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Tex Noel, Editor

(statwhiz@hotmail.com)

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A Backward Glance at the Forward Pass: Giving Credit Where Credit is DU! (Part 4 of 4)

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Granville Historical Society

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The Next Two Football Seasons
Roudebush continued his forward passing bombardment as a throwing halfback for the Denison Big Red. What is interesting historically is that on November 1, 1913—the same day that the Dorais/Rockne duo flabbergasted Army through the forward pass—Roudebush and his Denison teammates carried out a forward pass offensive onslaught against the Bobcats of Ohio University on the loser's home field in Athens, winning by the lopsided score of 52-0. Of course, this event in Athens that day occurred long before the ESPN advances of instantaneous

football news and interest stories. Earlier that season, Roudebush connected on three touchdown passes in a 31-0 win at Wittenberg. The *Advocate* notes that in this second game of the season, "The forward passing of Roudebush was very accurate and three of his passes resulted in touchdowns."

In a 47-0 rout of Ohio Wesleyan in 1913, the *Adytum* reporter notes that "This game was one of forward passes and Roudy had the Wesleyan bunch completely bewildered."¹⁰ The *Advocate* noted that Roudebush threw two scoring passes and scored four times himself in this rout of Ohio Wesleyan.

Roudebush was at the helm of the Denison pass work and undoubtedly there is no other man in the state who can combine such great accuracy and distance to his passes. Roudy had plenty of time to choose his man."

In this game, Roudebush completed 19 of 42 passes, including 13 completions for 150 yards in the fourth quarter alone.

The 1913 Denison Big Red indeed was a ferocious passing machine by the middle of its second season of using the forward pass as an effective offensive strategy.

The football fame of the Denison gridders must have been widespread, because for the final game of the 1913 season, the Denison team traveled to Rochester, NY, for a game before four thousand fans with the University of Rochester. The next two *Adytums* reiterate Roudebush's phenomenal passing skills.

The 1914 team continued its wizardry with the forward pass. Commenting on the football success of this Ohio Conference Championship team, the editors of the *Adytum* wrote the following: Denison was recognized as one of the most perfect exponents of the new forward pass and lateral pass game in the Buckeye State. Perfection of the open style of play was the reason for a Denison success. Coach Walter Livingston earnestly groomed his men in the various new methods of attack. His proteges attested their ability to put the advice of the sterling leader into practice by making consistent gains with his plays.'

In the victory over Oberlin, the newspaper reporter notes that "Denison worked the forward pass with success and scored a touchdown by this method in the second quarter with a beautiful pass

Roudebush to Dutch Thiele "Roudebush came back the next week to throw two touchdown passes in another win over Ohio Wesleyan.

Certainly these scoring totals alone would indicate that the Denison passing game was exceedingly productive. And it began definitely in the fall season of 1912, when Livy and his team capitalized on the tremendous throwing abilities of a Denison sophomore student from Newtonsville, Ohio. Roudebush was a four-sport letter winner, playing for the Big Red in football, basketball, baseball, and tennis.

Righting the History of College Football on the Forward Pass

It is the Denison 1912 Big Red football team that deserves the historical credit and acknowledgement for first establishing, perfecting, and executing the strategy of the forward pass, not the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame. *Newark Advocate* executive sports editor,

Jim Wharton, wrote accurately when he jotted down the following account: News clippings from the 1912 Denison season prove that Roudebush was a passing wizard in his own right—a year before Rockne unleashed the forward pass with sensational results against Army.

This historical evidence refutes passages like the one quoted earlier from *The Pigskin Post* asserting that before the

1913 Notre Dame/Army game" the forward pass was more gimmick play and had never been used as a regular part of a team's offense. "Without any doubt, the 1912 Denison Big Red gridgers used effectively the forward pass, not as a gimmick but as a powerful offensive weapon.

Kaye Kessler ends his 1982 article by writing, with some sense of astonishment considering the "three yards and a cloud of dust " policy of Woody Hayes, "To think that [the forward pass] was perfected in the school that spawned Woody Hayes as a player [guard] and coach!"

A Postscript

In considering this story and its importance in the history of football, one continues to see the effect of public relations and newsworthy stories. That the 1913 Notre-Dame football team caught the imagination of the Eastern sports press corps is undeniable.

Rockne himself always knew how to ingratiate himself with news people, especially sports writers. Grantland Rice's fabled story of the "Four Horsemen" grew out of Rockne 's appreciation for the press.

The Gipper story would be another example. There were no big time sports writers at the games where Denison 's highly talented George Roudebush hurled the pigskin with such accuracy. Nonetheless,

Roudebush and his corps of receivers rightly and unequivocally deserve the recognition of perfecting the forward pass strategy a year before the Dorais/Rockne duo surprised the cadets of Army.

Roudebush graduated from Denison with his class in 1915 and entered the Law School at the University of Cincinnati. He was "drafted" by the famous Canton Bulldogs and played part of a season in the same.

