

1980 Class D-1 (Eight-Man 1)---Quarterfinals:

DENOTES: 8-Man Hall of Fame Inductee

(9-0) Humphrey 32-6 Stapleton (8-1) (@ Columbus Lakeview)

(8-0) St. Edward 40-18 Harrisburg (8-1) (@ Harrisburg)

(8-1) Lawrence 26-18 Rising City (9-0) (@ Rising City)

(8-1) Adams 32-14 Beemer (8-0) (@ Adams/1:30)

Semifinals:

(10-0) Humphrey 48-16 St. Edward (9-0) (@ St. Edward)

(9-1) Lawrence 42-14 Adams (9-1) (@ Adams)

Final: (at Lawrence) (11-0) Humphrey 20-7 Lawrence (10-1)

Champion: Humphrey High (12-0), Head Coach - LeRoy Ditter

Humphrey sprinted to a 20-0 halftime lead, then turned to defense in the second half to hold off a hard charging Lawrence team for the Class D-1, 8-Man football championship. The opportunistic Humphrey defense forced Lawrence into 3 fumbles and 5 interceptions on the night while running its' winning streak to 22.

Paul Slizoski (2 run) and quarterback Ed Fuxa (6 run) each had first quarter touchdowns, while Fuxa connected with Jeff Christensen for a 22 yard scoring pass on a 4th and three to reach the 20-0 halftime advantage. But things dried up for the Bulldog offense after that. After getting 9 first downs and 3 TDs in the first half, HHS was unable to get a single 1st down after halftime against a ferocious Lawrence "D". That, plus the running of Panther All-State back Joe E. Svoboda (who led all rushers with 103 yards on 33 carries), pulled Lawrence to within 20-7 to start the 3rd quarter.

It was the heroics of Humphrey's Steve Sjuts that may have saved the day for the Bulldogs in the 4th stanza. Sjuts not only pirated an Ed Karmazin pass at the Humphrey 16 yard line with less than 3 minutes left in the game, but also broke through to sack the outstanding Lawrence signal caller for a 6 yard loss with 32 seconds left in the contest.

1980 Class D-1 (Eight Man 1) Offense

End----Brad Hesser-Adams, 6-1, 160, Senior

End----Larry Pierce-Elmwood, 6-2, 170, Senior

Guard-Kevin Koozer-Fairmont, 6-3, 217, Senior

Guard-Kent Jording-Trenton, 6-1, 195, Senior

Center-Charlie Isom-Harrisburg, 6-4, 230, Senior

QB-----Ed Fuxa-Humphrey, 6-1, 175, Senior

Back----Joe E. Svoboda-Lawrence, 6-0, 180, Senior.....(1,477 yards)

Back----Paul Slizoski-Humphrey, 6-0,176, Senior.....(1,297 yards)

Kicker--Calvin Heithoff-Elgin, 6-0, 165, Sophomore

1980 Class D-1 (Eight Man 1) Defense

End----Brian Schantz-Beemer, 5-11, 190, Senior

End----Steve Sjuts-Humphrey, 6-2, 200, Junior

NG----Carl Jarosz-Humphrey, 6-1, 192, Senior

LB----Andy Faeh-Nebraska Christian, 6-1, 185, Senior.....(1,036 yards)

LB----Mark Kramer-Stapleton, 5-11, 170, Senior

DB----Curt Werner-St. Edward, 5-11, 170, Senior.....

DB----Lance Michaels-Maxwell, 6-2, 165, Senior

DB----Pat Bierbower-Shelby, 5-9, 168, Senior

Punter-Wayne Hergott-Meridian, 6-2, 185, Senior

***Honorable Mention:**

Greg Thomas, Todd Veerhusen-Adams; Robert Kubish-Arnold; Dale Martin, Robert Paulsen- Beemer; Bruce Fattig-Brady; Greg Roan, Dan Towey-Cedar Rapids; Bill Bennett, Roger Sauder, Todd Van Winkle-Chappell; Mark Friehe, Dave Moorhous-Culbertson; Dan Ramsey-Dawson- Verdon; Rod Mack, Ken Meis-Elgin; Jim Nickel, Scott Rorie (1,233 yards), Mike Wenzel (1,285 yards)-Elmwood; Rick McDaniels-Fairmont; Greg Ashby-Giltner; Gene Senff, Ron Smith- Hampton; Ken Hessler-Harrisburg (1,303 yards); Jeff Zach-Humphrey; John Hlavac, Joe I. Svoboda-Lawrence; Mike Baehr, Lee Frahm, Randy Malone-Lewiston; Wayne Frerichs-Leyton; Lance Michaels-Maxwell; Brian Paulson (1,166 yards)-Murdock; Bob Wolfender-Nebraska Christian; Kurt Haecker, Lyle Probst-Odell; Ron Hoffman, Andy Ruth, Dave Wingard-Rising City; Pete Faber-Roseland; Kurt Galitz, Cliff Micek, Brett Riggs, Larry Stoley-St. Edward; Lonnie Clark- Shickley; Brian Fitzgerald-Sioux County; Joe Carraher, Troy Kleffner-Spalding Academy; Devin Empfield (1,048 yards)-Stapleton Richard Fischer, Dan Van Groeningen-Sterling; Jim Davis, Rick Kentfield-Trenton; Tyler McKeegan, David Ross-Winnebago;

