

INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOTBALL RESEARCHERS ASSOCIATION™

THE COLLEGE FOOTBALL HISTORIAN™

Reliving college football's unique and interesting history—today!!

ISSN: 2326-3628 [December 2014... Vol. 7, No. 11] circa: Jan. 2008

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Website: <http://www.secsportsfan.com/college-football-association.html>

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Merry Christmas to all the subscribers of *The College Football Historian*.

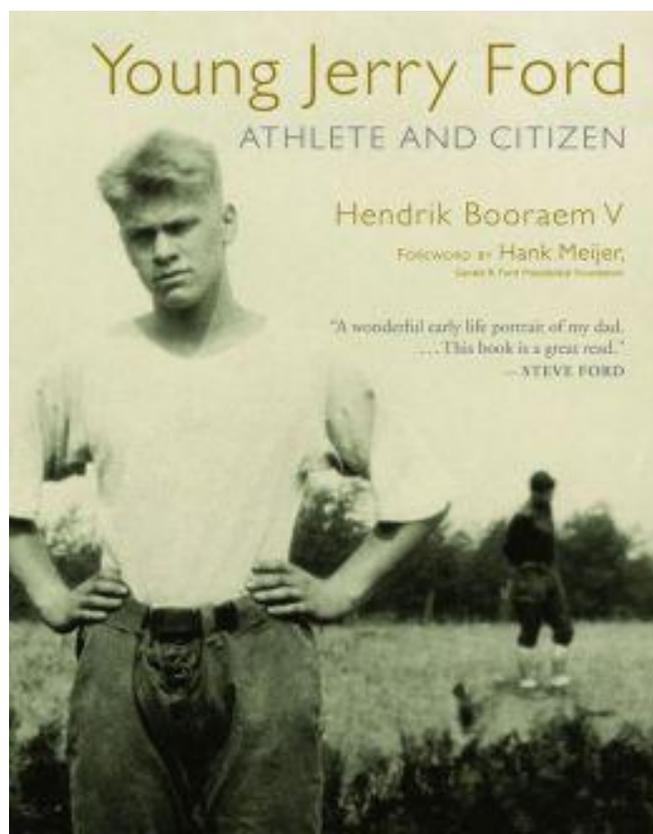
Young Jerry Ford, A Book Report

By Randy Snow

Original to www.theworldoffootball.com

In the 2013 book, *Young Jerry Ford, Athlete and Citizen*, author Hendrik Booraem looks at the early years of the 38th President of the United States, Gerald R. Ford, Jr.

He was born on July 14, 1913 as Leslie Lynch King, Jr. His father was from Omaha,



Nebraska and his mother, Dorothy Ayer Gardner, was from Harvard, Illinois. Leslie was the brother of one of Dorothy's friends in college. They were married in September 1912 in Illinois, but on their honeymoon, Leslie revealed himself to be an angry, violent and abusive husband.

Just weeks after Leslie Jr. was born in Omaha, Dorothy left Leslie and returned to Illinois to be with her parents. In December 1913, she was granted a divorce. Leslie was ordered to pay alimony and child support, but he never paid a dime to either of them. Their son would be known simply as "Junior" until he was a teenager.

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Dorothy took a job in Chicago and, soon after, her parents then moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan where her father had taken a job. In May of 1916, Dorothy's father passed away and so she moved to Grand Rapids to be with her mother. It was about that time that Charles King, Junior's biological grandfather, began paying the \$25-a-month child support to his grandson that his own son never did. This would continue until Charles died in the spring of 1930.

While in Grand Rapids, Dorothy met Gerald R. Ford at a church social. The two were married in February 1917. The three became a family and Dorothy and Gerald eventually had three more sons; Tom, Dick and Jim.

Early in life, Junior exhibited the same temper as his biological father. His kindergarten teacher even referred to him as "naughty Junior Ford." Gerald and Dorothy were very patient in dealing with Junior and his anger issues. They used reason, psychology and faith as opposed to physical punishment, which they did not believe in.

Junior began to stutter in the second grade and it was later determined that this was brought on by the fact that his teachers were trying to make him write with his right hand. He was naturally left-handed. Once they allowed him to be left-handed, the stuttering stopped.

One of the outlets that Junior had for his anger issues while growing up was sports. Another was the Boy Scouts, which taught him discipline. Gerald Ford, Sr. was involved in the Boy Scouts for several years, but his traveling schedule for work did not allow him to be a Scoutmaster, so he volunteered and served on several committees. Junior was 12 years old when he joined the Boy Scouts and Troop 15 in December 1925. He loved everything about scouting and achieved the rank of Eagle Scout on August 2, 1927 at the age of 14. In 1928, Junior Ford began referring to himself as Jerry Ford or Gerald, Jr., after his step-father. His teammates began calling him "Junie," which was a combination of Junior and Jerry.

In August 1929, Jerry was invited to be one of the first scouts to form an honor guard at Fort Mackinac on Mackinac Island in the upper part of Michigan. Eight eagle scouts from around the state were selected. They were all brought to the state capital in Lansing and had their picture taken with Governor Fred Green. From there it was on to Detroit and then they were taken by steamship to the island. The scouts camped at the fort during the entire month of August and gave tours to the visitors. This tradition of having scouts from around the state giving tours at the fort still continues to this day.

When it came to sports, Jerry Ford was a natural. He was a big kid compared to a lot of his teammates. Football was his passion, but he also played basketball, threw the discus and shot put on the track team and was on a swimming team at the YMCA. He tried out for the JV football team at South High in the spring of 1927. The coaching staff put him at center because of his size. He worked hard to perfect snapping the ball in various situations. In those days, the school used the double-wing formation, which meant that sometimes the center had to hike the ball to a runner who was already moving.

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After that, Jerry could always be found with a football in his hands. He played on the JV team just one year and was moved up to the varsity team in 1928 as the backup center. When an injury to the starting center occurred before the season even began, Jerry became the starting center. He played so well that he remained the starter for the entire season. Because players played both ways in those days, Ford also played linebacker on defense. The 1928 South High Trojans won the city championship and Jerry was named the center on the All-City Team by the *Grand Rapids Herald*.