Only by spectacular forward passes was Denison able to win the victory. Two of those seemed to go half the length of the field and as each was successfully executed, groans of despair came from the Wesleyan stands."

During Roudebush's senior year, the *Adytum* sports editor wrote the following about Denison's stellar passer: Roudebush must also be recognized as the best forward passer in Ohio and one of the best in college football.

Forty-five yards was his longest completed pass in a game, but a sixty yard one squirmed out of the receiver's arms in the Miami fray.

The description of Roudebush's gridiron accomplishments during his Denison years also refers to adept passing abilities: Roudebush—We are very much afraid that "Roudy" will be drafted by the Germans to throw their 42 cm shells for them, for he sure does put a lot of push behind his passes and hits the mark every time.

Beyond the shadow of a doubt, he is the best passer in this or any other state, and moreover he can carry the ball with the best of them. We will miss him at left half next year.'

The editor of the *Cleveland Athletic Club Journal*, Matt Fenn, gives sophomore George Roudebush and the 1912 Denison Big Red football team the historical credit as "first revolutionizing the game of Football by dramatically proving the effectiveness of the forward pass."²² It is instructive to consider the point spread between Denison and its opponents during this three-year span when the team continued to perfect its forward passing strategy.

1912: Denison—211; Opponents—65;
1913: Denison—173; Opponents—59;
1914: Denison—183; Opponents—65.
Grand total: Denison—567;
Opponents: 189

The 1913 season only had seven contests because a blinding snow storm forced the cancellation of the second game in November. This team might have scored over two hundred points for a second year in a row.⁶

He played in same backfield with the legendary Jim Thorpe. Roudebush once recalled that the Bulldogs mailed him the plays and signals in Cincinnati, and he would

study this information while going on the train to the game sites. He was paid a hundred dollars a month for his football services with the Bulldogs, later an original member of the newly founded National Football League.

When the United States entered the First World War, Roudebush applied to Officer Candidate School and served in the infantry as a captain. Stationed at Camp Sherman near Chillicothe, he played for an army team that went against Ohio State and its famous All American, Chic Harley, in a Thanksgiving Day contest on the old Ohio Field in Columbus.

After serving in France in 1918, Roudebush returned to Cincinnati and finished law school. Yet he still had his football yearnings, and he played in the starting backfield for the 1919 Dayton Triangles, another charter member of the National Football League. A football official for a quarter century, Roudebush was a seventy-year member of a large Cleveland law firm more recently known as Arter & Hatten. He served for nearly half a century with the Trustees of his alma mater in Granville and is a member of the Denison University Athletic Hall of Fame.

George Roudebush died in 1992 at the age of 98.

One of Roudebush's favorite receivers, Dave Reese, also graduated in 1915. Reese was captain of the 1914 Ohio

Conference Championship team and received many accolades for his football abilities.

Reese and Roudebush were fellow students at the University of Cincinnati, where Reese graduated from the Dental School. Later Reese became the first commissioner of the Mid-American Athletic Conference.

Roudebush once recalled that "Dave and I roomed together and played football, basketball and baseball together for seven years." Reese was a star basketball player on the 1912-13

Denison team that beat Notre Dame 47-13. This basketball team was the undisputed state champions.

The author expresses his gratitude to Bob Shannon, Denison alumnus and former member of the Denison football staff and himself a player during his student days, for his suggestions and assistance. The author's colleagues, Don Bonar and

Homer Martin writes in reply to the 1892 Oberlin-Michigan game:

1892-11-19

I found this article in the newspaper: *The New York World*

Oberlin Left the Field

Stew Dyke, graciously provided references on Denison football from their files. Co-editor of *The Historical Times*, Lou Middleman, offered many helpful editorial suggestions to earlier drafts of this article.

* * *

Mel Smith sends this notice in:

I have the wrong Indiana University of Bloomington football data for 1890/91 in my book, **Evolution of Early Foot Ball: Through the 1890/91 Season.**

In 2005, Indiana put out a Year-by-Year listing beginning 1887. It had no 'Years' listed, so I put in the first four records and 1890 was (1-5-0). In a new 2009 listing, 1885 is the first year and 1890 is listed as 'No Record of Any Games'. The (1-5-0)

Indiana record really belongs in the 1891/92 season. They had left out a 'No Records' year in the earlier 2005 listing.

* * *

Special to the World

Ann Arbor, Mich., Nov. 19.? Oberlin football team forfeited a game to Michigan here to-day, leaving the field four minutes before time was called in the second half. Oberlin had a much heavier team than Michigan and did fine rush work. Jewett and Pearson did the best work for Michigan. Summary.

Michigan (22) Positions Oberlin (18)

Paul Woodward?????..Left
End?????.Husman(?)

William W. Pearson????...Left
Tackle?????.C.K. Fauver

Charles L. Thomas?..???...Left
Guard?????.J. White

Willard W.
Griffin?????..Center???????..Weauott
(J.W. Molt?)

Frederrick Henninger????..Right
Guard?????Welnal (Welnut?)

