

INTERCOLLEGIATE FOOTBALL RESEARCHERS ASSOCIATION™

## The College Football Historian™

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

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### **Forward Progress**

*By Vic Winnek*

Forward progress appears simple in concept – the forward most point of the ball when the play is declared dead. This simple concept is one of the most inconsistently applied and misunderstood rules of the game. “Forward progress” is also one of the most significantly evolved rules. It was first addressed in 1906 later edited in 1932, 1973 and again in 1988 providing the current definition. In the 2011 NCAA Rules committee meetings, the members of the rules committee refined or redefine the forward progress spot of a runner diving toward the goal line pylon - hence simplifying the rule that had become a bit confusing over the past several years when applying it to an airborne runner. It is now a touchdown of the runner or the ball touch the endzone or pylon.

But I digress and will address this topic for another article on the Goal Line Extended.

The forward progress rules are utilized on most every play. However, officials frequently misapply them; while fans and TV announcers misstate the concept. The reason officials tend to misjudge this call is because they do not use the ball as their reference point. It is not the position of the runner's foot or the runner's knee. Rather, it is the position of the forward most point of the ball when the play becomes dead by rule. It is this dead ball spot that determines forward progress.

*The College Football Historian-2 -*

Fans and sportscasters dwell on there the player stepped out of bound or where the QB's head was in relation to the line to gain on a Quarterback sneak. The key is always where the forward most point of the ball is when the player steps out of bounds or where the ball is in relation to the line to gain.

Under the college rules: Forward progress is a term indicating the end of advancement by the runner or airborne pass receiver of either team and applies to the position of the ball when it became dead by rule. (NCAA Rule 2-8-2). Hence, the reference point is the ball. Officials must note the position of the ball when the runner or airborne receiver is no longer moving forward.

Under the high school rules: Forward progress is the end of advancement of a runner toward the opponent's goal and determines the dead ball spot. When an airborne player makes a catch, forward progress is the furthest point of advancement after he possesses the ball if contacted by a defender. (Federation Rule 2-15-1, 2). Again, the reference point is the position of the ball when the runner is no longer moving forward toward his opponent's goal line. The Federation rule reference the "dead ball spot" which implies the forward most

point of the ball. (NFHS Rule 2-40-3).

The rule is in part, objective – not open to interpretation. The official makes an observation and marks the spot at the location determined by the exact instant the ball becomes dead by rule. I teach officials - You see it and go to the spot. Mark the forward tip of the ball if the ball was carried with the length axis of the ball parallel to the sideline. Otherwise mark the forward most part of the ball.

Application of the forward progress rules also requires a subjective approach. This is when officials are called upon to use their judgment and make a decision that the ball carrier is no longer advancing toward his opponent's goal line. Is the runner moving forward, sideways, or backward? If the runner's momentum is no longer going forward his progress has stopped. If the runner's movement is solely sideways toward the sideline his forward progress has stopped.

Although the rule no longer uses the language: "in the grasp of an opponent"; philosophically it is implied through tradition. Both high school and college rules deem the ball dead and forward progress stopped when the ball carrier is "held so his (forward advancing)

progress is stopped” (Federation Rule 4-2-2-a; NCAA Rule 4-1-3-a). NCAA Rule 4-1-3-a states that the ball becomes dead “when the runner is so held that his forward progress is stopped.” Officials must determine if the opponent of the runner has sufficiently held or grasped the runner so as to have stopped his forward movement. This action is what kills the play not the whistle. A quick whistle can get an official into trouble, but too much of a delayed whistle can also cause problems. A quick whistle may lead to an inadvertent whistle. A slow whistle may allow for the ball to become loose or a player to become injured, etc. Therefore, officials must know when the forward movement has stopped.

