

## **1950s Colorado- Oklahoma: An Odyssey**

**By Bill Cox**

### **1955**

Oklahoma was even more formidable than usual. But Colorado took a 4-0-0 record to Norman and threw down an early 14-0 challenge on touchdowns by fullbacks Emerson Wilson and John Bayuk. Oklahoma rallied to lead 21-14 at the half and then stampeded the irksome Buffaloes, 56-21. The Sooners won their remaining five games by a total of 206-7, the last four, 166-0. They had a 10-0-0 national championship season and a trip to the Orange Bowl where they beat third ranked 10-0-0 Maryland, 20-6. Colorado finished 3-3-0 in the Big Seven.

### **1956**

Ward had called Wilkinson's 1955 team "the greatest club I ever saw." The 1956 Sooners were better. The defending national champions arrived in Boulder ranked number one and fresh from a 40-0 rout of Notre Dame at South Bend. They were considered to be invincible. Colorado had been dispatched by so-so Oregon 35-0 in its opener and,

despite five straight wins, was not considered a match. Folsom Field had in the meantime been expanded so that 47,000 could squeeze in and they did.

The indomitable Ward had his team ready. The Buffaloes jumped to a stunning 19-6 halftime lead. When this score was announced across the nation, it caused a sensation. Before, for all its strong efforts against the Sooners, Colorado had been generally dismissed as just another Big Seven team losing to Oklahoma. But the report of this uprising instantly focused national attention on the proceedings at Boulder. What was in the offing was not just Colorado's biggest win ever, but one of the greatest upsets ever.

Instead, it was the same old story. Early in the third quarter, Oklahoma gambled successfully on fourth down at its 28 and went on to score. By the time the period was over Oklahoma led 20-19 and was on its way to a 27-19 win. The Sooners' All-American back Tommy McDonald had been outstanding. Guests were locked out of the somber Colorado dressing room for twenty minutes after the game.

Meanwhile, Oklahoma's conference dominance had been so entrenched that, when the Big Seven signed to play the Atlantic Coast Conference in the Orange Bowl starting in 1953, the deal precluded the same team, meaning Oklahoma, from going twice in a row. So, every other year the Big Seven runner-up went.

After the Oklahoma game, the Buffaloes pulled themselves together the next Saturday to tie Missouri 14-14 - an important event in that the sequel to their past Oklahoma calamities had been the loss to Missouri that followed. The tie was good enough to get the Buffaloes second place. They finished the regular season 7-2-1, ranked 20th nationally and beat Clemson 27-21 in the Orange Bowl.

Oklahoma had another 10-0-0 national championship season. They won their other games by an average score of 49-4.

### **1957**

Eternal hope accompanied the 3-1-1 Buffaloes as they journeyed to Oklahoma's Owen Field, newly expanded to hold 60,000. Oklahoma was thought to be off a bit, though this was hard to tell from its four win record. The Sooners now had a 44-game winning streak and their Big Seven undefeated streak had reached 61.

This one ended 14-13, Oklahoma. A blocked Colorado extra point try after

Bob Stransky's third quarter 40-yard touchdown run with an interception and a blocked Colorado field goal attempt soon after made the difference. The Buffaloes took the lead 13-7 in the last quarter on a Stransky to Boyd Dowler pass, but Oklahoma's Clendon Thomas scored the game's last touchdown and Carl Dodd kicked the decisive point after.

The crestfallen Buffaloes had played the Sooners on at least even terms and been denied yet again. Wilkinson said after that the Buffaloes had been "every bit as good" as his Sooners and "maybe they were better." Three weeks later, Notre Dame ended Oklahoma's winning streak at 47 with a 7-0 upset in Norman. Oklahoma went on to finish 9-1-0 and walloped Duke 48-21 in the Orange Bowl. Colorado ended 6-3-1, 3-3-0 in the conference.

### **1958**

Although they had lost to Texas, 15-14, the Sooners had won four other games and arrived in Boulder again ranked in the top five. But Colorado, with a good senior nucleus including backs Dowler and Eddie Dove, was strong too, 5-0-0 overall and 4-0-0 in the Big Seven. The Buffaloes ranked ninth in the AP poll and were 11th in the UP listing. Instead of pie in the sky hopes, this Colorado team was given a solid chance.

