

VETS

Early team stats

By Karen Krien
karen.k@nwkansas.com

With the forming of the "Yoke Bowl" competition between Rawlins County/Atwood and St. Francis, *The Herald* staff was digging into old issues and searching the school's activity director's office for information. Unfortunately, the older *Saint Francis Herald* issues didn't always follow the football season game by game.

However, at the high school, photos of the 1919 and 1923 Cheyenne County High School football teams were obtained. According to the 1919 issue of *The Saint Francis Herald*, there was information on two of the football games. They played Benkelman and the Indians came out winning 20 to 7. Making touchdowns were Kermit Rusco, "Cannon Ball" Neitzel and Chick Wilber.

The team played Atwood in St. Francis. The score was: Cheyenne County High School 19, Rawlins County, 0. No first names were given but making touchdowns were Neitzel, Andrews and Wilber.

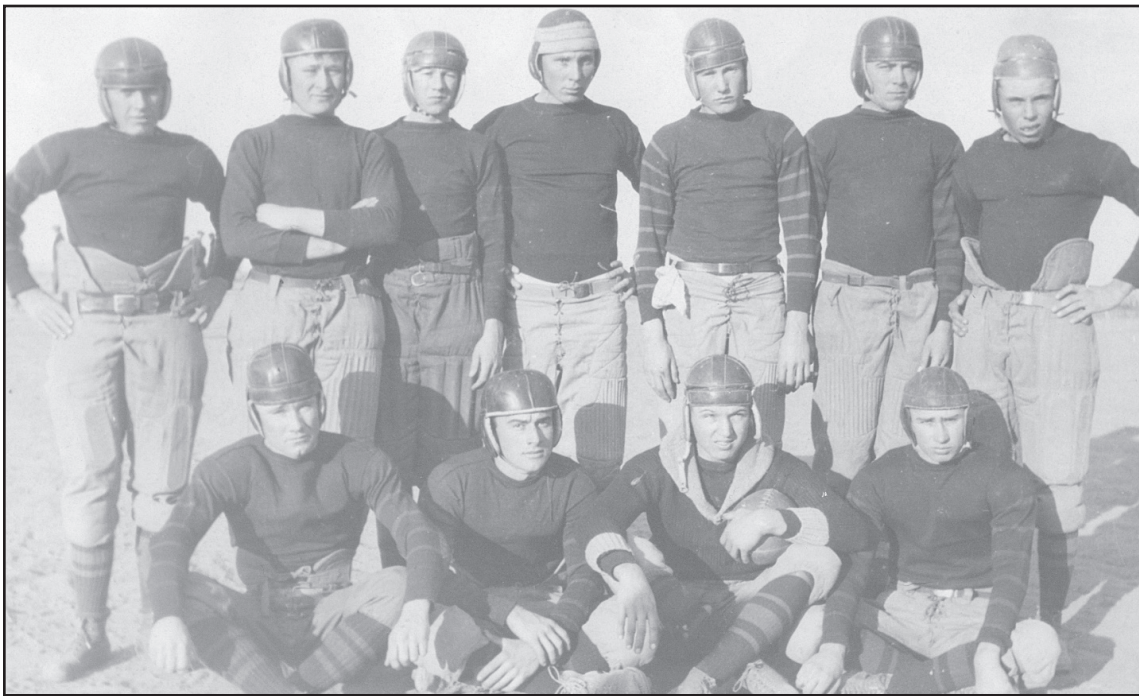
Football - 1923

In 1923, in what appears to be a class yearbook, the following article, in part, was written about the undefeated 1923 champion football team.

In football, the Cheyenne County Indians (note — not St. Francis Indians) forced every team to bow down to them during the season. An even greater feat than the wonder team of last year which went through the season with only one defeat and that caused by the Norton crack artists.

This year was nothing short of a wonder year and the fans of the city and community had their eyes open in the Oberlin and Goodland games. The dope was about even in both games but the Indians went in and just naturally out played them.

The Holyoke game on thanksgiving Day was certainly an idea game for 10 of the boys to finish their high school career. It was the best game of the season both with respect to closeness of score and all-around play.



1919 FOOTBALL TEAM — Front row (l to r): Frank Cook, Roscoe Andrews, Kermit Rusco, Harry Neitzel; back row: Edwin Schields, Jim Cook, Harmon Kellum, Alva Johnson, Ernest Burchert, Howard Bear and W.R. Wilber. This photo was courtesy of the St. Francis Community High School. On the photo, it was noted that there was no photo of the first football team in 1918 and 1919.



