

Medford Football Team Which Wrested Championship Honors From All of Southern Oregon This Season

When the high school opened in the fall of 1911 the football prospect presented a very gloomy appearance. Only four of the regulars of the year before had returned and altogether only six men could be found who had ever been in a game. Nevertheless, with a determination to work, the boys elected Frost, of the manual training department, as coach, and began a rigid system of training which was not interrupted till the end of the season. That their efforts were not in vain was very evident when, in the first game, they won from Grants Pass with a score of 39 to 0. The third game also was with Grants Pass and though the northern team was in much better condition, the score was 26 to 0 in Medford's favor. In the series with Ashland each team took one game with a score of 5 to 0. Medford's claim to the championship of southern Oregon becomes indisputable, however, when it is considered that Medford made a much greater total score against Grants Pass than did Ashland, and in view of the fact that Medford made double the yardage of Ashland in the two games with each other. The drawing card of the season was the game with Eugene, a game which marks the introduction of Medford high school to the larger schools of the Willamette valley. Though Eugene took the game with a score of 6 to 0, it was lost by such a fluke as might have occurred with either team. As Eugene played Portland to a standstill in a 3 to 0 game and defeated Salem and other heavy teams of the north, Medford's rating in this game is worthy of more than passing consideration.

On Thanksgiving day the boys took a day off and enjoyed a good natured rough and tumble contest with the old stars of the valley, defeating them with a score of 8 to 6. The success of the season has been due not only to the faithful, determined practicing of both regulars and second team men, but especially to the efficient work of Coach Frost. His ideas were up to date, the boys liked him and worked for him, and more than all he possessed that quality of a true coach whereby he was enabled to take all kinds of instruction from the usual corps of voluntary advisors in the same manner that a duck receives rain and for the most part in the same frame of mind.

The members of the team were as follows: Captain Jake Ware, starred in making forward passes, played



Reading from left: Top row—Seantlin, Isaac, Coach Frost, Boswell, White. Center row—Shepard, Wilson, Brown, Radcliffe, Merrick, Wallace. Bottom row—Beveridge, Ware (captain), McDonald.

strong left half and fullback, took part in 24 full quarters, a veteran, good captain and will be missed next year, as he graduates. Robert Boswell, known as "Boz," captain for next year, noted for thunderbolt line plunges, a veteran and speedy player at half and fullback, took part in 18 quarters. Clayton Isaac, otherwise "Pug," the quarterback, in all of 24 quarters, a heady field general, perfect forward passer, put life into the team by his snappy work; will graduate. Dee Wallace, a whirlwind at tackle, very strong in defense, played 22 quarters; will be in school two years more. Billy Beveridge, right end, speediest man on the team, a clean felder both in taking passes and at safety; will be candidate for quarter next year; a sure drop kicker. Paul McDonald, known as "Mac,"

fast left end, making with Beveridge the reputation throughout the valley of those "terrible ends." Will graduate. Emerson Merrick, known as "Em," a veteran, a stone wall at guard, plays best with temper ruffled. Graduates this year. Robert Wilson, a new man at the game but a rare "find." Plays an aggressive tackle and punts 45 yards with regularity. Will be a valuable man next year in line and as a punter. Played in all 24 quarters. Allen White, a fast man at either half or end, a sure ground gainer. Graduates this year. Tommy Seantlin, a light, but speedy halfback, very valuable player on home grounds on account of drawing attendance of fair sex, plays best amid showers of applause. Milton Schuchard, a new man at the game, but became a strong

player either at fullback or in the line, and will be a valuable man next year. Harold Radcliffe, known as "Tuffy," played well a difficult position as center. Made all kinds of passes with great accuracy. Played in all 24 quarters. Walter Brown or "Brownie," made remarkable development, and became a very strong guard and regular player towards end of season. Will be a valuable man for three years to come. Frank Ray, played guard well until obliged to leave. Graduates this year. The work of the team on the whole was very satisfactory. While one or two of the boys far outclassed the other members of the team (and of opposing teams) in speed and knowledge of the game, Medford's victories

were not won by individual star playing, but the steady, consistent teamwork of the entire eleven. The game with Eugene showed Medford's real strength for the first time, as it was a game in which we met a team of real championship caliber. Although strong in every department of the game, Eugene had to fight for every inch they gained and only won by a fluke. Grey, Eugene's halfback, whom the Portland papers credited with punting 45 yards and over in his other games, was forced so quickly to avoid kicking that he failed time and again to make the 20 yards required by the rules.

Prospects for the season of 1912 are very bright. Eight of last season's Monogram men will be on the squad besides a number who have had a year's experience on the high school second and the Washington grammar school team. The schedule will be the heaviest ever played by a Medford high school team and will probably include games with the Rogue River valley towns, Eugene and Lincoln high school of Portland. Several games for the second team will also be arranged.—C. W. Frost.

Superintendent U. S. Collins says: "Briefly stated, we are proud of the records made by our high school boys during the past football season and doubly proud of the fact that each member had his place on the team through merits received in his regular work along educational lines."

Captain Ware says: "In review of last season's football, it was the most successful season the M. H. S. has ever seen. The football played was up to the standard of eastern football. Every member of the squad played hard, consistent football all season. The backfield was not as heavy as last year's, but they were considerably faster. Our line was a 'stone wall' and put up an A. No. 1 game all the time. The men who did very good work on the team are: Wilson, White, McDonald, Boswell, Beveridge and Isaac. Of course, the forward pass was our strong point, but at line plunging we were there when it was necessary. Coach Frost made the best coach Medford has ever seen. He made the team what it is by his own knowledge of the game and his exceptional ability in breaking in new men. We also owe considerable to Assistant Coach Griffing, who had charge of the second team. Medford met and defeated the best teams in the valley and were defeated by a small score, by a team which has a close second to the state championship. Next year I expect to see Medford take the state championship, as eight of the men in this year's team will be back and there are always good players coming to the limelight."

Robert Boswell, captain-elect, says, "The prospects of Medford high school winning the championship of southern Oregon are very bright. Although several good players of the 1911 team are lost by graduation, yet with eight of the old team, some second team men, and the new material that comes in to pick from we should turn out a team that will not only be champions of southern Oregon but of the state."

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