Colorado took its familiar lead, 7-0, but before the first quarter was over, Oklahoma countered and, using the new two point conversion, went ahead 8-7. In the second half the

Sooners pulled away and won 23-7, their biggest margin over a Ward team at Boulder. Still, it was

Oklahoma's closest Big Seven game.

The next week Colorado took its standard Missouri loss and closed 6-4-0 after in-state defeats at the hands of Colorado State and the young Air Force Academy. Oklahoma won the rest of its games and, under a new arrangement, went back to the Orange Bowl, beating Syracuse 21-6.

### **1959**

In January, Dallas Ward was released from his coaching job. There had been too many disappointments.

Ward's replacement was a young Michigan State assistant, Sonny Grandelius. His 1959 team was hammered in its third game by a 7-3-0 Sooner team. Oklahoma led 42-0 after three quarters and won, 42-12.

For Colorado fans, the unkindest cut of all came on Halloween day at Lincoln, Nebraska. Not Colorado, but Nebraska, unworthy 4-6-0 Nebraska, a team that hadn't come within 20 points of Oklahoma since 1950, ended Oklahoma's Big Seven undefeated streak at 73. The score was 25-21. Oklahoma went on to win its 13th straight league championship.

### **1960**

Colorado scored a welcome, but anticlimactic, 7-0 win at Boulder over 3-6-1 Oklahoma.

### **Summary**

In nine Dal Ward years, from 1950 through 1958, only twice was Oklahoma's closest conference game with a team other than Colorado - along the way, the Sooners beat every other Big Seven team worse than they ever beat Colorado - Oklahoma's 53-0-1 Big Seven record was "blemished" only by the 1952 Colorado tie - the Buffaloes alone rose up from among the league's throng to repeatedly challenge the champions - Colorado had the lead in every Oklahoma game but one. In the 1950s the Buffaloes came very close, very often, but never beat Oklahoma.

## **WHICH TEAM IS THE BEST? DIVISION II**

By Patrick M. Premo

In the last issue, we saw 1997 Mount Union prove its dominance at the NCAA Division III level. This issue will feature **NCAA DIVISION II** teams.

### **PART I:**

As I stated previously, I am using Tex Noel's rankings to pair the Top 16 NCAA Division II National Champions, with the proviso that no team is represented more than once. Here is the field:

1. 2002 Grand Valley St.
16. 1978 Eastern Illinois

9. 1974 Central Michigan
8. 2007 Valdosta St.
  
12. 2001 North Dakota
5. 1993 North Alabama
  
13. 1977 Lehigh
4. 1981 SW Texas St.
  
3. 1998 NW Missouri St.
14. 1997 Northern Colorado
  
6. 1979 Delaware
11. 1987 Troy St.
  
7. 2000 Delta St.
10. 1991 Pittsburg St.
  
15. 1973 Louisiana Tech
2. 1986 North Dakota St.

Once again, my **FAST-ACTION COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOARD GAME** will be used to stage all of these games. All games will be played at neutral sites.

**Round 1:** 2002 Grand Valley St. had a more difficult time than most imagined, but pulled out a 45-39 win over 1978 Eastern Illinois. 1974 Central Michigan had a surprisingly easy time against 2007 Valdosta St., winning 42-19. In another close game, 1993 North Alabama squeaked by 2001 North Dakota, 35-32. 1977 Lehigh pulled off the first upset as it handled 1981 SW Texas St. 41-24. 1998 NW Missouri St. had little trouble with 1997 Northern Colorado, winning 33-23. In a mild upset, 1987 Troy St. defeated 1979 Delaware, 35-27. 1991 Pittsburg St. downed 2000 Delta St. 35-23 in what

some would call an upset. The biggest upset of the first round saw 15 seed 1973 Louisiana Tech. defeat 2 seed North Dakota St., 35-25.

