

# Nebraska Mentor Blames Fans For Football Failures

Nebraska coach Bill Jennings Monday blamed Nebraska fans and the press for Nebraska's football misfortunes.

"Our boys haven't had anything good said about them since the Minnesota game. This hurts kids, it cuts down their desire," Jennings said.

"The effort has been there by our football team," Jennings added, "But I don't know how to keep everybody up week after week under these circumstances."

"All good teams, whether

in high school or college, have to have great backing. Our boys get a pat on the back one week and the next week nobody will talk to them.

"I think we're going down hill and 99 per cent of it is our problem. But I think one per cent of it is the problem of other people. That's why we tell our players not to read the newspapers and not to listen to anyone.

"This state can't ever be really great in anything. It's just too thinly populated."

"Our football team is about as good as anything else we're trying to do in this area.

"I have been asked how I feel about the Nebraska coaching job. I always say that I'm not worried, it's just like life, you know you're not going to get out alive.

"If we are ever going to accomplish anything, we must hang together, east and west. But we seem to be just like the world and are always fighting each other.

"I criticize our players and

our team in private, but I won't stand up here and criticize them in public because I know they tried."

## Daily Nebraskan Sports

### Sports Signals

By Hal Brown

Nebraska football coach Bill Jennings' blast yesterday at the fans of the state and the press as the cause of Husker football misfortunes is about as far off base as the Huskers head man could get.

Most people will agree that something is lacking in the Nebraska football team, but why blame the fans and the press? Why don't you look in your house, Coach Jennings, before you start blasting the fans of the state?

Nebraska fans have supported the football team better than most states would under similar circumstances. Fans have nearly filled the stadium for every home game this year despite a disappointing and completely boring type of football.

This corner can see no basis for Jennings' criticism when 30,000 or more fans turn out to watch the type of football he coaches game after game. Even with Saturday's rain more than 30,000 were in the stands at kickoff time.

What would Jennings do if he were in a place like Minnesota or Ohio State where the fans and press actually do persecute the coaches for failure to produce winners? He would not last as long as he has at Nebraska if he were coaching at several other schools in the country.

Jennings blames the fact that no one has said anything good about the players since the Minnesota game as a reason for the troubles.

#### Desire Hurt

I don't feel that this hurts the players desire and spirit nearly as much as having Archie Cobb off the bench and warming up as soon as the Huskers gain possession. What effect does this have on the players when they see a punter coming off the bench before they even have a chance to move the ball. It can hardly be anything but demoralizing.

How does Jennings expect to build poise and confidence in the players when he punts on third down from inside the opponents 35-yard line? Yes, Bill, this corner feels the fault with not being able to get desire in the players lies with you and not with the fans or the press.

How do the backs feel when they are asked to run into eight and nine-man lines for two plays and then see the punter trotting onto the field for a third-down kick? What happened to the ball control type of game that Jennings said the Huskers were going to play. Jennings stated before the season that Nebraska was going to control the ball, but the closest they have come to playing ball control is when they are warming up.

This corner does not blame the players because we think the potential is there if they just had an opportunity to use it and Jennings hasn't given them this chance. Bernie Clay was touted as an equal to all-American J. C. Caroline when he was at Illinois, but he hasn't had a chance here.

Pat Clare was a top high school back in Iowa and was given a hard rush by such football powers as Notre Dame. Yes, Notre Dame was a power then. In the Nebraska offense, Clare has not a chance to display his running speed.

Thornton was the outstanding back in Ohio, but since coming to Nebraska he has been hampered by the continual running of plays straight into eight and nine-man lines.

#### Lone Bright Spot

About the only bright spot in the Husker grid picture is that Bobby Reynolds played in the early 1950s and not in the past four seasons because it is very doubtful if he would have been an all-American in an offense such as Nebraska is using.

Jennings is not doing justice to the material he has on the squad. I will go along with the thought that Jennings is an outstanding recruiter, but he has not used the material to its best advantage after recruiting it.

Jennings talks about having trouble getting the players in a mood to win with the constant criticisms.

If Jennings showed a little of the anger and fire on the football field that he displays at Monday noon luncheons, maybe the Huskers would have a little more desire. The next time something happens on the field that isn't in favor of Nebraska, why don't you do something besides pulling your hat down over your head and look at the ground, Bill?

Nebraska hasn't had a winning season since Bill Glassford coached the Huskers to a 6-5 mark in 1954 and Nebraska fans certainly deserve better than this. Jennings has had four years now and if he can't produce something better than he is producing, it is time to start looking elsewhere.

If Jennings doesn't think the state is giving him a fair shake, he knows where the airport and the train depot are and I doubt if there are many Nebraskans who would be unhappy to see him go.



Brown

## Thornton Leads Husker Rushers; Clare Second

Thunder Thornton moved into the lead in Nebraska rushing statistics after seven games with a 4.2 yard average on 322 yards in 77 carries.

Pat Clare, who carried the ball only once against Missouri, is second to Thornton with a 4.1 mark. Clare has gained 110 yards on 27 plays.