Charles T. Griffin?????Right
Tackle?????...J.C. Teeters

Raplh W. Hays?????....Right
End??????W.H. Merriam

Ed
(S)Anderson?????..Quarterback???
??..C.S. Williams

George H. Jewett?????Left
HB??????T.W. Johnson

Heman B. Leonard?????.Right
HB??????..C.W. Savage

Michigan ran two plays after Oberlin left the field not one.

The first play was the touchdown
run.

The second play was a kicked goal
after touchdown.

After Michigan claimed victory 22-
18, Oberlin added a touchdown and
goal after touchdown to claim a 24-
22 win.

George B. Duggart
(Dygert)...?Fullback?????..L.E.
Hart

Ann Arbor, Mich., Nov.
19.?Attendance, 1,000.

Touchdowns?Jewett (2), Pearson,
Dygert, Weless(J.H. Wise), Savage,
Williams. **Goals from**
Touchdown?Jewett (3), Hart (3).
Umpire?Mr. Smith, Referee?Mr.
Protzman.

My thoughts:

The final score stood at Oberlin 18
Michigan 16 when Oberlin ahead
left the field with Michigan, having
missed an extra point.

Touchdowns are worth 4, extra
points 2

Oberlin was ahead at the time they
left the field of play, so that would
mean:

Oberlin 18 and Michigan had scored
3 touchdowns and 2 goals after
touchdown making their score 16.

Likely cause for the Oberlin team
pulled off the field was game called
due to darkest or the agreed to time
had run out.

Halves in those days could be two
different lengths of time, with the
second half being the short of the
two.

The outcome of the game should be an Oberlin win, no play can be run after an opponent has left the field.

I added the first names that I found in Oberlin's and Michigan's press guides. (The “?” are added by me to show it is a questionable area!)

Editor, Tex Noel has found this:

Base ball tactics tire being introduced on the foot ball field. At Ann Arbor, Mich., Nov. 1st (19). Oberlin foot ball team forfeited a game to Michigan, leaving the field four minutes before time was called in the second half. Oberlin has a much heavier team than Michigan and did fine rush work.

Sporting Life*, 1892, Volume 20 Number 9 Page 11. ..Under the heading: **Punts and Kicks**

* * *

Baldwin-Wallace College's "The Streak" in Football is Filled With Tradition, Pride and a Dream (Part 2 of 2)

By Kevin Ruple, SID, Baldwin-Wallace

Enroute to winning its national title in 1978, B-W again met twice that year. In the first meeting, the Yellow Jackets and Tigers met in Berea and tied, 10-10. They were OAC co-champs. With just eight teams being invited to the NCAA Division III

Playoffs, and B-W and Wittenberg being two of the best in Division III, the Selection Committee had no other option but to put both in the playoffs. And, because both were so good and had tied during the regular season, the committee had to put them in separate brackets.

As luck would have it, Wittenberg won its first two games and B-W beat St. Lawrence (N.Y), 71-7, and Carnegie-Mellon (Pa.), 31-6, to set up the OAC duo for the first and only intra-conference national championship game in Division III history. In Chattahoochee, Alabama, at Phenix City Junior College, B-W would make history as it beat Wittenberg, 24-10, to claim the Division III national title.

The B-W and Wittenberg rivalry is storied, and one of the best in the history of small college football. Between 1968 when B-W returned to the OAC from being an independent until 1988 when Wittenberg departed the OAC for the North Coast Athletic Conference, the two schools combined to claim 14 OAC titles in 20 years. Twice, in 1978 and again in 1988, the Yellow Jackets and Tigers tied for the OAC title.

In addition to Wittenberg, both cross-town rival John Carroll and now current arch-rival Mount Union College have been a big part of "The Streak".

In addition to its wins against JCU in 1989 and 1995 which kept the streak alive, the Blue Streaks have also broken the Yellow Jackets

hearts. In 1994, B-W had beaten Mount Union, 23-10, in Alliance. The Purple Raiders beat JCU, so all B-W needed was a win over the Blue Streaks on the final day of the season to have an undefeated season, win an OAC title and claim a spot in the Division III Playoffs. But it was not to be as JCU came to Berea and shut out the Yellow Jackets at The George Finnie Stadium, 9-0. It cost B-W not only its undefeated season but also a spot in the Division III Playoffs.

"That might have been the most somber postseason banquet I've ever attended," recalled Packard. "It was a tough loss for everyone involved in the program. Here we are, OAC tri-champions along with John Carroll and Mount Union, and no one was really happy about it."

In the past two decades, the B-W and Mount Union rivalry is one of Division III's best. From 1984 to 1994, B-W and the Purple Raiders combined to win nine of 11 OAC titles. And, even though Mount Union has gone on to greater things, B-W fans still acknowledge that Mount Union's last regular season loss was to B-W in 1994.

