A Tribute to the Champions 1940-1948

Iowa State Teachers College

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A TRIBUTE  

to the  

CHAMPIONS

• 1940  A Salute to the Fine  
• 1941 Iowa State Teachers College  
• 1942 Football Teams ....  
• 1946 Six Consecutive Times  
• 1947 Titleholders of the  
• 1948 North Central Conference
Coach C. L. "Buck" Starbeck

Football mentor at Iowa State Teachers College who has guided his teams to victory in the North Central conference six consecutives times. The Panthers won the title in 1940, 1941, 1942, 1946, 1947, and 1948. Against all opposition his teams have won 52, lost 29 and tied nine. Aiding Starbeck through the victorious years have been Art Dickinson and O. M. Nordly, varsity football coaches.
This Booklet is a Tribute
And Salute to the Mighty
Panther Football Teams of
Iowa State Teachers College

☆ Six Time Winners of the North Central Conference

☆ 30 Straight Conference Games without a Defeat

☆ 20 Consecutive Home Games without a Defeat
Those Behind the Scenes

A. D. DICKINSON
Trainer

L. L. MENDENHALL
Athletic Director

O. M. NORDLY
Backfield Coach

It is always a pleasure to win a championship but many times the credit is misplaced. Two important elements in any championship team are good material and capable assistants. I have been very fortunate in having both. My thanks to every member of the football squads, the assistant football coaches, and the man behind the scenes, Athletic Director L. L. Mendenhall. President Price, Dean Nelson, and members of the faculty and administration, all helped immensely.

C. L. STARBECK

Panther Team in Action
"Leadership in Teacher Education"

For six consecutive seasons the Iowa State Teachers College Panthers have triumphed as champions in the North Central Conference under the challenging leadership of Clyde L. "Buck" Starbeck. Much has been written in praise of "Buck", but anyone who has followed his remarkable development, both in professional stature and strategic cunning since his coming to this college, could add pages concerning his contribution to the overall purpose of this institution.

It is in connection with the contribution to teacher training that I pay tribute to his leadership, and to the perseverance and labors of the young men who, through the years, have come to Teachers College primarily to play football, to share in the honors of championship, and to win glory on the gridiron, but who, when graduated as trained teachers, took up the important work of guiding the youth of this and neighboring states in the essentials of physical education and the basic traditions of a great national game.

Only those who have shared in the winning of a conference championship can have a real appreciation of the time, energy, and determination, yes, even "Blood, Sweat, and Tears" that are demanded of those who put on the great spectacle,—‘College Football’.

Then too, there are back of the scenes, those who sacrifice to make it possible for the members of the squad to carry on. Their contribution is, to be sure, largely a psychological one, but without it many an important contest might not have been won. Perhaps we should add, "They also serve, who only stand and wait".

Lest we forget the cooperating coaches and other officials who contributed toward the winning of six straight championships, I pay tribute to the administrative vision which brought "Buck" to this campus and which has kept him here in spite of repeated tempting offers from other institutions.

Those who know him well appreciate his love of winning and his distaste for the thought of being a "good loser", but coaching means much more to "Buck" than the mere winning of games. This rugged, two-fisted coach of champions, himself a great teacher, is constantly winning recruits for the great profession of teaching. It is in connection with this broader purpose that he has succeeded in building, not only his six successive championship teams, but individual champion teachers in classrooms wherever they are called to serve.

H. A. RIEBE, Professor of Education, Iowa State Teachers College
1939 Squad — Started Victory String

1st Row — Al Podesta, Fred Nus, Jesse Bayevsky, Milo Jensen, Leo Kagan, Clem Marsden, Art Boland, George Dutcher, Don Griffith, Merlyn Honsbruch.

2nd Row — Charles Pastorino, Harland Riebe, Claude Santee, Wendlen Burckhard, Jim Podemski, Hugh Roberts, Bill Wright, August Bolinski, Howard Rabey, Marvin Lewellyn.