**Round 2:** 2002 Grand Valley St. was again put to the test, but managed to hold off 1974 Central Michigan, 44-43. Another close game saw 1993 North Alabama defeat 1977 Lehigh in a very close game, 33-31. 1998 NW Missouri St. stopped upset minded 1987 Troy St., 35-28. 1973 Louisiana Tech continued on its upset ways as it handily downed 1991 Pittsburg St., 31-21.

**Round 3:** 1993 North Alabama, the 5 seed, stunned 1 seed 2002 Grand Valley St. 44-34 to advance to the final. The 3 seed 1998 NW Missouri St. stopped 15 seed 1973 Louisiana Tech's upset run 25-19 and earned its way into the championship game.

**Third Place:** In a real shocker, 15 seed 1973 Louisiana Tech upset the number 1 seed, 2002 Grand Valley St., 42-39 to claim third place.

**Championship:** The third seed, 1998 NW Missouri St., had a very tough game against the fifth seed, 1993 North Alabama, and had to score a

late touchdown to prevail 41-39.

So **1998 NW Missouri St.** can lay claim to being the best

**NCAA Division II** champion of all-time.

### **Prologue:**

Tex Noel wondered how these divisional champions would do against one another, so I decided to have 1997 Mount Union, the all-time NCAA Division III Champion, take on 1998 NW Missouri St, the all-time NCAA Division II Champion. The game was played at a neutral site. In a very close game, Mount Union prevailed 28 to 27. I guess Mount Union really was that good!

As these divisional championships continue, I will have Mount Union play the next winner with that winner continuing on, etc.

Next issue will feature Mid-Major and NCCAA teams along with the 1970-1996 NAIA Division I teams. The winner of

that tournament will take on 1997 Mount Union.

Remember, if you were to conduct these tournaments using my **FAST-ACTION COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOARD GAME**, your results will most likely vary. Just as in real life, when two teams play one another twice (or more) in the same season, the results are not always the same.

### *In Memory of...*

**Former McMurry (Texas) standout Otis Ratliff, 75; Robert "Bobby" Luna, 74, former player at Alabama; Charlie Palmer, former an All-Ivy League offensive tackle at Yale; Ben Carnevale, 92, former commissioner of the Colonial Athletic Conference; Herb Rich, 79, who played at Vanderbilt.**

**Also, Heath Benedict, 24, who played at Newberry; James Pipkin, 96, former player at Oklahoma; Price Truitt, 88, football player at North Texas; Presbyterian (S.C.) wide receiver Larry Carlson Thomas, 20; Hal Wantland, 63, a captain of the 1965 Tennessee Vols.**

***In Honor of...***

**Jim Ray Smith (Baylor), North Texas** standout **Abner Haynes, Ray Childress (Texas A&M), Michael Irvin (Miami, Fla.)** and retired **Texas Tech** head coach **Spike Dykes (Stephen F. Austin, Rice)** are the newest inductees into the **Texas Sports Hall of Fame.**

***Did You Know????***

**Chris Gilbet, [Texas 1963-65]**

*1<sup>st</sup> RB to rush for 1000 yards in 3 Consecutive Seasons:*

1966, 206-1080 (5<sup>th</sup> National Rank)

1967, 205-1019 (9<sup>th</sup>)

1968, 184-1132

**1966-68: 3231**

**Tony Dorsett, [Pittsburgh, 1973-76]**

*1<sup>st</sup> RB 1000 4 Consecutive seasons*

1973, 288-1586 (2<sup>nd</sup> National Rank)

1974, 220-1004

1975, 228-1544 (3<sup>rd</sup>)

1976, 338-1948 (1<sup>st</sup>)

**1973-76: 1074-6082**

**Jimmy Harris, [Oklahoma, 1954-56]**

*QB 3 Consecutive perfect record teams:*

1954, 10-0-0 (3<sup>rd</sup>; only team with 10 wins in Final AP Top 20)

1955, 10-0-0 (NC)

1956, 10-0-0 (NC)