This season, B-W enters its final game of the 2003 regular season with an 8-1 overall and 7-1 OAC

record. B-W's only loss this season is to number one-ranked Mount Union earlier this fall in Alliance. Despite that loss, the Yellow Jackets have run "The Streak" to 37 straight winning seasons. The team capped that goal three weeks ago when it beat Muskingum College, 35-17 on October 24. B-W has a seven-game winning streak and is ranked sixth in two and seventh in the another of the three Division III polls that are released each week. B-W was also ranked third in the North Region by the Playoff Selection Committee.

There are hopes in Berea of a playoff season. You know, the one's that dreams are made of; like the one's realized in 1978. Last week, Mt. Union clinched at title tie for the OAC title and can win it outright this week. That was one goal made and one lost. On November 16, players, coaches, the media and friends of the program will gather in the Tressel Lounge on campus to await word from the NCAA Division III National Selection Committee grants the Yellow Jackets a playoff bid and a chance to make it two of three and an opportunity to chase a dream.

Then next August, the B-W seniors will return to campus and looking forward to having a talk with an incoming freshman about "The Streak."

Colleges with 30 or more Consecutive Winning Seasons

Entering the 2009 Season

Compiled by Tex Noel/1st-N-Goal

#	School	Division	Seasons
53	Linfield OR	NAIA/NCAA III	1956-08*
42	Central IA	SC/NCAA III	1961-02
40	Texas	Major College	1893-16^
40	Notre Dame	Major College	1893-42
40	Nebraska	Major College/1A	1962-01
38	Alabama	Major College	1911-50+
38	Baldwin-Wallace OH	SC/NCAA III	1967-04
37	California-Davis	NCAA II	1970-06
37	Ithaca NY	NCAA III	1972-08*
36	Pacific Lutheran WA	NAIA/NAIA II/NCAA III	1969-04
32	Florida State	Major College/1A/BSD	1977-08*
31	Eastern Kentucky	NCAA 1AA/CSD	1978-08*
30	Carson-Newman TN	NAIA I/NCAA II	1979-08

**Current*

^First 24 years of playing college football

+Doesn't include year's 1918-WW I and 1943-WW II

* * * ESPN'S ALL-TIME GREATEST COLLEGE FOOTBALL TEAM

By Patrick M. Premo

PART I: ESPN'S SELECTIONS

In December of 2006, ESPN Classic presented its candidates for the best college football team ever. Certain experts in the field selected their top 32 teams which were then seeded into college bowl "divisions" and then presented to the audience as the "ESPN Classic's ALL-TIME

* * *

GREATEST COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF." The television audience was then asked to vote on-line for each round of this mythical tournament. Since the results of that tournament were based on the voters, it was basically a popularity contest.

I do not recall who these "experts" were nor do I know the basis which they used to seed the teams. I do not see any rhyme nor reason for the various "bowls" that were the division names; the seeding did not

appear to be either geographical or chronological. [If any of you readers can provide more details about any of this information, please let me or Tex know.]

COTTON BOWL Division:

1947 Notre Dame
1947 Michigan

1983 Nebraska
2002 Ohio St.

1999 Florida St.
1983 Miami, FL

1995 Nebraska
1959 Syracuse

SUGAR BOWL Division:

2001 Miami, FL
1938 TCU

1988 Notre Dame
1971 Oklahoma

1961 Alabama
1974 Oklahoma

1968 Ohio St.
1932 USC

ORANGE BOWL Division:

1971 Nebraska
1941 Minnesota

1969 Texas
1986 Penn St.

2004 USC
1976 Pittsburgh

1956 Oklahoma

1955 Oklahoma

ROSE BOWL Division:

1972 USC
1980 Georgia

2005 Texas
2000 Oklahoma

1924 Notre Dame
1962 USC

1945 Army
1944 Army

I will not bore you by providing the voting results for each game since only two games in the first three rounds had very close voting results: the finals for the Sugar Bowl and the finals for the Orange Bowl, as you will see below. I will provide the winners, based on votes received, of each Bowl Division:

Cotton Bowl: 1995 Nebraska over 1983 Nebraska, 88.5% to 11.5%

Sugar Bowl: 2001 Miami, FL, over 1961 Alabama, 51.9% to 48.1%

Orange Bowl: 1971 Nebraska over 2004 USC, 50.8% to 49.2%

Rose Bowl: 2005 Texas over 1945 Army, 62.6% to 37.4%

As might be expected, the more recent teams dominated the voting process. The voting results for the semis and final follow:

Semifinals:

1995 Nebraska over 2001 Miami, FL, 69.7% to 30.3%

1971 Nebraska over 2005 Texas, 61.8% to 38.2 %

Final:

1995 Nebraska over 1971 Nebraska, 82.5% to 17.5%

Thus, based on those ESPN watchers who voted (count me in, although my teams did not always win!), the All-time Greatest College Football teams was 1995 Nebraska.

Of course, this did not settle any arguments, nor should it. I do not know how many people voted for these games, but a couple games could have gone either way, although it does seem that 1995 Nebraska was slated to win no matter what – no other team so dominated the voting as it did.

I thought it might be interesting to conduct this tournament using my ***Fast-Action College Football Game***. In the next issue, I will present **Part II** of this article which will contain the results of a tournament conducted on the field of play; even it is a board game field.