A runner who is running sideways and is grasped or held by an opponent is no longer advancing the ball forward. Likewise, a ball carrier that is being pushed backward by an opponent is no longer advancing the ball forward and by rule the ball is dead. In situations where a runner is hit, knocked backward but not held in the opponent’s grasp, the runner may still advance the ball forward. The reason forward progress is not stopped is because the runner was not grasped. An airborne receiver who catches the ball and then is driven backward by

an opponent and the ball then declared dead will be awarded the forward progress spot at the place where he received the pass. When a runner steps out of bounds the forward progress spot is where the ball was when the runner stepped out of bounds. On plays where the runner/airborne receiver stretched out the ball (before being downed) at the sideline, the forward progress spot is the foremost point of the ball where it intersects the sideline.

On every play officials must know when the ball becomes dead. For forward progress purposes the ball becomes dead when: the runner is out of bounds; the runner is held so his forward progress is stopped; when any part of the runner’s body other than his hand or foot touches the ground; inadvertent whistle or when the runner’s helmet comes off. Additionally, under the NCAA rules when the airborne pass receiver is so held and subsequently carried and prevented from returning to the ground.

### **Marking Forward Progress:**

Forward progress is not the point where the runner’s knee first touches the ground or where the runner’s foot goes out of bounds. The reference point is the BALL (usually carried at the shoulder/chest). Mark forward progress by “squaring up” from the

sideline and align your forward foot with the forward most part of the ball. Using common sense, not to give an advantage to a team, try to start a new series of downs (after a change of possession) on a yard line. This makes it easier to see the line to gain, measure and march off penalties. Contrary to some officials' practices, this does not mean you always mark the ball on a yard line for each down. Mark progress where the ball lies.

There are times when it is extremely difficult to determine with precision where the dead ball spot is (e.g. run plays up the middle into a pile). In this instance, the officials must watch the runner. See where the ball is being carried (i.e. tucked in one arm at his rib cage, held with both hands in front chest high, etc.) Remember, the ball is not carried at the knees or thigh or at the waist level. Use the runner's chest and shoulders as a reference point when you have lost sight of the ball and it is not loose. Mark forward progress by moving parallel to the runner then square up, pinch in as necessary. Indicate the spot by standing with both feet together, using your forward most foot as the mark.

### **Cross-Field Mechanics:**

Cross-field mechanics are used by the flanks (and deep sides in 7 man mechanics). This assures the forward progress spot is correct. The official on the far side or the "off official" usually has a good view of the end of the run. The off official (across the field) runs parallel to the play on his sideline and squares up to mark progress. The near official does the same, looking across the field to make sure he is aligned with the cross-field official marking the spot. If the near official has the runner down or out of bounds and has a more accurate spot, the off official shall yield to the near official's progress spot. If the near official is blocked out of a play or knocked down, the off official will have the spot. Good communication in the pre-game and during the game with respect to cross-field mechanics is vital for success.

To properly rule on forward progress, communication among the officials is vital as is being in the correct position to see the play. Always see the ball and use the forward most point as your reference. Know when the runner's advancement is stopped and whether it was due to an opponent's grasp, or when the runner/airborne receiver goes out of bounds, etc. If you don't see the ball on a dive play, watch the runner's shoulders. If you don't see the ball on a long run or

pass play, look to the cross-field official.

*Vic Winnek is an NCAA football Official. He has played at the prep and collegiate levels and officiated at both levels. He is an instructor of officials and one of four Instructional Consultants for the California Football Officials' Association Executive Council*

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## **The View-Point On the forward pass**

*By Glenn S. Warner*

The rules, allowing forward passing, putting every one onside when a punted ball strikes the ground and making it necessary to gain ten yards in three downs, have now been in operation three years and there can be no doubt but that the game has been greatly improved.

However, there is one great fault with the rules as they now stand, and this is that they are altogether too complicated. There are so many technical points involved in construing and applying the rules, so many lines to be marked upon the field of play and so many competent officials needed to enforce the rules, that a severe hardship is imposed upon school and smaller college teams.

Innumerable disputes arise which cause a great deal of dissatisfaction and often hard feeling over the results of many games.

The forward pass has so many restrictions placed upon the execution of it that it is a dangerous play to use. These should be removed or the play prohibited altogether. If the restrictions were removed there would be a preponderance of passing and little punting, and it is probable that if the forward pass was prohibited beyond the line of scrimmage and the players of the offensive team were allowed to secure kicked balls before they touched the ground instead of having to wait, as they do now, for the ball to touch the ground or another player, a much better game would result and one in which accurate and distance punting would be at a great premium.