**1954-56: 30-0-0**

**Billy Vessels, [Oklahoma, 1952]**

*1<sup>st</sup> Heisman Trophy Winner to rush for 1000 RY*

1952, 161-1072

**Ray Evans, [Kansas, 1942]**

*Led nation in Completions [101] and Interceptions by [10]*

**Only three teams**

*Finished the season with a perfect record, score 100+ Points/Game; 500+Points/Season and did not allow their opponent to score:*

\*1888 **Yale** [13-0-0]: 105 vs Wesleyan, [698-0];

\*1901 **Michigan** [11-0-0]: 128 vs Buffalo; [550-0]+

\*1914 \***Missouri Mines** [8-0-0]:  
150 vs Kirksville Osteopaths,  
104 vs Pittsburg Normal; [540-  
0]

+Includes 1902 Rose Bowl

**Ray Evans, [Kansas, 1942]**  
*Led nation in Completions [101]  
and Interceptions by [10]*

### Conference Domination

Princeton: College  
Football's First Team to  
Score 500+ Points in a  
Season—and a change in  
historical findings ©

By Tex Noel (1<sup>st</sup>-N-  
Goal)/Editor, the College  
Football Historian

Scoring in early college football was  
determined by the number of goals  
made, 1869-1881, playing **American  
Soccer**—as listed in Mel Smith's first  
book on early football history, *Early  
American & Canadian 'Football'* ©  
2003.

As the game progressed into  
**American Rugby Style**, the method  
of scoring also moved forward as the  
number of goals continued through

**ROSTER**

*In the Decade of the 1970s, 9  
of 10 teams that won National  
Championships—NAIA I—were  
from the Lone Star Conference:*

1970-74-75-76-79 Texas A&I\*  
1972 East Texas State  
1973-77 Abilene Christian  
1978 Angelo State  
\*They were also champions in  
1959-69.

1873/74 season, with touchdowns  
being added at the start of the 1874  
campaign.

Then, in 1879, according to Smith,  
safeties were added to the values.

Each of the above, according to the  
book's author, were awarded G=4,  
TD=2 and S=1.

After years of campaigning during  
annual Rules Committee a meeting,  
the Father of American Football,  
Walter Camp, was successful in  
getting is new system of scoring  
enacted.

Initial scoring values first used in  
1882 showed: Touchdowns, 2  
points; field goals (or goals from the  
field), 2; extra points (goals after  
touchdowns) 4 points.

As with a lot of happenings, an  
annual change was to take place  
and scoring values were no different.

<b>NAME (Class)</b>	<b>POS</b>
C.M. De Camp '86*	Rusher
(Captain)	

H.C. Lamar '86	Half Back
W.J. Cook '89	Rusher
H.P. Toler '86	Half Back
T.H. Harris '86	Rusher
H.S. Savage '87	Full Back
J.C. Adams '86	Rusher
H.W. Ford '89	Substitute
H.L. Hodge '86	Rusher
C.E. Williamson '86	Substitute
H.W. Cowan '86	Rusher
D.D. Bickham '86	Substitute
W.M. Irvine '88	Rusher
L.E. Price '88	Substitute
R.M. Hodge '86	Quarter Back
R.C. Lewis '89	Substitute

From 1883-87, scoring was awarded: TD-4; FG-5 and Extra Points-4 and safeties were 2 points—after being a single point in 1882-83.

Early college football centered on the Big 3 (Harvard, Princeton and Yale); or Big 4 by adding Pennsylvania.

*The College Football Historian-8-*

<b>1</b>	<b>STEVENS</b>		
<b>TD</b>	<b>G/TD</b>	<b>G/F</b>	<b>TP</b>
18	11	0	94
<b>2</b>	<b>STEVENS</b>		
<b>TD</b>	<b>G/TD</b>	<b>G/F</b>	<b>TP</b>
14	10	0	76

While it was a Yale alumnus to get points awarded as mentioned above, teams from the Big 3 all had a part of early StatHistory/scoring.

Harvard, in 1886, scored 765 points, as this would remain the standard for over 100 years and into the year 2004, when Pittsburg State KS not only eclipsed the mark but has put the tally at the almost unreachable mark of 837 points.

