### INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOTBALL RESEARCHERS ASSOCIATION TO

# The College Football Kistorian TM

Expanding the knowledge and information on college football's unique past—today!

ISSN: 1526-233x May 2010 Vol. 3 No. 3 circa: Jan. 2008

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

[The New Mexican, Nov. 21, 1961]

## Bill Boand's Baffling System Explained In Briefest Manner

(The New Mexican's) EDITOR'S NOTE — During the past three years, The Associated Press in New Mexico has been using the Boand Football Rating System to rank New Mexico high school football teams. Here, from the man who developed the system, is the story behind the Boand Ratings:

## By WILLIAM F. BOAND

Written for The Associated Press

FULTON, Mo. (AP)-The Boand Football Rating System has a history of 30 years of continuous use. Naturally, enough material could be written about it to fill several any sense at all, a short history of the system must be stripped down to the barest facts and these facts must be in the briefest POSSIBLE MANNER.

First: WHY?

The system was first compiled because I decided to combine best features of three rating three systems into one. The three systems were those of Professors Frank Dickinson of Illinois and Ralph Powell of Ohio State and of William T. Van de Graaf, football coach and mathematics instructor at Colorado College.

Each of these men was a nationally known mathematician and each had prepared his system to prove that mathematics could play a sound part in the ranking of football teams or indeed teams of any kind.

Each of these men corresponded with me while I was living in Tucson (and incidentally coaching a football team at an Indian school there) and each of them was most liberal with his help.

Each of these men completed his own system in the early 1920 and the first to combined system called AZZI RATEM was completed in the late '20s.

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As I later discovered, the AZZI RATEM method was really a method for producing an unlimited number of ranking systems rather than one single system.

This method was called AS I RATE 'EM and later was shorted to AZZ I RATEM. Thus a Mr. Brown might use the system and called AZZI RATEM-Brown and jones (sic) might have one called AZZI RATEM-Jones.

#### SECOND: WHAT?

My system, a product of the AZZI RATEM method is called the AZZI RATEM-Boand System, and in the more recent years, simply the Boand System. It has been adjusted 12 times in the last 30 years with a few to keeping up with the ever expanding number of good football teams.

The national ranking for the top teams were used in the early days by The Associated Press, and then by the United Press before the press services started own system of ranking by poll.

The rankings were published in the first football schedule and feature magazine, The Illustrated Football Annual, and were carried by this publication for more than ten years.

A little later they were carried | in a football publication known as What's What for a period of years, and from 1939 to the present the

rankings have been used by the Football News of Detroit.

For a time, the system was used to rank college football teams in Canada and different states, including New Mexico, have used the system for high school rankings.

The first edition of AZZI RATEM was printed in 1929 and my wife and I have hopes that the last (13th) and final one may be published some time in 1962.

From that point on, someone else can carry the ball.

#### Third: WHO?

People who have contributed to the progress of the Boand System with suggestions or criticisms, in addition to Dickinson, Powell, Van de Graaf and my wife, must run into the hundreds.

Some of them: Charles (Chuck)
Kinter, one-time sports editor of the
Arizona Daily Star; John F. Byrne of
the Football Annual, Mr. Marble of
What's What Football Magazine,
Byron Bond of the Football News
and coaches Knute Rockne of Notre
Dame, Howard Jones of Southern
California and Pop Warner of the
Carlisle Indians and many others
whose letters are now stored away
and unavailable at the present time.

During all these years I worked as a football coach in Arizona while attempting to regain my health, a radio announcer and in recent years as a plant security policeman at Libby-McNail-Libby in Chicago.

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## Legendary College Football Coach Paul Bryant and The Alabama Crimson Tide

### By Ben Bobo

Alabama Crimson Tide football is tradition rich with a number of great coaches over the years, and has churned out some of the most elite athletes that college football has ever seen, but there is no greater celebrity to come from Bama's historic past than Bear Bryant.

#### Paul "Bear" Bryant

Bear Bryant started his career at Alabama as a football player in 1931. He was only 1934 national championship play end. Brian always joked that he was the "other end" that played for "mamma". The other end was the legendary NFL Hall of Famer, Don Hudson. Even bear Bryant's college playing days, he showed mental toughness and playing the 1935 game against Tennessee with a broken leg.

As a head football coach, Paul Bryant went through several college head coaching jobs such as the University of Maryland, University of Kentucky, and Texas A&M
University before he at last had the opening to return to his alma mater, Alabama. So enthused was Bear, that he distinctively was quoted as saying, "Mama called. And when Mama calls, you just have to come runnin'."

It was a change of atmosphere when Bryant came back to Tuscaloosa. In 1958, Bear became head coach of Alabama, and began leading it to its former Rose Bowl-style success but accomplished even more. Producing legendary players like Pat Trammell, Joe Namath, Big John Hannah, Snake Stabler, Lee Roy Jordan, Billy Neighbors, Johnny Musso, Bob Baumhower, and many others.

No doubt, Bear Bryant was a dazzling motivator and knew how to make his teams to do what he required them to accomplish.

Florida A&M coach, Jake Gaither said of Bear Bryant, "He can take his'n and beat you'n, and he can take your'n and beat his'n." The motivation wasn't just on the field, the motivation carried into the world also by the nature he instilled in his players like big John Croyle, who founded the faith-based Christian Big Oak Ranch for unfortunate kids in Springville, Alabama.

