

1926 Big Year In Cornhusker Sport History

Husker Teams Were Not Pen-
nant Winners but Accom-
plished Great Things

MAJOR SPORT TEAMS RANKED AMONG BEST

XXVI

(Editor's Note)

This is the twenty-sixth 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

In these 26 chapters the reader has briefly seen the sport history of the University of Nebraska from 1883 until the present time. Although it was not done intensively, the high lights of Cornhusker sport-do have been covered for the readers of the Daily Nebraskan. This concluding chapter of the series will cover football, basketball, track, and the minor sports for the past year of 1926-27.

With Coach Ernest E. Bearg as the director of the destinies of Husker football, the season of 1926 opened with the Drake Bulldogs on Memorial Stadium field. The Cornhusker aggregation was determined to bring the Missouri Valley championship back to its rightful place, and took the Drake game 21 to 0. Glen Presnell and "Jug" Brown were the two Husker backs responsible for a great amount of the Nebraska gains.

The second game ended in a fluke defeat for the Scarlet and Cream warriors, the Mizou Tigers taking the count 14 to 7. This was the third time Missouri had beaten a Nebraska football team since 1899. The Cornhusker eleven opened the game with its usual smashing drive, Blue Howell going across the Tiger goal for

the opening touchdown, and "Jug" Brown place-kicking the extra point. An intercepted Husker pass on the Nebraska five-yard line accounted for the defeat.

Defeat Bears Easily

The third Missouri Valley game was at St. Louis with the Washington Bears, the Nebraska eleven easily winning the game, 20 to 6. The next conference game was at the home of the Jayhawkers. With a crippled line, Coach Bearg sent in his warriors to keep up the tradition of beating Kansas. In the opening stanza it looked as if Nebraska would have to be satisfied with one touchdown, but in the second half, Glen Presnell, Husker star, supplied the Nebraska eleven with a powerful drive and the game ended 30 to 3 for the Huskermen.

Iowa State was easily subdued by Bearg's eleven to the tune of 31 to 0 for the fourth conference victory. In a sea of mud the Kansas Aggies bowed before the mighty Cornhusker eleven and took the short end of the homecoming game, 3 to 0. In the last game on Memorial Stadium field, the much touted New York University eleven went down to defeat before the Nebraska eleven, losing 15 to 7. The Thanksgiving day game was played at Seattle with the Washington University team, Nebraska losing 10 to 6.

Although Nebraska failed to bring the championship of the Missouri Valley to the Cornhusker stronghold, the football team maintained its reputation as one of the most formidable elevens in the country. Captain Alonzo Stiner led the team, playing the position of tackle. He was a bulwark in the line and played his best game in the Nebraska-Kansas Aggie game.

Brown Elected Captain

"Jug" Brown, Husker back, was elected to pilot the team for the 1927 season. The team members were as follows: Glen Presnell, Eward Lee, Joe Weir, "Blue" Howell, Frank

Dailey, Lloyd Grow, Arnold Oehlich, Dan McMullen, George Shaner, Cecil Molzen, Wallace Morrow, Elmer Holm, "Bobbie" Stephens, Vinton Lawson, Avarad Mandary, Clarence Raish, Willard Burnham, Leon Sprague, Ray Randalls, Willard Bronson, Clifford Ashburn, Ted James, Victor Beck, Merle Zuver, Roy Mandary, Don Lindell, Frank Mielenz, Leroy Lucas, and Robert Whitmore.

The Cornhusker basketball team for the season of 1927 finished in fourth place in the Missouri Valley cage race with a total of 7 victories and 5 defeats. Coach Charles Black instructed Husker basketballers for his first year, and turned out a successful team. The Husker cagemen ranked with the best in the conference.

Captain Clark Smaha, Husker forward, was one of the outstanding forwards in the Valley all season and ranked third in high scorers. He was selected for several All-Valley teams and was one of the best floor men Nebraska has turned out for some time. Ted Page, who held down the pivot position on the Scarlet and Cream quintet was the tallest center in the Valley, and was able to get the tip-off from every opposing center. Members of the team were: Captain Clark Smaha and "Jug" Brown, forwards; Phil Gerelick and Roy Andresen, guards; Ted Page, center; Tom Elliott, Kenneth Othmer, Merritt Klepser, and Elmer Holm.

Coach Henry F. Schulte, known throughout the country for his coaching ability, and the man who put Cornhusker track at the head of the Missouri Valley for four consecutive years, turned out another Missouri Valley championship team for the season of 1926. Roland "Gip" Locke, one of the greatest sprinters in the world was one of the products turned out by the Husker track mentor. Locke was one of the greatest sprinters that ever sped over the Nebraska track. He broke the world's record in

the 220-yard dash and tied the world's record in the century. He led the Husker trackmen for the year of 1926 to a championship of the Valley. The Husker track team won both the indoor and outdoor meets.

Nebraska's team possessed great stars in field events and on the cinder track in Roland Locke, Bobbie Stephens, Paul Zimmerman, Jimmy Lewis, Frank Wirsig, Frank Dailey, Ed Weir, "Choppy" Rhodes, and Frank Pospisil.

The Husker wrestling team finished a successful season in 1927, winning four out of the seven matches. John Kellogg, former Cornhusker grappler, coached the mat squad. The first meet of the season was held in the Coliseum with the Kansas Aggies, and resulted in a defeat, 21 to 13, for the Husker team. Missouri was beaten by Nebraska, and the Kansas Aggies were met in a return match, the Huskers winning 16 to 14.

For the second time in seven years Nebraska failed to win the Missouri Valley track championship in 1927. The Missouri Valley meet was held at Lincoln on May 20 and 21. Kansas won first place and Oklahoma barely nosed Nebraska out of sec-

ond. The outstanding feat of the meet was the pole vault event. Frank Wirsig, Husker pole vaulter, broke his own Missouri Valley record, going over the bar at 13 feet 4 inches.
THE END

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