

Two Right Halfbacks:

Greenlaw And Naviaux Earn Weekly Plaudits

By BOB WIRZ
Staff Sports Writer

A pair of right halfbacks on the Nebraska football team have been selected as this week's "Stars of the Week."

Willie Greenlaw, a repeat selection, and Larry Naviaux, Lexington sophomore, have been chosen for this honor.

Greenlaw last week was chosen with fellow easterners Frank Nappi and George Harshman. Naviaux becomes a winner for the first time this season.

Both men played large roles in the Huskers upset win over Kansas last Saturday.

Greenlaw again for the second straight week looked like the Willie of old with his fine running and passing. He was a threat to the Kansas defense all afternoon with his razzle-dazzle play. Greenlaw averaged over 6.0 yards per carry in the contest along with completing three of four passes good for 50 yards and one touchdown.

The first time the Huskers had the ball Nappi passed 30 yards to his home-town buddy Greenlaw to set up the initial score. Later on in the afternoon Greenlaw passed to Nappi on the same play for a 16 yard touchdown.



Courtesy Lincoln Star GREENLAW



Nebraskan Photo NAVIAUX

As I See It

By WALT BLORE
Sports Editor

Coach Pete Elliott and his Cornhuskers deserve many more plaudits than they have been receiving from the fans this fall.

The newspapers have been devoting much space to the amazing comeback staged in the last half of the season by the Huskers.

Yet, the spirit seems to lag among the alumni and students. When Nebraska gets behind the followers start "selling the farm" as far as the game goes. Fortunately, the players have had a different attitude and the showing proves it. What is wrong with the fans?

Actually, it's hard to lay a finger on one thing and say that is it. Some of the apathy may lay in the fact that people who have always experienced hard times in their desire to see a great team at Nebraska. It comes from expecting too much.

Since 1953, The Cornhuskers have had better than a .500 season. True, they have lost games to the big teams, but they have always played a harder schedule than their conference mates.

Colorado has had good seasons but they have come at the expense of smaller teams such as Colorado A & M, Utah, and Arizona. While these teams have good reputations for turning out gridiron powers, they are not as strong as Ohio State, Minnesota, Pittsburgh, and Texas A & M. The results of playing tougher teams shows up on the overall season results.

Because the Huskers have met tough foes, they have learned what mistakes they made. A Big Ten team doesn't allow an opponent to make many mistakes. About one miscue is all they need to break a game wide open.

If you don't believe what's been said so far, here is further proof. In 1954, the Huskers started off with what some coaches claimed was one of the best games played all year when they were downed 19-7 by Minnesota, but later lost to Kansas State.

Just before the Nebraska-Colorado game that year many Buff followers were looking toward the Oklahoma game the week following the Husker "slaughter" as they put it. "Hadn't Nebraska lost two games, one to Kansas State, they asked. The Big Red had, but that wasn't about to stop the team from the plains.

Spirit Reigns . . .

There were a lot of long faces in Boulder that afternoon as the Huskers smothered the Buffs 20-6.

Although the record against non-league opponents has not been spectacular, it has been something loyal Cornhuskers should be proud of. Against heavy odds, the Huskers have made a good showing.

Pete Elliott's team pulled themselves up from the depths of defeat at Ohio State in the second half and gave satirical Woody Hayes something to say about them.

Three weeks later, the Big Red pushed Indiana all over the field the first half only to have the Hoosiers come back in the last half to win 19-14. But, all this time the young Huskers were learning.

They learned for instance, that once you had a team down, you didn't let them get off the hook. They also realized that statistics didn't mean much and that playing tough in the clutches meant much more. So they let Missouri run all over the field but kept them from scoring and upset the Tiger's Orange Bowl Express.

Last Saturday, they spoiled Kansas' Homecoming while the Jayhawks were winning the battle of statistics and spirit.

They have applied an old saying, "when the going gets tough, the tough get going."

The team has remained constantly fired up in spite of discouraging results.

The team has, but the fans haven't.

Jerry Bush, Husker cage coach, has taken it into his own hands to do something about university spirit.

This, in itself, should be an incentive to the fans and especially the students.

It's heartening to know that in the present day athletic situation where many coaches are out to get the best deal and hang the school (a la Boyden Watt et al) that such men exist as Messrs. Bush, Elliott and staff, Sharpe, etc.

Greenlaw also scored the final Husker TD of the afternoon a 6-yard plunge. This touchdown gave the Huskers their victory margin.

Willie also stood out on defense for the Huskers. He was especially effective in this department when the opponents started to throw the football.

The return of the Portland, Maine senior, to top form has helped to perk up the Nebraskan's as they have pulled two upsets in a row.

Greenlaw has now gained 222 yards rushing for the season after a very slow start. He ranks third in the conference in punt returns with a 16.0 average for four returns.

Last year as a junior he was chosen as an all conference back by coaches and writers around the Big-Seven circuit who had seen him perform. Willie also is a baseball star on coach Tony Sharpe's Nebraska nine.

Greenlaw was an all-state selection in Maine for three years before coming to Nebraska. He is married and has a 2 1/2 year old daughter.