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The very last year that he coached Alabama, 1982, was a down year for Alabama and Bear couldn't see himself coaching Alabama into mediocrity. He always said that if he give up coaching that he "wouldn't last a week." In actuality, he didn't last a great deal longer than that, only 37 days. On January 26, 1983, Bryant died of a heart attack at age 69 and many attended his funeral. Public officials estimated that between a half-million to a million individuals were lined along the 53 mile stretch from Tuscaloosa to the burial ground in Birmingham that was mere blocks from Legion Field.

# The Legendary Man Changed Alabama and The World

Bear's legacy lives in the players that are now growing older and the fans that hark back to his championship spirit. Not only that... He helped break segregation in the South's football world, and in doing so, turned the state around from intolerance to admiration. Not only that, he changed the world to a better place than he left left. He ain't never been nothing but a winner. Roll Tide!

*Used by permission of the author.* 

\* \* \*

**CONGRATULATIONS** to one of our members, John Maher. John writes for the Austin American Statesmen.

He and four of his fellow writers on the Austin, Texas-based paper have been named finalists for national sports writing awards by the Associated Press.

John has been nominated for explanatory writing.

From all of us at IFRA, John, we're proud of you.

\* \* \*

## SOMES EARLY LOWER DIVISION FOOT-BALL CLUBS

### By Mel Smith

All the levels of foot-ball play have helped in their way to forward the games we now know as soccer, rugby and football. This article delves into some of the Junior/Division II teams of the 1880s and 1890s that were generally the scrubs, seconds and B Teams. They were not under the same administrative control as the designated varsities or Division I teams.

The first stirrings of foot-ball around 1880 at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore did not

please the college administration very much. In fact any attempt at forming a varsity team was definitely not acceptable. So the students went 'underground' in 1881 and formed a foot-ball team. This team was named the 'Cliftons FBC' so it could not be traced to the name of the college. They beat the Marston University School on December 10, 1881, for their only game. It was played at Druid Hill Park away from the campus. These teams played the early rugby game using continuous carrying of the ball without any downs.

In 1882, the Christian Brothers College of St Louis, MO, formed a varsity kicking game or association football team. The college also formed a strong secondary team to give the varsity some good practice sessions. This B team was christened the 'Resolutes' and it was free to play all the secondary teams in the St Louis area. This designated junior team was maintained for almost twenty years into the twentieth century at the school.

The name 'Consolidates' became a popular name for some many scrub teams. Wesleyan University of Middletown, CT, seemed to be the first college to use this name for their secondary teams in 1882. In 1884, the Trinity College of Hartford, CT, and later Yale also used that name for their catch-all secondary team.

The City College of New York started a seconds' team called the 'Crescents" beginning in 1883. When Columbia College dropped varsity football in 1885, a team was formed using members of the college athletic union. Its name was dubbed the 'Unions' and played all three years while the varsity team was suppressed. This 'Union' team, along with the Stevens Tech secondary team called the 'Crickets" became founding members of the first American Football Union League formed in January 1886. The Stevens Tech "Crickets" actually won the first league cup during 1886/87. These secondary college teams could not keep up with new Division I independent teams joining the league and dropped out after the 1887/88 season.

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When the administration of the Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute decided to do away with football in the fall of 1887, several poly students went up the street and secretly joined the Brooklyn Heights Football Club. To hide the team name even more, the team became known as the 'Sydneys'. This situation lasted about two years.

Harvard University had one secondary team with a name and it only lasted during 1888. The St John College (now Fordham University) also began to name their B team the 'Invincibles' in 1888. This approach continued for almost twenty years into the twentieth century. They would play ten plus games a year and became the most famous B team in the New York City area.

Seton Hall College called its team the 'Alerts' for several years when the administration cancelled support for a varsity team in the late 1880s. The College of St Francis Xavier also began to call its team the 'Antaeus' when their administration also declined to support their varsity after

1890. Yale University had an undefeated second team named the 'Consolidates' in 1890 which would rank near the top of any division II poll.

Many of these teams sprung up from the approach of excessive administrative control over what students thought at the time should have been under their control. Other colleges had very little control. These secondary teams were able to have a freer hand in scheduling than most varsity teams. Plus they would play under less stressful situations. Varsity teams always had to win to keep the name of a college ranking high, whereas these secondary teams played more for the fun of it.

Originally published in the **College Football Historical Society Journal** (CFHS), Vol. XXIII, #2, February 2010; used by permission of the author, who is also a TCFH subscriber.

IFRA member **Darrell Lester** writes...Under the heading of teams playing 7 of 10 years pre 1937, you have inadvertently omitted my beloved Horned Frogs of TCU.

During the 1930-1936 seasons they amassed a 67-12-6 record for a

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winning percentage of .824.

**Editor's Note:** Darrell's dad played for the 1933-35 teams and was an *All-America* center.

IFRA member and curator at the

College
Football Hall of Fame, **Kent Stephens** wants to inform the membership on how teams listed in the early polls were ranked.

In the pre-mathematic ranking era, prominent national sportswriters wrote stories summarizing the most recent season.

