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FIVE CENTS.

## LOSE TO GRINNELL.

### Muddy Field Largely Responsible for Thanksgiving Day Defeat—Small Crowd.

Nebraska finished the foot ball season Saturday in Omaha with a defeat at the hands of Grinnell college to the tune of 12 to 0. The day was one that will long be remembered by the lovers of the sport in this state. Dark, cloudy and damp in the early morning, rain and snow throughout the forenoon, mud ankle deep and a wind bleak and cold in the afternoon, tells the story of the weather situation. And it was all because Director Loveland of the weather department insisted upon accompanying the team and then deserting them at the wrong time.

From the standpoint of interesting sport, foot ball was out of the question. The men with the smallest feet sank the deepest and found the most trouble in getting started. This is one of the causes of the defeat. Nebraska wants a dry field and a dry ball. Had these conditions been obtainable Saturday it is safe to say that the result would have been vastly different.

But whatever the relative strength of two teams may be under favorable conditions, there is little doubt but what Grinnell had the most effective team yesterday in both attack and defense. The Iowans proved all through the first half that they would advance the ball consistently by running through and around the ends, even in a mortar box. During the first half the ball was pushed along almost wholly by running, but during the latter half when the fight was almost entirely on their territory they invariably punted the ball after receiving it from their opponents.

The crowd was small and no one is to blame for this except the weather man. Everybody that came tried to make all the noise possible, and was successful in the attempt. A few rooters for the scarlet and cream were in the grand stand with a variety of yells at their disposal that would fill an ordinary book. Had the day been like its immediate predecessors equally as many thousands as there were hundreds would have witnessed the contest.

The coin was tossed at 3:30 and fell Grinnell side up. Captain Burd took west goal and two minutes later Benedict sent the oval to Lindsay, who brought it up the field for seventy yards. Then Grinnell started a series of plays that gained yards on every down, and if Nebraska counted on her superior weight holding the Hawkeyes she certainly began to realize that she reckoned without her host.

Time after time did Lindsay, Lyman and Burd skirt Nebraska's ends and force their way through her line. It began to look as if Grinnell were going straight for a touchdown without Nebraska's consent or permission, when Branch's men took a decided stand and secured the ball on downs. Benedict made a nice gain of four yards, and then through a fumble Grinnell once more recovered possession of the coveted ball. Lindsay, Lyman, Douglas and Taft each carried the ball for substantial gains, and then Burd kicked to Nebraska's ten-yard line.

Benedict here kicked to Fisk, who returned the ball to Nebraska's twenty-yard line, and after a series of plunges Lyman carried the ball over Nebraska's goal for the first touchdown. Things looked decidedly Grinnell at this time,

as twelve minutes of time had hardly elapsed.

Benedict kicked to Lyman. Hunter tackled and once more the game was on. Then came another series of bucks, losses and downs and kicks. Grinnell lost the ball on Nebraska's ten-yard line. Benedict kicked to Fiske, who circled Nebraska's left end for thirty-five yards and a touchdown. Wheeler kicked goal, making the score 12 to 0 for Grinnell. A half minute before time was called for the first half Benedict made an unsuccessful attempt for goal from field.

Wheeler started the second half by kicking to Nebraska's ten-yard line. Benedict got the ball and started up the field toward Grinnell's goal, when he met Theil and stopped. Here Nebraska showed the stuff that was in her. She took a stubborn stand, and when the Iowans had secured the ball on downs they were unable to repeat the feat of the first half, and found many difficulties in trying to circle Nebraska's ends or get through her line.

Time after time did Nebraska buck Grinnell for gains, and it began to look as if Nebraska would surely score, but Grinnell took a stand and Burd punted out of danger. Grinnell was never able to take full control of the field again, and after thirty-five minutes of the hardest kind of playing, under the worst conditions, the Thanksgiving game for 1899 at Omaha closed, with the state team of Nebraska humbled by its opponents from across the hills.

The line-up:  
Nebraska. Grinnell.  
Drain .....left end..... Lyman  
Pearse .....left tackle... Fellows  
Brew .....left guard..... Capron  
Koehler .....center..... Wheeler  
Ringer .....right guard... Thiel  
Westover .....right tackle... Taft  
Wallace.

Crandall .....quarterback... Fiske  
Benedict .....right half... Lindsay  
Hunter .....left half..... Burd  
Kingsbury .....fullback..... Knapp  
Superintendent C. G. Pearse, who is one of the most enthusiastic devotees of the gridiron, says of the game:

"Nebraska adds one more to her string of defeats for the year. Only one victory—against Drake university at Des Moines—has broken the succession. The team was nearly all made up of raw men and the season has not been long enough to shape them up to meet successfully the neighboring teams, all composed mostly and some nearly all of veteran material. Grinnell's team today, with five or six men who are playing a fourth year and three or more playing the third year, was stronger in all-round play, though Nebraska should have made one touchdown against Grinnell's two.

"Shorty" Wheeler, center, was the bright, particular star for Grinnell. In a morass of mud spherical men have the advantage, and Wheeler and his neighbor at guard nearly answer this description. His passing was sure; he broke through and blocked kicks and was down the field on punts almost as soon as the ends. He kicked two not very difficult goals. The team had no other stars. All played good, hard foot ball, clean, except a tendency to hold Nebraska's ends.