See you then.

* * *

➤ **Bo Carter wants to know...**

As college football historians know that the AP only ranked 10 teams in its weekly and final polls, over the 1961-67 seasons.

Would there be an enterprising IFRA member who would like to fill in with his/her versions of the missing 11-20 regular-season polls?

This might make for a good IFRA research story with justification for the projected 11-20 rankings for that time.

Would any of our IFRA "experienced" members know why the wires pulled back during regular season but did include 1-20 teams in the final polls?

Thanks for any volunteers, takers, enthusiasts, etc.

Please contact me at **SCarter5@mail.twu.edu**.

* * *

First College Game Ends in a Forfeit

By Richard Topp

William Jewell a long time member of the NAIA has applied for membership with the NCAA and once it meets the guidelines for it, will play in the Great Lakes Valley Conference, with other NCAA II schools.

No doubt, the Cardinals have made memories through their history which began in 1895—one in a more than auspicious way.

All set to play Midland on Nov. 7, 1895, members of both schools met for the pre-game coin toss.

But, before a decision could be made of who would kick and what team would receive, Midland—located at the time in nearby Atchison, Kans.—walks off the field.

As the rule states: the referee was in charge and his call was to award the game to the visitors, which had noted that the home team also included members of the local high school.

➤ WJ wasn't the only the event that began with a bang in Liberty, Mo!

Noted old west outlaw Jesse James' event probably made headlines as well: 19 years before the game, as he robbed his first bank and in the process killed a William Jewell student, on Feb. 13, 1866.

* * *

The Link

Alumni publication of Howard Payne University (Vol. 8 No.1, published Nov. 1957)

By Dr. Robert Mangrum, HPU Historian

In Memory of

According to Don Newbury, Sports Information Director, HPC became an official member of the Lone Star Conference with the start of the fall 1957 football season. The Jackets were “having a tough time finding the key to an LSC win.” The Jackets were 1-5 going into the Homecoming game.

The football team, under head coach Bennie Williams, were reported ready for the 2:00 PM kick off against the Javelinas. “Though it wasn't the oldest series in the Howard Payne record books, the visitors from Kingsville are far from being total strangers. The series began in 1946, with the Jackets scoring their greatest victory over the Hogs with a 27-0 whitewashing.

The Jackets have accumulated a total of 128 points in the 10-game series to Texas A&I's 111 tallies, but the Javelinas hold the edge in the win column, 6-4. The game this year will be the first conference clash since the Jackets and Javelinas were Texas Conference cousins.

[Both were long time members of the old Texas Conference.] Though the Jackets will enter the game as decided underdogs . . ., they could prove double-tough on the Homecoming Day.” [They were winning 14-7.]

* * *

James Blanton Beard, 101, Texas...Campbellsville University (Ky.) football patriarch, **Ron Finley**, 76... **Tony Fein**, 27, former Ole

Miss player...**Gene Mayfield**, former West Texas State (now West Texas A&M) coach...Former Dayton Flyer **Patrick Artz**, 53... Connecticut CB

Jasper Howard, 20... Leon Clarke, 76, who played for Southern California in 1954 and '55...**Forest Evashevski**, the former Michigan football star coached Iowa to two Rose Bowl victories in the 1950s, has died. He was 91...**Darvin Wallis**, 60, 37-year assistant coach at Tulane, Mississippi.

Worth Noting

The Missouri Valley College Board of Trustees announced the naming of their football stadium as *Volney C. Ashford Stadium*, after the College HF Coach

SMU and Navy announced the creation of the **Gansz Trophy** which will be given to the winner of the SMU-Navy football games. The trophy honors late coach Frank Gansz.

Rutgers won its 600th game in school history...Utah tallied its 600th victory in 116 seasons after beating *UNLV* in Las Vegas... *BYU* scored its 500th win in school history after beating San Diego State.

College Football Hall of Famer John Elway was named this year's *Walter Camp Football Foundation* "Man of the Year". Elway joins College Football Hall of Famers Roger

Staubach, Gale Sayers and Dick Butkus as a recipient of the award

Inducted into Respective School's Hall of Fame

RB **Ivory Sully**, Delaware...San Diego State RB **Mario Mendez**, LB **Jeff Staggs** and OG **Ralph Wenzel**...**Tony Romo** into the Eastern Illinois Hall of Fame... North Texas honored **Billy Dinkle** and **Ja'Quay Wilburn** along with the **1959 North Texas football team** that played in the Sun Bowl...**Robert Jackson**, HCJC and **John Randle**, Trinity Valley CC...**Joe Brooks** and **James Morton**, West Texas State (now WT A&M)

* * *

While doing some research, **Steve Greene** ran across this:

November 5, 1884: Wyllys Terry of Yale had a record 115-yard run against Wesleyan; Terry picked up the ball 5 yards behind the goal and ran the 110-yard length of the field for a touchdown.