1923 FOOTBALL TEAM — Back row (l to r): Cleland (coach); Burchett, halfback; Heffner, center; Gienger, tackle; Zeilke, guard; Johnson, guard; middle: Wilson, half back; Rieb, utility; McClure, full back; Chilson, end; Baker, end; front: Dunn, end; Murren, tackle (captain); Tapp quarter.

The Indians made themselves famous by outwitting the other teams and they used the Notre Dame shift and also their forward passing system.

The Goodland game was certainly a "sight for sore eyes," although we failed to make as many yards from scrimmage, we won 23 to 0, mainly by pulling the puzzling, well-executed plays for which we were noted. In that game as well as many others, we knew what it meant to fight when backed up against our own goal line.

One thing that made our football team a championship contender was

due to the wonderful spirit of team work and cooperation. We were all for one and one for all, which all goes to show that a team that "won't be beat, can't be beaten." The best reputation that the team gained this year was their clean, fair-minded, good sportsmen type of play, of which any school could well be proud. They were commended after each game for the clean treatment of their opponents.

At the beginning of the season, we could find no individual starts but all just mediocre material, which is the best material for a good team after all. We learned the spirit of team-

work and finally it developed into a real machine where each man had something to do and did it well.

While the forward passing game was very much in evidence, the other style of play was not altogether discarded, and at times when the passing game was temporarily checked, the most baffling attack of line smashing and off tackle plays and end runs were brought into action.

The 1923 record was
St. Francis 6-Atwood 0
St. Francis 13-Wray 7
St. Francis 14-McDonald 6
St. Francis 14-Oberlin 0
St. Francis 7-Benkelman 2

Continued from Page 1

Bill Hilt

Mr. Hilt said he was in the Army from 1941 to 1945. At the end of his tour, he was 30 miles from the Russian border. Mr. Hilt was in five major battles/campaigns including Normandy, Northern France, Ardennes (Battle of the Bulge) Rhineland and central Europe. According to the Cheyenne County Veteran's book, Mr. Hilt's battalion landed on Omaha Beach on June 12, 1944, and fought through northern France. His 671st Field Artillery Battalion (155 Howitzer) was taken to General Patton's Army in northern France, both of which were sent to help the Battle of the Bulge.

Monday, Mr. Hilt talked about how cold it was. If he kept walking, he kept his feet from freezing.

Buster Jenkins

Buster Jenkins, formerly of southeastern Colorado, was in the Army between 1942 and 1945. He fought in the Philippines and New Guinea where he was a machine gun section chief. He was injured, receiving shrapnel in his back. He received the Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

Mr. Jenkins had little to say at the veterans celebration on Monday. His son, Carl, said he rarely talked about his wartime experiences.

Henry Schirmer

Henry Schirmer was the only son of German immigrants. His daughter Relda Galli, on Monday, told that it bothered his parents that he was going to war in their homeland.

Mr. Schirmer was inducted into the Army in 1942. He was a field lineman, repairing telephone lines. He was awarded a Bronze Star for gallantry in action. Mrs. Galli said that her father's commander had ordered them to go up and restring the lines. The bullets were flying and no one wanted to go but Mr. Schirmer went up and the other followed his lead and the lines were repaired.

Mr. Schirmer had a Nazi flag which, when going through one of the villages following the war, he jumped up and yanked the flag down. He said the villagers

cheered.

Mr. Schirmer had grown up speaking German. When the war was over, Mr. Schirmer stayed in German for another six months where he was an interpreter and translator for the United States Military Forces.

Glenn Glasco

Glenn Glasco was inducted into the Army and went to basic training at Camp Roberts, Calif. With emotion, he told about sailing under the Golden Gate Bridge on a new ship and wondering if he would ever come back.

He did come back but not before seeing action. He was promoted to sergeant and squad leader during the Philippine Liberation Campaign. He said he had 18 men under him. The combat team saw war at Leyte, Mindanao, Luzon and other islands in the Philippines. He was wounded in action at Mindanao.

He told about being lifted by a crane onto a hospital ship. He was asked if he was able to go home because of his injury. No, he said, the fighting wasn't over.

Mr. Glasco did come home in October 1946.

Quotes

"Emotion has taught mankind to reason."

— Marquis de Vauvenargues

"Life is just a series of trying to make up your mind."