Two years later, Yale, in 1888, finished its 13 game season totally perfect—finishing 13-0-0 and not allowing its goal line to be crossed or uprights, split.

A year before Harvard's remarkable accomplishment, Yale's most bitter rival, became the first college football team to score 500 or more points in a single-season...and that's what this feature is on.

To open the season, the Tigers of 1885 set-the-tone on what was to transpire, in blanking Stevens by an unconventional composite of 180-0, (scoring 94 and 76, respectively).

As with any game, turnovers often play a vital role in determining the outcome.

*Several touchdowns were made because Stevens fumble Lamar's punts and the ball rolled behind their line where a Princeton man fell on it.*



Game 3 saw Princeton fall behind to start the game for the first of just two

*Hodge passed the ball to Williamson, instead of to Savage, and as they were very close together, each expected the other to get the ball. Instead it passed over Williamson's head and on by Savage; Frazier broke through and fell on the ball for Pennsylvania's first touchdown.*

Before you start scratching your head and wonder how this can be....first remember college football

<b>3</b>	<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>			
<b>TD</b>	<b>G/TD</b>	<b>G/F</b>	<b>SAF</b>	<b>TP</b>
14	9	0	1	76
<b>4</b>	<b>PENNSYLVANIA</b>			
<b>TD</b>	<b>G/TD</b>	<b>G/F</b>	<b>SAF</b>	<b>TP</b>
15	8	0	2	80

in 1885 there was no forward passing—that didn't take place till 1906—so pass being interrupted from that era, means a long kick.

The Tigers hurried and tried to tie the score, but fumbles and the lack of blocking prevented them in doing so.

Princeton did even the score when Pepper fumbled a Lamar punt and Harris scored, and they were on their way to a third consecutive wins and did so, 76-10—and also won the return match, 80-10.

Once again Lamar's kicks would aid in a victory. His kicks Lamar's

times during season, as described in "Athletics at Princeton—A History {© 1902}:

kicking kept the Columbia Law School at bay, as his team rolled to a 64-0 victory, heading into the game against Johns Hopkins.

Again it was Lamar's "phenomenal run" as he covered the length of the field and through the entire Johns Hopkins team; inspiring the team to record the season's high for most points scored in a game, tallying, 108 points.

<b>5</b>	<b>COLUMBIA SCHOOL of LAW</b>			
<b>TD</b>	<b>G/TD</b>	<b>G/F</b>	<b>SAF</b>	<b>TP</b>
12	8	0	0	64

<b>6</b>	<b>JOHNS HOPKINS</b>			
<b>TD</b>	<b>G/TD</b>	<b>G/F</b>	<b>SAF</b>	
20	13	0	1	
<b>TP</b>				
108				

**The Trenton Times**  
VOL. IV, WHOLE NO. 914 TRENTON,  
MONDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 9,  
1885,  
two cents

**Princeton Point.**

The Princeton College foot ball eleven on Saturday defeated the Johns Hopkins University team by a score of 108-0.

\*Special thanks to Richard Topp, who sent the newspaper image, verify the score

As like today when it comes to a big game, fan-fare was determined to distract

from the significance of the game—and the 1885 Princeton-Yale game was no exception.

**The historical book presented this account:**

*The students felt the Yale game ought not to be played on the home grounds of either college but in New*

<b>7 WESLEYAN</b>			
<b>TD</b>	<b>G/TD</b>	<b>G/F</b>	<b>SAF</b>
13	11	0	1
<b>TP</b>			
76			

*York, where the audience would be more*

*evenly divided in their sympathies. There was a special reason for going to New York this year: Princeton wanted an opportunity to atone for*

*The first championship game was with Wesleyan which was easily defeated by the largest score of any championship game. But despite the large score Wesleyan played the strongest and most manly game of any team that Princeton had yet met. The Tigers' fumbled many times which prevented several scoring opportunities, but it didn't seem to matter as they won 76-0—on the strength of Lamar's seven touchdowns; and as he did a number of times in 1885, ran through the entire opposition—setting up a game against Big 3 rival, Yale.*

*the disgraceful exhibition of the former year. The trustees threatened to prevent the game, but after consideration of the exceptional circumstances, they decided that it might be played in New York, but not on Thanksgiving Day.*

Yale wanted the game on Thanksgiving, so its students could attend; but if Princeton still had hopes of playing the Saturday before turkey day, the game would have to be played in New Haven.