The game would retain all of its open features, and it would still be football without so much of a basket ball appearance.

The rules prohibiting forward passes and the first man to receive the ball from the snapper-back from crossing the scrimmage line within five yards of the center should by all means be revoked, as it is hard to see what useful purpose they accomplish.

Then, too, it is these rules which make it necessary that the field be marked length-wise with lines five

yards apart, and which cause so many disputes and differences of  
*The College Football Historian- 6-*

opinion and which put so much responsibility and work upon the officials.

The rules should be such that three officials could run the game satisfactorily.

The referee should be the only official standing within the field of play and he should have sole charge of enforcing all the rules, being assisted by a linesman who, in addition to his duties as now outlined in the rules, should be authorized to report any infraction of the rules which he sees to the referee. An assistant linesman should be stationed upon the opposite side of the field and, besides marking where the ball or the man carrying it goes out of bounds, watch for and report to the referee any violations of the rules.

The rules could easily be put in such shape that these three men could handle the games much more satisfactorily and with much less bickering than the four officials do under the rules as they now stand. This would simplify and benefit the game greatly.

While a great many different suggestions have been made and

will continue to be made in regard to how the rules should be changed, there seems to be an almost unanimous opinion prevailing among those most interested in the game, that the Rules Committee should at least put forth every effort to simplify them so that players can more readily learn them, spectators better understand the game, and also to enable the officials to render better and more satisfactory service.

It is a difficult matter to determine satisfactorily the standing of the teams, and it is probable that very few critics will place them in the same order. In placing the teams in the order of their strength, as will be attempted in this review of the season, the form shown throughout their schedule will be taken into consideration, but more importance will be placed upon the results of the final games and the judgment of the writer will be based, not only upon personal observation, but upon the accounts and criticisms of the various games and teams in the public press, and upon opinions and views expressed in conversation and correspondence with coaches and officials, many of whom differ greatly in their estimates of the ability of the different teams and player.

**Source:** The Outing 1909

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**CASE FOR INSTANT REPLAY:**

Westminster's first win in the series with W&J came in 1910 with plenty of controversy.

The Titans lined up for a field goal with a minute left, but the kick fell short, rolled over the goal line and was downed by a Westminster player. The referee awarded a touchdown to Westminster, stating that a W&J player touched the ball after it had crossed the goal line before the Titan recovery.

W&J Head Coach D.C. Morrow, who had three different stints with the

football program, withdrew the Presidents from the field in protest, resulting in a 1-0 Westminster win.

Thus, in the 10th game between W&J and Westminster, the Titans earned their first point against the Presidents after being outscored by a combined 180-0 in the first nine meetings.

*--Used by permission of Washington & Jefferson SID, Scott D McGuinness; in his weekly release before the teams would meet.*

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## **NAIA POLL STATRESEARCH**

*By Chad Waller, NAIA Director of Sports  
Information & Media Services*

- Carroll leads the group of No. 1-ranked teams in the Preseason Top 25 (since 1997) – 2011, 2008, 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003, followed by former member Sioux Falls (S.D.) (2010, 2009, 2007, 1997), Georgetown (Ky.) (2002, 2001), Northwestern Oklahoma State (2000), Azusa Pacific (Calif.) (1999) and former member Findlay (Ohio) (1998).
- Since 2000, Carroll holds the most No. 1 positions with 56; Sioux Falls had 55, while Georgetown has 14, Northwestern Oklahoma State 11 and Saint Francis with three.
- Only two teams have been ranked No. 1 since the 2006 Postseason Top 25 Poll (Jan. 18, 2007), with Carroll being one of them – Saint Francis was the last team outside of those two programs to earn the No. 1-spot on Nov. 12, 2006 – a streak of 56 polls.
- Carroll has now been ranked in the top five in the last 79 straight polls dating back to Jan. 17, 2005 (2004 Postseason Top 25 Poll).