His fame as a football star led to a lunchtime job across the street from the school at a hamburger shack called Bill's Place. Bill, the owner, knew that the kids would flock to the joint with Jerry working there. He was right.

Jerry injured his knee during a practice in the third week of the 1929 season, his junior year, and spent a considerable amount of time on the bench after that. After the season, a new South High teacher, Danny Rose, offered to take Jerry to the University of Michigan to have his knee examined by the athletic trainers at the college. Rose had been a star basketball player at Michigan just a year earlier. Rose was also the school's new basketball coach and an assistant football coach.

In early 1930, Dr. Carl Badgley, a member of the U of M training staff, operated on Jerry's knee. It was a complete success. Jerry Ford, Sr. paid for the operation.

Later that year, in his senior high school football season, Jerry was named team captain and was also named to the *Grand Rapids Press* All-City Team at the end of the season. The city championship came down to the last game of the season between two undefeated teams, South High and Union High. Not only was it for the city championship but it was also for a state title. The game was played in terrible, snowy conditions on Thanksgiving weekend. It ended in a scoreless tie so both schools shared the title. But soon after, it was discovered that Union had a player who had accepted money from a major league baseball team that he was expecting to sign with after he graduated from high school. This caused him to lose his amateur status and therefore, made him an ineligible player. Union had to forfeit all of their wins and therefore, South High alone became the city and state football champions.

Jerry knew that he wanted to go on to college and study law so he had been taking college prep classes during high school. His grades were just average, however. He took the entrance exams to get into Michigan State and Northwestern, but did not pass either one. The University of Michigan allowed the top 15% of students in each school in the state to qualify to take classes there, so Jerry was able to enroll at Michigan, the school that had fixed his knee and saved his football career.

In his freshman season with the Wolverines, Jerry was named the Outstanding Freshman Player. He played center at Michigan on the varsity team from 1932 to 1934. The Wolverines won back-to-back national championships in 1932 and 1933. Jerry was named Michigan's Most Valuable Player as a senior in 1934.

He went on to play in the East-West Shrine Game after his senior season. He played so well in that game that he had offers to play professionally from the Detroit Lions and the Green

Bay Packers. Instead, after he graduated from Michigan, he took a job as an assistant football coach at Yale University, where he also enrolled in its law school.

It was not until after he graduated from Michigan in 1935 that he legally changed his name to Gerald R. Ford, Jr. in honor of the man who raised him.

In 1994, Ford's number 48 was retired by the University of Michigan. It was un-retired in 2012 along with several others. Players who wear the un-retired numbers now also have a "Michigan Legends" patch on their uniforms with the name of the player who the number had been originally retired in honor of.

A 2011 documentary called *Black and Blue* contains an interview with Ford about an incident that occurred during his senior football season. Willis Ward, an African-American wide receiver on the team was at the center of a controversy prior to a game against Georgia Tech. Ward was Ford's roommate when the team travelled to away games and a close friend. As many southern schools felt at the time, they did not want to play schools that had African-American players on their teams. Georgia Tech threatened to walk off the field if Ward played in the game. Ford was going to sit out the game as well in protest, but Ward convinced him to play. Ford took out his anger during the game and helped lead the Wolverines to a 9-2 victory.

To the world, he may only be known as the former President of the United States. But in the world of football, he was a high school star and a state champion, a college star and a two-time national champion and a college coach at an Ivy League school. That in itself would be an impressive resume for any athlete, but it is even more impressive when you realize that sports was not his only claim to fame.

* * * *

Used by permission of the AFCA

AFCA Trailblazer Award Winner

Gideon Smith honored as 2014 AFCA Trailblazer Award Winner

WACO, TEXAS - Gideon Smith, the first African-American athlete at Michigan Agricultural College, now Michigan State University, and former head coach at Hampton University, has been named the American Football Coaches Association's recipient of the 2014 Trailblazer Award. The award will be presented posthumously at the AFCA President's Kickoff Luncheon on Monday, January 12 at the 2015 AFCA Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Smith passed away in 1968 at the age of 78.

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The AFCA Trailblazer Award was created to honor early leaders in the football coaching profession who coached at historically black colleges and universities. Past Trailblazer Award winners include Charles Williams of Hampton (2004), Cleve Abbott of Tuskegee (2005), Arnett Mumford of Southern (2006), Billy Nicks of Prairie View A&M (2007), Alonzo "Jake" Gaither of Florida A&M (2008), Fred "Pops" Long of Wiley (2009), Harry R. "Big Jeff" Jefferson of Bluefield State (2010), Edward P. Hurt of Morgan State (2011), Vernon "Skip" McCain of Maryland-Eastern Shore (2012) and Marino Casem of Alcorn State (2013). The award is given each year to a person that coached in a particular decade ranging from 1920-1970. This year's winner coached from 1920 to 1929.

Smith was a standout defensive tackle for Michigan Agricultural College known for his brutal and physical play. Smith was the first African-American athlete to play a sport for Michigan Agricultural College and was one of the very first African-American men to play college football. In 1913, Smith and the Aggies defeated the Michigan Wolverines for the first time in school history, 12-7. Smith played a key role in the game by taking down Michigan's quarterback several times. After becoming the first African-American male to graduate from Michigan Agricultural College, Smith left for a professional football career.

Smith played his professional career with the Canton Bulldogs, and although he only played a single season; Smith and teammate Jim Thorpe led the team to a league championship. Following one season with the Bulldogs, Smith left to serve in World War I. Upon his return in 1920, he would become a professor at Hampton Institute (Hampton University) and become the head football coach one year later. In his second season as head coach, Smith and the Hampton Pirates won the black college national championship in 1922 with a 5-1 record. Smith would go on to be the face of Hampton football and lead the team from the sidelines until 1940. Under Smith, the Hampton Pirates claimed five Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA) conference championships, a 97-46-12 overall record, and had one of the most dominating defenses of their time.

