



Glover... "I've got to keep showing 'em who's best."

Glover faces star responsibilities

by Jim Johnston

Rich Glover is facing the responsibilities of being a star.

Few people heard anything about Glover last year. He was playing defensive tackle behind All-Big Eight selection Dave Walline.

BUT DURING spring practice, Glover was switched to middle guard. Now his name is a household word in Nebraska and other Big Eight states.

Some opposing coaches say it's not fair for Glover to be playing college football. He should be a pro.

After the game against Oklahoma, Nebraska defensive end John Adkins said, "If Oklahoma center Tom Brahaney is an All-American, then Glover is all-pro."

ALONG WITH these verbal plaudits, Glover has received honors as national lineman of the week by the wire services and Sports Illustrated. He has also been named to every All-Big Eight team and most All-American units.

Glover received yet another award this week. He was selected as the top college lineman in the nation by the Washington, D.C. Touchdown Club. Rich left for Washington Friday morning to speak to the group of 1,000 businessmen Friday night.

Glover doesn't consider himself a world traveler. He's not too fond of making speeches, either.

"**I'VE GOT** the speech written down on a little piece of paper and I'm going to try to memorize it on the plane on the way to Washington," Glover said Wednesday after a brief workout.

"All I'm going to say is thanks and then hope they ask some questions. I'm not too nervous now, but I'll probably be real shook when I get in front of the group. I'll tell you one thing, though, I'd rather play a football game than give a speech."

Giving speeches is not the

only responsibility a publicized athlete faces. Glover joined teammate Larry Jacobson on the Bob Hope TV Show Thursday night (filmed last week).

"**ALL I DID** was give my name and say where I'm from," said Glover. "That's all there was to it, but I was still nervous."

Although Glover sets high goals for himself, he didn't expect such fortunes during his junior season.

"I wanted to make All-Big Eight," said Glover. "I was hoping to make All-American my senior year, but I didn't expect this much attention this year."

The publicity hasn't created any special pressure for Glover. He hasn't let it go to his head.

"**I GUESS** people expect you to play better when they read about you in the paper," said Glover, "but I don't mind it. It just makes me play harder."

Before the Nebraska-Oklahoma game, Glover received perhaps more national publicity than any other college lineman this season.

Tom Brahaney, Oklahoma's All-American center, was supposed to be the one to stop Glover. As it turned out, however, Glover put the skids on Brahaney and stopped Oklahoma's inside game.

"**I HAD** never heard about Brahaney until after the Kansas State game," said Glover. "Some writer from Oklahoma said they had a big center who could stop me. I just had to show 'em who was best."

Glover has been doing that a lot this season. But what about the Orange Bowl and what about next season?

"I'll just have to keep trying harder," said Glover. "People are counting on me now. I've got to keep showing 'em who's best."

SMU challenges Huskers at Coliseum Saturday

For those of you who have been spoiled by a national college football championship and a 31-game unbeaten string, a basketball team with a 1-3 record probably doesn't sound too appetizing.

Even though it's December and too cold to play football in the Midwest, Nebraskans are still thinking about football before basketball. And who can blame them? The Cornhuskers are the No. 1 grid team in the nation and will be taking part in the second game of the decade within five weeks.

HUSKER basketball coach Joe Cipriano realizes the situation. He realizes that Nebraska fans have enjoyed nothing short of the best this fall. Cipriano's trying to compete with that attraction during the basketball season.

Husker fans aren't speaking too favorably of the basketball team this season. If the Huskers don't bounce back against Southern Methodist Saturday night, it could turn into a long season.

Game time at the Coliseum is 7:35 p.m. Saturday. It's possibly the most important game so far this season for the Huskers.

"**MISTAKES** have hurt us in the first four games," said Cipriano. "We have to stop those mistakes if we want to start winning."

But bouncing back against SMU will be no easy task. The Mustangs own a 2-1 record this season and feature a running team which compares to San Diego State and Wichita State, two teams which dealt Nebraska back to back losses at the Coliseum last weekend.

The Huskers couldn't keep up with those other two running teams. Cipriano said

Nebraska isn't used to playing against good running teams.

SATURDAY could be another lesson in running.

Led by 6-8 senior David Miller, the Mustangs have scored wins over Austin College (110-69) and Vanderbilt (89-69) before dropping a 102-87 decision to Oklahoma City Wednesday night.

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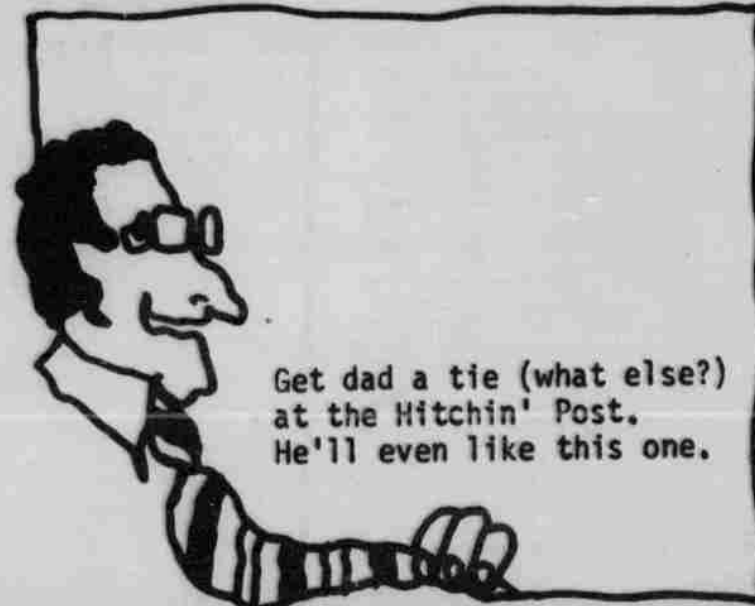
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