"For Nebraska Benedict's play was handicapped by the soft mud. He made good gains on line bucks and end runs, but kicked no goals. One place kick was true, but the ball was heavy and fell short—one was blocked—one went wrong. Pearse played a great game in tackling and interference and made frequent three, five and eight-yard gains through the line. Kingsbury and Hunter made good gains through the line. Crandall tackled finely and got into all the plays. Brew made several great tackles, several times getting the man with the ball for a loss. Cortel-you got down well under punts and tackled hard. Both teams put up a plucky, lively game on a very bad field."

## STATE THEIR POSITION.

### Athletic Board Explains a Few Facts Concerning the Management of Sports.

The following statement has been issued by a committee of the athletic board appointed to defend certain steps of the board:

"At various times during the foot ball season just closed articles have appeared in the public press in which grave charges have been made against the athletic board. The evident purpose of these articles has been to prejudice the student body and the public against control or supervision of college athletics. The board therefore feels that it is due to the students and friends of the university that a statement of its policy and of such results as have been attained be made public.

"It is well known that until within a comparatively recent period athletics, not only at the University of Nebraska, but throughout the west, had been managed, or mismanaged, in such way as to bring us into general disrepute. As to the University of Nebraska, under the old management, affairs were conducted in such extravagant and unbusiness-like manner that the business houses, both in Lincoln and abroad, lost confidence in the management and in the institution and it became impossible to secure credit. At that time there was no system or continuity in the management of the several athletic teams. Each team was managed without regard to any other, and each season was conducted without regard to the debts incurred in past seasons and with no thought of those to come. To give but one instance, it is said that at a time when other departments of athletics were staggering under heavy deficits, a surplus unexpectedly accruing to one team was divided among those in charge of the season. No accounts were kept, or if kept, were submitted to no auditing or supervising authority and when bills incurred in one season were presented for payment in subsequent seasons there were often no means of ascertaining their correctness or validity. There was no check upon extravagance and waste until in later years impossibility of obtaining credit operated in that direction. Again professionalism was rife. Not only were paid coaches allowed to play on the teams in many cases, but players came to the institution after acquiring a reputation in smaller colleges and secured places on our teams, though in no strict sense members of the university. In this manner genuine students who had served an apprenticeship upon the scrub team, in the hope of some day securing a place, were discouraged and retired in disgust as they discovered that the management had no intention of giving them a chance. It was very rare in those days to have a scrub team after the first three weeks of the season. This condition, to be deplored on all grounds, had two especially unfortunate results. In the first place, whenever better inducements were offered elsewhere these players, being attached to no particular institution, not infrequently migrated, and as no players had been trained in the institution to take their places, the opening of the foot ball season too often saw a most unseemly scramble among managers to procure noted players. We need only mention the well known

Baker university team of 1893, which another year appeared substantially as a whole under the name of another institution. In the second place, the encouragement even indirectly of such floating players was rapidly giving rise to a class of semi-professionals with their several coteries of admirers, giving us on a small scale the state of affairs which obtains among professional base ball players and prize fighters.

"The disrepute into which western athletic teams was coming by reason of these circumstances led the board of regents to establish an athletic board under its authority, and to commit to it the absolute control of all public athletics at the university. Although something had been done previously to mitigate the evils above mentioned, they still confronted the athletic board when, one year ago, it determined upon a firmer policy, which it has endeavored with more or less success to carry out consistently. The policy outlined at that time was, first, to put athletics on a sound financial basis; and, second, to purify them by a closer attention to the personnel of the various teams. The first has been successfully accomplished. The strictest account is kept of all receipts and expenditures, and it is impossible for money to be devoted to any improper end or for waste or extravagance to be indulged in. A year ago at the close of the foot ball season the board found itself owing a coach some four or five hundred dollars and with unpaid bills of one or more past seasons, for which it felt morally obligated, confronting it sufficient to make the total indebtedness about double that sum. By adopting the business-like course of requiring this sum to be raised or pledged by friends and students of the university before entering upon the base ball season, and by careful and economical management during that season and the foot ball season just closed, for almost the first time in the history of athletics in the university, every department of athletics was made free from debt. The merchants of Lincoln appreciate, though others may not, the results of this new policy in financial management.

"The second object of the existence of the board, that of purifying athletics, from the nature of the case and by reason of the opposition it excited, has not been so successfully carried out. It is difficult for many to understand that the transition from a school of four or five hundred students to a university of approximately two thousand has made it impossible to pursue the lax methods of the past, founded on the fact that everyone knew the status and standing of every student. It is no longer possible for the student body at large nor for members of the faculty to know merely from seeing him about the university whether a given person is a regular and bona fide student or not. One player, for instance, hung about the institution for two years without succeeding in obtaining credit for one-fourth of a semester's work and without any intention of being a student in the proper sense of the term, and when he presented himself as a candidate for the team at the beginning of the third year there were few who were aware that he was not in ordinary standing. The board has been criticised most severely in this particular instance by many persons, some of whom have stated, when their attention was called