Smith's teams finished in the Top 10 fewest points allowed defensively for 12 seasons. After retiring from coaching in 1940, Smith served as Hampton's assistant athletic director for 15 years. In 1947, Smith showed his devotion to education by returning to Michigan Agricultural College to earn his masters degree. In 1955, Smith retired from his position as assistant athletic director at Hampton.

In addition to being recognized as the 2014 AFCA Trailblazer Award recipient, Smith has been inducted to the Hampton University Athletics Hall of Fame and was a charter member of the Michigan State Athletics Hall of Fame.

The AFCA was founded in 1922 and currently has more than 11,000 members around the world ranging from the high school level to the professional ranks. According to its constitution, the AFCA was formed, in part, to "maintain the highest possible standards in football and in the coaching profession" and to "provide a forum for the discussion and study of all matters pertaining to football."

* * * *

- **On Dec. 6, 1873, Yale defeated Eton Players of England by a 2-1 final. It was the first college football game in the U.S. played with 11 men on each side.**

* * * *

Curtsey of the NFF

2014 College Football Hall of Fame Class

Dre Bly, DB – North Carolina (1996-98)

Tony Boselli, OT – Southern California (1991-94)

Dave Butz, DT – Purdue (1970-72)

Shane Conlan, LB – Penn State (1983-86)

Joe Hamilton, QB – Georgia Tech (1996-99)

John Huard, LB – Maine (1964-66)

Darrin Nelson, HB – Stanford (1977-78, 1980-81)

Willie Roaf, OL – Louisiana Tech (1989-92)

John Sciarra, QB – UCLA (1972-75)

Sterling Sharpe, WR – South Carolina (1983, 1985-87)

Leonard Smith, CB – McNeese State (1980-82)

The late **Derrick Thomas**, LB – Alabama (1985-88)

LaDainian Tomlinson, TB – TCU (1997-2000)

Wesley Walls, TE – Mississippi (1985-88)

Coach **Mike Bellotti** – Chico State (Calif.) (1984-88) and Oregon (1995-2008)

Coach **Jerry Moore** – North Texas (1979-80), Texas Tech (1981-85) and Appalachian State (1989-2012)

* * * *

- *Frank Broyles (Arkansas) and Darrell Royal (Texas) coached their last game against Dec. 6, 1976. Texas won 29-12.*

•

Dec. 7, 1932

Looking Them Over

The Fordham Ram

With Tim Cohane

Yes, this looks as if it were culled, with bias 100%, from Fordham and Fordham opponents, but the choosing of four Fordham men in the first ready appeared. Look at Parke H. Davis the statistician's, selections. Parke H. Davis, in case you don't know it, is the gent who keeps tabs on the longest runs, the longest passes of the year, etc.

Well Parke saw fit to put Ira Hardy of Harvard at tackle on his All- American team. To show that there is no preference one way or another on your correspondent's part, let me say that I picked an all-American team in this column last year, more for the fun of it than anything else, realizing that it was even less valuable than the least valuable of sport writers throughout the country. But in having our fun we didn't omit Mr. Hardy, for last Fall he was the pivot of an exceptional Crimson line. This year, Ira, who hails from Brockton, Mass., came in twenty pounds overweight at the start of the season and never overcame this fleshy handicap. He was the best man in the Harvard line; it that, but far from all-American caliber.

Mr. Parke H. Davis' big error was only one of many. All-American teams are for the most part a joke anyhow, but if one must pick one, why not follow the emotions instead of the intellect, a procedure which seems to be the universal trend. That's what I did in the above, but even so, this team as it stands would cut Parke H. Davis' team, and many another chosen to date, into steaks.

* * * *

Parke H. Davis' 1914 All-American Team...appeared in the New York Herald

ENDS: Hardwick, Harvard; Merillat, Army.

TACKLES: Ballin, Princeton; Trumbull, Harvard.

GUARDS: Pennock, Harvard; Chapman, Illinois.

CENTER: Journeay, Penn.

BACKS: Paddock, Georgia; Mahan, Harvard; Spiegel, Washington & Jefferson;
Maulbetsch, Michigan.

* * * *

Most Points Scored by Teams Ranked 11-25

By Tex Noel, Executive Director IFRA

Here's a listing of the teams that have scored the most points, while being ranked 11-25 in various sources final polls.

In all, 91 times a team has been ranked 11-25 in a respective division's final poll and scored at least 500 points.

500+ Points	Team	Season	Rank	Source
690	Houston	2011	18	AP
656	Hawaii	2006	24	USA TODAY
655	Pittsburg State	2005	23	D2/AFCA
645	West Texas A&M	2013	11	D2/AFCA
639	Abilene Christian	2007	15	D2/AFCA
639	Henderson State	2013	13	D2/AFCA
639	Henderson State	2013	13	D2/AFCA
618	BYU	2001	25	USA TODAY
609	Shippensburg	2012	14	AFCA
606	BYU	1980	12	AP
602	Boise State	2003	16	USA TODAY
593	Idaho	1993	11	1AA/Sports Network
592	Boise State	2002	15	USA TODAY
591	Missouri	2008	19	AP
589	Houston	1989	14	AP
589	Baylor	2011	13	AP
589	Texas Tech	2008	12	AP
587	Boise State	2004	12	USA TODAY
584	Oklahoma State	1988	11	AP
578	Catawba	2007	12	D2/AFCA
577	West Texas A&M	2010	18	AFCA
575	Oklahoma State	2010	13	AP
574	Nevada	2010	11	AP
564	Hawaii	2007	19	AP
563	Central Arkansas	2005	15	D2/AFCA

* * * *

Source: SPALDING'S OFFICIAL FOOT BALL GUIDE, 1914...Page 297

The leading records for the greatest number of field goals scored by a single player in one game are as follows:

- E. C. Robertson (Purdue) vs. Rose Poly, Oct. 27. 1900. 25, 35, 25, 20, 20, 30 and 30 yards
- B. W. Trafford (Harvard) vs. Cornell, Nov. 1, 1890, 35, 35, 30, 30 and 30 yards.
- W. H. Eckersall (Chicago) vs. Illinois, Nov. 18, 1905, 36, 25, 25, 25 and 18 yards.
- W. H. Eckersall (Chicago) vs. Nebraska, Nov. 24, 1906, 38, 34, 34, 30 and 20 yards.
- C. E. Brickley (Harvard) vs. Yale, Nov. 22, 1913, 38, 30, 25, 23 and 20 yards.

