

Nebraska All-American Wayne Meylan forces a fumble from Oklahoma State quarterback Ron Johnson.



Pity poor Charlie Brown as he is thrown for a loss by Nebraska's Black Shirt defensive unit during the Huskers' 35-0 pasting of the Missouri Tigers.

Season In Review . . .

Nebraska's Fortunes Repeat History

That history repeats itself may not be the farthest thought from the minds of Cornhusker football fans.

For the Huskers' bid for back-to-back perfect seasons was ruined by a one-point margin as the Oklahoma Sooners, on Thanksgiving Day, defeated the 1966 Big Eight Champions 10-9, the same team that deprived Nebraska of another undefeated season in 1964.

And now, another chance for that axiom to occur looms before the Husker football team—Alabama.

Nebraska's fifth straight bowl appearance was the prize for a 9-1 season that had Nebraska in the role of being "the team to beat" in every game.

Nebraska opened the 1966 season with a hard fought battle against Texas Christian. The Horned Frogs, with much of a fine team returning from last year, had aspirations for a good season. But the Huskers subdued the Texans, 14-10, and started the season on a winning note.

Utah State, another pre-season pick for a great season, came to Lincoln with that thought in mind and gave Nebraska some anxious moments. Deadlocked 7-7 in the third quarter, both the Huskers and the Utags had trouble getting their offenses working. Larry Wachholtz kicked a field goal with 46 seconds in the third quarter to start a defensive barrage that left the Aggies bewildered:

Wayne Meylan blocked a punt, setting up a Nebraska TD; Wachholtz returned a punt for 72 yards to score a TD for the first time in his career and the fiery little Husker, later to be named All-American, intercepted a pass that set up Nebraska's last touchdown to win 28-7; and the Husker black-shirts limited the Utah State rushing offense to zero yards.

Playing at Ames, Iowa had always been a chore for Nebraska and 1966 was no exception. The Cyclones held Nebraska's scoring power to two Wachholtz field goals and returned an intercepted pass for six points to tie Nebraska 6-6. It took a driving 36-yard run by Harry Wilson to put Nebraska ahead and the Huskers won 12-6.

Badger Breeze
Things were somewhat easier at Madison, Wis., where Nebraska won 31-3. But the Badgers made things rough at the beginning, tying 3-3 in the opening quarter. Ben Gregory made his season debut in the offense and scored the tie-breaking TD. Meylan blocked another punt, this one in the endzone, for more points as the Big Red breezed past its Big Ten opponent, as it has for five years.

But Kansas State, destined for another role at the bottom of the conference standings, had other ideas about the Huskers. In a Homecoming battle before 64,108 fans, Nebraskans

watched a 14-0 first half lead (helped by another blocked-punt recovery in the end zone by All-American Meylan) dwindle to 14-10, as the Wildcats fought to upset the Huskers.

Gregory scored in the fourth quarter and the Huskers led 21-10. But the 'Cats weren't through as a 55-yard pass on the closing play of the game put Kansas State on the Nebraska eight yard line.

Easy Half?
And this was supposed to be the easy half of Nebraska's schedule.

Colorado, picked as the probable stumbling block for Nebraska, piled a 12-point lead over the undefeated Huskers and it seemed that Nebraska was facing defeat for the first time. But the dauntless Huskers, staging one of the most magnificent comebacks in Nebraska football history, scored two touchdowns in the last period and Nebraska emerged a 21-19 victor.

Missouri came to Lincoln to test the Huskers on national television. But the mighty Huskers played their outstanding game of the year, with offensive power that crushed the Tiger's hopes of victory, and Nebraska overpowered Mizou 35-0.

Although never out of the driver's seat, Nebraska had to settle for an 11-point victory over Kansas. The Jayhawks scored a TD with less than a minute remaining but Nebraska won 24-13.

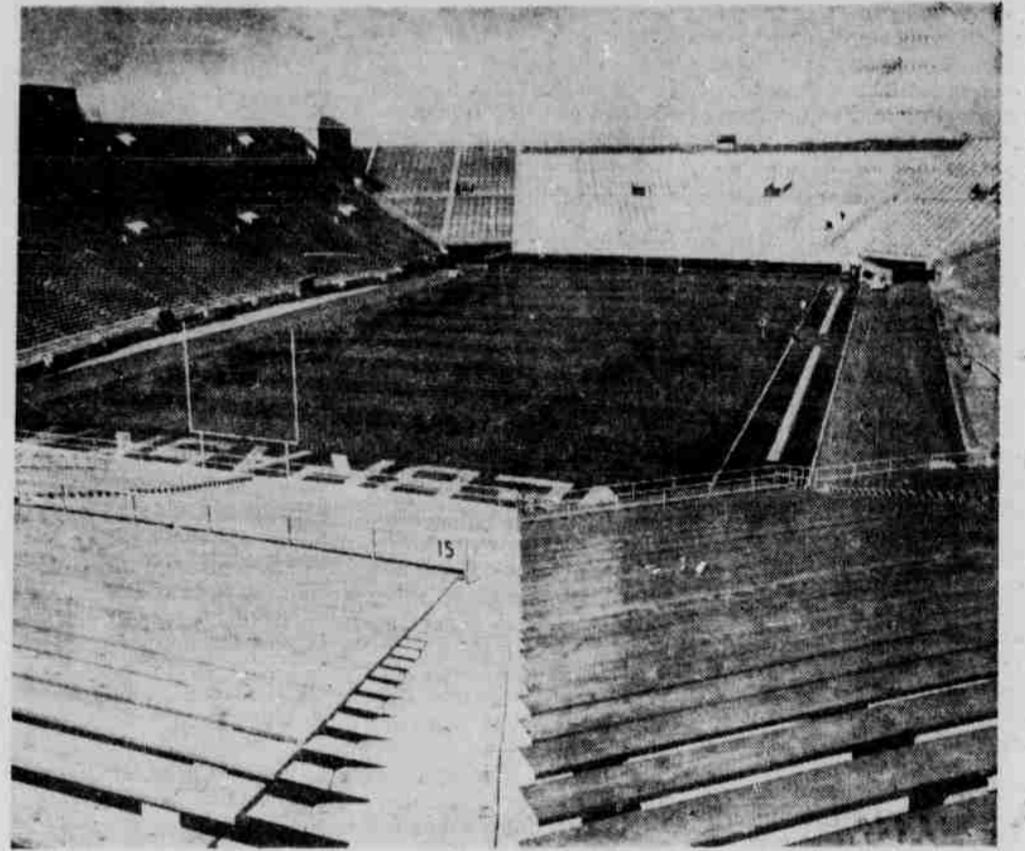
However Nebraska moved to the Number Four spot in the national ratings. And bowl talk was in the air.

