

All Missouri Valley Team

By Hugh V. Harlan

End.....Beck, Nebraska
 Tackle.....Weidline, Kansas
 Guard.....Loomis, Kansas Aggies
 Center.....Wilson, Missouri
 Guard.....Holmes, Ames
 Tackle.....Halligan, Nebraska
 End.....Mastin, Nebraska
 Quarterback.....Towle, Nebraska
 Halfback.....Purdy, Captain, Nebraska
 Halfback.....Rutherford, Nebraska
 Fullback.....Howard, Nebraska

The work of choosing an all-Missouri Valley conference eleven on paper is beset with many dangers. It is a thankless job, for it is impossible to suit everybody. Each school has its favorites that seem to outshine everything else in the conference. The work is hampered to a large extent by the fact that no one sporting writer has been able to see all the conference teams in action.

Despite the fact that as a rule it is difficult to pick the mythical teams this year the work is not so hard. This is true because Nebraska has by far outplayed every conference team and in addition has conquered the great Gopher machine. Hence Nebraska has been given and deserves a preponderance of the all-Valley players. In truth, it would not be saying too much to say that the Cornhuskers are the all-Missouri Valley team. The truth of this statement is apparent when you stop to consider that it would be impossible to pick a team in the valley conference that could defeat the Cornhuskers. Seven out of eleven Nebraska stars on the all-valley team may seem lopsided at first glance but not after considering the fact that in 1911 six Cornhuskers were on the mythical eleven.



Gordon Beck, left end, 150 lbs., second year. He picks 'em out of the air. The surest man in the valley at receiving forward passes.

Beck, end, Nebraska. The one man who had a chance to win a great game for his school and took advantage of that opportunity was Beck. He picked the pigskin out of the air and won the Minnesota game. He is the surest

man in the valley at receiving forward passes, some of his catches border on the marvelous. On defense he is a hard man to contend with.

Weidline, tackle, Kansas. The captain of the Jayhawker eleven is big, speedy and goes down under punts in fine shape, sometimes beating his end men down the field. On tackle-around plays he is a consistent ground gainer and well deserves a place on the all-star eleven.

Loomis, guard, Kansas Aggies. Loomis is another captain playing tackle. He has been placed at a guard position because he is heavy and seems to fit into that position better than at tackle. He is strong on the defense, stopping every play that comes his way. On the offense he can open holes and when called back, can carry the ball for big gains on line smashes. He played one of the best games in the line seen on Cornhusker field this year.

Wilson, center, Missouri. Wilson won a place on the all-valley team last year by his sterling game at center. This year he was shifted to fullback on the Tiger eleven because of the lack of a good man for that position. His natural place, however, is at center. He plays a loose center, reinforcing the ends and back field in defense. He is a hard and accurate passer and gets a place on the all-star cast because of his fine work at center.

Holmes, guard, Ames. Holmes played a steady, dependable game which is a vital necessity for a guard on the modern eleven. On the offense he opened up good holes for line plays and is a strong defensive player.



Victor Halligan, left tackle, 185 lbs., second year. "Give 'em Halligan!" Never fails to make the needed gain on tackle around.

Halligan, tackle, Nebraska. "Give 'em Hall-i-gan," to our knowledge, has never been equaled in the valley on

lugging the ball on tackle around bucks. He is powerful, smashes the line fiercely and never fails to make a needed gain. On defense he plays consistently. In the Kansas game he scored the only touchdown and is one of the best all-around tackles that ever performed in the valley.



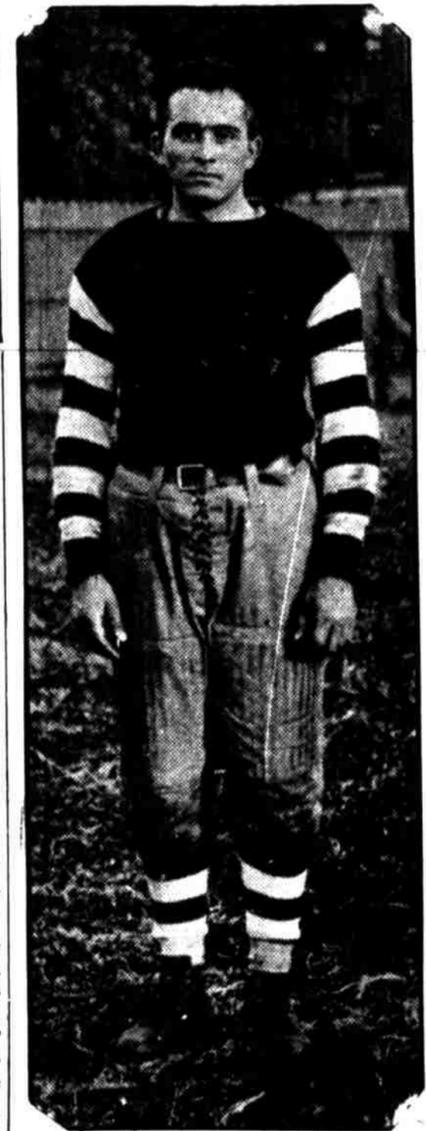
Guy Mastin, right end, 170 lbs., second year. Down the field like a flash under punts. Aggressive, brainy, never boxed—that's "Bing."

Mastin, end, Nebraska. Mastin wins his place among the all-star aggregation by playing the most consistent, steady and brainy game at end of any wing man in the valley. Being exceptionally heavy and powerful for an end he has been able to box the tackle on the offense and thus has made possible the long off-tackle smashes of Rutherford and Halligan. He is fast, aggressive, a fierce tackler and rarely, if ever, boxed. In getting down the field under punts he is a whirlwind and usually nails his man in his tracks. He excels in straight football and is excellent in sizing up plays.



Max Towle, quarter back, 140 lbs., second year. The premier general of the west. Runs the team in masterly fashion.

Towle, quarterback, Nebraska. Towle is the premier quarter of the west. He has outgeneraled every quarter he has played against, including the much touted Tollefson of Minnesota. He is brainy, fast and handles his team in masterly fashion. He excels in forward passes and, playing safety on defense, no player has ever gotten by him. Full of "pep" himself, he has the knack of instilling cohesiveness and "ginger" into his men. He is a first class catcher of punts and best of all, uses good judgment in selecting plays and men.



Leonard Purdy, right half, 160 lbs., third year; captain 1913-14; all Missouri Valley fullback 1911-12. The greatest defensive back in the valley.

Purdy, halfback, Captain, Nebraska. Purdy wins a place on the all-valley team this year by virtue of his being all-Missouri valley fullback last year and because of his superb defensive playing this year. An injury early in the season has hampered his line smashes, yet despite a lame leg, when given the ball, rarely fails to make the needed distance. He is an able captain, holding his men together well and is always in the game, wide-awake and aggressive. He eminently deserves the captaincy of the team of valley stars.

Rutherford, halfback, Nebraska. Speedy, aggressive, unexcelled in picking holes, brainy and smashing the line on off-tackle plays like a cyclone, Rutherford is the best all-around halfback in the valley this season. In breaking up forward passes he has few equals. He is strong and goes into the game for all he is worth. He