- ❖ *John Heisman, the man that the Heisman Trophy was named in honor of... was born two weeks before the inaugural intercollegiate game on Nov. 6, 1869--(October 23)--Princeton-Rutgers game and died 17 days--(October 3)--before the first "official" Associated Press major college football poll on Oct. 20, 1936.*

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❖ *In 1969, Dennis Shaw, QB for San Diego State, had a November to remember:*

11-1 vs Fresno State (complete 17; attempt 32; interceptions, 3 yards, 278 TD Passes, 3)

11-8 vs Pacific (25-38-0, 463, 7)

11-15 vs New Mexico State (26-42-3 442, 9)

11-22 vs North Texas State (28-46-5, 387, 3)

11-29 vs Long Beach State

(18-29-3, 267, 2)

Season: 199-355-26, 3185, 39

* * *

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA 23; UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO, 11

By J. Parmly Paret 1898

OUTING FOR DECEMBER FOOTBALL

University of Chicago eleven, trained by the former Yale end rush. A. A. Stagg made an Eastern trip and played the University of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia. October 29th.

The score was 23 to 11 in favor of the Eastern team, but it took the

finest kind of football to beat the Western men. The game had hardly opened before Herschberger, the wonderful, kicker of the Chicago team, tried for a goal from a place kick and came within a few feet of making it. After two or three kicks, Chicago carried the ball down the field on a series of long runs that finally landed it five yards away from the goal. One short plunge and they had scored.

Just after the ball had traveled up and down the field for a while, Pennsylvania brilliant run of 73 yards for a touchdown, on a got it on her 35-yard line and Outland made a "fake" pass trick that completely fooled the visitors. The goal was missed, however, and the first half closed with the score at 6 to 5 in favor of Chicago. In the second half, the Quakers scored in five minutes, after a series of guards-back plays that carried the ball over 80 yards for a touchdown.

Then another "fake" pass scored again, and a little later Carnett made 20 yards through the visitors' right wing, and a minute later scored again. Not long before the half ended, Herschberger dropped a goal from the 35-yard line, and the final score was 23 to 11. The full-length halves of 35 minutes were played.

Source: Baseball Magazine, 1908

Walter Camp—Maker of Watches

By Hubert M. Sedgwick

Ask a Yale man anywhere "who is Walter Camp?" and the answer comes bubbling up, "First in peace, first in war," etc. Yet that is not all.

Ask a New England businessman the question and he will say, "Head of one of the biggest manufacturing concerns in Connecticut." Camp leads a double life.

Athletes and college men are proud to point to him as their inspiration and example, and the shining star of their firmament, and business men hail him as equally luminous in their sphere.

Of a two-sided man it was once said: "Oh, doctors call him a base-ball player and baseball players call him a doctor."

This mistake is never made about Camp. He is welcomed by athletes as one of their kingpins and by business men as one of their most successful number.

Few college men know that Mr. Camp has a business side and business men, who don't read the sporting pages, haven't any idea that he is extensively in athletics.

Only one criticism has been brought against Mr. Camp, that of being too successful. The grumbling against him began way back in the early eighties when he led the short stops of the old intercollegiate baseball league both in fielding and batting. They complained that he had

finished his academic course, was simply a medical student and they wanted him to make way for other rivals. When he codified the rules for modern football the other members of the committee grumbled that he had made a set that he understood better than they did, and that, therefore, Yale was bound to win oftener at foot-ball than its colleges could.

When the Yale faculty tried to learn about the mysterious athletic fund Camp had, as treasurer of the Yale Financial Union, been storing away in the bank, year after year, to the credit of the Yale athletic association, they took their turn at grumbling. Their investigating committees finally learned that Camp had committed the misdemeanor of accumulating for Yale \$100,000, from the surplus of ten years in athletics.

Rivals of the New Haven Clock Company have grumbled ever since he was elected president of the concern. It had not paid dividends for years before, but and Football.

After he was elected its president, it began to gobble up all the loose orders insight, and it hasn't missed a dividend since. Mr. Camp is a living picture of Yankee organization and success.

Coming to Yale a spindle-shanked youth as a member of the class of '80, he wasn't rugged enough for varsity athletics till he had nearly reached his junior year, and his pre-eminence in sports dates from about

the time he was graduated from the academic department.

In 1881 and 1882 he had no equal among the college half-backs on the gridiron, nor among the short stops on the diamond. College baseball was then organized in a regular league, which included most of the Eastern teams, and Camp was a pioneer in scientific baseball as well as football.

He was then preparing himself for the practice of medicine, but a business opening presented itself and he entered the employ of the New Haven Clock Company.

He did not halt till he was chosen its president. To those who ask "What has Walter Camp done for Yale?" the only fitting answer is that life is too short to run through the category. Yale's athletic policy for a quarter of a century has been largely his policy, and it is only fair to say, in regard to the dark period in Yale athletics from 1894 to 1897, that he had resigned as chairman of the Yale Athletic Committee, and did not resume his activity as a Yale adviser till a few months before Yale began to win again.