* * * *

Used by permission, Sports Illustrated Vault [November 11, 1968]

I'd Rather Be Bo Mcmillin Than Governor

That's what the governor of Kentucky himself said when 'effulgent' Bo and the Prayin' Colonels of Centre College got back to the bluegrass after beating the proudest school in the North.

--Billy Reed

A few eggheads may remember that Princetonian Adlai Stevenson's grandfather (who was a Vice-President of the U.S.) was graduated from Centre College in Danville, Ky. But that is not what made Centre famous. What made Centre famous is another graduate: the great Alvin Nugent McMillin, known to his classmates and to football fans of the '20s as Bo and to himself as Ol' Nuge. For it was Ol' Nuge who helped the Prayin' Colonels of Centre bring proud Harvard to its knees half a century ago in one of the great chapters of intercollegiate football history.

In the highly competitive intellectual atmosphere of today, McMillin probably wouldn't make it past the registrar at Centre. Even in 1917 he was that tiny college's most unlikely matriculant freshman—a Texas orphan who grew up with a pool cue in his hand, who loved football and gambling to the exclusion of all else and who frankly didn't give a damn for study.

As a boy in Fort Worth Bo neither drank nor smoked nor swore. His closest brush with profanity was, "Oh, my side and body." But he didn't do much else either, except skitter on the rim of trouble. His saving grace was football and his favorite haunt was the field at Fort Worth's North Side High, where a Centre graduate, Robert L. (Chief) Myers, was head coach. The first time Myers saw Bo run, he was being chased by the cops.

Sometime after that, in the summer of 1916, Myers wrote Dick Williams, a former classmate who was working in a Somerset, Ky. drugstore: "I've got a boy under my wing down here in Texas who's a football-playing fool and I want him to go to Centre. He lacks enough credits to get in, but he's hankering for a college education and he'll study if he must. I'd like for you to get him in a high school up there—away from his pool-playing pals in Texas—and close enough to Danville to absorb some of that old Centre College spirit."

Happily enough, Williams belonged to a newly formed group called the Stovepipe Committee, so named because its members sat around a potbellied stove in a doctor's office figuring ways to improve Somerset High's football team. A special meeting was called by Williams, and the upshot of it was that a dusty, pug-nosed, bushy-headed kid named McMillin soon made his appearance in Somerset.

Getting Bo to Somerset and keeping him there soon proved to be two different matters. Time after time he complained of homesickness and threatened to go home. To keep him happy the committee summoned two of his pals, James (Red) Weaver and Thad McDonald from Texas. The three boys were put up together in the spare bedroom at motherly Mrs. Frank Ellis' house to make them feel at home, and arrangements were made with the night long-distance operator for Bo to call Texas free of charge. The Stovepipe Committee also gave the boys an iron and began a "pressing club," whereby 30 members agreed to pay \$1 each per month to have their suits pressed. This lasted until McMillin, forgetting his iron to flirt with a girl, burned a hole through the seat of his coach's pants. Nevertheless, backed by such homegrown talent as James (Red) Roberts and John Sherman Cooper, now a U.S. Senator, Somerset's Texans helped their football team win every game except one by a large margin. Soon McMillin was moving his act on to Centre.

It didn't take Bo long to become a phenomenon around Danville: gambler, nonstudent and football player extraordinary. He attempted at first to renew his pressing business, but soon found he could make easier money rolling dice. Legend has it that he could toss the ivories against a ceiling and make them roll seven on a bed, and that he could roll from two to 12 and back to two on successive rolls. "Ol'

Nuge isn't doing this because he wants to," he would say, "only because he has to." On road trips Bo and Red Roberts would do their best to look like country hayseeds, then go hustle the local pool sharks.

McMillin the scholar would usually be found sitting back of a coal stove in Greek class where he would sleep until the professor, who liked football, would shout, "Will somebody kindly wake up that trifling McMillin?" Then Bo would get to his feet and begin mumbling until the professor stopped him. "Well, now, that's pretty good for an athlete," the professor would say, putting down a high mark for Bo, who would go back to sleep. McMillin liked to kid about his curriculum: "The ABC course—Athletics, Bible and Chapel."

Meanwhile, Centre's football team rolled along largely unbeaten, reaching new heights with a 3-0 victory over the University of Kentucky in 1917. At half-time in that game the Colonels hadn't scored and the coach, Uncle Charley Moran, suggested a prayer. "God damn it, coach, let me do the prayin'," said Bob Mathias, and he did. After that Centre had a nickname, the "Prayin' Colonels." Later Bo made this distinction: "Lots of folks think we'd go out on the field afore a game and kneel down in front of everybody to ask God to help us win another football game. That's not true. Pray? Shore, we'd pray. But we'd ask that nobody got hurt real bad and that we'd play a real good game like we'd been taught."

Centre first gained notice in the East by beating West Virginia 14-6 in 1919, soon after the West Virginians had upset a strong Princeton team. Curiosity brought Harvard star Eddie Mahan and Boston Sports Editor Howard G. Reynolds to Danville to see if the Prayin' Colonels were for real and—more specifically—to see if they were good enough to come to Cambridge and take on Harvard. On that day Centre beat Georgetown, Ky. 77-0, and the scouts returned with such a glowing report that Centre was scheduled to play mighty Harvard the next season.

In their first meeting the Harvards won 31-14, but the game was closer than the score might indicate. Centre trailed Harvard 14-0, when McMillin carried and passed the ball with little outside help for more than 180 yards and 14 points, tying the game. Only in the second half, when Harvard's strength began to take its toll on the 16 tiring Centre players, was the home team able to pull away. Centre made \$8,500 from that game, a real bonanza in those days, and the fans' reaction to the Kentuckians was so favorable that Harvard scheduled Centre again for the 1921 season.