In doing so they frequently listed the outstanding teams of the past season. In some cases the listing would include numbering the teams.

In some cases they would not give a numerical listings and instead speak of the most outstanding team and then write of those teams that followed.

Often times the author would make it clear that he was speaking of the teams in order. In some cases that listing was not clearly defined, and some assumptions were made that this indeed was the intent of the author.

\* \* \*

# The life and times of coach Francis Schmidt

(From the book: Frantic Francis)

'Way ahead of his time' Francis Schmidt jump-started Ohio State football in 1934 with game plans filled with trick plays. Seven seasons later, he was gone, and his legacy of innovations faded.

#### By Tom Reed

THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH (used by permission of the paper.)

Francis Schmidt's early teams earned the nickname "Scarlet Scourge" for piling up points.

Ohio State won Big Ten titles in 1935 and '39 and finished second in 1934, '36 and '37. Schmidt won his first four games against Michigan by shutout but lost his last three.

In the 1930s, Ohio State football players with places to go and appointments to keep walked past the 15th Avenue home of Francis Schmidt at their peril.

At any moment, regardless of the hour or season, the upstairs window could fly open and the excitable Buckeyes coach would holler, "Hey, you sons of (guns), get over here. I got something to show you."

A summons to the dean's office might be met with less trepidation.

"(Former player) Jack Smith told me that he and a couple of teammates were called up to Schmidt's bedroom one spring day, and there were all these index cards spread across the bed," Ohio State football historian Jack Park said. "Schmidt kept those guys up

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there for an hour showing them the plays he drew up for that season."

Each play, scribbled by using stubby, colored pencils, was more audacious than the last. Shovel passes. Double laterals. Spread formations.

What the bewildered Buckeyes of the leather-helmet era couldn't conceive is that they were witnessing the future of wide-open football as taught by an eccentric, profane law-school graduate.

"A lot of the plays they're using in the pros right now, we used back then," former Buckeyes fullback Jack Graf told *The Dispatch* in 2003.

The idea of Ohio State as an incubator for imaginative offense runs counter to its reputation. Big Ten titles and national championships have been won with the fundamental precision of Paul Brown, the numbing orthodoxy of Woody Hayes and the conservative, sometimes Victorian tenets of Jim Tressel.

But from 1934 to 1940, the most exciting, high-risk college football was played in Columbus.

"Schmidt was the antithesis of Woody Hayes," said Kent Stephens, College Football Hall of Fame historian and curator. "There was no 'three yards and a cloud of dust' with him. He was so different from what you consider the typical Ohio State coach to be."

Schmidt led the Buckeyes to two Big Ten titles before his odd ways and impracticality spurred his resignation. Four years after leaving Ohio State, he was dead at age 58.

He was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1971,

Schmidt is best known in Ohio State lore for his early success against Michigan and founding the Gold Pants Club, but his legacy is largely forgotten. The two-story brick house where he and his wife, Evelyn, lived on Fraternity Row is now rental property for college students.

But 75 years after Schmidt coached his first game at OSU, a new book profiling his life has been published. *Frantic Francis*, written by Brett Perkins, examines not only his career but also his effect on today's game.

"Francis Schmidt was the greatest coach who ever lived," Sid Gillman, a former Ohio State captain and assistant coach, said in 1965. "He was way ahead of his time."

## 'Lookee here'

Schmidt arrived in Columbus on Feb. 28, 1934. Within hours, the coach had distinguished alumni, faculty members and reporters on their hands and knees combing the carpets of a hotel conference room.

Asked for his offensive strategies, the Kansas native dropped to the floor, pulled nickels and dimes from his pockets and diagramed his innovative visions for the Buckeyes.

*Dispatch* columnist Ed Penisten depicted the bizarre scene:

He was a zealot, full of excitement, confidence and quirks. Converts began to join him on the floor including OSU assistant football coaches. He moved the nickels and dimes around like a kaleidoscope.

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At 6 feet 2 and 200 pounds, Schmidt was a large man with a prominent nose and distinctive drawl. He was Foghorn Leghorn in a three-piece suit and bow tie.

The fans and press delighted in Schmidt's charm and penchant for starting sentences with "Lookee here." Informed that rival Michigan had beaten Ohio State in nine of the past 12 meetings, he said: "They put their pants on one leg at a time, just like we do."

Athletic director Lynn St. John was pleased, but wary of Schmidt's profane past at Tulsa, Arkansas and Texas Christian. One of St. John's old friends wrote, "You'll have the job of a Christian missionary to convert the heathen Texan."

Schmidt did everything to extremes, including recruiting. He refereed high-school football games, but spent much of his time telling select players why they should commit to TCU in the days before athletic scholarships.

Perkins said Schmidt probably suffered from hypomania, and Ohio State players saw their coach in its grip many nights as they walked up 15th Avenue.

"The light was always on in his room; I don't know if he ever slept," former player Nick Wasylik told *The Dispatch* in 1985. "It seemed like he lived, dreamed and ate football. He had colored pencils -- reds, greens, blues -- and he chewed them right down to the stubs when he designed his plays."

## 'Shut the gates of mercy'

Schmidt was not St. John's first choice to become the Buckeyes' 14th coach. Ohio State had tried to poach two coaches from Big Ten rivals -- only to have the plots discovered.