3rd Row — O. M. Nordly, backfield coach, Howard Finn, Loren Court, Walt Riordan, Jack Mayer, Bert Shapero, Max Bogen, Ed Lyons, Ben McCabe, Dick Abele, C. L. Starbeck, head coach.

1939 Conference Record

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Panthers</th>
<th>University of North Dakota</th>
<th>19</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Panthers</td>
<td>Morningside College</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panthers 14</td>
<td>University of South Dakota</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panthers 19</td>
<td>North Dakota State College</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Totals 46 19

*This game marks the beginning of the Panther victory string which now stands at 30. The first title for Starbeck's team was still a year away but the 1939 team started the chain of victories.
1940 Squad — First Champions


3rd Row — Robert Canny, Martin Shimp, Norman Johansen, Don Chambers, James Maas, Leon Martin, Don Lenth, Walter Riordan, Aaron Linn.

4th Row — Sam Newberg, James Christianson, Robert Hadenfeldt, Merlyn Honsbruch, Kenneth Tuinstra, Robert Herdman, O. M. Nordly, backfield coach. C. L. Starbeck, head coach.

1940 Conference Record

Panthers 15: University of North Dakota ... 0
Panthers 13: North Dakota State College ... 7
Panthers 13: Morningside College ......... 0
Panthers 12: South Dakota State College ... 2
Panthers 27: University of Omaha ......... 7

Totals 80  

16
"A Lineage of Starbeck Champs"

As the years roll by and each football season brings another conference championship for the Panthers, the achievement of each new conference crown becomes increasingly difficult. This is so because every conference team naturally tries its best to tip the champions from their pedestal of fame. The running of the conference championship string to six in a row is therefore a real achievement and one seldom accomplished in the annals of sport.

Coach Starbeck, the staff, and every man on the squad are to be congratulated upon another win. The last six years of competition have been great years. A review of these seasons recalls memories of men who are now successful coaches throughout the state—a lineage of Starbeck champs.

The college takes great pride in the champions of 1948 and has the pleasantest of recollections for the champions of the five previous seasons.

The college salutes its champions!

MALCOLM PRICE, President, Iowa State Teachers College

☆

"Confidence Based on Merit"

I first met "Buck" in the spring of 1922. He came to my office in the gym on the campus of South Dakota State college where I was serving as the athletic director and football coach. "Buck" worked his way through college, and I mean worked. Sinecures were rather meagre those days. "Buck" played center for me there for three or four years. He captained an undefeated team through a 13 game schedule that included a two-game series in Hawaii during the Christmas holidays.

"Buck" never missed a practice and he kept notes at chalk talks religiously. I know "Buck" decided as a freshman to become a coach. He was just as anxious to learn the techniques of quarterback as at his center position. He played for "keeps" and he coaches the same way. I believe "Buck's" success is due to his enthusiasm and love of the game backed up with a lifetime of preparation, experimentation and a willingness to learn. "Buck" as a player had courage and a confidence that was based on merit, and he has the ability to develop these qualities in his players. When I moved to North Dakota university in the fall of 1928 I asked "Buck", who was only one year out of college, to come with me. He was a great help to me at North Dakota where we won four consecutive conference championships. Of course we had some fine lads to help us, just as he has had at Iowa Teachers where he has become the perennial champ.

I congratulate "Buck" and his boys for a great record, but as an old time coach, I also congratulate the Iowa Teachers faculty, students, Athletic Director Mendenhall and staff, because I know from long years of experience even a great coach like "Buck" has to have real cooperation to achieve the success attained by Iowa Teachers.

JACK WEST, Former Football Coach at North Dakota University
1941 Squad — Won Second Crown

1st Row — Gene Steinkamp, Aaron Linn, Leon Martin, Jim Maas, Robert Hunt, Don Barnhart, Robert Cutshall, Nick Avelchas.