Under Chief Myers, who had followed McMillin to Centre to become coach, and then athletic director, Centre's football program had come a long way, but Myers' successor, Coach Moran, still cobbled his players' football shoes, and the team's jerseys had been shredded to the point of embarrassment. Before the second game with Harvard Uncle Charley went out and bought some plain white jerseys at a rummage sale. His wife and other Danville ladies dyed the shirts gold and painted white stripes on them. "So we could look respectable like while we whaled the stuffin' out of our opponents," as McMillin graphically put it.

Before beating Centre in 1920, Harvard had beaten Oregon in the Rose Bowl. The Crimson hadn't been defeated in formal play since 1916.

Earlier in the year Bo had scouted Harvard. He had come back to Danville 15 pounds lighter, reportedly because he lost all his money gambling on the way. Still, McMillin was so sure that Centre would win that he sent a buddy to Boston a week before, the game with instructions to buy a block of tickets, scalp them at high prices and then bet the whole wad on Centre.

The game was played on the sunny afternoon of Oct. 29, 1921, with 45,000 fans in the stands at Cambridge. Centre played it close to the vest in the first half. Then, shortly after the second half began, a piling-on penalty against Harvard gave Centre the ball at the home team's 32-yard line. The story goes that McMillin called a huddle and said, loud enough for the Harvard players to overhear, "Now, men, here's the break for which we've waited two years. Here's where we win the ball game." That somehow doesn't sound like Bo's way of talking, but whatever it was he said, a moment later McMillin took the snap from Center Weaver, faked to Terry Snowday and followed Roberts' blocking into the right side of the line. Passing the line of scrimmage, Bo suddenly veered to his left, then took off for the end zone with the Harvards in hot pursuit. Pausing at the 10 just long enough to let a couple of Crimson sail by, McMillin crossed the goal line seconds before he was smothered from the rear.

It didn't matter that the extra-point attempt failed. Harvard was all but done. In the final minute the Crimson quarterback, Charley Buell, completed a pass that was carried to the Centre three, but Harvard was offside. Final score: Centre 6, Harvard 0. Fans rushed to carry Bo McMillin off the field on their shoulders while others stood with bared heads and sang My Old Kentucky Home. Some of the Centre players sold their rummage-sale jerseys for anywhere from \$10 to \$50.

The team celebrated that night at the Hotel Lenox, then entrained for its trip back to Danville. At Cincinnati the team's Pullmans were cut off the main line and hooked to a Southern Railway Special. Bo McMillin, his pockets stuffed with winnings, took the throttle while Red Roberts shoveled coal and the team sang Casey Jones. At Danville they were met by hundreds of delirious fans. The notation "C 6, H 0" had been smeared all over town. Someone had even rounded up 10 or 12 cows, painted the score on their flanks and run them up Danville's main street. The players rode around town on a firetruck, and the governor of Kentucky, Edwin P. Morrow, said, "I'd rather be Bo McMillin at this moment than the governor of Kentucky." Headlines in Danville's Kentucky Advocate went even farther than that: "Centre Wins! McMillin Hero of the Football World, President of the United States for Time Being. He is the Great Effulgent Star!"

"Only one thing's been aworryin' me since that day," Bo McMillin told a friend many years later. "What does effulgent mean?"

Find this article at: <http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/vault/article/magazine/MAG1081810/index.htm>

From issues of the *Sporting Life*...

○ **1915...The Best Foot Ball Alibis**

Some remarkable alibis have been used explaining defeats, but Johnny Bender, formerly a star at St. Louis University as a player and later coach at the Mound City and at Washington State College, comes out with the best in years. Bender is coaching the Kansas Aggies and he declares that the Kansas Normals jobbed him out of the annual game by using a disc harrow on the field.

Here is his explanation:

"The Aggies, being very light, were depending on footwork and the forward pass in the game last week. Knowing this, the Normal management caused the field, to be double disced, knowing, that the slow field would not affect their players, who were depending on weight and not speed to win for them. Then an inch of rain fell, and the field was transformed into a quagmire in which the Aggies had not chance at all to work the formations on which they had depended. This is the first recorded use of a plow in winning a foot ball game.

This is almost a duplicate of an alibi furnished by the University of Oregon 10 or 12 years ago, when, with a team doped to beat the Oregon Aggies 30 or 40 to 0, they returned from Corvallis with a scoreless tie. On that occasion, Oregon men maintained, the Aggies plowed a ditch of 10 yards wide across each end of the field, 25 or 30 yards from the goal, and then turned the fire hose on the soft ground, making a quagmire of the field and making scoring across those barriers impossible.

Another prize alibi was given a few years ago by a Baker University correspondent, who declared that the Baker team's weakness against Haskell was caused by the fact that one of the leading Baker players had poisoned himself by eating paw paws.

○ **1915...Famous Western Foot Ball Player and Critic**
By Walter Eckersall

The Origin of Foot Ball Signals

HERE is a most interesting article on the origin of foot ball signals, by R.W. Maxwell, the famous Swarthmore All-American guard of 1905:

"Signals seem to be an absolutely essential part of foot ball, and, yet it was not until 1888 that they were invented.

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From the November day in 1869, when Rutgers and Princeton played the first game of foot ball, until 1888, the colleges got along by using systems which varied with every eleven, letters being frequently used. It was left to Pennsylvania Military College to originate the present system of numbers.

“It was on a chill November afternoon in 1888 that Pennsylvania Military College flashed the number system on the foot ball world, and incidentally used the single signals as the means of a coup whereby Princeton was whipped at Chester by 6 to 0.

The numbers not only mystified Princeton, but they so speeded up Penn Military's play that it was able to outrush the Tigers at every stage of the game, which was witnessed by more than a thousand persons, a great foot ball gathering for those days. From that day the use of numbers for signals spread rapidly.

