

The Daily Nebraskan

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BY THE STUDENT PUB. BOARD.

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WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24.

GOOD LOSERS.

The football season of '09 has brought success to Nebraska in the best sense of the word. Our players have received no severe accidents and our most worthy opponents have conceded that Nebraska has played a clean, vigorous game. The student body has shown a fine spirit. It has been courteous to our rivals when in Lincoln, appreciative of the work of the team and loyal both in victory and in defeat. Our work has been free from any suspicion of graft, dissipation and slugging.

On the whole, I think the finest spirit on the part of the team and of the student body has been shown in the way in which both have demonstrated that Nebraskans are good losers. No group of men was ever more manly in defeat than our team after the Minnesota and Kansas games. No body of students ever showed a finer spirit. All Nebraskans have reason to be more proud of the university than they would have had its team won a succession of brilliant victories and yet showed itself unable to maintain the true Nebraska spirit in a single defeat.

S. AVERY.

BETTER MATERIAL.

One of the striking faults of the Nebraska team, as noted by eastern college men, is the lack of trained material enrolled in the freshman classes of the university. In the eastern colleges the high schools and preparatory academies annually send to the big institutions men who are fully trained in the rudiments of the game and who are already men of no mean ability on the gridiron. At Nebraska almost all of the material is developed from the start by the university coaches.

This comparison between east and west has been made by a number of men. Captain Heintzelman, formerly of the army eleven at West Point, is one of the critics. Other men with experience on eastern teams have said the same thing. Harvard, for instance has a dozen or more preparatory schools within easy reach. The football players in these schools receive the aid of the Harvard athletes in every way possible. The Harvard players, when they are out of practice for some reason or other, take a hand at coaching the minor teams. The younger players are given chances to watch the Harvard games and practices, so that they acquire the Harvard way before ever registering in the Cambridge institution. When these men come to Harvard they are already well equipped players. They know the rudiments of the game as played by Harvard and they can at once begin the more advanced work.

But at Nebraska the new students know little of football. His knowledge has usually been acquired in a hit-or-miss, find-out-alone method. He does not know the proper way to do the

very fundamental things of the game. All of this he must learn after he reaches the university and he is delayed by just that much in his development as a varsity player.

From all of which arises the question: cannot some arrangement be made whereby Nebraska's high school students may be brought into closer touch with the athletic interests of the university and developed along lines which will bring them to the university with a proper knowledge of the game?

GRADUATE COACHES.

But it is not better preparation of material alone which gives the eastern university its great elevens. Another big factor in the case is the work of the graduate coaches.

Every year men travel in some cases hundreds of miles to be back at their alma mater during the coaching season. These men are the stars of past years, men who have carried the ball for Princeton, or Harvard, or Yale, or some other of the schools ranking high in the football standings. They come back in some cases for a money wage as assistant coaches, but frequently they come back without remuneration to assist in putting forth another great team.

Such work as this is not possible at Nebraska on anything near the scale which obtains in the east. The Nebraska men have not the money to afford such coaching. Yet it is possible to a certain extent, and the week just before the Minnesota game this year saw it working to a greater degree than has obtained in the past. In one week then Coach Cole had the assistance of ex-Captains John Westover, Glen Mason and J. B. Harvey, of "Bill" Chaloupka, and of others who have at one time or another defended the Scarlet and Cream. This was but a starter, but it is to be hoped that next year more of the ex-Cornhuskers may be able to devote a little time to the aid of their alma mater.

STAGG'S SUGGESTIONS.

The peerless Stagg, coach of all things athletic at the University of Chicago, is convinced that some changes are necessary in the football regulations. The 1909 fatalities have been numerous and spectacular and they have been given prominent place in the press of the country. The gridiron game has been consequently harmed, and the Chicago board of control has instructed Stagg to do what he can to remove some of the dangerous elements.

Here are Stagg's suggestions, the first definite outline of football reform yet announced:

"I would amend the rules of football as follows:

"1. Allowing two chances to make ten yards, or increasing the distance to fifteen yards and giving a team three chances, as Walter Camp has suggested. In this way forward passing will be encouraged by making the use of the play more often necessary.

"2. By prohibiting pushing or pulling of the runner with the ball, which now does a lot of damage, for, first, a single player now if often struck by the combined force of two or three men; and, second, it takes the combined falling under or on top of the attacking players to stop them.

"3. By making a penalty for crawling with the ball, which would encourage standing up in running.

"4. By increasing the penalty for piling on a player unnecessarily.

"5. By emphasizing the need of the referee's blowing his whistle when the ball is stopped, thus preventing massing."