St. John hired Schmidt and offered him the program's first three-year contract (\$7,500 per season) without ever seeing him coach.

The Buckeyes were desperate to inject excitement into Ohio Stadium, where attendance in the 1933 season was the lowest since it opened in 1922.

Schmidt's bulging playbook was a show in itself. It contained more than 300 plays and seven formations at a time when most college teams ran fewer than 50 plays and preferred one or two formations.

"It's interesting to see the playbooks of another era because of the way the game has evolved and changed," Tressel said in an email. "You don't have to look too hard to see that Schmidt was organized and meticulous. Much of it centers on the T-formation, but I think he covered that formation in every possible version and wrinkle. To a football junkie, it's fascinating stuff."

In 1933, major-college teams averaged 12 points and ran about 75 percent of their plays between the tackles. Teams played not to lose, making good punters more valued than good passers.

Some coaches refused to fatigue their ends by attempting too many passes in an age when athletes played both ways because of draconian substitution rules. (A substituted player could not re-enter the game until the next quarter.)

Schmidt had as much use for conventional wisdom as he did proper language. He

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believed in a wide-open offense that relied on strategy and deception. One of the ironies of Schmidt's time at Ohio State is that 25 of his 39 wins came by shutout.

"All we ever did was practice offense," Graf said. "There was no defense. We were just constantly working on new plays."

The Buckeyes fumbled 11 times in Schmidt's Ohio State debut, but still whipped Indiana 33-0 before 47,736 fans, the largest Horseshoe crowd in three seasons. They finished 7-1 in his inaugural year, and the razzle-dazzle amassed a thenschool-record 267 points.

His 21-0 win over Michigan was the first of four straight over the Wolverines, all by shutout, a feat likely to remain unequaled. Schmidt started giving his players a goldpants pendant, a tradition that lives on today.

The early success and entertaining games were thought critical to keeping the Buckeyes athletic department solvent through the Great Depression. At this point, the only enemies he was making were on the opposing sideline.

Although Schmidt substituted in lopsided games, he never tired of calling trick plays. The Buckeyes ripped Western Reserve 76-0 in 1934 and demolished Drake 85-7 the following year. The coach's habit of running up scores earned him the moniker Francis "Shut the Gates of Mercy" Schmidt.

## 'Rest in peace'

The "Scarlet Scourge," as the Buckeyes were dubbed, became a national sensation in 1935. They won their first four games, setting up an undefeated showdown against

Notre Dame in the Horseshoe. St. John boasted that he could have sold 200,000 tickets for the game, which attracted a capacity crowd of 81,018.

The Buckeyes surged to a 13-0 lead, but their advantage vanished in the fourth quarter. The Irish scored twice in the final two minutes to beat the Buckeyes 18-13.

The finish was so shocking that future President Ronald Reagan, calling the Iowa-Indiana game that day, refused to read the score on air, certain it was an error. In Columbus, crestfallen fans knew otherwise.

"My dad attended that game, and he said people just stood in the stands for 10 minutes in stunned silence," Park said.

The Buckeyes regrouped and won their final three games, including a 38-0 pasting of Michigan, to win a share of the Big Ten title -- their first since 1920. Schmidt, however, was haunted by the Notre Dame loss. It was the first in a string of big-game losses, and critics started to question whether his reliance on laterals, shovel passes and trick plays worked against top-quality opponents.

Schmidt never worried about "getting back to basics," because he didn't stress them. His long practices were light on fundamentals such as blocking and tackling. Near the end of Schmidt's regime, players were questioning his motives in the press.

Perhaps fueled by paranoia, Schmidt didn't delegate authority, which often reduced his assistants to spectators at practice. He kept the master playbook locked away; players' copies contained only their specific assignments and no hint at what their 10 teammates were doing.

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The Buckeyes lost at least two games in each of the next four seasons, backing into the 1939 conference championship despite a second straight loss to Michigan.

Instead of altering his style, Schmidt threw all his energy into creating more plays. His playbook swelled to 500 plays, Perkins estimated, and his poor quarterbacks required staggering attention spans. Tippy Dye printed plays on index cards and carried them into the huddle under his helmet.

Among his shortcomings, Schmidt never understood the importance of mentorship and discipline. In Schmidt's last seasons, key players became academically ineligible; others showed up late to practices. Team morale suffered.

In 1940, the Buckeyes went 4-4 and scored just 99 points.

"He didn't have control of the players," said Graf, who liked Schmidt. "They didn't play with a lot of enthusiasm. A half hour before the Michigan game, (All-America quarterback) Don Scott wasn't there. Schmidt said, 'Where's Don?' We all knew he was out selling his tickets."

The Wolverines routed the Buckeyes 40-0 in Ohio Stadium, beating them for a third straight time. Under fire from fans and the administration, Schmidt resigned and was replaced by Brown. No major program hired Schmidt, and the University of Idaho became his coaching Elba for two seasons until the school suspended football because of World War II.

As Schmidt left Columbus, a *Dispatch* photographer asked him and his wife for a final picture.

"People don't care about me anymore," Schmidt replied. "You've got plenty of pictures in your file. Just get one of them and run it -- and put in big black letters 'RIP, rest in peace.' "

## Legacy endures

The Buckeyes have produced several tremendous offensive teams in the past 75 years. The 1969 squad, under Hayes, averaged a school-record 42.6 points per game.