"Few realize that Pennsylvania Military College, situated about one-half hour's ride from Philadelphia, once occupied a foremost place in foot ball.

Nor do they realize that the really 'big' games in that section 25 years ago were played between Pennsylvania Military College and the University of Pennsylvania.

"In defeating Princeton, Pennsylvania Military did not use trick plays, spring some new formations or work the 'shoestring' stunt for the first time. The players outgeneraled their opponents, and the outgeneraling was done by using a system of numbers for signals.

"Foot ball signals now being used by all of the teams were used for the first time in this contest. Princeton was swept off her feet by the speedy play, and was outclassed and outplayed.

It was the most successful 'coup d'etat' ever sprung by a foot ball team. It made such an impression on Princeton that the coach adopted it for his team, and within a year Yale, Harvard, Pennsylvania, and others also took it up. Penn also was defeated in that same year. This revolutionized foot ball."

- Picked Up on the Gridiron...1916...Gilroy, Georgetown's great halfback, made one of the season's highest individual point totals in the game against Albright, when he tallied 47 points, this being made up of 6 touchdowns, and 11 goals from touchdown. On the same day

Oliphant, the Army halfback, made 45 points against Villanova.

* * * *

Baseball Magazine, 1912 [as is]

Yost's Opinions on New Football

Fielding Yost of Michigan is nothing if not a football crank.

His ideas of the game are always interesting and his comment on the changes in the football rules is timely.

Yost praises the work of the committee generally.

As to the reduction of the time of the first and third rest periods from three to two minutes, he says: "Of course it may be possible that breaking the game up this way will interfere to some extent with the continuity of play.

However, that is not what we are trying to solve. We want to keep the men as fresh as possible, and when they are allowed to walk around for two or three minutes, and then change goals, the fellows feel a whole lot more like going back to play.

I was glad to see that the rule permitting players to be re-substituted was not cut out. I should like to see a rule incorporated which would allow a player to re-enter the game at any time."

On the subject of the forward pass, Yost says: "I am glad the penalty begins at the spot of the down and not from where the ball was thrown, because it encourages the pass to be worked oftener.

When the ball was carried back to the point from where it was thrown, it discouraged the play, while the new ruling has the opposite effect.

As for the other part of the rule which allows a man to be tackled as soon as he catches the ball, I think that is exactly right.

In the first place, it is difficult for the player and the officials to tell how many steps a man has taken; in fact, it almost is impossible to tell, and, furthermore, a player coming down on the receiver of a pass cannot stop and wait until the man has started."

*Sporting Life 1893...*The Pittsburg superintendent of police says that unless foot ball play and rules are modified before another year the Police department will not permit it to be played in Pittsburg. He says that in his opinion the game as played this year is more brutal than prize fighting, with bare knuckles.

Two members-elect of the next Ohio Legislature have announced their intention of presenting bills looking to the radical regulation, if not suppression, of the game of foot ball in Ohio.

* * * *

Teams that led the country in Most Points in a Single-Season: 1937-2013

Compiled by Tex Noel, Executive Director IFRA

1st YEAR	COLLEGE	# Seasons Led Nation in Scoring	Single-Season High
1996	Mount Union	7	792...2012
1955	Oklahoma	5	716...2008
1986	Georgia Southern	3	747...1999
1957	Arizona State	3	562...1972
1993	St. John's (Minn.)	2	702...1993
1989	Central State (Ohio)	2	667...1989
1970	Nebraska	2	654...1983
1975	Texas A & I	2	593...1976
1950	Emory & Henry	2	542...1987
1966	New Mexico Highlands	2	533...1968
1960	Florida A & M	2	515...1960
1964	San Diego State	2	492...1969
1954	College of Emporia	2	424...1963
2004	Pittsburg State	1	837...2004
2009	Sioux Falls	1	775...2009
1991	Georgetown (Ky.)	1	744...1991

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2013	Florida State	1	723...2013
2001	Grand Valley State	1	707...2001
2011	Houston	1	690...2011
2003	Carroll (Mont.)	1	675...2003
2010	St. Xavier	1	670...2010
2002	Trinity (Tex.)	1	665...2002
1995	Montana	1	652...1995
1984	Mississippi Valley State	1	628...1984
1992	New Haven	1	613...1992
1988	Oklahoma State	1	584...1988
1949	College of Pacific	1	575...1949
1982	Northwestern (Iowa)	1	558...1982
1981	Southwest Texas State	1	554...1981
1980	Brigham Young	1	550...1980
1979	Delaware	1	546...1979
1952	East Texas Teachers	1	529...1952
1985	Furman	1	520...1985
1958	West Chester Teachers	1	514...1958
1944	Army	1	504...1944
1974	Boise State	1	497...1974
1967	Waynesburg	1	483...1967
1948	Nevada	1	480...1992
1946	Oklahoma City	1	470...1946
1977	Lehigh	1	466...1977
1953	Texas Tech	1	463...1953
1951	Arkansas State	1	456...1951
1942	Tulsa	1	434...1942
1945	Alabama	1	430...1945
1947	Wilberforce State	1	415...1947
1959	Syracuse	1	413...1959

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1962	Jackson State	1	411...1962
1965	Ottawa	1	389...1965
1937	Arkansas Tech	1	363...1937
1943	Notre Dame	1	340...1964
1940	Boston College	1	339...1940
1941	Texas	1	338...1941
1939	San Jose State	1	324...1939
1938	Detroit Tech	1	321...1938

* * * *

*******NOTICE*******

If any TCFH Subscribers have a word document of the newsletter for the months of January-March and May-August, 2014...would you please forward a copy back to editor, Tex Noel, ifra.tcfh@gmail.com. Thank you...for some reason these issue were accidently deleted from the folder they were contained in.