SEASON TICKETS.

For the second time the plan of selling season tickets at greatly reduced rates has been tried at Nebraska. Introduced in the fall of 1908 the system has survived two seasons and has met with the unqualified approval of the student body.

At the time when the athletic board was debating the introduction of the season ticket plan some objections were raised on the grounds that the proposed system would not yield as much to the management as the old arrangements. It was held that the lowered price of admission would result in decreased income. On the other hand the supporters of the plan declared that the new system would

bring out larger crowds of students and that the result might be an increased income, certainly not a lessened one. The athletic board would have the money available earlier in the season than if it waited for the admissions at each game and this would be an advantage.

The results of the two years' trial have been at least fairly satisfactory. In 1908 over \$1,500 worth of tickets were sold up to December 1. This year nearly \$1,800 worth have been disposed of to date.

The season tickets admit students to all home athletic contests, including football, baseball, track and basketball. They sold in 1908 for \$3 unreserved. This year a change has been made, whereby for \$5 the student or faculty members can purchase a reserved ticket guaranteeing him a reserved seat at all home games. The introduction of the \$5 ticket was welcomed by many, although the sales were not as large as might have been expected. A majority of the students preferred to take their chances in the bleachers and save money.

Whatever the view of the management, the tickets are approved by the purchasers. Money is saved and, what is more, the student who has the ticket frequently goes to contests he would not attend under other conditions. This fact boosts the attendance at minor games and helps to produce the winning spirit.

1909.

With the Thanksgiving Day game with Haskell, Nebraska will close a season in many ways peculiar. Starting out with a squad which few sideliners expected to develop into a team of high quality, Coach Cole managed to turn out a team which for a time threw a scare into Missouri Valley championship aspirants.

The South Dakota game was a disappointment to the rooters and many were the forebodings of later defeats. The Knox game was entered with many fearing the loss of the game to a minor college. Nebraska won and a week later put up the sensational fight against Minnesota. With that game the Cornhusker stock went soaring and student optimism prophesied an easy victory over Iowa.

Iowa sprung a surprise by holding the Cornhuskers to a tie, and two weeks later the doubts of the rooters as to the Kansas game were answered by the 6 to 0 figure in favor of the Jayhawkers.

After the Kansas contest the Nebraskans had two weeks in which to prepare for Denver. Watchers of the practice were fearful of another defeat, but the score resulted in a close victory for the Scarlet and Cream.

Summing it up, the comparative success of the season rests on the game with Haskell. If that contest is won, the year cannot be counted a failure. The team which at first was not expected to do great things has done much more than was thought probable in the first days of practice. The fact that the rooters became unduly optimistic and expected big things of the 1909 squad does not alter the fact that more has been accomplished than the early September indications pointed to.

Upon the game Thursday, then, rests to a great degree the measure of Cornhusker success. That game should be won.

THE 1910 SCHEDULE.

A glance at the past season's schedule shows that the Nebraska management must do one of two things in making up the next year's list. It must either play the larger part of its "big" games away from home, or new schools must be taken on in the place of old ones dropped.

The reason for this is obvious. This year Nebraska played six of eight games in Lincoln. Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Denver and Haskell rank as the "big" games of the schedule and of these, three were played in Lincoln. Minnesota was taken on in Omaha and Denver at Denver.

Next fall, Minnesota, if that school plays Nebraska at all, will insist upon Minneapolis as the place of the contest. Kansas expects the annual Nebraska game at Lawrence in 1910, and Iowa will desire the next Hawkeye contest at Iowa City. This leaves Denver and Haskell to be reckoned with.

In all probability Denver will come to Lincoln and Haskell is a likely probability. This would give Nebraska two big games and three minor contests on the home gridiron.

In order to secure another big game for Lincoln it would be necessary to take on a school not on this year's schedule. Ames or Missouri are the most likely candidates for the place. It is doubtful whether Ames could be induced to come to Lincoln, as Nebraska really owes the Iowa college a return game at the Ames field. Missouri, however, is represented as willing to schedule a game with the Cornhuskers and it is possible that Coach Roper's

men can be induced to come to Lincoln. This would give Nebraska a good quota of home games, of which one would probably be set for Omaha.

But with Denver, Iowa, Minnesota, Kansas, Haskell, and Missouri or Ames on the list Nebraska would have almost too large a schedule for comfort. It would seem necessary that some one of the number be dropped and the choice is not an easy one. It lies between Iowa, Minnesota and Kansas, unless the home games are to be butchered, which is not desirable. Difficulty in getting dates may settle the question without the necessity of a choice by Nebraska.