Naviaux continued to play fine ball Saturday and his punt returns, pass interceptions, and punting stood out against the Jayhawks.

One of the youngest men on the squad Naviaux twice intercepted Kansas passes to halt serious scoring drives. One time he tepted a pass over his shoulder on the five yard line and returned it some 30 yards. Another time he returned a pass 10 yards. In addition to this the hustling sophomore punted twice for over a 40 yard average. One of his left footed boots dropped dead on the Kansas 1/2 yard line.

Naviaux also returned a couple of punts to put Nebraska in contention.

The 6'0" 190 pounder ranks eighth in the conference in rushing with a total of 340 yards gained in 64 carries. He also is second in punting and punt returns. Naviaux has kicked eight times for a 42.6 average. In punt returns he has a 16.6 average.

Naviaux started the season with the number one unit and drew a lot of praise from the coaching staff. He was replaced only this week by the more experienced Greenlaw but continued to hustle and work hard.

Always a hard worker he lettered nine times at Lexington High School. He won three letters in basketball, football, and track along with playing baseball on the Junior Legion team. Naviaux was an All-Stater in basketball and ranked on the honor roll scholastically.

Big Seven Statistics

LEADING BALL CARRIERS				
Player	School	TC	Y	Avg
McDonald	Oklahoma	84	567	16.51
Thomas	Oklahoma	74	555	11.54
Brown	Nebraska	82	545	5.54
Bayuk	Colorado	95	537	9.528
Floyd	Kansas	102	529	37.522

LEADING PASSERS				
Player	School	Att.	Comp.	Int.
Hunter	Missouri	73	37	2
Strauch	Kansas	59	25	6
Harris	Oklahoma	25	27	1
Wilson	Kansas State	35	16	4
Corbin	Kansas State	26	5	5

LEADING PASS RECEIVERS				
Player	School	Catches	Yards	Int.
James	Missouri	25	250	0
Letcavias	Kansas	11	210	0
Reado	Kansas State	7	188	0
McDonald	Oklahoma	19	178	0
Thomas	Oklahoma	5	158	0

LEADING PUNTERS				
Player	School	Punts	Yards	Avg.
Pricer	Oklahoma	9	438	48.7
Naviaux	Nebraska	8	341	42.6
Dowler	Colorado	23	1364	41.3
Harshman	Nebraska	16	637	39.8
Rhodes	Kansas	19	732	38.5

LEADING PUNT RETURNS				
Player	School	Returns	Yards	Avg.
Marshall	Kansas	6	124	20.7
Naviaux	Nebraska	5	83	16.6
Greenlaw	Nebraska	4	64	16.0
Robinson	Kansas	4	63	15.7
Baker	Oklahoma	6	91	15.2

LEADING SCORERS				
Player	School	Tds	Con.	FG
Thomas	Oklahoma	14	0	0
McDonald	Oklahoma	12	0	0
Bayuk	Colorado	7	0	0
Kuhlman	Missouri	6	0	0
Floyd	Kansas	6	0	0

THE NEBRASKAN Sports

Sooners Boast All-American Prospect

Tommy McDonald, one of Oklahoma's hottest All-America prospects, zoomed into the lead as the Big Seven's top ground gainer conference statistics show today.

The Sooner halfback picked up 97 yards against Iowa State to boost his 7-game total to 551 yards on 84 carries. He was third on the list last week. His teammate, Clendon Thomas, remained in second with 74 for 544 yards.

John Bayuk of Colorado, who has been leading for weeks, dropped to fourth as he was held to a net 26 yards against Missouri. He now has run 95 times for 528 yards. Jerry Brown, Nebraska, is third with 92 totes for 540 yards.

National champion Oklahoma solidified itself further as the No. 1 rushing and total offense unit in the U.S. The Sooners are averaging 345.7 on the ground and 421.4 over-all. O.U.'s total offense is 2,950.

Missouri, Oklahoma's opponent this week, is second in total offense with an 8-game figure of 2,803 yards, and Colorado follows with 2,280 yards for eight games.

The Tigers face the unenviable task of having to defeat the Sooners and Kansas in order to gain the Orange Bowl assignment. An Oklahoma victory would send Colorado to Miami automatically.

In the individual scoring department Oklahoma's Thomas added a pair of touchdowns to boost his total production to 14, good for 84 points. McDonald also added a pair against the Cyclones to give him 12 for 72 points and second place. Bayuk was blanked but held third with seven touchdowns for 42 points. Hank Kuhlmann of Missouri has six touchdowns and one conversion for 37.

With a 48.7 average on nine kicks, Billy Pricer of O.U. leads in punting. Falling in behind are Larry Naviaux of Nebraska with eight for 42.6, Boyd Dowler of Colorado with 33 for 41.3, and George Harshman of Nebraska with 16 averaging 39.8. Bob Marshall of Kansas has averaged 20.7 yards in returning six punts to top that category. Naviaux has five averaging 16.6, and Willie Greenlaw of Nebraska is next with four for an average of 16 yards.

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