Oklahoma State, always a thorn in Nebraska's side, came to Lincoln to test the high-flying Huskers. But the Huskers, playing before an all-time record crowd of 65,102, dominated the game and won 21-6. Nebraska's record stood at 9-0.

Sooner Revenge . . . On Thanksgiving Day, be-

fore 40,000 Sooners hungry for Corn and fifty million television viewers filled with turkey, Nebraska fell, 10-9, to the revamped Oklahomans. But the Huskers were still the Big Eight champions, the fourth year in a row.

For the 24 seniors on the 1966 football squad it was a career record of 28-2 (in regular season play) for three years as Huskers.



The "Corn Bowl" . . . With "Big Red" fans clamoring for tickets, Nebraska's Memorial Stadium was expanded to seat 63,000 for the 1966 season.



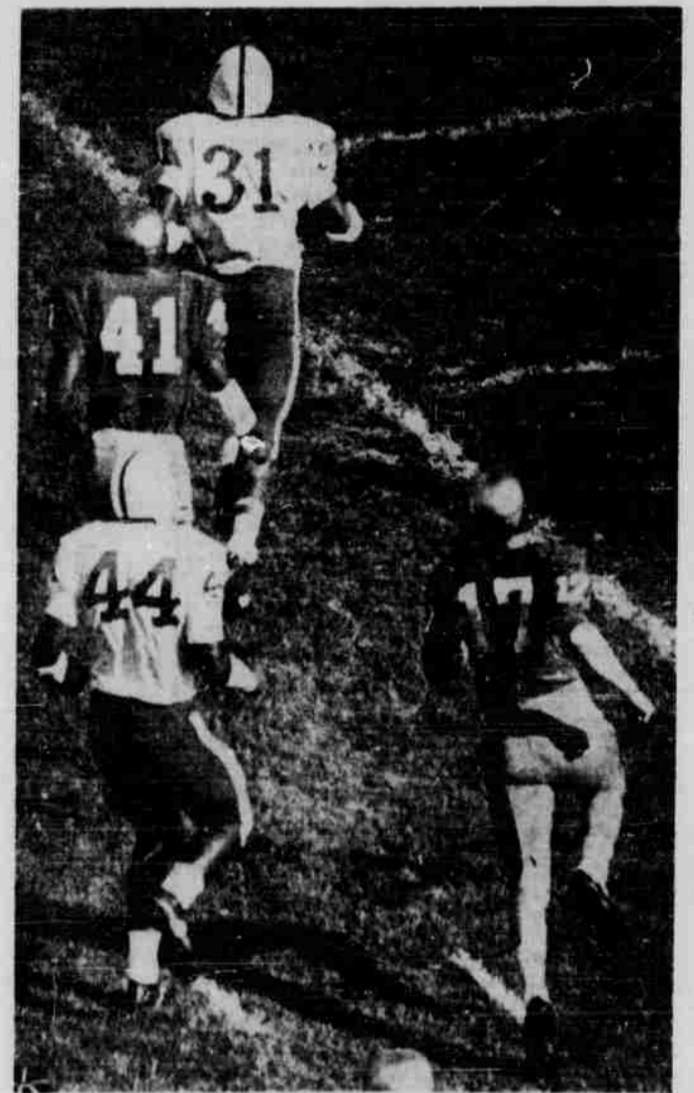
There were some tense moments in Nebraska's Homecoming game Oct. 15 with Kansas State as shown by cheerleader Don Pfeiffer and Pom Pon girl Kathy Henderson, but the Huskers beat the Wildcats 21-10.



Tight end Dennis Morrison scores two vital touchdowns (above) in Nebraska's 14-10 win over Texas Christian and (below) in the Huskers' 21-19 victory against Colorado Buffaloes at Boulder.



Huskers descend Fieldhouse steps for a mid-week practice session.



Harry Wilson nears the goal line on a 36-yard touchdown run which gave Nebraska a 12-6 win over Iowa State at Ames.



Brilliant Husker safety Larry Wachholtz (36) begins a 72-yard touchdown punt return in Nebraska's 28-7 victory over the Utah State Aggies.