Till 1883 football was a mongrel game. A losing team could prevent being scored upon by deliberately making safeties by touching the ball down behind its own goal.

It was clear that the rules must be revised. Camp, who represented

Yale at the conference, suggested the principle of five yards to be gained in four downs. The other delegates were skeptical, but Camp asked for a trial of the rule. They asked for time before adopting the principle, and as Mr. Camp was head of the Clock Company he had plenty of time.

The rule was put into effect and by November 1 was working so well that every college wrote that the rule had solved the difficulty, and that there was no need of any further revision.

Three years ago when mass formations had made the game too close for popular interest, it was clearly time for a change. Camp had suggested the change himself.

He wrote to Jack Hallowell, a prominent Harvard alumnus and former end rush. "Why not make the distance to be gained ten yards instead of five, and open up the game?"

It took Camp a year to convince the rules committee that the change was just what the game needed, but it has been proved thoroughly since then

When Morgan Bowman was elected captain of the Yale 1905 nine, he beat it for the factory of the New Haven Clock Company and asked Mr. Camp to take charge of the policy of the baseball team. The world had forgotten how Camp led the intercollegiate shortstops and

batsmen in the early eighties and had labeled himself only as a football coach.

After Bowman's team became the first Yale nine since 1898 to win a base-ball championship, it dawned

on the world that Camp himself had a baseball past.

No sketch of Mr. Camp would be complete without an anecdote at attempts to get an interview from that gentleman. Perhaps a surgical operation might ex-tract one, but it would be only successful with the subject either hypnotized or under the influence of an anesthetic.

Two days before the Yale-Princeton game last fall, I met him on the street wearing a worried look."What do you think about the Yale-Princeton game?"I ventured."I'll tell you," he said, pausing as if marshalling his thoughts for a sage reflection. Instantly I had pad and pencil out, and waited on his words."

I'll tell you," said Camp, from the depths of his wisdom, "I shall be mighty glad when it's over."Walter Camp is a dangerous man, dangerous in a world of competition, and the struggle for existence, because he has outstripped most competitors. Walter Camp is a menace to athletics. At least, that is the opinion of those who said that it

was suspicious that under his direction Yale should have saved a surplus of\$100,000 from the athletics of ten years while other universities were having to make up a deficit for as large an amount.

* * *

Outing 1898

Nashville, November 30th—Vanderbilt vs University of Nashville, 5-0

Vanderbilt forced the game in the first half, getting within Nashville's 18-yard line before being held for downs.

Nashville turned aggressor in the second half and carried the ball to Vanderbilt's 10-yard line by a run in which White distinguished himself

by clever dodging. Here Nashville grew nervous and allowed Massey, Vanderbilt's center, to carry a fumbled ball for a touchdown on a 100-yard run.

The teams seemed evenly matched, but play was drawn out to darkness and what is the more to be regret.

* * *

Fred “Pops” Long AFCA’s Recipient of the 2009 Trailblazer Award

By Vince Thompson

*AFCA Coordinator of
Publications*

Fred “Pops” Long, former Paul Quinn, Texas College, Prairie View A&M and Wiley College head coach, has been named the American Football Coaches Association’s recipient of the 2009 Trailblazer Award.

The award will be presented posthumously to Long at the AFCA Kickoff Luncheon on Monday, January 11 at the 2010 AFCA convention in Orlando, Florida. Long passed away in 1966.

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), [1920-29 era]; *Cleve Abbott* of Tuskegee (2005), [1930-39]; *Arnett Mumford* of Southern (2006), [1940-49]; *Billy Nicks* of Prairie View A&M University (2007) [1950-59] and *Alonzo “Jake” Gaither* of Florida A&M University (2008), [1960-70].

The award is given each year to a person that coached in a particular decade ranging from 1920-1970.

* * *

The early era of college football, produced some of the game’s outstanding drop-kickers*

**Compiled by Pat Harmon, retired
College Football Historian**

- Princeton’s Alexander Moffatt converted 4 goals from the field, in Princeton’s 1883, 27-6 victory against Harvard. Moffat’s kicks were more unusual: his kicked two goals with his right foot and added another pair left footed.
- Edward Robertson of Purdue was successful on 7 of 12 drop-kick field goal attempts in the Boilermakers’ 46-5 triumph over Rose Poly, in 1900. (His kicks traveled 25-35-25-20-20-30-30 yards.)
- In back-to-back seasons, 1905-06, Chicago’s Walter Eckersall booted five field goals in a game. His 1905 kicks came in a 44-0 shutout over Illinois; and the next season, his kicks aided in the Maroon’s triumph over Nebraska, 38-5.

