







# SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

## Purple, Maroon Teams Rated as Top Contenders

### Packers Loom as Dark Horse; Abe Lincoln Best Across River

The fight for intercity football honors this fall is expected to produce thrills and excitement galore with each team attempting to dethrone Central, last year's champions. The teams seem to be evenly matched, and the battle for top honors should be unusually close.

Nigs Mielenz, serving his first term as coach at Benson High, will take over a team which finished second in the city race last year. The ex-Tech tutor, living up to the creed of the football coaching profession, has taken a pessimistic outlook toward the approaching campaign. Nevertheless it is very safe to predict that Mielenz will have another team fighting for honors this fall.

Ken Kennedy, serving at Tech for the first time this fall, has also reached for the crying towel, moaning that his boys haven't a chance. With a line averaging 190 pounds, Kennedy and Dutch White shouldn't have to worry about Tech's defense.

The coaching situation at South will be the same as last year with Cornie Collin holding the reins. South may be the surprise of the high school football race, for Collin's teams are always dangerous. This may be the year they have been waiting for.

North, seldom a contender for championship honors, should be capable of ending the title hopes of one of the favorites, and with a break might be sitting on top of the heap at the end of the year. Paul Davis will continue as coach of the Vikings.

Maurice Palrang's Creighton Preppers should again be dangerous. The Creighton youngsters, always powerful, should be tough to beat. However Central and Creighton Prep are not scheduled to play this fall; thus the question as to which team is the stronger will be unanswered.

Across the river in Council Bluffs, Coach Roy Lawson is planning to put on the field a team composed of last year's reserves and a few green sophomores; however has a enough veterans returning to present a team which will be feared. Abraham Lincoln came close to upsetting some of the favorites last year, and this fall they may be the team to do the unexpected.

## Hits and Misses

"While you're having fun, be earning units for athletic awards" is the slogan for the Girls' Athletic association this year. This club is open to any girl in Central High school who is interested in sport activities or who wishes to enjoy its good times. The club sponsors hikes, parties, and fun nights as well as after-school sports tournaments.

Officers of the G.A.A. for the year are Doris Vermillion '39, president; Betty Pattavina '40, vice president; Eula Friend '40, secretary; Betty Peterson '40, treasurer; Ellen Rossel '41 and Ann Sgroi '41, sergeants-at-arms.

Miss Treat taught tennis and archery at Camp Mayflower in Minnesota this summer. She also acted as director the last half of the season.

## Head Coach Knapple



## Frank Knapple Will Be Football Head For Coming Season

### Morrison to Take Charge Of Reserve Gridders

Head football coach at Central this fall will be Frank Y. Knapple. Co-coach with Allie Roy Morrison last fall, Knapple was selected this summer by Superintendent of Schools Homer W. Anderson to coach the first team. Morrison will have charge of the second squad.

Coaches Knapple and Morrison led Central to one of its most successful years last fall when the Purples overwhelmed Tech, placed first in the city, and took second to Lincoln in the state.

Central's football stalwarts were coached by Knapple before the arrival of Chick Justice in 1934. Knapple and Justice were co-coaches the first year, but in 1935 Justice took sole charge of the Purples. When Justice left to serve as assistant to George Sauer at New Hampshire, Knapple became co-coach with Allie Morrison who came to Central from Illinois university via the Omaha public schools physical education department.

Knapple, who has tutored at Central for almost fifteen years and is a familiar figure in all Purple athletics, will find his time well occupied this year, for he will continue teaching history in addition to his duties as instructor of football, basketball, and baseball.

The appointment of Knapple as head coach is part of Superintendent Anderson's plan to do away with co-coaches. Dr. Anderson said that the system of co-coaches presented many difficulties. Other schools affected by the new plan are Benson and Tech.

Ken Kennedy, second team coach at Central under Justice, and last year coach at Benson High, was transferred to Tech where he will serve as assistant to Dutch White. White, veteran of prep athletics, served as freshman tutor last year at Tech.

Nigs Mielenz, former Nebraska star and coach at Columbus, Nebraska, before going to Tech as head coach was transferred to Benson. Mielenz will be head coach there, with Ralph Ross serving as his assistant.

## Norman Sorenson to Aid Coaches

Norman Sorensen, Omaha university alumnus, is a new addition to Central's ever growing coaching staff. A husky six footer, Coach Sorensen teaches English and history when not putting the boys through their paces.

While attending South High for four years, the new coach piled up a series of impressive sports achievements by winning nine letter awards. He lettered four times in football, was state heavyweight wrestling champion for three straight years, and in track won the city championship twice for discus throwing.

At Omaha university he kept up his brilliant record by starring in both football and track, earning seven awards. Coach Sorensen has just received his master's degree and fellowship from the University of Nebraska.

His present assignment is to assist Allie Morrison in coaching the football reserves to another city championship. In the winter he will open his bag of tricks and show the wrestlers how he did it when he was a champion. He will again assist Allie Morrison who in his younger days was an Olympic title holder. When track season comes around he will aid "Papa" Schmidt by taking charge of the shotputters and discus throwers on the track squad.

