

Poll Precincts:

Sooners To Repeat As League Champs

In the 12th annual Big Eight pre-season poll, Oklahoma was selected to romp to its 10th consecutive undisputed league crown. This year, 67 area sportswriters and sports casters unanimously picked Oklahoma to sweep to its annual conference title.

The main discussion did not seem to be whether or not it would rip the conference as soundly as it has in the past decade. The general opinion of the poll seemed to be that the Sooners would completely humiliate the rest of the conference with its highly publicized depth and power.

Jack Payne, WOW-TV sportscaster, said, "The loss of talent from last fall's National Championship machine is overshadowed by a Varsity squad that smacks the alumni for the first time in a coon's age."

Ten poll members picked Oklahoma to march to the National championship for the second year in a row. Jay Simon of the Oklahoma City Oklahoman went so far as to predict the Sooners to extend its present victory string of 40 to 51 with a win in the Orange Bowl next New Year's Day.

Jack Bickham, Norman, Oklahoma Transcript, praising Bud Wilkinson's genius for building quarterbacks commented, "Bud probably could come up with an adequate signal-caller even if he had to go to the Anatomy department and build one out of spare parts."

In the race for second place, the tabulated vote did not pack the teams nearly as close as last

years balloting. Colorado, fresh from earning the Orange Bowl berth last year, was voted second by a landslide. Colorado was given 36 votes for second place while 3rd rated Kansas garnered only 16 votes. Chet Nelson, Rocky Mountain News; Howard Baxter, Boulder Camera, Hal Evans, Larned Tiller & Toiler, and Chuck Garrity, Denver Post, warned that the Buffs will be just as rugged, maybe more so with retention of a line backfield.

Missouri with 11 second place votes and 18 third place votes closely followed Kansas in the race for third and fourth places. Missouri dropped from last season's rating when they were picked to nip Nebraska and Kansas in the race for second.

Following Missouri were Nebraska, fifth; Kansas State, sixth; and Iowa State, seventh. Iowa State gathered 32 out of a possible 69 last place votes in the balloting for the cellar position.

Kansas and Missouri, the latter under new coach Frank Broyles, were mentioned as "most improved teams in the conference." Iowa State drew scant but raucous support from Dick Greene, WOL-TV, of Ames who voted last year's cellar club to leap all the way to third place. Four other sportscasters and sportswriters picked the Cyclones to finish as high as fifth.

It looks like another great year for Oklahoma. As John Cronley of the Oklahoma City Oklahoman stated, "No matter if they use the single wing or Platte river spread, the Sooners will run off and hide again."



Courtesy Lincoln Journal
Wilkinson ... Top choice

Williams Chooses Iowa U

Nebraska long range football plans were given a severe jolt when it was announced Tuesday that all-state back Virgil Williams of Omaha North High School will not attend the Lincoln school.

Williams said that he plans to enroll at the State University of Iowa and try to obtain an Iowa scholarship for the second semester. The Omaha prepster, who had earlier signed a grant-in-aid application at Nebraska, was declared scholastically ineligible because he did not rank in the upper two thirds of his high school graduating class.

Williams had visited with Husker coach Bill Jennings in Lincoln last week, it was learned, but since he could not receive any financial help he apparently decided to enroll at Iowa.

Opener Approaching:

Seven Key Men On Husker Injury List; Jennings Rates Dillard As Vastly Improved

Injuries still continue to plague the Cornhuskers, as they ready for their season's opener with Washington State Saturday, September 21. "Seven of my key men are on the injured list," stated Coach Bill Jennings. The injured men are End Clarence Cook, Guard Jerry Peterson, Guard Pat Fitzgerald, Guard Art Klein, Center LeRoy Zentic, Halfback Dean Flock and Fullback George Cifra.

Several sophomores were lauded by Jennings for their improving tool in the past week. These include Zentic, Tackle Don Olson, Tackle Duane Mongerson, Guard Dale Siemer, End Max Martz, End Roger Brede, Quarterback Harry Tolly, and Halfbacks Jim Hergenreiter and Bennie Dillard.

Dillard, a Texas speedster was on the varsity last year however he was injured in his first varsity game. He is still eligible for three more years of college football. Dillard, who is known for his terrific speed was advanced from the

fourth lineup to the first lineup. In practice Dillard has used his terrific speed to break away for several long runs.

Jennings said that the varsity would hold a light scrimmage either today or tomorrow behind closed doors. Going into today's scrimmage here are the three deep lineups released by Jennings:

The left ends are Bill Hawkins, Marlin Hilding, and Brede; left tackles Don Rhoda, Mongerson and Mike Cowan; left guards Stu Howarter, Jerry Peterson, and Selmer; centers Zentic, Dick McCasland, and Dick Prusia; right guards Klein, Don Kainpe, and Dick Klieber; right tackles Olson, Jerry Wheeler, and Mal Dohrman; right ends Mike Lee, Ray Engel, and Bill Tuning; quarterbacks are Tolly, George Harshman, and Roy Stinett; left halfbacks Dillard, Carroll Zaruba, and Hergenreiter; right halfbacks Larry Naviaux, Gene Sandage, and Martz; fullbacks Jerry Brown, Cifra, and Leo George.

presence is needed the most. Jennings said that although the team is injury ridden they have lost none of their hustle and aggressiveness.

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