Pat Fischer is third with 293 yards on 74 plays, an average of four yards per play.

Fischer is the leader in total offense with 436 yards in 101 plays. John Faiman has completed eight of 14 passes for 105 yards and a percentage of .571. Ron Meade has hit four of 7 for a .571 mark also.

### Nebraska Statistics

7 Games		PASSING		No. Yards Avg. TD	
Nebraska	Opponents	Att.	Comp.	Yds.	Per.
Faiman	14	8	271	105	0.1
Meade	7	4	271	32	0.1
Fischer	27	7	259	143	1.5
Dyer	1	0	0	0	0.0
Opp. Tot.	49	19	388	280	1.7
Nebraska	74	26	410	436	5.8

  

TOTAL OFFENSE		No. Yards Avg. TD	
Nebraska	Opponents	Plays	Yards
Fischer	74	301	322
Thornton	77	27	110
Clare	27	110	4.1
White	21	50	2.4
Dillard	15	97	6.5
Faiman	8	27	3.4
Clay	3	119	3.1
Powers	4	9	2.3
Meade	1	12	12.0
Martin	4	2	0.5
Ward	4	1	0.3
Opp. Tot.	348	1266	3.6
Nebraska	465	1816	3.9

  

PUNTING		No. Yards Avg. TD	
Nebraska	Opp.	No.	Yards
Cobb	28	281	35.8
Clare	2	39	19.5
Team	1	0	0.0
Opp. Tot.	50	1550	31.0
Nebraska	31	1280	41.3

  

RUSHING		No. Yards Avg. TD	
Nebraska	Opponents	Carries	Yards
Thornton	77	322	4.2
Fischer	74	301	4.1
Clare	27	110	4.0
Dyer	1	0	0.0
White	21	94	4.5
Dillard	15	74	4.9
Clay	3	119	3.9
Powers	4	9	2.3
Martin	4	2	0.5
Ward	4	1	0.3
Faiman	8	27	3.4
Opp. Tot.	348	1266	3.6
Nebraska	465	1816	3.9

  

TD Extra Points FG Tot		No. Yards Avg. TD	
Nebraska	Opp.	No.	Yards
Fischer	4	0	0
Dillard	2	0	0
Thornton	0	0	0
Meade	0	0	0
Toosgood	1	0	0
Opp. Tot.	10	57	5.7
Nebraska	10	57	5.7

  

PASS RECEIVING		No. Yards Avg. TD	
Nebraska	Opp.	No.	Yards
Dillard	15	97	6.5
Donovan	1	27	27.0
White	4	50	12.5
Purcell	2	33	16.5
Dyer	1	13	13.0
Ungerhoff	1	13	13.0
McDaniel	1	11	11.0
Comstock	2	21	10.5
Thornton	3	21	7.0
Clare	1	11	11.0
Powers	1	1	1.0
Opp. Tot.	10	390	39.0
Nebraska	31	436	14.1

  

PUNT RETURNS		No. Yards Avg. TD	
Nebraska	Opp.	No.	Yards
Fischer	3	194	64.7
Clare	3	20	6.7
Opp. Tot.	34	394	11.6
Nebraska	6	66	11.0

  

KICKOFF RETURNS		No. Yards Avg. TD	
Nebraska	Opp.	No.	Yards
Clay	5	215	43.0
Fischer	5	104	20.8
Dillard	1	18	18.0
White	4	69	17.3
Clare	1	11	11.0
Purcell	1	11	11.0
Comstock	1	11	11.0
Powers	2	13	6.5
Opp. Tot.	30	388	12.9
Nebraska	29	400	13.8

### —Meet The Husker Frosh—

## Portee Ranks Near Top With 4:14 Mile Clocking

By Janet Sack

One of the most promising freshmen distance runners at Nebraska in years is John Portee.

Portee, whose 4:14.6 mile rates him third in the nation, has been running for the past four and one-half years. As a freshman at Irvington Tech, a suburb of Newark, N.J., Portee "just went out for track." His times of 5:42, 5:03, 4:47, and 4:45 were not too impressive.

At the beginning of the cross country season in his junior year, he joined the Central Jersey Track Club. "This was the best thing I could have done because my times began to improve rapidly," Portee said.

Through the track club Portee was introduced to cross country. In his first cross country meet he took ninth place against college competition. Later that season Portee went on to place 15th in the state cross country meet.

During the indoor season he started running better. Portee ran and won several handicap meets in New York City. In the New Jersey State Indoor Meet he took second in the mile with a 4:33.

During the first outdoor meet of the season, Portee posted a 4:35 mile. As the season progressed he turned in faster times of 4:33 and then 4:31.

#### Second Fastest

At the Invitational Mile Run at Passaic, N.J., he ran the mile in the good time of 4:20.2. With this time Portee, as a junior, became the second fastest runner ever to run the mile in New Jersey.

A week later at the New Jersey State Outdoor Meet he placed first in Group 3 with a 4:25.2 mile.

In July before his senior year, Portee ran in the AAU Junior Nationals in Bangor, Maine. He placed third with a 4:19 mile. This was the best mile time in the New England States for a high school boy.