3rd Row — Coach C. L. Starbeck, Dave Melcher, Glenn Gerdes, Paul Hughes, Merlyn Honsbruch, Ken Church, Clint Hooven, Sam Tassio, Dick Bowen, John Dougan.

1941 Conference Record

Panthers 21: South Dakota State College . . . 0
Panthers 32: University of North Dakota . . . 10
Panthers 13: Morningside College .......... 0
Panthers 51: North Dakota State College . . . 6
Panthers 34: University of Omaha ........ 13

Totals 151 29
1948 NORTH CENTRAL CONFERENCE CHAMPS


* 1948 Letterwinners
"Stranger Than Fiction"

Editors of fiction magazines probably wouldn't let a writer get by with such stuff as having a coach or a school win six straight conference football championships, 30 straight conference games and not suffer a conference defeat for ten seasons.

They'd say readers wouldn't digest that brand of heroics.

So, because the Iowa State Teachers college football record is stranger than fiction, it's truly remarkable.

The 1948 Teachers College football squad once again well coached and well drilled in Teachers College football spirit, kept going the sweep of North Central conference honors despite the fact that once again every team in the league was pointing for the honor of being the one to snap the long Panthers' string.

The pressure continues to mount each season. Each season the winning of the conference title becomes a more outstanding feat. The 1948 team contributed its share to an amazing record and tradition.

AL NEY, Sports Editor, Waterloo Daily Courier

☆

"Championship Habit Is No Accident"

As a resident broadcaster in the glass box on the top shelf of the stadium, it has been my good fortune, for several years, to see the Panthers in action from an enviable roost. The various plays that have led to six consecutive championships have appeared before my eyes as though they were animated diagrams on a blackboard. With this advantage as an observer, I have recognized the fact that the championship has come to the Iowa State Teachers College, not because we have had some "galloping ghost" or other star performer on the team during these six years, but because "Buck" Starbeck has consistently built football machines which operate smoothly as a result of precision in all of their parts.

There have been outstanding players who have brought the stadium crowds to their feet in moments of tight competition, but, as we have observed from the radio booth, even these players have been outstanding because their team-mates have given them the opportunity to make a spectacular run, or to complete a seemingly impossible pass, or to cross the goal-line for a dramatic touchdown. It is fortunate for the College that "Buck" doesn't believe in the star system. If he did, injuries to the key men might easily prove disastrous to the team. As it is, there is a distinct loss whenever a fine player must leave the game; but the ranks close, and the Panthers present a front which is just as formidable as it was before the disabling injury occurred.

I have never seen "Buck" sit down during a game, and visiting broadcasters have sometimes interpreted this standing vigil as a sign of apprehension about the team. It is a false interpretation. Like any other general, "Buck" is keeping his eyes on the lines of battle. The boys have learned their lessons by the time the game starts, and the team doesn't fall apart if "Buck" turns his back—as we have often seen him do, when the electric clock has stopped.

It has been a rare privilege to watch "Buck" and his boys during these 6 years, and I, for one, am convinced that the championship habit is no accident.

HERBERT V. HAKE, Radio Program Director, Iowa State Teachers College
1942 Squad—Grabbed 3rd Title

1st Row — Bill McCabe, John Denk, Rudy Hoemann, Bud Anders, Darwin Davis, David Koch.


3rd Row — Coach C. L. Starbeck, Lavene Camarata, Lauren Hagge, Bob Hadenfeldt, Dick Bowen, Norman Johansen, Lloyd Miller, Jim Fox, Earl Schramm, Ken Church, A. D. Dickinson, assistant coach.