•

- Another outstanding kicker from the state of Illinois was the Illini's Otto Seiler. His successful kicks won three contests (vs Chicago, Indiana and Syracuse) by identical 3-0 margins.
- Charles Brickley's converted four dropkick field goals while adding a fifth by place kick Harvard's 15-5 victory over Yale in 1913.
- In Army's 12-0 triumph over Navy in 1924, the Cadets' Ed Garbisch made four field goals to provide the difference.
- In 1917, Alvin "Bo" McMillin, who played for Centre, scored his team and the game's only points in the 3-0 win over the Kentucky Wildcats.
- Yale's Albie "Little Boy Blue" Booth successfully made a field goal, scoring the game's only points in Yale's 3-0 victory over rival Harvard, in 1931.
- In the snow, Harry Newman's field goal helped Michigan defeat Minnesota, 3-0, in 1932.

**From an issue of the CFRA Monthly Bulletin; used by permission of Bob Kirlin, who served as the publication's editor, 1982-92.*

* * *

The following originally appeared in November 22, 1954 **19th Hole**: The Readers Take Over of *Sports Illustrated*.

From the **SI Vault** and is used by permission.

RIVAL PIONEERS

Sirs:

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover's contribution to the HOTBOX (SI, Oct. 25) includes this statement:" Walter Camp selected his first mythical team in 1889..." referring to the first All-American football team. Mr. Hoover has apparently accepted what may be called the "Camp Legend" and is not aware of the following facts:

1) The selections for 1889 and 1890 were first published in *Week's Sport*,

2) a periodical conducted by Caspar Whitney No credit line of authorship is given.

3) Under Caspar Whitney's credit line, teams for 1891-1896 first appeared in *Harper's Weekly*. In the issue of Dec. 12, 1891, the *Week's Sport* selections for 1889 and 1896 were repeated with no mention of Camp as author or collaborator.

3) Beginning with the 1894 issue, the *Official Football Guide*, which was edited by

4) Walter Camp, listed the 1889-1896 teams with authorship credit being specifically given to Caspar Whitney.

5) The first team known to have carried a Walter Camp credit line was a team (with second and third teams) for 1897 which appeared in Whitney's "Amateur Sport" department of *Harper's* while Whitney was on a world sports tour.

5) Whitney's last selection for *Harper's* were teams for 1898 and 1899.

6) Camp made selections for *Collier's Weekly*, beginning with teams (first, second and third) for 1898 and annually thereafter, including teams for 1924?except that he selected no teams of college players for 1917.

7) In the *Collier's* issue of Jan. 14, 1899 Camp listed the 1889-1896 teams. In the issue of Jan. 28, 1899 Camp said: "In giving the list of All-American teams for a number of years in a recent issue it was my intention to state that the selections were those of Mr. Caspar Whitney in *Harper's Weekly*." --CLARENCE G. McDAVITT, *Newtonville, Mass.*

Both Walter Camp and Editor Whitney pioneered in the selection of annual All-America teams, but generally avoided crediting the other

for his share in the work. Reader McDavitt, himself an authority on early All-America teams, is correct in stating that Camp gave Whitney (whom he succeeded as editor of the *Official Football Guide*) credit for the '89-96 selections. But Camp also claimed in the 1899 *Guide* that the idea of annual All-America selections was his own? **ED.**

* * *

Sporting Life, 1917

PHILADELPHIA, FEBRUARY 3, 1917

A story in the same issue states...

FOOT BALL NOT HARMFUL

In order to ascertain the after affects of college athletics upon students, Dr. James Naismith, head of the department of physical education at the University of Kansas, has announced statistics compiled after extended correspondence with former athletes.

In securing his figures Dr. Naismith sent his inquiries to foot ball players on teams prior to 1907, believing these men should by this time be able to detect any after affects of the game.

The questions were sent to foot ball men as that game, he considered, is the most violent of college sports.

To the question, "What injuries did you suffer while playing foot ball?"

Forty of the eighty-five replies stated they had received none. The other forty-five answered that sprained ankles, broken noses and sprained knees were their common afflictions.

All but six stated they had completely recovered from their injuries. None was reported seriously incapacitated from their position in the work. The value placed on the personal benefits received from the game varied greatly, although increased physical development headed the list. Among the other benefits derived were self-control, rapid judgment, wide acquaintanceship, determination and courage.

* * *

Outing 1897

YALE, 18; BROWN, 14

Brown sprung a decided surprise on Yale in their game at New Haven, October 20th.

The wearers of the blue had expected an easy victory, but the Brown men developed such unexpected strength that Yale was forced to put her best players into the line to win the game.

Each scored three touch-downs, and had the Providence men had a good goal-kicker on their team, the score would have been tied. As it was, the clever kicking of young Cadwallader,

the freshman guard and center, won the day for his team.

Much of the credit for the good showing of the visitors was due to Fultz and Gammons, the two brilliant half-backs of the team, who fairly ripped up the Yale line at frequent intervals or long gains. Rodgers, Kiefer and McBride did the best work for Yale.

This was the first game in the history of foot ball at Yale in which any team (except in the case of Princeton last season) ever scored three times in one game.

* * *

Crown football in 130-point game for consecutive weeks

- Crown (69) and Eureka (63) football teams combined for 132 points;
- MacMurray (68) Crown (62) [1 OT] combined for at least 130 points.

**Happy
Thanksgiving
to all 150 IFRA
members!**