In 1995, under coach John Cooper, Eddie George won the Heisman Trophy by rushing for 1,927 yards while Bobby Hoying threw for 3,269 yards.

Nobody questioned Tressel's offense in 2006 when Ohio State averaged 385 yards with Troy Smith winning the Heisman.

But since Schmidt's departure, the Buckeyes have never sustained a wide-open offense. In the 1955 and '56 seasons under Hayes, quarterback Frank Elwood attempted a combined 43 passes.

The legacy of Schmidt, who was childless, endures thanks to Gillman. The former All-America end served as an assistant under Schmidt and Brown, melding the daring of one and the organization of the other.

Gillman's teachings had significant impact on the careers of NFL icons such as Al Davis and Bill Walsh.

As for Schmidt, his imprint remains on the game. In the 2006 Fiesta Bowl, Boise State used three trick plays -- a hook and lateral,

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Statue of Liberty and wide-receiver pass -- to stun Oklahoma.

Schmidt ran all three plays at Ohio State.

"I was at speaking engagement in Cleveland around 1992, and someone asked me, if I could have dinner with any Buckeye player or coach from the past, who would it be?" Park said. "I told them, Francis Schmidt. He seemed like such a fascinating character.

#### The Schmidt years

<b>1934:</b> 7-1-0	<b>1935:</b> 7-1-0	
<b>1936:</b> 5-3-0	<b>1937:</b> 6-2-0	
<b>1938:</b> 4-3-1	<b>1939:</b> 6-2-0	
<b>1940:</b> 4-4-0	Total: 39-16-1	
Ohio State won Big Ten titles in 1935 and		
'39 and finished second in 1934, '36 and '37.		
Schmidt won his first four games against		
Michigan by shutout but lost his last three.		

## Retiring

Ole Miss Senior Associate Athletics Director for Media Relations **Langston Rogers** will be retiring at the end of this month.

#### Halls of Fame

**R.C. Owens**, a football All-American at Idaho, from 1952 to 1956, was inducted into the Bay Area Sports Hall of Fame...The 2010 AT&T Cotton Bowl Classic Hall of Fame class includes: **Wilbur Evans** (a late executive director of the Cotton Bowl

Athletic Association); Kris Haines (Notre Dame); Phil Harris (Texas); Warren Lyles (Alabama); Joe Montana (Notre Dame) and coach Jackie Sherrill (Texas A&M/Mississippi State).

## In memory of

Willie Leon Manley, former assistant coach at Texas, 83...Fess Elisha Parker, Jr, Hardin-Simmons, 85...former Nebraska football player Justin Tomberlin, 27; Florida International running back Kendall Berry, 22...Horace **McCool**. former football coach at Delta State and Northeast Mississippi Community College, 81...Former Sacramento State coach **Bob Mattos**, 68... Former Utah State standout **Altie Taylor**, 62....Former ESPN president Chester Simmons, 81...Former Kansas State defensive end **Elijah Alexander** passed away at age 39... Notre Dame recruit, Matt James, 17.

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## How Howard Payne Became Known as the YellowJackets

**Dr. Robert G. Mangrum** University Historian and IFRA Member

Back in 1913 when Gwinn Henry was head athletic coach and O.E. Winebrenner, who taught the physical sciences, was the only assistant coach the college had, the athletic

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teams did not have a name. A faculty committee headed by Dean F. Erdmann Smith was appointed to choose a name.

The committee called on the student body to submit suggested names through an announcement in chapel and a notice on the bulletin board. A prize was offered to stimulate suggestions: a season ticket to all athletic events.

Carrie (Tad) Camp (later she married Homer B. Allen, class of 1914), won with "Yellow Jackets." She reasoned, as the football team was small in stature and weight but powerful on the field, Tad thought

[Duting, January 1899/as is]

## By J. Parmly Paret...(The First Non-Eastern All-American Team)

The first thing that will be noticed in this All-American team is that for the guard's position two left guards have been selected and no right, and two right tackles and no left. This was not an oversight, by any means, but rather an acknowledgment of the superiority of Boal and Hare over any of the right guards, and of Hillebrand and Chamber.

(sic)lain to any of the left tackles. The duties of one tackle or one guard are identical with those of his this indicated that the name decided upon must reflect that and be appropriate for something small but which packed a terrific wallop. At first the name yellow jackets was used only by the football team but eventually all athletic groups would adopt that as their team mascot.

In 1923, Winebrenner suggested the name of the campus newspaper be changed to reflect the college mascot and the Yellow Jacket newspaper banner was born.

The fall 2009 academic year began the Yellow Jacket's 100th volume.

\* \* \*

partner on the opposite side of the line, and it is only a matter of a little practice to accustom one of these star players to his shift of position. In both cases I have given the stronger player the preference in his regular position.

The absence of an first-class punting full-back among the big Eastern colleges has given, without question, the choice to Hershberger, from the University of Chicago, for this position. Punting is such a vital point in modern football that it is absolutely essential to have a strong punter behind the line in an ideal team.