1942 Conference Record

Panthers 38: South Dakota State College .. 0
Panthers 27: North Dakota State College .. 19
Panthers 26: Morningside College ........ 6
Panthers 36: University of South Dakota .. 0
Panthers 48: University of Omaha .......... 0

Totals 175 25
"Heads Up, Intelligent Football"

The football team of Iowa State Teachers College of 1948 and the Coaching Staff again merit the congratulations of all for the fine record that they established during the past season. Six consecutive conference football championships is a record that, in all probability, will not be duplicated for a long time by any other member of the North Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. The Panthers of 1948 were noted for their well balanced line, for their fine ball carriers, for their hard blocking, but above all, for the heads-up intelligent brand of football that they played. Coach Clyde Starbeck and his assistants (O. M. Nordly and Art Dickinson) deserve the congratulations of all for another splendid job.

As secretary of the North Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, I wish to commend President Price and his administrative assistants and Professor L. L. Mendenhall because of the wise choices that were made by them in selecting the excellent personnel that comprise the teaching and coaching staff of the Department of Physical Education and Athletics of Iowa State Teachers.

Iowa State Teachers College is well known for its excellent Physical Education Program, for its well organized Intramural Program, and for its well balanced Intercollegiate Athletic Program. The standards of scholarship of the college are high and the observance of conference rules are excellent. Because of all this—again Congratulations.

H. C. SEVERIN, Secretary of the North Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

"Interested in His Men"

Congratulations to Buck and to all his men. It has been a pleasure to work with Buck and the many men who have made up his teams. Buck is interested in his men, whether on or off the field, and he doesn't come around asking for many special favors. He expects his men to meet the same standards scholastically as other students and he recognizes that football is only one part of the training a man gets for his future teaching. This is probably one of the biggest reasons for their joint successes. They all mean business or they do not stay long with Buck. Buck—May you have many more successful seasons, and may all your men go out and prepare more high school students for your teams.

MARSHALL R. BEARD, Registrar, Iowa State Teachers College

"The Finished Product of a Master Coach"

Words are beginning to be useless in describing the coaching feats of Clyde (Buck) Starbeck, whose Iowa State Teachers College football teams go on endlessly breaking North Central conference records and winning championships.

Starbeck has put himself on the spot now. It is getting to the point where he is expected to win now. But Buck doesn't let down his backers.

Regardless of whether he gets better material than other coaches, it must be recognized now that Iowa State Teachers college teams are the finished product of a master coach.

Starbeck's genius in turning out championship outfits annually must be discouraging to his coaching rivals. But one can only have admiration for one who can do the job in such masterful style year after year.

Perhaps Starbeck gets better material. Let's say he does. Then it must be granted that he does an A-1 job. The test of a coach is when he has the material. Buck has met this test and passed with flying colors.

If any more proof be needed, I think the record will answer it better than anything else.

EUGENE FITZGERALD, Sports Editor, Fargo Forum
1946 Squad — Tied Former Record


3rd Row — Doug Pinkham, Merritt Parsons, Dave Williams, Ken Griffin, Jason Loving, Glenn Wistey, Don McDermott, Elvin Goodvin, Bob Zabloudil, Morris Macer.

1946 Conference Record

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Panthers</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>South Dakota State College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Panthers</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Morningside College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panthers</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>North Dakota State College</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Totals 65 6
"A Problem and a Pride"

Once more my congratulations to Coach "Buck" Starbeck of Iowa State Teachers' football team, his very excellent players and a school that has the enthusiasm and determination to keep its athletics and athletes at a high level of performance.

Offering these congratulations to Starbeck and his Panther gridders is becoming most monotonous to those of us elsewhere in the North Central conference. However, they are sent, at least in my case, without envy, inasmuch as up here we started Buck off on his winning ways at North Dakota. Certainly his 30 straight conference victories and six consecutive championships have not come without great effort.

Starbeck and Iowa Teachers are at once a problem and pride in the North Central league. The school's coaches and teams alone in the organization have led against outside opposition during a period when conference prestige has suffered badly.

Panther teams and coaches have become a distinct challenge to other schools in the circuit. Either those members must build their athletics to match Iowa Teachers or admit the Cedar Falls institution is above their class. Such an admission would be meek acceptance of a situation that need not and did not originally exist. Iowa Teachers has seized an opportunity to improve while the six other members have slipped.

