captain Edwin Weir, Captain-Elect Alonzo Stiner, Pospisil, Raish, Scholz, Sprague, Hutchinson, J. Weir, Locke, Dailey, Rhodes, Mandary, Presnell, Stephens, Brown, Lawson, Randells, Westoupol, Shaner, Mielenz, Dover, Lee.

The 1925-26 basketball season was far from being a successful season and after the good showing of last year it was rather a disappointment. The Scarlet and Cream quintet got away to a good start but then went into a slump and lost five games in a

row. Clark Smaha, flashy Husker forward was the most consistent player and hit the basket with regularity all season.

#### Bearg Coaches Basketeers

Coach Bearg had charge of the Husker basketeers this season and was assisted by "Mut" Volz, former Nebraska court star. Charles Black, former Kansas University player, was secured to coach the Nebraska basketeers for the next season.

Out of the 18 games played during the 1926 season Nebraska won 8 and lost 10, scoring 816 points to the 314 by its opponents.

The end.

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