* * * *

Bo Carter presents the College Football Hall of Famers born or passed away in the month of December.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 (1892) Charlie Bachman, Chicago | 2 (1974) Pat Fitzgerald, Orland Park, Ill. |
| 1 (1931) Steve Eisenhower, Sheffield, Pa. | 2-(d – 1997) Endicott Peabody, Hollis, N.H. |
| 1 (1938) Mike McGee, Washington, D.C. | 3 (1887) Bob Fisher, Boston, Mass. |
| 1 (1971) Rob Waldrop, Atlanta, Ga. | 3 (1894) Bert Baston, St. Louis Park, Minn. |
| 1-(d – 1986) Bobby Layne, Lubbock, Texas | 3 (1923) Tom Fears, Los Angeles, Calif. |
| 2 (1901) George Owen, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada | 3 (1957) Keith Dorney, Allentown, Pa. |
| 2 (1953) Randy Rhino, Atlanta, Ga. | 3-(d – 1970) Clarence Swanson, Lincoln, Neb.\ |

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3-(d - 1982) Dutch Meyer, Fort Worth, Texas
3-(d – 1998) Ed Widseth, St. Paul, Minn.
3 (1885) Francis Schmidt, Downs, Kan.
4 (1901) Adam Walsh, Churchville, Iowa
4 (1908) Tommy Yarr, Dabob, Wash.
4 (1931) Roy Kidd, Corbin, Ky.
4 (1942) Frank Emanuel, Clio, S.C.
4-(d – 1975) Jack Mollenkopf, West Lafayette, Ind.
5 (1892) Jim Phelan, Sacramento, Calif.
5 (1927) Frosty Westering, Council Bluffs, Iowa
5 (1936) Tom Brown, Albert Lea, Minn.
5 (1936) John Wooten, Carlsbad, N.M.
5 (1947) Jim Plunkett, San Jose, Calif.
5 (1957) Art Monk, White Plains, N.Y.
5 (1963) Larry Station, Omaha, Neb.
6 (1893) Lou Little, Leominster, Mass.
6 (1898) Benny Lee Boynton, Waco, Texas
6 (1918) Nick Drahos, Ford City, Pa.
6 (1921) Otto Graham, Waukegan, Ill.
6-(d – 1979) Mal Stevens, Bronx, N.Y.
6-(d - 2010) Don Meredith, Santa Fe, N.M.
7 (1888) Hamilton Fish, Garrison, N.Y.
7-(d – 1980) Paul Schwegler, Newport Beach, Calif.
7-(d – 1998) Vic Markov, Seattle, Wash.
7-(d - 2001) Charles McClendon, Baton Rouge, La.
7-(d – 2006) Jackie Parker, Edmonton, Canada
8 (1914) Bobby Grayson, Portland, Ore.

8 (1941) Bob Brown, Cleveland, Ohio
8 (1958) George Rogers, Duluth, Ga.
9 (1892) Forrest Geyer, Southaven, Kan.
9 (1898) Duke Slater, Normal, Ill.
9 (1942) Dick Butkus, Chicago, Ill.
9 (1947) Steve Owens, Gore, Okla.
9 (1955) Jim Haslett, Pittsburgh, Pa.
9-(d - 1956) Calvin Jones, Hope, British Columbia, Canada
9-(d - 2000) Tyrone McGriff, Melbourne, Fla.
9-(d – 2007) Harold Davis, Bloomfield Heights, Mich.
10 (1883) Jesse Harper, Paw Paw, Ill.
10 (1916) Parker Hall, Tunica, Miss.
10 (1933) Larry Morris, Decatur, Ga.
10-(d – 1933) Bill Roper, Philadelphia, Pa.
10-(d - 1944) Joe Rutt, In Combat in Belgium
10-(d – 1967) Bernie Shively, Lexington, Ky.
10-(d – 1978) Ed Healey, South Bend, Ind.
10-(d – 2007) – George Morris, Highlands, N.C.
10-(d – 2009) Gene Carpenter, Lancaster, Pa.
11 (1910) George Sauer, Stratton, Neb.
11 (1924) Doc Blanchard, McColl, S.C.
11 (d - 1960) Mike Donahue, Baton Rouge, La.
12 (1881) Zora Clevenger, Muncie, Ind.
12 (1900) Lloyd Jordan, Punxsutawney, Pa.
12 (1904) John Smith, Hartford, Conn.
12 (1914) Bob Herwig, Pomona, Calif.
12 (1930) Steve Meilinger, Bethlehem, Pa.
12 (1962) Brad Calip, Hobart, Okla.
12 (1967) John Randle, Hearne, Texas