- Saint Francis boasts the longest consecutive stretch of being named in the Coaches' Top 25 Poll – 143 straight mentions. The last time Saint Francis was not mentioned in the Top 25 was Oct. 19, 1999.

*The College Football Historian- 8-*

- After Saint Francis, Carroll is the next team in line with 130 straight Top-25 rankings... Sioux Falls holds the record (since 1997 when both divisions merged) for consecutive No. 1 rankings at 26 straight polls, accomplished from Jan. 12, 2009 (2008 Postseason) through Nov. 14, 2010 (final regular season).

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### Reprints of Old Spalding Guides

Do you ever wish you could review a copy of the old *Official Spalding College Foot Ball Guides*? Even with some of the old Guides available on "E-bay" the cost would be more than you would like to pay!

Then, your wish is about to be granted.

**Tuxedo Press** is now reprinting early *Spalding's Football Guides* "as we get copies of them to print," said Tom Benjey. For additional information, visit this website: [http://www.tuxedo-press.com/index\\_files/Reprints.htm](http://www.tuxedo-press.com/index_files/Reprints.htm), they are available at discount from both Amazon and Barnes & Noble. B&N appears to be discounting them a little more than Amazon.

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### Football's Founding Fathers

*Today's college game shaped by U.Va.*

*By Kevin Edds*

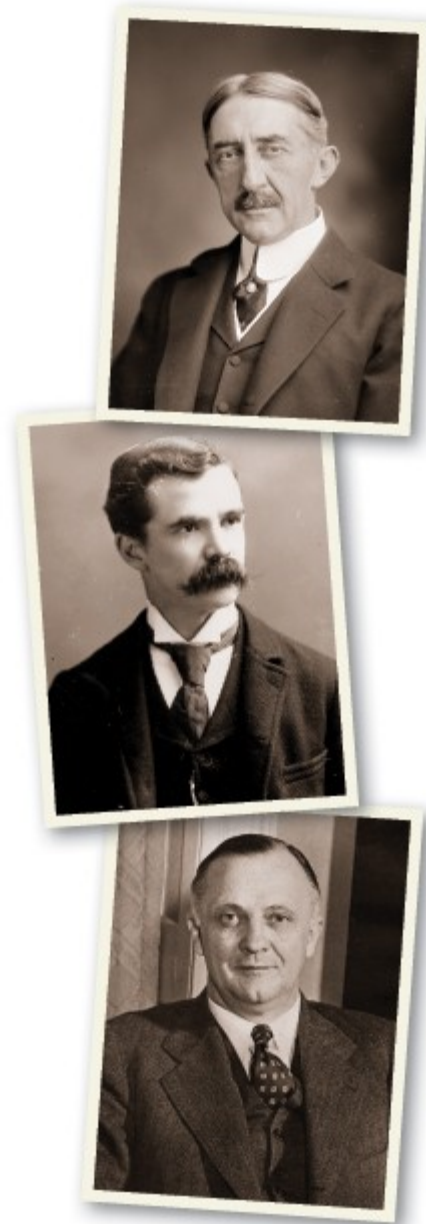
When college football's greatest historical programs are discussed, schools like Notre Dame,

Southern Cal, Michigan, Alabama and Penn State commonly come to mind. But to truly appreciate the history of football, the contributions of the University of Virginia cannot be overlooked. While national championships and Heisman trophies may not



adorn the University's halls, Virginia had the honor of aiding in times of crisis and standing up for fairness and equality during college football's formative years.

*The College Football Historian- 9-*



*From top: Edwin Alderman, William Lambeth and Colgate Darden*

Pop Warner was livid. The man who would one day become synonymous with youth football in America was furious with U.Va. athletics director Dr. William Lambeth.

Warner was the coach of the Carlisle Indian School, a boarding school for American Indians that became a collegiate football powerhouse in the early 20th century.

*The College Football Historian- 10-*

Carlisle, known for its undersized yet crafty teams, was the birthplace of the overhand spiral and the play-action pass. Warner also launched the career of Jim Thorpe, Olympic gold medalist, football Hall-of-Famer and the Associated Press's "greatest athlete of the first half of the 20th century."