## Central's Freshman to Compete in League

After much ado as to whether Central should have a freshman team or not, it has finally been decided that they enter the competition. They will have a four or five game schedule. Up until the last few days the freshmen had to practice with the second team, and take their chances of getting actual game experience along with sophomores and juniors.

Last spring the school board announced that schools would have to discontinue a few of their extra-curricular activities. The announcement came after most affairs of that sort were over.

In order to abide by the ruling of the board the principals felt at first that should put an end to the freshman teams this year. That plan looked like a way to economize since there would have to be no coach nor extra equipment. Another advantage was that the freshmen would have plenty of time to get their school work.

However, in some ways the plan would be unsatisfactory if carried out. Smaller boys would shy away from football because of the larger, keener competition. The larger freshmen, although inexperienced, might feel that they should be as good as the older boys, and would work harder, perhaps, than they should as first year men.

Two members of Central's 1937 inter-city championship team: Dick Sundberg, an all-state guard, and Howard Humphries, a regular end, will be freshmen coaches.

## Ten Lettermen Return to Brighten Purple Prospects

### All Veteran Backfield Expected to Go Places Behind Heavy Line

Despite the graduation of many stars of last year's inter-city championship, the outlook for this fall's Knapplemen is fairly bright. With the exception of one guard and center, the entire line will consist of able lettermen, and four lettermen will return to take care of the backfield.

Gone from that vaunted purple and white line are Lee Seeman, the unmovable center, Dick Sunberg, who gained honors as all-state guard last year, and Humphreys, Scott, Griffin and others. However, despite this loss the Eagles should have a starting line-up that can give any team in the state a good battle.

### Six Returning Men in Line

Howard Schonberger, Nuncio Pomodoro, and Howard Westering are the three linemen who have had the most experience. Two-hundred pound John Goodsell, who spent most of his junior year in bed with pneumonia, is now back in good shape. Goodsell should give a good account of himself this year. Woods, another 200-pounder, who played second team last year is a possibility at tackle. Woods has been working hard to crowd out the seniors. McDonald, his year of sophomoreic hesitation behind him, should come into his own at one end of the line. The other wing should be ably handled by Howard Westering, who is also a heavy man. Hallaway, a scrappy 145-pound end, should see much service this year which is his first on the varsity squad.

### Guards Present Problem

The guards offer much more of a problem. The only returning letterman in this position is Warren Johnson, a 168-pounder, who had plenty of experience understudy. He should cause the opposition much trouble. At the other guard it's a toss-up between Amberson, the fighting leader of last year's second team, and Stuart Muskin, brother of Leonard who starred at Central two years back. Still a sophomore will also be tried at this spot. If necessary, Knapple may switch Pomodoro to guard.

The center will be held down by Al Caniglia, also of last year's second team. Close on his heels comes blonde Bob Swenholt, a 165-pound newcomer from Centralia, Washington.

The backfield promises to be one of Central's best in recent years despite the loss of Leo Manirik and fast stepping Jim Hall.

### Four Lettermen in Backfield

Stocky Ernie Weeks after a late start last year should star as a senior. Weeks is a dodging, twisting runner who has plenty of drive. He is an adept blocker, one of the finest punters in the city, and can thread needles with his passes. He also proved his ability at quarterback last year and may be called upon to repeat at quarter. Louis Wells with a year of experience behind him is expected to sparkle as a ball carrier and signal caller. He was the one that called the winning touchdown play over Benson for last year's city championship. Moran, a neither exceptionally fast or heavy man, but one who has that certain something combining heart and body, will attend to one half very competently. Vecchio, who possesses in fire what he lacks in weight, may start at quarterback. Hronek, a powerful 180-pounder, showed great promise as a blocking back and drop kicker.

Dustin Swanson, who lettered at Herbon, Nebraska, is his sophomore year and played second string ball at Central last year, is slated to play on the first team this year. He is speedy and has an exceptionally fast cut, which is one of the best weapons of an open field.

## Don Werner to Lead Riflemen as Captain

Today the names of the 1939 rifle team's officers were announced. They are the following: Don Werner, captain; Milton Petersen, manager; and Jim Duffy, secretary. The rifle team will enter its first contest, September 18.

Although the rifle season is not officially opened, Central High school will send a team of five cadets to participate in the meet to be held near Omaha. The meet will be the largest one ever held here. The shoot, in which four hundred are expected to take part, is sponsored by the National Rifle association.

The shooters may enter the meet in teams of four or as individuals. The range will be situated five miles north of the Omaha post office on Sixteenth street. The public is invited.

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**Guess Who?**  
 Age—16  
 Weight—195 pounds  
 Eyes—Hazel  
 Hair—Black (unruly)  
 Height—6 ft. 4 in.  
 Favorite song—I Haven't Anyone but You  
 Fitting song—Flat Foot Floogie  
 Bad Habit—Living  
 Hobby—Creating triangles (and we don't mean geometrical)  
 Activity—Football  
 Nickname—Big Stupe  
 Ambition—None whatsoever  
 Tune in next week for answer!

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