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- 12-(d – 1936) Bert Herschberger, Chicago, Ill.
12-(d – 1965) Frank Schwab, Spangler, Pa.
13 (1911) Buzz Borries, Louisville, Ky.
13 (1955) Brad Crawford, Logansport, Ind.
13-(d – 1963) John McGovern, LeSeur, Minn
13-(d – 1971) Eddie Kaw, Walnut Creek, Calif.
13-(d – 1979) Edgar Garbisch, Cambridge, Md.
13-(d – 1983) Jim Daniell, Pittsburgh, Pa.
13-(d - 1983) John Merritt, Nashville, Tenn.
13-(d – 1994) Charlie Richard, Baldwin City, Kan.
14 (1922) Charlie Trippi, Pittston, Pa.
14 (1939) Ernie Davis, New Salem, Pa.
14-(d – 1914) Lee McClung, London, England
14-(d -1920) George Gipp, South Bend, Ind.
14-(d – 1941) Art Hillenbrand, Waubay, S.D.
14-(d – 1974) Bob Herwig, Sacramento, Calif.
14-(d – 1983) Johnny Bright, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
14-(d – 1985) Charlie Bachman, Port Charlotte, Fla.
14-(d – 2004) Alex Sarkisian, East Chicago, Ind.
15-(d – 1973) Emil “Red” Sitko, Ft. Wayne, Ind.
15-(d – 1981) Aubrey Devine, San Diego, Calif.
15-(d – 2012) Bob Odell, Philadelphia, Pa.
16 (1913) Gust Zarnas, Ikaris, Greece
16 (1914) Steve Reid, Chicago, Ill.
16 (1916) Jess Dow, Tona, Texas
16 (1962) Jerry Gray, Lubbock, Texas
16 (1963) Tim Green, Liverpool, N.Y.
17-(d – 1954) Fred Miller, Milwaukee, Wis.
17-(d – 1959) Bob Butler, Canton, Ohio
17-(d – 1969) Harvey Harman, Highland Park, N.J.
17-(d- 1973) Wally Butts, Athens, Ga.
17-(d – 1996) George Pfann, Ithaca, N.Y.
17-(d – 2003) Otto Graham, Sarasota, Fla.
17-(d – 2008) Sam Baugh, Rotan, Texas
17-(d – 2011) Harley Sewell, Arlington, Texas
18 (1956) Jerry Robinson, San Francisco, Calif.
19 (1909) Frank Hoffman, Seattle, Wash.
19 (1926) Bobby Layne, Santa Ana, Texas
19 (1961) Reggie White, Chattanooga, Tenn.
19 (1964) Randall McDaniel, Phoenix, Ariz.
19-(d – 1971) Bart Macomber, Woodburn, Ore.
19-(d – 2012) Larry Morris, Atlanta, Ga.
20 (1867) Pudge Heffelfinger, Minneapolis, Minn.
20 (1953) Chet Moeller, Fairmont, Ohio
20-(d – 1917) Art Wheeler, Philadelphia, Pa.
21 (1916) Vic Bottari, Vallejo, Calif.
21 (1926) Joe Paterno, Brooklyn, N.Y.
21 (1935) Henley Garney, Elgin, N.D.
21 (1940) Tom Beck, Chicago, Ill.
21 (1941) Hal Bedsole, Chicago, Ill.
21 (1950) Mike Bellotti, Sacramento, Calif.
21 (1960) George Floyd, Tampa, Fla.
21-(d – 1918) Hobey Baker, Tours, France
22 (1949) Ray Guy, Swainsboro, Ga.
22-(d – 1957) Bob Zuppke, Champaign, Ill.
22-(d – 2006) Sam Chapman, Kentfield, Calif.
23 (1871) Frank Hinkey, Tonawanda, N.Y.
23 (1892) Gus Welch, Spooner, Wis.

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- 23 (1924) Dan Devine, Augusta, Wis.
23 (1935) Paul Hornung, Louisville, Ky.
23 (1948) Jack Ham, Johnstown, Pa.
23 (d -1931) Knowlton Ames, Chicago, Ill.
23-(d – 1942) Chris Cagle, New York City
23-(d – 1948) Gil Dobie, Boston, Mass.
23-(d – 1954) Hunter Scarlett, New York City
24 (1871) Charlie Gelber, Hawley, Pa.
24 (1919) Bill Dudley, Bluefield, Va.
24 (1924) Frank Broyles, Decatur, Ga.
24-(d – 1897) Marshall Newell, Springfield, Mass.
24-(d – 1941) Tommy Yarr, Chicago, Ill.
24-(d – 1970) Zora Clevenger, Bloomington, Ind.
25 (1941) Dave Parks, Muenster, Texas
25 (1943) Howard Twilley, Houston, Texas
25 (1946) Larry Csonka, Stow, Ohio
25-(d – 1965) Joe Kendall, Owensboro, Ky.
25-(d – 1979) Harold Ballin, Clearwater, Fla.
25-(d – 1988) Eddie Cameron, Durham, N.C.
25-(d – 1996) Bill Osmanski, Chicago, Ill.
25-(d – 1996) Clayton Tonnemaker, St. Paul, Minn.
26 (1905) Tom Hamilton, Hoopeston, Ill.
26-(d – 1916) Stan Pennock, Newark, N.J.
26 (1924) Glenn Davis, Burbank, Calif.
26 (1927) Bill Yeoman, Elnora, Ind.
26 (1960) Scott Reppert, Appleton, Wis.
26-(d – 1971) Tad Wieman, Portland, Ore.
26-(d – 1995) Al DeRogatis, Spring Lake, N.J.
26-(d – 2000) Gust Zarnas, Bethlehem, Pa.
26-(d – 2004) Reggie White, Cornelius, N.C.
27-(d – 1963) George Wilson, San Francisco, Calif.
27-(d – 1971) Joe Guyon, Louisville, Ky.
27-(d – 2007) Bill Willis, Columbus, Ohio
28 (1894) Ed Healey, Indian Orchard, Mass.
28 (1915) Vic Markov, Chicago, Ill.
28 (1920) Alvin Wistert, Chicago, Ill.
28 (1935) Clendon Thomas, Oklahoma City, Okla.
28-(d – 1953) Doug Bomeisler, Greenwich, Conn.
28-(d – 1956) Ed Hart, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
28-(d – 1971) Joe Aillet, Ruston, La.
28-(d – 1984) Ricky Bell, Los Angeles, Calif.
29 (1909) William Grinnell, Boston, Mass.
29 (1911) Tay Brown, Compton, Calif.
29 (1915) Bill Osmanski, Providence, R.I.
29 (1924) Warren Amling, Pana, Ill.
29-(d – 1915) Tom Shevlin, Minneapolis, Minn.
30 (1896) Homer Norton, Birmingham, Ala.
30 (1941) Mel Renfro, Houston, Texas
30 (1946) Barry Alvarez, Langeloth, Pa.
30 (1966) Dr. Joe Micchia, Sharon, Pa.
30-(d – 1925) Frank Hinkey, Southern Pines, N.C.
30-(d – 1967) Lloyd Yoder, San Francisco, Calif.
30-(d – 1976) Harry Baujan, Dayton, Ohio
30-(d – 2004) Bob Ferguson, Columbus, Ohio
31 (1875) Charles Rinehart, Uniontown, N.J.

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31 (1918) Ray Graves, Knoxville, Tenn.

31 (1928) Hugh McElhenny, Los Angeles, Calif.

31 (1932) Don James, Massillon, Ohio

31-(d – 1963) John Minds, Philadelphia, Pa.

31-(d – 1967) Bishop Frank Juhan, Sewanee, Tenn.

31-(d – 1992) Bill Spears, Harriman, Tenn.

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