Princeton knowing that Yale held the championship, consented to play the game in Nov. 21, in New Haven. (*...the whole College went to New Haven, for the Faculty had shown their trust in the students in omitting all exercises on Saturday.*)

In 1885 college football was played in two 45 minute halves; fortunately for Princeton, it played better in the second half—as it had done several times during the season.

Yale took advantage of an in effective kicking game by Princeton—playing in today’s terms, what would be described as not being “fired-up.”

Princeton was held in check the entire 45 minutes, as Yale centre, known by his last name, Peters, was allow to place both hands on the ball, which prevented the Adams from executing the play properly.

Peters, a senior, played this to his advantage, several times... *Once only* once did Mr. Camp give Princeton the five-yard forfeit for this off-side play.

The official was none other than football rules guru, Walter Camp—and graduate of Yale, with the class of 1880.

Yale’s rush of Lamar, forced the Princeton punter to kick near the goal.

His kicked would force Yale’s to play near its own 25-yard line for “nearly three-quarters of an hour,” keeping Yale at bay.

Watkinson attempted four kicks at goal, making one which gave the defending champions a 5-0 advantage at the break.

The second half was Princeton’s half most of the 1885 season and in this game, it proved beneficial—that along with the determination to win, despite Peters’ antics.

*Peters would grasp both ends with his hands making it next to*

*impossible* to put the ball in play to the quarter back.

The rules stated he undoubtedly had a right to have one hand on the ball, but the players understood the rules forbade a player to have his hands on each side to draw closer to himself.

Princeton advanced the ball into Yale’s territory, but the latter held on downs.

On the strength of runs by Watkins, Peters and Beecher advanced the ball back into Yale territory as the team retained possession of the ball when Toler muffed the ball and Yale recovered at its own 40-yard line.

The clock showed 10 minutes left in the game; as Yale was advancing closer to the Princeton goal line and a touchdown to put the game out of reach.

But the drive stalled as, as Peters, unsure what to do—and then decided to kick.

*The ball was sent to Watkinson, the Yale full back, who drove it by a long swing punt across the twenty-five yard line towards the Princeton goal. It was a perfect kick and one most difficult to catch. A Princeton man attempted to make the catch, but the ball shot off his breast towards one of the “in touch” bounding lines.*

*Lamar, with the agility of a cat, bounded after it, and catching it on a rebound, sped a way with it without stopping, along the in-touch line.*

Yale’s defenders raced toward the muffed kick, hoping to fall on the loose ball.

Lamar dashed between two defenders and cleared the remainder of the Yale team, as his teammates had secured their blocks.

Princeton regrouped and forced Lamar to the “Southern boundary”

but the swift Princeton back, *swerved to the right and with incredible swiftness, threw Beecher over his head...* still while being pursued by Watkinson and Peters. The latter, still running at full speed—but was a few yards back—was the last hope for a Yale victory.

*The white five-yard lines flew under the feet of the sharply breathing*

*runners. The last ten-yard line was passed and the arms of Peters were*

*outstretched for a tackle, but Lamar had plunged over the goal line and lay on the ground with the ball*

*under him.* With Hodge made the game winning kick, Princeton claimed the 6-4 victory. Princeton then killed the last four minutes of the game.

A year later, Watkinson was involved in a record-setting performance of his own.

According to *Stars of an Earlier of Autumn*, he made 20 of 22 goals after touchdowns—making the last 20 kicks against Wesleyan.

<b>8</b>	<b>YALE</b>		
<b>TD</b>	<b>G/TD</b>	<b>G/F</b>	<b>TP</b>
1	1	0	6

*The final game in*

*the championship was won by Princeton, defeating Pennsylvania for the third time of the 1885 season, shutting out the Quakers, 57-0.*

Playing on an adverse weather field, Princeton was held in check, is was not scoring till six minutes had passed, when Cowan scored—as his play was set-up by the play of De Camp and Lamar.

