

Cornhuskers of 1918

SIDELIGHTS ON NEBRASKA'S WAR-TIME ELEVEN

A Review of the Season and of the Team

Tossed about like a cork on the ocean, the 1918 Cornhuskers stuck to their posts and pulled through a wild and most uncertain season on the gridiron. Tolling day after day and often until after dark, they would get all set for a big game, only to have the influenza epidemic bob up at the last minute and force the cancellation of the engagement.

The men stuck to their posts, however, in spite of the discouragements and are deserving of every bit of praise and honor they have achieved this season. The fact that each game produced a new and different star is a noticeable fact in reviewing the season's games. No one member of the aggregation stood out most conspicuously and eclipsed the others as has been done in former seasons.

Captain Hubka, perhaps has played the most consistent brand of football of any man on the team. He started the season at fullback, but was transferred to tackle when Al Duteau fell victim to Dan Cupid's shaft and left school in favor of matrimony. Hubka was called back from his position on the line, quite regularly, to carry the ball and to do the kicking, and he did as much lugging as the back field regulars.

The Back Field

Howarth jumped in at the quarterback position direct from last year's freshman team and his ability in returning punts and in directing the attack has been worthy of note. McMahon played a great game against Iowa at the first of the season but injured his knee in practice and has been out of the lineup ever since. Schellenberg left for the infantry O. T. C. prior to the Kansas battle but participated in the first two games of the campaign, starring in the 19 to 0 victory over the Fort Omaha balloon school.

Bill Lantz stepped into the varsity lineup a product of four years of active high school life and succeeded in making his mark at Nebraska first shot. Jobs and Hartley were graduated from last year's freshman squad and Reynolds, on the 1918 varsity basketball five was induced to get out for football for the first time. All three men made good as regulars and distinguished themselves against the Balloonists.

Line a Stonewall

The line men never get the praise that the back field members do, but the Nebraska line has been the one thing that has brought the coaches complete satisfaction. They never had to worry about the condition of the line and it always held firm against enemy attacks.

With the exception of Kriemelmeyer all the line men are playing their first year on the varsity. Dana, Neumann, Cypreanson, and Monte Munn have had no previous college experience but the others were promoted from the second stringers.

Freshmen Playing for First Time

This is the first season for centuries that freshmen have been allowed to participate in intercollegiate sports and the Husker team is composed largely of first year men. The restriction was lifted by the government officials at the organization of the S. A. T. C. October 1.

A few sidelights on the lives of the members of the 1918 Cornhuskers may be of interest to the followers of the Scarlet and Cream. It is truly a Nebraska aggregation, an even dozen of the men having been born in the Cornhusker commonwealth.

Captain Ernest Hubka

Captain Ernest Hubka hails from Beatrice high school where he first donned the moleskins. Two years at that institution, playing tackle and fullback, won him all-state honors and prepared him for a try at college football the following year when he entered the university. He proved his worth while on the freshman squad in 1916, and last year he broke into the varsity eleven at right end. Later he was shifted to fullback where he worked against Kansas. Hubka was placed on the first all-Missouri valley eleven by Eugene T. Dyer in Spaulding's Football Guide, and was given a place on the second all-valley team by C. E. McBride of the Kansas City Star.

Erney Hubka was elected captain of the present band of warriors about a month ago, taking the place of Schellenberg, who was chosen to act as captain when "Dusty" Rhodes left for service in the army. He played at fullback early in the season but was switched to left tackle just after the Iowa game.

He ranks with the most consistent performers in recent years, and the best of it is that he will be here next year to continue the good work he has begun.

Elmer Schellenberg

Most people believe that Schellenberg came from Beatrice, Nebr., and the fact is true, but he played three years at Johnson, Nebr., before he went to Beatrice high school. He came to the university in 1916 and worked in the back field in the freshman lineup. The following year he started the season against Wesleyan and carried away the blue ribbon in individual work. He was planted at half back or left fullback, as Doc Stewart arranged the back field, and there he stayed throughout the season, factoring materially in most of the games.

Schelly inaugurated the present season with a fine showing of class, but when the call for officer candidates was issued, Schellenberg was picked to go. His departure for Camp Grant crippled the team seriously just before the Kansas encounter. It was hoped that he might return to finish the season if he were discharged in time, but Schellenberg probably saw it differently and went on with his officer instruction. He may be back for the basketball season, but it is not known now.

He was on the varsity basketball team last year and was out for track in the spring, making good in each branch.

