Football . . . 1968

University of Northern Iowa
The 1967 football record of 7-3 was a pleasing thing for the players and the coaching staff, but it was not all roses along the way.

We did not come up with a true balance between our offense and our defense. It was the defense, which came to call itself the 'Big D', and rightfully so, that carried much of the weight.

I recall our three losses, by a total of eight points. In each instance the defense did a magnificent job but we failed to come up with enough offensive punch to get the victory. When you lose 7-3, 10-9 and 10-7 it is hard to fault the defense in this day and age of high-powered offense.

This should be an exciting team for Panther fans to watch. We expect to provide more punch on offense and try to equal our great defensive efforts of a year ago. Those of you who watched us last fall will recall the great excitement that defensive unit stirred in our followers.

The 1968 season brings five prime opponents into O. R. Latham Stadium. Certainly, since I have been here, the series with South Dakota State has been one of the finest in league play.

Drake, as always, will be a prime target for us, especially after last fall's 10-7 defeat in a great game at Des Moines. They're here on October 12 and followed by Morningside, our one state rival in the NCC, on October 19 for the annual homecoming game.

Then comes the home finale on November 2 when we host league favorite North Dakota State. It is easy to recall what our team did against great odds just two years ago against this team, then rated number 2 in the nation. We won 41-14 and that victory possibly had a great deal to do with our 7-3 record in 1968. Our players found out what they could do with dedication and complete teamwork.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 14</td>
<td>WESTERN ILLINOIS U.</td>
<td>A coming team that gave UNI its problems a year ago. Kickoff: 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>SOUTH DAKOTA STATE U.</td>
<td>The Jacks, one of the top contenders, have long been a hot rival for UNI. Kickoff: 1:30 p.m. (State Day).</td>
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<td>Oct. 12</td>
<td>DRAKE UNIVERSITY</td>
<td>No UNI-Drake clash goes unnoticed and this will be no different. Kickoff: 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Oct. 19</td>
<td>MORNINGSIDE</td>
<td>A tingling series over the years, the Chiefs and Panthers are matched in the Homecoming battle. Kickoff: 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Nov. 2</td>
<td>NORTH DAKOTA STATE U.</td>
<td>Champions of the conference for four straight years, the Bison head into 1968 as favorites again. Kickoff: 1:30 p.m. (Dad’s Day).</td>
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<td>Sept. 7</td>
<td>NORTHERN MICHIGAN U. at Marquette</td>
<td>The toughest opening-game series in UNI history continues. Kickoff: 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sept. 21</td>
<td>NORTH DAKOTA U. at Grand Forks</td>
<td>The opening league game for the eager Panthers. The Sioux, down in 1967, are back at full strength. Kickoff: 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>AUGUSTANA at Sioux Falls</td>
<td>UNI has beaten the Vikings the last eight years. Guess who is hunting for Panther scalp. Kickoff: 7:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Oct. 26</td>
<td>SOUTH DAKOTA U. at Vermillion</td>
<td>The Coyotes, always tough at home, are a potential contender in 1968. Kickoff 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Nov. 9</td>
<td>EASTERN MICHIGAN U at Ypsilante</td>
<td>The last of a two game series against a coming football power in the college division ranks. Kickoff 1:30 p.m.</td>
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14 RETURNING LETTERMEN LEAD FOOTBALL FORTUNES IN 1968

Back On Offense:

For The Defense:
Scouting the Panthers

THE ATTACK — The offense, in 1967, was not what Coach Sheriff would have liked it to have been. This spring the emphasis was on the attack and it showed improvement in the spring game. Veteran quarterback Phil Schooley is back with new running mates and a sounder knowledge of the UNI offense. His running backs are young but the raw talent is there. Larry Skartvedt, Roger Jones and transfer Mike Reed plus fullback Dennis Kettner can provide a running game to balance Schooley’s throwing ability.

The BIG D — The Big D, defense, was the name of the game for Northern Iowa in 1967. It carried the Panthers to an excellent 7-3 season. Many of the stars are gone, but the potential and the pride are there and pride may be the biggest asset this unit has. Linebacker John Williams and corner back Tom Pinkham are expected to provide the leadership and don’t be surprised if Sheriff and line coach Don Erusha come up with a standout front four.

THE LINE — The game is won up front, they say . . . and on offense the material is there to open the holes and provide the pass protection. Sheriff may have the finest PAIR of offensive tackles he’s had in junior Larry Rater and senior Bob Hampton. The end spots are sound and the pass catching good. Depth may be the biggest problem.

THE BACKFIELD — Young on either side of this line. The offense showed great promise in the spring, both as runners and receivers. The defensive backs will take longer, but they were not embarrassed in the early game and will have better size than the 1967 edition.

THE SOPHOMORES — They will play a big part in the Panther fortunes in 1968. Several are ticketed for starting roles, such as Lary Skartvedt, Roger Jones, Randy Ruisch, Marv Miller and Dennis Meyer.

THE DEPTH — This is Sheriff’s biggest problem. In numbers, he had the smallest spring team in his nine years. Going into that ninth season he’ll continue to play platoon football almost exclusively but injuries could call for personnel shifts where the depth problem shows up.
An Entertainment Bargain

It pays to buy season tickets and here is why:

1. You save money in 1968. Season tickets are $12.50 plus tax and handling charges for a total of $13.00. Individual tickets are $3.00 a game or $15.00 for the season. A two dollar saving.

2. Your tickets are mailed to you. No running after them.

3. Your choice location is always there.

4. You have quick access to the stadium via a special gate.

5. You have an unobstructed view of all action.

6. You are just steps away from concession stands and rest rooms.

Northern Iowa's enrollment is continually on the rise with an estimated 8,900 students expected this fall. Student interest is higher than ever before. To be sure you are in on that excitement of collegiate football be a SEASON TICKET HOLDER.

The home schedule could not be better. You make a saving now. There will be no televised games.

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UNI TICKET POLICY

UNI's ticket policy is to give first call on season tickets to former season ticket holders, alumni and friends. These persons will have until the end of August to place their orders. The enclosed Order Blank and Postpaid Reply Envelope are for your convenience. ORDER TODAY . . . GET THE SEAT LOCATION YOU WANTED!
Your Ticket
To
Football Thrills

For Information and Tickets Contact:
J. D. Anderson, Athletic Business Manager
Men's Gymnasium
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613
Telephone: 266-1721, Ext. 207

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STADIUM

WEST
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FACULTY

---50 YARD LINE---

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