— Timothy Fuller

"Parents learn a lot from their children about coping with life."

— Muriel Spark

"Let others praise ancient times; I am glad I was born in these."

— Ovid

"I don't know the key to success, but the key to failure is trying to please everybody."

— Bill Cosby

"A mistake is evidence that someone tried to do something."

— Anon.

"We cannot solve life's problems except by solving them."

— M. Scott Peck

"There isn't any formula or method. You learn to love by loving -- by paying attention and doing what one thereby discovers has to be done."

— Aldous Huxley

Want a new way to bring customers of Northwest Kansas to your doorstep?



Ask Casey McCormick I'll be visiting your business or call me at:

The Saint Francis Herald

785-332-3162

310 W. Washington St. Francis, Kan.

RAWLINS COUNTY, KS LAND AUCTION

1040 +/- Acres, Cropland, Grassland & Improvements
Friday, December 5, 2008 @ 10 a.m.

Auction Location: Columbian Hall, Atwood, KS
Land Location: From the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 25 & 36, go 11 mi. North on Hwy. 25, then 1/4 mi. East to improvements on Tract 1.
Sellers: Caroline M. Peterson, Revocable Trust

TRACT 1: A tract of land located in the SE 1/4 of SW 1/4 of 8-1-33, approx. 10 ac. grassland m/l with 1457 sq. ft. home w/full basement, 40' x 64' steel building & other outbuildings.

TRACT 2: SW 1/4 of 8-1-33, less Tract 1, consisting of approx. 139.49 ac. cropland.

TRACT 3: Combination of Tracts 1 & 2

TRACT 4: NE 1/4 of 8-1-33, consisting of approx. 153.49 ac. cropland.

TRACT 5: NW 1/4 of 9-1-33, consisting of approx. 144.33 ac. cropland, 11.49 ac. grassland.

TRACT 6: NW 1/4 of 17-1-33, consisting of approx. 106.63 ac. cropland, 47.74 ac. grassland.

TRACT 7: S 1/2 of 18-1-33, consisting of approx. 284.78 ac. cropland, 11.94 ac. grassland.

TRACT 8: E 1/2 of NW 1/4 of 24-1-34, consisting of approx. 67.13 ac. cropland, 10.89 ac. grassland.

For complete sale bill visit our web site at: www.gladrealestate.com
For additional information and a tour of the land, contact Rocky Hayes at:

GLAD REAL ESTATE

415 STATE, BOX 173 ATWOOD, KS 67730

ROCKY HAYES, AUCTIONEER

Office 785-626-2039 Home: 785-626-9600 Cell: 785-626-4022

McCook Farm & Ranch Expo

Wednesday, November 19, 2008 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Thursday, November 20, 2008 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Red Willow County Fairgrounds in McCook, Nebraska

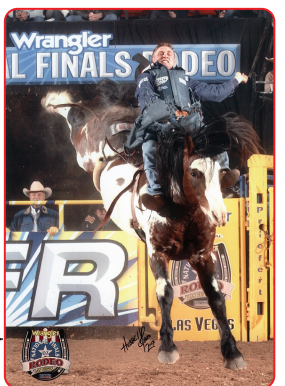
Brought To You By These Corporate Sponsors!



Miss Rodeo America
Amy Wilson
will be signing autographs on
Wednesday, November 19
from 10:30 to 1:30



Stock Dog Demonstrations
On Thurs., Nov. 20



Steven Dent, 2XX NFR Qualifier
and PRCA All-Around Rookie of the Year
will be signing autographs on
Wednesday, Nov. 19 from 10:30 to 1:30
and Thursday, Nov. 20 from 11:30 to 1:00



www.mccookfarmandranchexpo.net

JOIN THE GRAND OPENING

Of Our Newest Location In St. Francis, Kansas

When: Friday, November 14th. 10:00 am - 3:00 pm • Where: 707 S. Benton St. Francis, Kansas



We've Lowered Our Prices On MyGroup Rate Plans!

All Viaero Plans Have More Numbers & Minutes Than All Our Competitors.

Plans Starting As Low As \$29.95!

SPIN TO WIN A PHONE!
Spin the wheel for your chance to win a great phone!

FREE REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED!

* Requires new/renewed 24-month contract; renewing customers must be in month 22 or later of existing contract. \$25 activation fee required. Additional restrictions may apply. Free numbers are only on My group rate plans. Other restrictions may apply, see store for details.



we are where you are.