Carlisle had become the darling of the college football world in 1907 when Thorpe joined the varsity squad, helping them finish 10-1. With Carlisle ascending the national rankings in the years that followed, U.Va. wanted to face off against the national sensation.

After agreeing to a game in 1910, the Cavaliers discovered that they would miss the chance to play against Thorpe because he had skipped the season to recuperate after playing summer baseball. Despite a 22-5 setback against the Indians, Lambeth wanted a rematch the following year, when Thorpe would make his return to college football.

Following a brief discussion with Warner, Lambeth fired off a letter announcing that the Indians had been placed on the 1911 Virginia schedule. But days later the Washington Post proclaimed, "VIRGINIA GAME IS OFF," the all-caps headline seemingly shouting the news as if it came from Warner's own typewriter. His displeasure with Lambeth was palpable.

Warner told the newspaper the U.Va. schedule-maker merely "took it for granted that the matter was settled after the game last year."

## ELIGIBLE BACHELORS

As far back as the 1890s, a phenomenon known as the "tramp athlete" took hold of college football. These players-for-hire went from school to school selling their services. And without a ruling body to govern the

More important to Warner was the issue of money. Virginia was in the midst of one of its greatest eras, going 20-3-1 over the three prior seasons, but the Indians' coach grouched, "The gate receipts of last year's game fell way below expectations."

Even back then football was big business. Gate receipts paid coaches' salaries and team expenses, and funded almost every other sport. But the quest for victories led to the dogged pursuit of the best student-athletes—who many times ignored the student part—and pushed on-field rules to the limit, no matter what the consequences. This led to three critical questions, pillars of the very foundation of college football: Who should be allowed to play? What rules should they play by? And which student-athlete costs should be covered by schools? The University of Virginia played a pivotal role in the resolution of all three.



*In 1888, the University of Virginia played its first official football game, a 20-0 victory over Pantops Academy.*

sport, it was left up to the universities themselves to determine eligibility. The guidelines were so uneven that in an early

game between Virginia and North Carolina, a purported member of the UNC faculty scored a touchdown.

In 1904 at the University of Virginia, control of athletics rested in the hands of a student group, the General Athletic Association. But U.Va. still had no strict regulations that defined player eligibility. That fall the University's newly elected first president, Edwin Alderman, immediately sought to formalize matters by appointing a committee to recommend standards for eligibility—but the results would not be released for more than a year.

In the meantime, tensions rose the following year as the November showdown against Virginia Polytechnic Institute was fast approaching. Just one month earlier, President Theodore Roosevelt had summoned representatives of Harvard, Princeton and Yale to the White House to discuss injuries, lack of sportsmanship and eligibility issues. Roosevelt, who thought the game good for instilling toughness in young men, wanted to facilitate a resolution. After much discussion, individual interests ruled and no changes were made. With no national compass, the issue would come to a head with U.Va. and VPI.

Going into the game, U.Va. was 8-0 all-time against their neighbors to the southwest, and VPI was desperate to put an end to its futility. As the teams warmed up at Lambeth Field, the students who ran the G.A.A. left the wooden bleachers lining the hillside and presented the visitors' star player, Hunter Carpenter, an affidavit to sign denying he was a "professional." Carpenter refused to sign.

Without a doubt, Carpenter followed an uncommon path in his college career. He entered VPI in 1898 and graduated in the spring of 1904. He then enrolled in graduate classes at UNC that fall and proclaimed, "I want to help Carolina beat the University of Virginia." He lost yet again. Looking for one last opportunity, Carpenter, in his eighth year of college studies, and seventh playing varsity football, rejoined VPI.

U.Va. might have had a stronger team if a new student on Grounds had been allowed to compete. Former Columbia captain Tom Thorp, who failed out of the New York school weeks earlier, had just enrolled at Virginia. Alderman, while happy to give the student a second chance to redeem himself academically, insisted he could not play football for one year.

Carpenter started off the contest scoring on a long touchdown run, and the Wahoos could not keep pace. Newspaper accounts told of punches thrown both at and by Carpenter, the latter leading to his ejection. Indignantly, he threw the ball into the stands with officials escorting him from the game and the crowd roaring in delight. Despite hopes for a spirited comeback, VPI prevailed 11-0.