Paul Dobson

Paul Dobson, one of the greatest back field men in Cornhusker history, has just returned to the fold after a six months' absence in the naval service. He got back in time to participate in the last regular game of the season which is played today with Notre Dame. He enlisted in the navy last spring, and was first sent to the Great Lakes station at Chicago. He distinguished himself on the Jackie aggregation and brought the bacon home in the two games in which he played, one against Iowa and the other against Illinois.

To go back to the beginning, Paul has played football ever since he was able to distinguish a pigskin from an Easter egg. He never made it a business until he entered Ulysses high school years ago. He got his first lessons in the gridiron game from Max Towle, the wizard quarterback of '12 and '13, who was coaching the Ulysses team. Dobson played two years on the eleven at full back and was captain the last year.

In 1915 he entered Nebraska and was out for freshman football. The following year he went in against the Drake Bulldogs, substituting for Doyle, and assumed the duties as a regular against Oregon. From then on there was no stopping him. His reputation as a punter started in his high school days and that is still his strong point. He was a junior when he went to war and may be in the lineup next year.

Harold McMahon

"Curley" McMahon came to the Huskers a seasoned football man from Lincoln high school, where he played for three seasons at end and half back. In his last year at the capital city he was picked for all-state half and was considered so good that he was given the captaincy of the star eleven. He was one of the mainstays of the track team also and represented Lincoln in the Missouri valley track meet, piling up envious records. He started his athletic career at Blair, Nebr., where he played a year on the football team. Upon entering the university in 1916, he made a berth on the freshman squad and then got into action as a regular against Michigan the following year. Last year he played at right half and was picked by Missouri valley officials for the third best right halfback in valley circles.

McMahon is a track man of no mean ability, having been selected by sport critics as one of the ten fastest sprinters in the mid-western conference.

He threw a scare into football circles about the middle of the present

season when he was called by mistake to the Great Lakes naval school, only to return a few days later. Mac only participated in one game this season, as he injured his knee shortly after the Iowa combat but is expected to get into action this afternoon against Notre Dame.

Walter Kriemelmeyer

The big towering six-footer who has been filling in at right guard is Walter Kriemelmeyer, playing his second year on the varsity. He came from Cambridge high school three years ago with four years experience on the football team. Cambridge high school it will be noticed is playing Lincoln high for the championship of Nebraska this very afternoon, which goes to prove that "Stakes" was brought up in a good school. He has one more year yet at Nebraska before he graduates.

Bill Lantz

One of the best all-around athletes that ever donned a Husker uniform is Bill Lantz, midget right halfback, who is just beginning his career at Nebraska as a freshman. He attended Kearney high school two years and while there played two seasons of football, two of track and one of basketball. He received honorable mention for all-state football honors for the two years' service on the team.

Lantz spent the last two years of high school at Ravenna where he expanded on his athletic record. He was captain of the football eleven both seasons and was picked as all-state left halfback in 1915. He played both seasons of basketball and served as captain both years, receiving honorable mention twice. He was out for track every year and was captain the last two years. His track team won the central Nebraska championship two times and last year came out fifth in the state meet at Lincoln. Two years of baseball stand to his credit and on top of all this he was coach for three years of football, basketball and track. In fact Bill Lantz just naturally "ran" things all through his high school career.

His athletic record at Nebraska promises to equal and surpass what he did in his high school days and he will make his mark in all-American sport circles.

Harry Howarth

Quarterback Howarth is also playing his first season on the varsity and has proved himself an able general and a dependable man with the ball. He first saw service on the gridiron at West Point, Nebr., where he played three seasons and was captain one year. He was picked for captain and halfback on the all-star eleven representing Northeastern Nebraska.

He played three years on the high school basket flippers at forward, one year on the baseball nine, guarding the first sack, and one year on the track team with the weights and dashes. He was out for freshman basketball last season and is out for a regular berth this year.

Roy Lyman

Roy Lyman, the big husky navy bird, is a product of the western Kansas plains. Although he was born in Nebraska, he spent his entire childhood in McDonald, Kansas, and the nearby vicinity. Before he hit the Cornhusker camp he had never played football in his life, but under the tutorage of Doc Stewart and Coach Kline he has developed into a wonderful defensive and aggressive guard. He is an old hand at basketball, however, playing four years on the high school five and participating in inter-frat games last season. He indulged a little in baseball out in western Kansas, playing center field and pitch.

This is his first opportunity at varsity football and he holds the proud distinction of having not missed a single minute of play in any game thus far.

Wade Munn

Another all-around athlete is Wade Munn who is playing his first year of varsity football this season at left guard. Three years of football at Fairbury high school and two years of basketball got him in condition to take over a regular job on the freshman squad at Nebraska last season. He also was on the freshman track and wrestling teams. Baseball is another of his accomplishments but has not had a chance at that in the university. Wade is often confused with

his brother Wayne, who was on the team last year.