C. D. LOCKLIN, Sports Editor, Grand Forks Herald

"Many Are Instructors and Coaches"

For the past ten years or more, the Iowa State Teachers College has produced many trained and highly coached football teams. Members of these teams have been placed in high school positions as classroom instructors and as coaches. Because of the superior training which these men have received under the direction and instruction of our Head Panther Coach, Clyde L. Starbeck, the high schools of Iowa are being supplied with efficient football coaches who are having a very significant influence in the wholesome physical development of our youth.

In recent years, both college and high school football have exceeded all expectations in growth of interest and popularity, not only in our own state but throughout the community's educational program. In many Iowa communities, the interest in clean, wholesome, competitive high school football has been directly contributive to a greater interest in the support of the educational program of the local schools.

The practical training which is being given to prospective coaches is an integral part of the efficient physical education program for men in teacher education at the Iowa State Teachers College.

E. W. GOETCH, Director Placement Bureau, Iowa State Teachers College

"The Class of the Conference"

Since I have already said so many complimentary things about Coach "Buck" Starbeck and his superior football teams I find it difficult to give them the credit they so richly deserve.

The 1948 team was another of the fine coached teams to win a conference championship. While I did not have the pleasure of seeing them play, from all reports they were a well polished ball club and left no doubt but that they were the class of the North Central Conference.

In winning the title for six consecutive seasons the Panthers have established a truly enviable record and one that should stand for many years. I personally tried to break up this string of victories by inducing Buck to try his magic at our school but my efforts did not meet with success.

Congratulations to Coach Buck Starbeck and the men who played on the championship team-winners of 30 conference games in a row.

CASEY FINNEGAN, Athletic Director, North Dakota State
1947 Squad — Five in a Row

1st Row — Gerald Weed, Dick Skain, Ken Griffin, Don McDermott, Clyde Franks, Earl Page, Lee Wachenheim, Graydon Lappe, Jason Loving, Bob Zabloudil.


3rd Row — Dick Gant, Merritt Parsons, Glenn Wistey, Stan Brown, Glen Starner, George Case, Walt Case, Bob Koller, Don Larimore, Bernard Fleener.


1947 Conference Record

Panthers 20; University of North Dakota . . . 0
Panthers 13; North Dakota State College . . . 12
Panthers 31; Morningside College . . . . . . . . 13
Panthers 39; Augustana College . . . . . . . . 0

Totals 103 25
1948 Football Record

Sept. 18 ... PANTHERS 7: IOWA STATE COLLEGE ...... 27 ... At Ames
*Sept. 25 ... PANTHERS 32: MORNINGSIDE COLLEGE ...... 0 ... At Sioux City
Oct. 2 ... PANTHERS 6: DRAKE UNIVERSITY ............ 0 ... At Cedar Falls
*Oct. 9 ... PANTHERS 33: SOUTH DAKOTA STATE ...... 7 ... At Cedar Falls
Oct. 16 ... PANTHERS 13: WESTERN MICHIGAN ...... 6 ... At Cedar Falls
*Oct. 22 ... PANTHERS 26: NORTH DAKOTA U. ......... 14 ... At Grand Forks
*Oct. 30 ... PANTHERS 34: AUGUSTANA COLLEGE ...... 0 ... At Sioux Falls
Nov. 6 ... PANTHERS 0: EMPORIA STATE ............. 26 ... At Emporia
*Nov. 13 ... PANTHERS 19: NORTH DAKOTA STATE ...... 0 ... At Cedar Falls
Nov. 20 ... PANTHERS 7: DAYTON UNIVERSITY ...... 33 ... At Dayton

* North Central Conference Games

Won 7, Lost 3. Total Points 177. Opponents 113

“Procession of Fine Young Men”

The six Conference championship teams of Iowa State Teachers College have contributed more than a series of thrills to the watching fans. As I recall the succession of champions since 1940, I find that time has erased memories of many thrilling runs, of hard blocking and of vicious tackling that marked so many of the games. Rather I am reminded of the procession of fine young men who came to the campus, made their contribution to the life of the College, and left to make a greater contribution to many communities.