Class D-2 (Eight-Man-2)---Quarterfinals:

(8-0) Bartley 37-8 Snyder (6-2) (@ Bartley)

(8-1) Filley 36-32 Madrid Wheatland (8-1) (@ Madrid)

(8-1) Hildreth 19-18 Arthur (9-0) (@ Ogallala)

(9-0) Greeley 26-15 Lodgepole (7-1) (@ Chappell)

Semifinals:

(9-1) Filley 36-14 Bartley (9-0) (@ Filley)

(10-0) Greeley 34-24 Hildreth (9-1) (@ Greeley)

Final: (@ Greeley) (9-1) Filley 24-8 Greeley (11-0)

Champion: Filley (11-1), Head Coach- Dan Parks

Filley beat visiting Greeley 24-8, with Alan Wiese throwing a touchdown pass and adding a 65 yard kick return touchdown in the third quarter kick to seal the Wildcats victory. Wiese, the outstanding Filley quarterback, actually muffed the kick return, but picked up the football, faked a handoff to Jeff Van Eperen, pivoted his right foot, then proceeded to sprint untouched for the score.

Six failed Red Zone conversions haunted Greeley, as their only touchdown of the game came on a guard-eligible pass from QB Jerry Mlinar to Terry Wood. That did cut the Filley lead to 16-8 at the time in the 3rd frame, but Alan Wiese performed his kick return magic following that lone Bulldog score.

This game was like a Who's Who of Class D-2, 8-Man football, featuring Greeley all-state QB Mlinar, and Filley all-state running back Donovan DeBuhr, plus Wildcat all-state guard Greg Lenners and End Jeff Van Eperen on offense.

On defense, Greeley boasted all-state DE Shawn O'Connor and 1000 yard rusher Tim Birkby (1,382 yards), who was named all-state at defensive back. Filley countered with Alan Wiese, the Wildcat QB who also was an all-state linebacker.

1980 Class D-2 (Eight Man 2) Offense

End----Jeff Van Eperen-Filley, 6-2, 170, Senior

End----Eric Storer-Arthur, 6-2, 185, Senior

Guard-Greg Lenners-Filley, 6-4, 190, Senior

Guard-George Lee-Wheatland, 6-2, 212, Senior

Center-Dave Casper-Hildreth, 6-0, 208, Senior –

QB-----Jerry Mlinar-Greeley, 6-3, 180, Junior

Back----Donovan DeBuhr-Filley, 5-11, 192, Senior.....(1,715 yards)

Back----Dale Martin-Bartley, 5-8, 165, Senior.....(1,672 yards)

Kicker--John Bunger-Hildreth, 6-4, 215, Senior (Chosen @ two positions)

1980 Class D-2 (Eight Man 2) Defense

End----Shawn O'Connor-Greeley, 5-10, 145, Senior

End----Steve Turner-Trumbull, 5-10, 190, Junior

NG-----John Bunger-Hildreth, 6-4, 215, Senior

LB-----Kevin Roberson-Arthur, 5-10, 160, Junior

LB-----Alan Wiese-Filley, 6-2, 190, Senior

DB-----Larry Seaman-Chester, 5-10, 165, Senior

DB-----Tim Birkby-Greeley, 6-1, 165, Junior.....(1,382 yards)

DB-----Tom Hart-Bartley, 5-10, 170, Junior

Punter-Doug Sherk-Polk, 6-4, 200, Senior

***Honorable Mention:**

Rob Wood-Bartley; Dave Aunkst-Bradshaw; Joe Sherman-Brule; J.R. Bice, Tony Mumford- Chester; Billy Garner-Cody-Kilgore; Doug Schoof-Davenport; Ron Schmidt-Diller; Kurt Engstrom, Larry Isaacs-Dix; Russ Wallman, Andy Schoen-Filley; Shawn Benson-Hildreth; Dave Sowards-Holbrook; Russ Wilshusen-Hordville; Steve Derr-Lyman; Jon Bruns, Ron Omnan- Lodgepole; Bill Leonard, Larry Hagan, Joel Perlinger, Nick Ross-Madrid Wheatland; Rick Ceder, Kevin Laudenklos-Monroe; Scott Albin-Polk; Jim Grothe, Jeff Tedesco-Sidney St. Pats; Bruce McDowell, Steve Turner-Trumbull; Jeff Aylward-Wallace.