

From The Pressbox

New Football Policy Disclosed

By BRUCE BRUGMANN

"Football is a good game," Bill Glassford told me shortly before his resignation. "It's just the mess that has sprung up around the game that's going to kill it."

I think it's about time someone began talking about cleaning up this fermenting mess.

The mess that identified itself with player revolts, forced resignations, buying up contracts, paying off coaches, hangings in effigy, threatening letters, abusive phone calls, gambling interests.

The mess which has clutched the entire football world, forcing the ejection of Coach Al Kircher at Washington State, stirring a player revolt at Washington University, leveling pressure against coaches at Florida University, Southern California and California University.

The mess that has resulted in the forced resignation of Nebraska's last six football coaches.

Something must be done.

First, The Recruiting System . . .

First, I think the high pressure recruiting system of intercollegiate football must be tightly regulated. This could be done by (1) preventing all schools from approaching high school students before they have graduated, as professional baseball teams must do with prep stars.

(2) Instituting a maximum scholarship standard (tuition, books, meals, etcetera) that each school could offer its prospective athletes. This would still give each institution a degree of self-determination—how big to make its athletic program within the limitations—but it would also muzzle the big, ambitious college and greatly curtail the vicious "We can give more than they" recruiting cycle.

This would still allow for an efficient recruiting program during the summer months—but, most important, it would prohibit dangling attractive lures before players still in high school and would standardize the scholarship offer—thus, putting the premium on the merits of the individual institution rather than the size or attractiveness of the scout's offer.

Both these stipulations, however, would have to be strictly enforced nationally by the NCAA, with powers delegated to each individual conference. The Big Seven, then under the auspices of the NCAA, would suspend or reprimand any of its member schools if it overstepped the recruiting line.

The Scholarship Program . . .

Secondly, after the extent of the scholarship has been clearly delineated, a central faculty committee should be set up to screen all candidates on the basis of athletic ability, need, academic records and personal conduct reports.

A contract should be drawn up stating the exact terms of the scholarship agreement and signed by the student and his parents. The scholarship list should be published, just like any other University scholarships, and information about qualification should be listed in the college bulletin.

The athletic director, the head coach and his assistants would, of course, make the recommendations to the committee. In most cases, the committee would go along with the recommendations.

However, under this system, alumni influence is passed to a group that it cannot sway to any appreciable extent, the applicants will be judged as students as well as athletes and pressure will be removed from the coaching staff to grant this or that boy a scholarship.

Most important, it would be a watchful guardian of institutional integrity, dispensing with much of the old "cloak and dagger" secrecy of many college athletic scholarship programs.

Athletics, Academic Integration . . .

Thirdly, the coach should be thoroughly integrated into the faculty so that he has the status, occupational safety, and salary equal to—but no more—than that of any other faculty member.

The important consideration here is the coach's salary, which in many institutions exceeds that of the president. The average big-time coach earns between \$10,000 and \$15,000 per year while the average full professor, with perhaps 20 years of teaching experience, 10 books to his name and a world-wide reputation, may get \$7,000, if he's lucky.

I don't think it's too much to ask that a football coach live on a full professor's salary, with perhaps a special traveling expense account. If the salaries of big-time coaches could be scaled with those of other faculty members, coaches would enjoy much more faculty and administration acceptance and job security.

But here again, this is difficult to implement individually. How can you get a good coach if he can get twice the money somewhere else? This is another important consideration for the NCAA, perhaps in conjunction with the American Association of University Professors.

Position Of Administration . . .

Finally, I think the administration of each school should stand squarely behind its athletic department, and particularly its coaches and their contracts. It is responsible for the entire college program of which intercollegiate sports is one part.

The only reasons why a college administration cannot stand behind its athletic department is if it's ashamed of the department's unethical practices or if it is too weak or politically conscious to back an unpopular coach or athletic policy.

In the former case the college officials have the authority, if not the immediate responsibility, of cleaning up the department. In the latter situation the school authorities must keep constantly in mind that whenever or wherever the public (most likely a few fanatic fans and powerful alumni) dictates a school's football program, hiring and firing a coach at will, the entire program becomes a tragic burlesque of the ideals of American education.

The Final Result . . .

I think if these points were carried through they would integrate the athletic department and the coaches more closely within the academic sphere of the University, relieve administration officials, athletic directors and coaches of alumni, newspaper and special interest pressures and stabilize the vicious recruiting program.