Monte L. Munn

Wade's kid brother is the young giant who has been holding down the pivot job all season. He came to the Husker fold from the Lincoln police force where he welded the billy all summer. He came from Fairbury with his brother after one year of football, two years as captain and center on the basketball quintet and two more seasons on the track. His one year at Lincoln high contained a few honors. He was picked as all-state tackle in football, all-state center in basketball, being a member of the state champs last winter, and he also won his "L" in track. He was captain-elect of the football eleven when he left school. He has not missed a single minute from a game this season, which is an enviable record.

Clarence Swanson

Swanson had three years of football, three of basketball, three of baseball and two of track and was captain of each team in his senior year at Wakefield, Nebr., before he packed his grip and came to Nebraska a year ago. Last season he made the freshman squad and played at halfback but so far this year he has been stationed at right end. His basketball experience led him to get out for the indoor sport last winter, but as it was his first year, was not eligible for the varsity.

Harold S. Hartley

Hartley took the place of Hubka at fullback when the latter was shifted to the tackle position early in the season and he has been holding his job in a very creditable manner. This is his first year in the university, coming from Harvard high school where he made a record as an all-around athlete. He was four years on the football team and captain the last season, four years on the basketball team and captain the last two, four years on the track team and one year on the baseball team at which time he was captain of that. Harvard wouldn't have amounted to very much if Hartley hadn't been on the class roll, would it?

Raymond Jobs

Jobs won his spurs in the Husker-Jayhawk game this season; while slippery with mud, he wiggled through the Kansas defense time after time for long gains and carried the oval a total of 72 yards, a record not equalled this season. He was a member of the freshman squad last season and substituted for McMahon at right half in the first game with Iowa. He broke in again against the Balloon School but was kept out of the Camp Dodge battle on account of injuries.

Jobs is a Nebraska man, having been born and raised at Tecumseh. Two seasons there, he was playing left half on the football team. His future years in Nebraska may bring new and greater honors.

Harry B. Reynolds

When football material was scarce at the first of the season, Harry Reynolds was induced to try his hand at the game. He had never been out before but took to it like a bulldog to a tramp's coat-tails. He has made rapid strides in the game and pulled down the laurels in last Saturday's conflict with Camp Dodge.

Basketball is his bent, however. He played guard on last year's Husker quintet and in 1917 played on a team which copped the Y. M. C. A. league championship.

Madison, Nebr., claims him and his record at the Madison high school proves that he made an impression in those parts. He played two years of football, three years of baseball and four of basketball and was captain of each team once. Reynolds is a senior this year and will probably not be with the Huskers next year.

Richard Neumann

Dick Neumann made a name for himself in the state basketball tournament two years ago when he led the Columbus quintet up to the semi-finals against Omaha. He was three years on the Columbus team and was elected captain in 1917. He was picked all-state forward for his brilliant playing.

This is Neumann's first year on the regular football eleven, being stationed at left end. He says he never played the gridiron game before but the quality of his performances do not prove it.

Herbert Dana

Dana hails from Fremont high school where he played basketball three years and was awarded the captaincy and all-state center honors in 1917. He did not play much football but was on the track and baseball teams four years and was track captain one year.

Dana saw eight months' service on the Mexican border with the Fourth Nebraska regiment, National Guard. While down there he made a place at right guard on the regimental football team, in competition with 500 other soldiers. His eleven won eight out of nine games played.

This is Dana's first year at Nebraska, but he is a comer in football and basketball.

"Bubbles" Ross

Emmet H. Ross is another graduate from the last year's freshman squad. He has got into action at right guard in nearly every game so far this season except when his ankle has been on the bum. He played on the Superior, Nebr., football aggregation three years and was captain in 1916. He was also on the track team specializing with the weights. He states that he was born in Kansas just eight miles south of Superior.

"Zip" Cypreanson

Cypreanson says that he was born in Wisconsin, went to school in Kansas and was educated in Nebraska. This is his first attempt at varsity football, but he had two strenuous years of it at Lincoln high school, which won him the honor of all-state halfback. He was three years on the basketball team and was forward on the state champion quintet last year. He was placed on the all-state basketball five and given the captaincy.

Cypreanson was one of the first twenty-nine men of the S. A. T. C. to be sent to an officers' school. He was down at Camp McArthur for six weeks and played end on the battalion team. Quite unexpectedly he appeared last Saturday in the Camp Dodge game, having returned to Lincoln in the morning.

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