According to the record, the Conference “did not operate during the war years”. With this record I find it difficult to concur. The Conference, or at least the individual men who at one time or another made up that Conference, operated all the way from the bloody atolls of the Pacific to “the shores of Tripoli”. With the necessity for that type of operation behind them—forever, we hope—they have returned to the classroom and other civilian pursuits with a new purpose to take their places in American democratic life and to do their share toward its perpetuation and development. These are the achievements of which we all, whether football fans or not, are so inordinately proud. Football requires skill and fortitude; the game of life demands yet sterner stuff. We believe our “Champs” show that they have it. So again we salute the champions and join again in a hearty “Bravo!” for their coaches.

M. J. NELSON, Dean of the Faculty, Iowa State Teachers College

“That Remarkable Phenomenon”

It is always a pleasure to hear about your “remarkable phenomenon,” that fine and excellent gentleman and coach, Clyde L. “Buck” Starbeck.

Your college has cooperated wholeheartedly with the Williamson National Football system from its first publication 17 years ago. I want you to know that I appreciate that very much indeed. It has been a pleasure to follow your most favorable fortunes from year to year.

Best regards to Coach Starbeck, to his able assistants, and his exceptional squad of footballers.

PAUL B. WILLIAMSON, Director, Williamson National Football System
Eight-Year Conference Record

1939
Panthers 6; University of North Dakota .. 19
*Panthers 7; Morningside College .......... 0
Panthers 14; University of South Dakota .. 0
Panthers 19; North Dakota State College .. 0

Total 46

1940
Panthers 15; University of North Dakota .. 0
Panthers 13; North Dakota State College .. 7
Panthers 13; Morningside College .......... 0
Panthers 12; South Dakota State College .. 2
Panthers 27; University of Omaha .......... 7

Total 80

1941
Panthers 21; South Dakota State College .. 0
Panthers 32; University of North Dakota .. 10
Panthers 13; Morningside College .......... 0
Panthers 51; North Dakota State College .. 6
Panthers 34; University of Omaha .......... 13

Total 151

1942
Panthers 38; South Dakota State College .. 0
Panthers 27; North Dakota State College .. 19
Panthers 26; Morningside College .......... 6
Panthers 36; University of South Dakota .. 0
Panthers 48; University of Omaha .......... 0

Total 175

1943
Panthers 38; South Dakota State College .. 0
Panthers 27; North Dakota State College .. 19
Panthers 26; Morningside College .......... 6
Panthers 36; University of South Dakota .. 0
Panthers 48; University of Omaha .......... 0

Total 175

1944
Panthers 38; South Dakota State College .. 0
Panthers 27; North Dakota State College .. 19
Panthers 26; Morningside College .......... 6
Panthers 36; University of South Dakota .. 0
Panthers 48; University of Omaha .......... 0

Total 175

1945
Panthers 58; South Dakota State College .. 7
Panthers 35; Morningside College .......... 0
Panthers 21; North Dakota State College .. 0

Total 65

1946
Panthers 6; South Dakota State College .. 6
Panthers 35; Morningside College .......... 0
Panthers 21; North Dakota State College .. 0

Total 65

1947
Panthers 20; University of North Dakota .. 0
Panthers 13; North Dakota State College .. 12
Panthers 31; Morningside College .......... 13
Panthers 39; Augustana College .......... 0

Total 103

1948
Panthers 32; Morningside College .......... 0
Panthers 33; South Dakota State College .. 7
Panthers 26; University of North Dakota .. 14
Panthers 34; Augustana College .......... 0
Panthers 19; North Dakota State College .. 0

Total 144

EIGHT YEAR TOTALS 822
OPPONENTS 148

* This game marks the beginning of the conference victory string that now has grown to 30 straight.