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Hudson's selection for quarter-back may seem radical at first, but this phenomenal goal kicker would undoubtedly add many more points to the score of a selected All-American team than any other quarter who could be put in his place.

Daly showed up stronger than Hudson in some points of his position, but Hudson has never been tried behind such a line as that of Harvard's. Give him such protection and such backs behind him, and his goal kicking ability would make him the best scoring player of the best punter on the field this year, the cleverest year. In the selected combination we have the drop-kicker, and in Hare and Outland two strong place-kickers. With kicking so important a feature of the game, these men should prove a tower of strength if combined in any one team.

Team play is the vital point in the success of any eleven, but given three weeks' proper coaching in the Yale system of running attacks on tackles and ends, Pennsylvania's center attacks and Cornell's trick plays, with the Princeton defence for end plays and the Harvard defence against center plays and protection for kicks, this combination of football talent would be invincible.

Allowing the second team selected here the same coaching, I should estimate the All-American eleven to be about 10 to 0 better than either the second team or the Harvard champion eleven, and 15 to 0 better than Princeton.

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#### AN "ALL-AMERICAN" TEAM

It is unusually difficult this season to select a list of the star players of the year for an "All-American" team, because there are many good players in certain positions and a corresponding dearth of them in others. In all of the Eastern colleges, for instance, there is not a single first-class full-back, while good quarter-backs are almost as scarce. The supply of tackles is far above the normal; but practically only one of the center rushes of the big teams showed championship form.

It is also difficult to weigh the merits of the stars of the second-rate teams, for they should be considered under the same conditions as their rivals who are fortunate enough to play with the bigger elevens. We can only estimate, for instance, how good some of the backs at Wesleyan and West Point would be if put behind Harvard's line. Undoubtedly, the regular Crimson players appear to distinct advantage in being part of so fine a team. But as the "All-American" eleven must be selected entirely on the individual skill of the men, it is necessary to consider some of the star players from the smaller teams, who suffered by comparison on account of the weakness by which they were surrounded.

have been seen prominently in the college football arena this season:

On this basis, the following teams have been selected after a careful consideration of all the players who

All-American Pos	sition Second	l Team
Poe (Princeton)	right end	Hallowell (Harvard)
Hillebrand (Pr'ton)	. right tackle	Haughton (Harvard)
Boal (Harvard)	right guard	McCracken (U. of Pa.)
Overfield (Univ'ty of Pa.)	center	Jaffray (Harvard)
Hare (Univ'ty of P.)	left guard	Edwards (Princeton)
Chamberlain (Yale)	. left tackle	Donald Harvard)
Cochran (Harvard)	. left end	Palmer (Princeton)
Hudson (Indians)	. quarter-back .	Daly (Harvard)
Dibblee (Harvard)	left half-back.	Durston (Yale)
Outland (U. of P.)	right half-back	Whiting (Cornell)
Hershberger (U. of Ch'go)	. full-back	Reid (Harvard)

Hedges (University of Pennsylvania) should rank nearly even with Hallowell for substitute right end; Pierce (Indians) and Sweetland (Cornell) with Haughton for substitute right tackle; Brown (Yale) and Reed (Cornell) with Edwards, for substitute left guard; Warren (Harvard) with Whiting, for substitute right half-back; Raymond (Wesleyan) with Durston, for substitute left half-back, and Romeyn (West Point) with Reid, for substitute full-back.

## \* \* \*

## By Bruce K. Stewart

**American Football** 

From American History, November, 1995

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Uniforms -- introduced into college play in that groundbreaking 1875 Harvard-Yale contest--were made from a thin canvas-like material called mole-skins, which soon tagged the players "canvasbacks." During June each year, players would begin growing their hair long as protection against the football season's bone-jarring collisions.

But if a player secretly stashed pads beneath his unnumbered moleskins, his teammates would ridicule him without mercy.

For all its roughness, however, there was a lighter side to football during this era. After a game the two teams dined together, enjoying a feast of fresh fish and wild game; it was a practice that bestowed a soothing balm to their weary muscles. After dinner, unbridled boasting, story telling, and song satisfied a deeper appetite.

The year 1888 heralded energetic changes that led directly to the modern game of football. Before that time, defensemen were permitted to tackle only above the waist, a

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restriction that encouraged an open style of running and pitching the ball from player to player across the whole width of the field until the defense caught up. When tackling below the waist finally became legal below the waist but above the knees defensemen had a much larger target tackling area.

Ball carriers, much to their dismay, found that they could not easily elude such ferocious tackles. For counterbalance, the offensive line began bunching together to provide their carriers with more protection. Because there were not yet any rules regulating the number of men a team put on the line of scrimmage to begin each play, offenses initiated a new strategy of placing a mass of players in the backfield. At the snap of the ball, the players would all charge toward one defenseman. The power of these "massing plays" soon resulted in deaths and many grievous injuries.

During kickoff plays, teams made use of a loophole in the old rule that required the offense to kick the ball, but did not specify that the receiver had to be on the opposing team. Amos Alonzo Stagg, a Yale All-American in 1889 and later one of the game's greatest coaches, recalled that "the subterfuge was conceived of inch-kicking," whereby the kicker made an "inch kick" to himself, thus retaining possession of the ball. He would then hand it back to a teammate in a play called the V-wedge, "and the slow-moving mass of players clinging to one another moved forward in a slow lockstep run. The strategy was to open an aperture at a certain point of the wedge, through which the imprisoned runner would dart."