Cornhusker 1910 Captain

Within a few days the 1909 Cornhuskers who have won "N's" by their gridiron prowess in defense of the Scarlet and Cream will elect a captain for 1910. The man so chosen will lead the Nebraska team of next year in a series of contests fully as hard as that of 1908, or of the season just closing. He must be a man of ability on the field, of high personal character, and of unhampered zeal for Nebraska—in short, he must be a man full to the brim of real Nebraska spirit. If the 1910 Cornhuskers are to have the encouragement which is given by respect for and confidence in the leader.

The ideal football captain is the best player on the team. In stories, the captain is always the man who plays the best game, who does the sensational work, and who receives the plaudits of the grandstand. Yet it is not always possible to measure up to this ideal. Frequently the best player on the team is by no means the man best fitted to hold the men together. For one reason or another, while they admire his personal prowess, he may not have the personal qualities which fit him for leadership. Or, while perfectly able to do excellent work under direction, he may not have the ability to direct.

A gridiron chief must be the strongest man among strong men, if his success is to be marked. He must be of a character such that he can weld his team into a unified machine, a body of eleven parts working as one, without jealousy, without lack of confidence, without any of those petty troubles which sometimes bob up to spoil the work of the best individual players. The right sort of captain should be able to avoid friction between members of his team. He should be able to inspire in his teammates that spirit of confidence and disposition to help each other which is one of the first things to mark a great football team.

Yet personal prowess counts for much and the man who can not do a little better than most of his team is likely to be a failure. He must at least not lay himself open to a charge of sluffing. Even though his natural ability may perhaps not be the best, he should be recognized as the grittiest, most stubborn man of the team. In times past Nebraska has sometimes had its star as its captain and some-

times it has not. In the latter cases it has invariably happened either that the year was more or less of a failure, or else the captain had an unusually powerful personality. This is rather the unusual situation.

Of the 1909 probable winners of the "N," four will not be eligible for football next year, owing to the three-year rule of the Missouri Valley conference. These are Beltzer, Johnson, Ewing, and Harte. Temple and Bentley have each been two years on the team and are both eligible. Bentley has won his "N" as quarter for two years past. He was sub-quarter in 1907 when "Pip" Cook held that position regularly and he played the bigger part of the Ames-Nebraska game in Omaha, which resulted in a 23 to 17 victory for Nebraska. This year he played quarter until the Minnesota game.

Temple, the other two-year man, has played right tackle both years. He is only 21 years old, but he has played a strong game in his line position. His tackling has been better than the average this year and he has distinguished himself by his energy in getting through the opponent's line.

With the three-year and two-year men removed there are seven men with one year's varsity experience. They are Shonka, Frank, Magor, Chauner, Hascall, Rathbone and Wolcott. Of these Shonka and Rathbone are distinguished most for the energetic spirit which they have put into the game. Both have shown fine samples of Nebraska spirit, Shonka in his tireless charges and hard tackling, and Rathbone in his fearless plunges through the line for frequent substantial gains.

Frank at half and quarter has played a fast game. He is accurate in his passing of the ball and may develop into a capable director of plays. Hascall filled the quarter's place in the Iowa game.

Magor, Chauner, and Wolcott have done good work, for first year men, and have won the notice of the rooters at every game. Wolcott's return to the line just before the Minnesota game made a noticeable difference in its defensive ability. Magor solved a difficult proposition at half back for Cole, and Chauner did the same thing at end.

Here, then, are the thirteen men from whom a 1910 captain will probably be picked. A change in the method of awarding "N's" may make a difference in the slate, but the chances are that one of the men named above will head next year's Cornhuskers. Which do you favor?

THE RECORD OF 1909.

Nebraska.....	6;	South Dakota.....	6
Nebraska.....	34;	Knox.....	0
Nebraska.....	0;	Minnesota.....	14
Nebraska.....	6;	Iowa.....	6
Nebraska.....	12;	Doane.....	0
Nebraska.....	0;	Kansas.....	6
Nebraska.....	6;	Denver.....	5
Nebraska.....	?	Haskell.....	?

HASKELL FOR 1909.

Haskell.....	29;	Independence.....	0
Haskell.....	50;	Chillico Indians.....	0
Haskell.....	17;	Barnes University.....	5
Haskell.....	12;	Texas University.....	11
Haskell.....	0;	Baylor University.....	12
Haskell.....	14;	Rolla School of Mines.....	10
Haskell.....	8;	Denver University.....	5
Haskell.....	?	Nebraska.....	?