

From The Pressbox They Know Not What They Do

By BRUCE BRUGMANN
Sports Staff Writer

It's sure fun to read the sports pages these days. Not only do they reflect the ultimate in objectivity, sober judgment and judicious criticism, but they also provide harmless amusement for 44 members of the University of Nebraska football squad. Let's refresh our memory for a moment:

before . . .

Before the Hawaii game the sports scribes thundered, "Hawaii has been tased into the schedule for laughs. . . Only Bill Glassford can hold down the score. . . Let's hope the Nebraska coach is feeling charitable."

After this one game, played in miserable conditions, against a psychologically inspired opponent, before a home crowd that quickly deserted the Huskers, everyone jumped on the "Goodbye, Bill. . . Too bad, Huskers" bandwagon and we heard: "NU building boom a bust. . . building foreman Bill Glassford caught short again. . . What's Wrong With Nebraska Football? (in a banner headline) . . . sending Nebraska against Ohio State is like sentencing them to the electric chair. . . the Nebraska vs. Ohio State game is a contest between two poorly matched teams. . . Nebraska will have to be higher than weather balloons to beat the Buckeyes."

after . . .

After Saturday's game, in which the Huskers did everything but stir Bill Glassford's ulcer lotion, we find: "The Cornhuskers came back. Desire. Spirit. Blocking. Tackling. They had them all. . . A far cry from the gridders handed a 6-0 defeat at the hands of Hawaii. . . determined youngsters. . . stunned the Buckeye partisans. . . fiercely contested game. . . The players did a fine job against Ohio State, that's all there is to it."

One might think for a moment he was looking at a group of freshman ROTC students practicing the about face on the Coliseum mall. This chameleon effect that has crept into the printer's ink of so many of our sports writers (not to be confused with sportsmen) provides, at best, an amusing diversion between Saturday afternoons.

However, to the people outside, who can know only what they read in the newspapers, and to the football players themselves, who ask only that they be given a fair chance to prove themselves, it's a downright shame.

criticism . . .

This is not to say that I am against criticism. Criticism, sound, constructive criticism, is useful, but it has its place.

Its place is not heaped indiscriminately about Coach Glassford. Glassford cannot nor will not be removed until the end of the year. And even then he can stay five more years if he likes.

Criticism directed at hominem now can only do harm to the players on the team and their chances during the remainder of the season.

Abusive criticism also has no place leveled against a team for losing its first game of the season. Neither is it very fair nor very logical to assume that, because of an unfortunate initial defeat, the rest of the season will fall into the same pattern.

the positive side . . .

But the important point about dishing out big chunks of criticism is that you can so easily forget the positive side of the score card.

Everyone seemed to forget in the "humiliation of defeat" that, possibly, the best thing that could have happened to the Cornhuskers was that they get beaten their first game. If they had won, even by a small margin, they would have taken it in stride and breathed easily.

No one seemed to think that this defeat would be just the tonic the Huskers needed to weld them together into a scrapping squad that would almost knock the pins out from under last year's number one football power.

the job ahead . . .

No one suspected that this anemic performance at the beginning, rather than at the end or in the middle, would awaken the Huskers, as probably nothing else would, to the big job ahead.

No one, not even the ubiquitous sports writers busily thinking up clever invectives, imagined Nebraska would come roaring back this weekend.

Give the scribes two or three more weeks. Perhaps by then they can see that what they're putting down on copy paper is far inferior to what the players are putting forth on the football field.

If they don't win another game this season, our team deserves consistent, fair-minded sports coverage. Let's hope they start getting it.

Husker Improvement Startles Buckeyes As Rose Bowl Champs Pressed 28-20

By MAX KREITMAN
Staff Sports Writer

As the final gun sounded last Saturday at Columbus, Ohio, 80,000 people were left awed by a Nebraska eleven, who one week ago, were humiliated by Hawaii and then came back against a 28 point favorite only to bow to the powerful Ohio State Buckeye squad 28-20.

Even in losing, the Huskers proved to their followers that they knew the meaning of the word fight. The Buckeyes, who were playing their opening contest of the new season, were ranked sixth nationally, and were considered four touchdowns better than the Big 7 visitors.

Nip And Tuck

The 1954 Big 10 and Rose Bowl champs received the opening kickoff and marched 57 yards, with All-American Howard (Hopalong) Cassidy going the final 18 for the first of his three tallies. The conversion was good and with less than five minutes gone, the hosts had jumped out in front 7-0. But NU wasn't going to fold that easily. It took the Huskers only nine plays to hit paydirt, with Don Erway going the final nine. The conversion try was blocked and the first period ended with the Buckeyes leading 7-6.

As the second period got under way, State moved down to Nebraska's nine yard line. Then came the play of the game. Frank Elwood, OS quarterback pitched out to his halfback Cassidy. But John Edwards, senior fullback became Johnny-on-the-spot and grabbed the pigskin out of the air and rambled 80 yards to give the Huskers their only lead of the day. O-State came

back to tally once again as the halftime read 14-13 in favor of the Buckeyes.