The suffering wrought by such plays increased dramatically with the introduction

of the mighty "fling wedge," a remarkable "kickoff" play invented by Lorin E Deland, a military strategist, chess expert, and Harvard supporter who had never played a game of football in his life. Fans got to see Deland's bold new tactic for the first time in the second half of the 1892 Harvard-Yale encounter.

Deland divided Harvard's players into two groups of five men each at opposite sidelines. Before the ball was even in play team captain Bernie Trafford signaled the two groups. Each unit sprang forward, at first striding in unison, then sprinting obliquely toward the center of the field. Simultaneously, spectators leapt to their feet gasping.

Restricted by the rules, Yale's front line nervously held its position.

After amassing twenty yards at full velocity, the "flyers" fused at mid-field, forming a massive human arrow. Just then, Trafford pitched the ball back to his speedy halfback, Charlie Brewer. At that moment, one group of players executed a quarter turn, focusing the entire wedge toward Yale's right flank. Now both sides of the flying wedge pierced ahead at breakneck speed, attacking Yale's front line with great momentum. Brewer scampered behind the punishing wall, while Yale's brave defenders threw themselves into its dreadful path.

Brewer was finally forced out of the partially disintegrated wedge at Yale's twenty-yard line, where he tripped over one of his own players just as he was tackled by Frank Butterworth. Parke Davis, an early footballer turned historian, wrote of the action: "Sensation runs through the stands at the novel play, which is the most organized and beautiful one ever seen upon a football field."

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Yale's incredible defense held and eventually won the game. However, Deland had opened Pandora's box. According to Davis, "No play has ever been devised so spectacular and sensational as this one." Stagg, writing in 1926, remarked that "The Deland invention probably was the most spectacular single formation ever opened as a surprise package. It was a great play when perfectly executed, but, demanding the exact coordination of eleven men, extremely difficult to execute properly."

Harvard's dangerous flying wedge quickly became the standard opening play for teams all across the country. But the play, which used the principle of mass momentum to great advantage, was deadly as well as effective. The cause of numerous deaths, the flying wedge was outlawed after only two seasons. As often happens with new sports rules, however, coaches and players soon found intriguing loopholes that kept the flying wedge alive.

Mass formations resembling the forbidden play crept onto the field on nearly every down. If anything, variations of the flying wedge became even more vicious than the original. Injuries soared, leading an outraged press to denounce the game for its excessive violence. For eleven years the press fueled the public's clamor for substantial rule changes, advocating such things as increasing from five to ten the number of yards a team must cover within four downs.

Barnstorming Rugby and soccer teams from all over Europe and Australia gave demonstrations across the United States to convince Americans of their games' noble values and superior morals. Some colleges did switch to Rugby or soccer, while others banned all kinds of football.

During those years, public outrage was not universal, nor was the negative sentiment shared by the players of the game. It was during this era that the first "sports heroes" captured the public imagination. Since 1889, Walter Camp had been selecting the best players to an All-American team. Outstanding players captivated the crowds and sustained growing interest in the sport despite concerns about the dangers associated with it. By the turn of the century, colleges across the country had become as involved with football as their Eastern counterparts. In 1896, the Western Conference--which later evolved into the "Big Ten"--was formed with memorable teams from the universities of Wisconsin, Michigan, and Chicago. In 1901 football was added to the program of events associated with Pasadena, California's twelve-year-old Tournament of Roses; on New Year's Day of 1902, the tradition of the Rose Bowl was born.

At the end of the 1905 season, the Chicago Tribune reported some frightening news:

## 18 FOOTBALL PLAYERS DEAD AND 159 SERIOUSLY INJURED!

This report, coming weeks after he had seen photographs of the bloodied combatants in a contest between Swarthmore and the University of Pennsylvania, led President Theodore Roosevelt to proclaim: "I demand that football change its rules or be abolished. Brutality and foul play should receive the same summary punishment given to a man who cheats at cards! Change the game or forsake it!"

The president immediately appointed a rules committee and pressured football coaches across the country to come up with a solution. John Heisman, Georgia Tech's coach, proposed that a passing play might be

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a good way to open up the game and help disband massing plays. He hoped that the forward pass would change football's emphasis from brute force to the kind of clever ball-handling that would please crowds and, more importantly, save players' lives.

Just after New Year's Day 1906, the rules committee approved the forward pass. Although the identity of those involved in the first play to involve a legal forward pass has been the subject of debate, credit is usually given to Bradbury Robinson of St. Louis University. A halfback, Robinson threw the ball to a teammate in a September 1906 game with Carroll College in Waukesha, Wisconsin.

The new rule, however, was full of conflicting restrictions -- such as a penalty of fifteen yards for an incomplete pass -- that limited coaches' freedom to experiment with the innovative play.

It was six years after its introduction that the forward pass really came alive. Before the 1913 season opener, Gus Dorais, Notre Dame's talented quarterback, practiced concise pass patterns with a talented pass catcher on the shores of Lake Erie during their summer break. In the Notre Dame-Army game, Dorais made the forward pass a vital offensive weapon by passing for 243 yards, primarily to his main receiver and future coaching great Knute Rockne.