Through the Central Jersey Track Club, in his senior year, Portee ran cross country. In a five mile cross country AAU dual with Seton Hall University, he placed first with a 26:01.

Since Irvington Tech didn't have a cross country team Portee asked the school for permission to run for the

Central Jersey Track Club in the Seton Hall Prep Invitational Cross Country Meet.

Over that two and one-half mile course, he won by 50 ninth. A day later in the New Jersey State AAU Cross Country Meet over a five mile course, he won by 50 yards in 25:17.

A week later at the New Jersey State Cross Country Meet over two and one-half miles, Portee again took first in Group 3 with a 12:54.

#### Sets Record

Portee started the 1960 indoor season off on the right foot. In the first meet in New York City, he ran a 4:24 mile, breaking the meet record.

The following week Portee went to New York City for another meet but was disqualified because he had run a road race after the indoor season had started. During a fight between the newspapers in New York City and New Jersey, the rule that had disqualified him was proved to be just a New York City rule. It couldn't apply to Portee because he was from New Jersey.

Several weeks later Portee was allowed to run in the St. Francis Meet in New York City. His time was 4:25. His times were getting progressively slower because of a virus. At the New York Uni-

versity meet Portee took first in 4:27.

Then at the State Indoor Meet in the Jersey City Armory, Portee won the mile by 100 yards in 4:27.8. He broke the state record, but the virus was making him weaker and necessarily slower.

In the High School Junior Nationals, with the virus almost too much for him, Portee took fifth in the mile. This was the first time he was defeated in indoor competition in his senior year.

Ineligible to compete for Irvington Tech during the outdoor season because he turned 19, Portee ran all his outdoor meets for the Central Jersey Track Club.

#### Half-Miler

In an 880 special in Jersey City, Portee placed fourth with a 1:56 against Tom Murphy, who took first. This was the first half-mile Portee ever ran in competition.

A week later in another 880 special against Tom Murphy, he placed third with a 1:54.7. This time was his best half-mile up to this point.

In June, 1960, in Chatham, N.J., Portee ran in the Junior Olympic Invitational mile run. In winning this event in 4:14.6 Portee became the fastest New Jersey high school student ever to run the mile. This 4:14.6 placed him as the third best high school miler in the nation.

The day following the record breaking mile, he ran the New Jersey State AAU mile in the rain in 4:20.

For the next several weeks Portee went to Philadelphia, Pa., for meets. His mile times were 4:18 and 4:19. In an 880 race in Philadelphia, Portee ran the best half-mile in his career, 1:54.3, even though he placed third.

The slender six-footer from New Jersey said, "Some of what I have learned came from books, other runners, and coaches. I think the Central Jersey Track Club and its members helped develop me more than anything else."

Now, as a freshman at Nebraska, Portee has broken the unofficial freshman cross country record. Over a two-mile course, Portee with a 9:34.8, broke the old record of 9:36 held by Joe Mullins.

### Union Bowling Tournament Set Sunday Evening

A Scotch doubles bowling tournament will be held in the Student Union at 8 p.m. Sunday, according to Ron Gould, tournament committee chairman.

Each team will include one boy and one girl with each member rolling alternate balls and not alternate frames. The score for each team will be kept on the same line just as if one person were bowling alone.

The tourney will be limited to 16 teams and the deadline for registering is 5 p.m. Friday. Entrants may sign up at the games area of the Union by paying a fee of one dollar per couple.

Free refreshments will be served and the first and second place teams will receive trophies, Gould said.

### Pioneer, Naiberk Win Horseshoes

Pioneer Co-op captured the All-University championship trophy in horseshoe singles and Eldon Naiberk, Alpha Tau Omega, won the All-University championship by defeating runner-up Raymond Grandon, Pioneer Co-op.

Runner-up to Pioneer is Alpha Tau Omega. Theta Xi was third, Phi Delta Theta fourth, and Beta Theta Pi, fifth.

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IM Cage Meeting There will be a meeting of all independent men wishing to play intramural baseball today at 5 p.m. in 114 Physical Education.

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Entries for intramural basketball teams are due today in 102 Physical Education at 5 p.m.

An entry fee of \$10 is required with each entry sheet which should also list the names, addresses, phone numbers, and hours carried by each player.

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## Semi-final Play Begins In Football

Ten intramural tournament football games have been played as of last Friday.

Last Tuesday Canfield tripped Smith 19-6 and Fairfield won by forfeit over Seaton 1-0.

Wednesday, Phi Gamma Delta, undefeated in league play, lost to Cornhusker 7-6. Sigma Alpha Mu topped Sigma Chi 27-6. Alpha Tau Omega defeated Ag Men 49-13, and Phi Kappa Psi won over Pioneer 31-13.

Benton defeated Canfield 6-0 Thursday and Selleck won over Fairfield 25-7.

Phi Kappa Psi squeezed past Cornhusker 8-7 in an overtime, and Alpha Tau Omega defeated Sigma Alpha Mu 21-12 in action Friday.

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