By the way, my "authoritative sources" tell me that Pete Elliott, former Michigan star and assistant of coach at Oklahoma, will definitely be our next grid coach. They tell me, too that negotiations have been going on for some time.

Thinclads Finish Sixth

The University of Nebraska placed 6th in the Missouri Valley 1955 freshman postal two-mile run. The highest place Nebraska could manage to pull was a seventh place by Frank Morrison, who came in with a time of 10:02.6.

This time was one minute and two-tenths of a second behind the winner, Jack Schroeder of Kansas.

Nebraska entered five men. They were Morrison, Lathen Mortensen, Knolly Barnes, Carry Hoffman, and Jesse Navarro.



Courtesy Lincoln Star
REX EKWALL . . . leads cage squad as they prep for season opener against powerful Iowa Saturday.

Fraternity Ball-University Football Team

FIRST TEAM	POS.	SECOND TEAM
Jerry Dierks—Phi Gamma Delta	E	Dave Mossman—Phi Delta Theta
Bill Clark—Delta Tau Delta	E	Dave Alkire—Phi Kappa Psi
Ken Moorehead—Beta Theta Pi	G	John Anderson—Sigma Phi Epsilon
John Parmalee—Sigma Phi Epsilon	C	Glen Place—Beta Theta Pi
Bob Lamphere—Delta Tau Delta	B	Rich Newell—Sigma Phi Epsilon
Miller Whitham—Beta Theta Pi	B	Jim Whitaker—Sigma Chi
Tom Weekes—Beta Theta Pi	B	Herb Mayer—Phi Kappa Psi
HONORABLE MENTION—Walt Blore, Phi Gamma Delta; Sam Olson, Delta Tau Delta; Sam Jensen, Beta Theta Pi; Ken Groves, Sigma Alpha Epsilon; Larry Lester, Delta Upsilon; Warner Olson, Phi Kappa Psi; Chuck Tomson, Delta Tau Delta; Rich Newell, Sigma Phi Epsilon.		

All University:

Betas Form Nucleus Of All-B Selections

By BOB WIRZ
Staff Sports Writer

Beta Theta Pi, this years Class B intramural football champs lead th entire field as they placed three men on the All-Intramural Class B team as compared to two by runner up Delta Tau Delta and one each by Phi Gamma Delta and Sigma Phi Epsilon.

Ken Moorehead, Miller Whitham, and Tom Weekes were all members of the championship Beta's.

The third man in the first team backfield was Bob Lamphere who lead the Delt's to their runner up position. Lamphere was a speedy runner along with being a fine passer.

The center position went to John Parmalee of Sigma Phi Epsilon. John was strong defensively and was a very capable blocker. The ends were Jerry Dierks of

Phi Gamma Delta's rugged team and Bill Clark another member of the Delt's.

Dierks was a good blocker, excellent defensive end and a fine receiver who was credited with two safetys during the season.

Clark was without a doubt the best pass receiver in the B League's as he snagged passes many times to aid his team in a victory.

The second team was lead by center Glen Place another member of the championship Beta's who gave Parmalee a real spirited battle for first team honors.

Others on the second unit included Jim Whitaker, fine Sigma Chi back; Rich Newell, Sigma Phi Epsilon back; Dave Mossman Phi Delta Theta, another glue finiged pass receiving end; guard John Anderson of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and two members of Phi

Kappa Psi in end Dave Alkire and back Herb Mayer.

Honorable mention went to Walt Blore, Phi Gamma Delta; Ken Groves of Sigma Alpha Epsilon; Larry Lester of Delta Upsilon; Warner Olson, Phi Kappa Psi; Sam Olson of Delta Tau Delta; and Sam Jensen of Beta Theta Pi.

Husker Quint Drills Hard

By WALT BLORE
Staff Sports Writer

Height — or lack of such is the problem that faces Coach Jerry Bush as he readies his Cornhusker cage squad for their December 3 contest with the Iowa Hawkeyes, defending Big Ten champs.

Rex Eckwall and Don Smidt are the two cagers that stretch 76 inches into the stratosphere. Eckwall is a junior letterman and was a rebounding standout last year.

Smidt is a sophomore who stepped into the starting pivot position after big Jim Thom, 6-8, failed to live up to advanced notices.

Chuck Smith, co-captain and a 6-1 jumping jack will give added support to the rebounding corps. Senior Norm Coufal has nailed down one of the starting guard berths.

The other guard slot is up for grabs with Soph Gary Reimers getting the nod so far.

The game Saturday will be televised nationally and starting time will be 2 p.m.

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