Meanwhile, flying-wedge principles continued to persist in insidious forms. In 1909, two important players -- Navy's Early Wilson and Army's Eugene "Icy" Byrne -- were both killed in massing plays, creating a "great clamor for re-form or radical changes . . . "Embarrassed and perplexed by its own

inadequacy and spurred on by public outrage, the rules committee finally permitted only four players to line up in the backfield, demanded a seven-man line, barred offensive lineman from using their hands, and required kickers to send the ball at least ten yards on every kickoff. At last football was freed of its own nemesis.

In spite of its destructiveness, the flying wedge and related "massing plays" did create some positive movements in American football. The news of the plays' power and alluring beauty helped to launch the exciting game across the country, while their destructiveness heralded the birth of player-safety measures, including the formation of the National College Athletic Association in 1906. Additionally, there arose united groups of concerned citizens, media, and college administrators, all of which endeavored to make football a fair game for both sides.

One such administrator, Stanford University president David Starr Jordan, wrote in the 1890s that "College football has come to stay: It has its advantages, its dangers, and its evils, but it fills a place which no other game can take. Its members are bound together by the strongest of ties. . . college spirit."

The flying wedge could be used only in place of a kickoff play at the start of each half or after a team had scored.

Teams from Stanford University and the University of Michigan met in the first such game on January 1, 1902. However, the second Rose Bowl game, which pitted Washington State against Brown University, was not played until 1916.

\* \* \*

## SPORTS PARADE

## By OSCAR FRALEY United Press Sports Writer NEW YORK (UP)

#### Game of The Week

Tennessee over Georgia Tech it's the Solid South against the Solid South and something has to give. Bowden Wyatt has developed an old fashioned stoic wing crusher with tailback Johnny Major directing the hammer blows. Tech has more depth but the Vols all season have done more than expected. So on to the Southeastern Conference championship and the Sugar Bowl for Tennessee.

Tommy Prothro Named as UP "Coach of Week"

## By HOWARD APPLEGATE

CORVALLIS, Ore. (UP) —He played in the Rose Bowl game once but the Rose Bowl itself was more than 3,000 miles away.

This time he'd like to get his boys at least close enough to smell the flowers, and the way they are going

that fragrance could be theirs to enjoy on New Year's Day.

He's the United Press Coach of-the -Week, Tommy Prothro of those rising, surprising Oregon State Beavers. Just a year ago when Prothro took over as head coach, he implanted the remnants of the worst football team in Oregon State history. He guided the Beavers to a 6-3 won and lost record and this season he has steered them to the top in the tough Pacific Coast Conference. If they can get by Stanford on Saturday, they should make it to Pasadena, because only Idaho and Oregon, both comparative weaklings, remain after that.

State's 28-20 victory over Washington's Huskies last week wasn't a surprise; in fact the Beavers had been favored to win. But it was just another workmanlike demonstration of Prothro's single wing efficiency.

"This team goes places because it has a great desire to win," declared Prothro, who was a standout football player himself at Duke. He played in the 1942 Rose Bowl game against Oregon State and the Beavers won that thriller, 20-16, in Durham, N.C.

It was transplanted from Pasadena because it was only a few weeks after the bombing of Pearl Harbor and there was fear of bombing attacks on the Pacific Coast.

\* \* \*

# Steve Greene has submitted this...

From the November 8, 1941 Football Game Program Lehigh vs. Rutgers and a small cartoon entitled "Oddities"

"'Snooks' Dowd - in a Lehigh-Lafayette game, ran 210 yards for a touchdown. He ran in the wrong direction, circled around the goal posts and ran back again the length of the field."

\*

Further information has been located.

[Charleston Gazette 12-16-1931]

## **Marquette All-Opponent**

MILWAUKEE, Wis.—(UP)—
Marquette's all opponent team was announced today as follows: Ends, McNeil, W. & J. and Hackett,
Detroit; tackles, Sklenar, Creighton, and Turnbow, Mississippi; guards, J. Fife, W. & J and Sohl, Butler; center, Downes, Boston College; quarterback, Lindstrom, Drake; M. Armstrong, W. &J and Parsaca, Detroit; fullback, Anderson, Ripon.

## Irish Announce Opponent Team

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — (UP)—Notre Dame's official all-opponent team selected by the coaches, scouts and

#### • Wikipedia has this to say:

In 1918, Snooks, playing halfback Lehigh, completed a 115-yard touchdown run. According to the story, Dowd ran the wrong way, circled his own goalposts, and went the right way 100 yards to score.

## • From the Lehigh media guide:

In 1918, as recorded by various observers, Lehigh halfback Raymond B. "Snooks" Dowd completed a 115-yard touchdown run. According to the story, Dowd ran the wrong way, circled his own goalposts, and went the right way 100 yards to score.

players was announced today in the official football review.

The team follows: ends, Briley,
Drake and Arbelbide, Southern
California; tackles, Riley,
Northwestern, and Price, Army;
guards, Baker, Southern California,
and Underwood, Navy; center,
Daugherty, Pittsburgh; quarterback,
Mohler, Southern California;
halfbacks, Stecker, Army, and
Rentner, Northwestern; fullback,
Perina, Pennsylvania.

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