Aerials were potent. The Huskers wrapped up the scoring in the third period when Erway found McWilliams wide open in the end zone. Nebraska passed up another scoring opportunity in the third stanza that could have made the difference in the outcome of the contest. Rex Fisher found Leroy Butherus open on the Ohio State five. The aerial found its mark, but Butherus in trying to elude the final Buckeye defender slipped on the turf, and the Huskers were halted in four attempts from the five. On a fourth down attempt from the one, Erway pitched wide of Fisher, who got his signals crossed and Rex could get no farther than the two.

In singling out the outstanding player for Nebraska, would be a difficult task. Don Erway, who played the whole contest, and Fisher could be praised for their work in the backfield. On the line Jim Murphy played a creditable game although outweighed, but the whole Husker line, spotting 10 pounds per man, played excellent football.

Next week, the Nebraskans open their conference season against Kansas State at Manhattan. They return home the following Saturday in a non-conference go against the Texas A&M Aggies.



By WALT BLORE
Staff Sports Writer

How much change can occur in one week is the question running through the minds of Nebraska fans after the first two weeks of Cornhusker football.

After getting off on the wrong foot in their opener with Hawaii, the Big Red played 60 minutes of hard football against Ohio State. Last year's mythical champs had to rally twice to overcome the inspired Cornhuskers. The Buckeyes had to thank their lucky star in the personage of All-American "Hopalong" Cassidy that they won that game. Cassidy scored three touchdowns and set up another with an electrifying run to the two-yard line. Without "Hopalong" it would have been a long day for the Scarlet and Gray from Columbus, Ohio.

As far as the change goes Coach Bill Glassford summed it up with this statement: "If I could predict the outcome of a game in advance or diagnose the results of a game after it had been played, I would get a job as a consultant to football coaches." There is little doubt that the Huskers made a good showing in Saturday's game. They have proven they are capable of playing tough, hard football for 60 long minutes against the best the nation has to offer.

In a game such as the one played



Courtesy Sunday Journal and Star
EDWARDS

Saturday, it is difficult to single out any individuals for praise. Cassidy, of course, was the outstanding player on the field, but there were several plays where "Hopalong" felt the full brunt of the attack of the Nebraska linemen. Jerry Wheeler, Bill Taylor, Jim Murphy, Jack Fleming, Leroy Butherus, Jon McWilliams and all the other linemen who played fought as hard as they knew how against supposedly better men. The entire backfield looked good almost the whole game with Don Erway and John Edwards drawing particular praise. It will be a long time before loyal Ohio State fans forget Edwards' interception of a lateral and returning it 90 yards for a touchdown.

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The Fairer Side

Luther College Set As WAA Convention Site

By SAROL WILTSE
Staff Sports Writer

The Davy Crockett craze has finally added WAA to its list of ardent admirers. A number of the braver board members are planning to attend a WAA convention held at Luther College Oct. 2 and 3. Each person is to come equipped with flashlight, sweat suits, sleeping bags, and cold pills! The WAA organizations throughout the state will participate and help formulate ideas which will aid the organizations in the coming year.

October 4 is the eventful day when the first tournaments will swing into full force. The heads of the three tournaments are: archery, Shirley Swanson; tennis doubles, Jeanne Craig; and soccer baseball, Sandy Kadlacek.

The point system for voting

credit in WAA has been changed in a few places. Here are the rules that govern voting:

1. A total of eight points must be earned before a member will be eligible to vote in the spring elections.
2. Freshmen and transfer students are given a bonus of two points at the beginning of the year.
3. One point is given to every member of a team each time they participate in a game.
4. Members of orchestras and aqua-ettes earn two points for their membership.
5. Girls gain a point every time they officiate, but no more than a total of four points will be given.
6. Girls who are unable physically to be members of a team may obtain all their eight points by officiating.

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IM Play Opens

The intramural touch football gets underway Wednesday with a full schedule of eight games beginning at 5 p.m. Defending All-University champion Delta Tau Delta goes into action the first day, meeting Sigma Chi on the northeast Ag field. Last year's Selleck Quadrangle champ, Gustavson II, also will be active early as it tangles with Canfield House on the city campus northwest field.

Other city campus games slated for Wednesday are Andrews vs. Bessey - NE field. Avery vs. Boucher - SE, and Seaton I vs. Selleck - SW, all in the Selleck Quad League. Fraternity A League games, all on the Ag fields, are Beta Theta Pi vs. Phi Gamma Delta - NW, Phi Delta Theta vs. Sigma Alpha Epsilon - SE, and Phi Kappa Psi vs. Sigma Phi Epsilon - SW.

Schedules for intramural fall tennis and golf will be posted in the PE building by mid-week, according to intramural director Ed Higgenbotham.

IM Water Basketball, Free Throw Tournneys Scheduled

Possession of a swimming permit, trunks, and a great deal of durability are the only qualifications for entry in the water basketball tournaments. A shallow water tourney is slated for those who don't navigate too well in water, and deep water contests for the more experienced splashers.

Any organization may enter one team in deep water and one in shallow water. These entries will be made in Room 102 P.E. building not later than noon, Saturday, October 1st.

Teams entered may use the colli-

seum pool any day. Monday through Friday, between 5 P.M. and 6 p.m. for half hour practice sessions. These sessions must be scheduled in advance in Room 102, P.E. Games will be at 5:15 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesdays, and possibly on Fridays or Saturday mornings.

The swimming permits must be on file in the equipment cage before contestants may enter the pool. This rule will be adhered to without exception. Varsity swimming squad members are eligible to compete.

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