After an exchange of punts, H. Hodge made a free catch on a punt by Graham, which was turned into a 47-yard goal from the field by Savage—the first one the team made all season.

Two other scores were set-up by block kicks. The Tiger defensive unit held on downs and forced Penn into a punting situation, where Cook blocked Graham’s punt, which Harris field and scored. Later, another Quaker drive reached deep into Princeton’s territory, only to see Irvine block

Graham’s goal-from-the field attempt, with Lamar

<b>9</b>	<b>Pennsylvania</b>		
<b>TD</b>	<b>G/TD</b>	<b>G/FG</b>	
11	4	1*	
<b>TP</b>			
57	*47 Yards		

PLAYER SCORING	TD	G/TD	G/F	SAF	TP
Harris	26	18	0		140
De Camp	27	14	0		136
Lamar*	21	15	0		112
Hodge	13	7	0		66
Cowan	12	7	0		62
R Hodge	5	6	0		32
Cook	4	4	0		24
Irvine	4	1	0		18
Griffith	2	1	0		10
Savage	1	0	1		9
Bickham	1	1	0		6
Toler	1	1	0		6
Williamson	1	1	0		6
	<b>108</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>1/47</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>637</b>
	<b>Opponents</b>				
	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>

\*Helms Player of the Year  
(Cowan won it '89)

*Early  
American  
&  
Canadian  
'Football'  
[© 2003.]*

**Sources...** *Athletics at  
Princeton—A History [©  
1902]*

*Stars of an Earlier  
Autumn, [© 2007]*

*Johns Hopkins Website.*

*Nov. 9,  
1885  
edition of  
The  
Trenton  
Times.*

## Grid-Graph Enlightens College Football Fans

**By Steve Greene  
Rutgers Football Historian**

Before radio became commonplace and long before television, fans could follow away games by watching the pigskin-shaped "Grid- Graph." It was a large hanging panel laid out like a football field and covered with electric bulbs that up next to names,

finding the end zone.

**\*1885 Intercollegiate  
Football Association  
Standings:**

1-Princeton, 3-0  
2-Yale, 2-1  
3-Wesleyan, 1-2  
4-Pennsylvania, 0-3

**Retroactive National  
Champions:**

Billingsley, Houlgate,  
Helms, National  
Championship  
Foundation

clock time, field position, play selection, score and more.

Details were telegraphed into the **Rivoli Theatre** at George and Albany Streets as they happened and appropriate lights turned on. Students and fans were first treated to the *Home News* Grid-Graph for the

October 18, 1924 Cornell game at Ithaca and the following week when Rutgers played at Lehigh.

For the matinee prices of 10 or 25 cents, you got to watch Cecil B. DeMille's movie "Triumph" followed by the first half of Rutgers-Cornell on the Grid-Graph. The regular vaudeville program entertained you at halftime and then the conclusion of the football game.

The 1920s and 1930s were the heyday of the Grid-Graph.

"The electrical (Grid-Graph) play board is of the latest type and is now in use by all the larger newspapers and universities in the country. **The New York Herald-Tribune** only

**Editor's Note:** OK historians, did you make note of the date of the first Grid-Graph in this story...can you name two other college football historic events took place on that date.

If you know the answers...send them in...and see your name in print for the May issue of *The College Football Historian!*

**Current Member Stats: 53, thank you! Keep passing the word!!**

recently installed a board of the same type on the front of their

building. This is being used every Saturday during the gridiron season," according to October 17, 1924 *Daily Home News*.

While in use about the country, "There are but three boards in New Jersey due to the exclusive rights for their use, one on the Star-Eagle Building in Newark, Princeton University and the Home News."

**Current Member Stats: Currently, 53—thank you! Keep passing the word!!**

#### **1st OFFICIAL SCORING RULES**

[In 1941] The 1st Official Scoring Rules (needed for accurate statistics) were devised by a coaches' subcommittee head by former Michigan coach Fielding "Hurry-up" Yost, then 78.