The animosity between the programs became so intense that the teams would not play each other for the next 18 years. While U.Va. may have lost the game, the faculty, students and alumni felt they had kept their academic integrity.

After the season's conclusion, the committee assigned to study eligibility guidelines at the University reconvened. Professors W.H. Echols and Raleigh C. Minor, along with William Lambeth, submitted a landmark report formalizing standards at Virginia for the first time.

While U.Va. was crafting its Magna Carta, the outcry against professionalism

nationwide became the catalyst for the creation of the Inter-Collegiate Athletic Association, which later became the NCAA. On Dec. 28, 1905, just one month after the Carpenter incident, representatives met for the first time in New York to discuss the abuses in college football, but could not agree on a uniform eligibility code. Two weeks later, Lambeth's group made its rules a reality at U.Va. (see rules summary on facing page). The University of Pennsylvania followed suit the following month with even stricter provisions, along with Harvard, Princeton and Yale.

Virginia not only steadfastly followed its own rules, but also refused to play other

schools that did not. This caused a media frenzy starting with the Danville Bee: "Let Virginia clear her own skirts of suspicions of professionalism before becoming a stickler for regularity." In a letter to the Washington Post, the University's G.A.A. guaranteed the eligibility of their players: "The students sign their athletic pledges under the Honor System. To those who know its imperatives, explanation is needless; to those who know it not, explanation is hopeless."

While the University was not the sole leader in the "who can play" debate, its public and early adoption of strict eligibility standards, along with an insistence on competing only with like-minded institutions, was a bellwether event in the South that ultimately culminated in a uniform national code.



*Football at Lambeth Field, circa 1910*

## **TRAGEDY LEADS TO TRANSFORMATION**

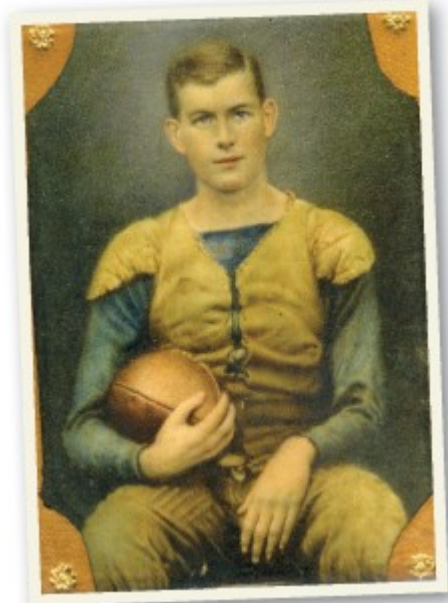
Four years after Hunter Carpenter finally tasted victory over his longtime nemesis, the "how they play" conundrum of college football made national headlines and U.Va. was again at the center of the controversy.

Football historian John S. Watterson (Col '62) illuminates the 1909 U.Va. versus Georgetown contest and its aftermath with his article "Youth and Memory." He vividly describes U.Va.'s freshman sensation, Archer Christian, scoring a touchdown and kicking a field goal in the first half. With five minutes left in the game, Christian broke

through the line but was stopped abruptly. He was knocked backward while others fell

*The College Football Historian-13-*

on top of him. After peeling players off the pile, a hush went over the crowd as Christian lay motionless. As he was carried away, he was heard telling trainer Pop Lannigan, "I'm suffering. Please do something for me." Christian slipped into a coma and died the following morning.



*Archer Christian*

Alderman exhorted the rules committee to consider revisions that would make the game less violent. Christian was not alone. Ten men died that year playing college football—and dozens more at other levels.

Few realize how close football came to being expunged from the American consciousness. In 1909, it was still a young sport and not

News of the tragedy made the front page of the New York Times, along with a plea for the game to be abolished. Talk of outlawing college football surfaced in state assemblies.

Distraught over the death of one of his students in a game that he adored, Alderman embarked on a public crusade to reform the rules of the sport. He traveled to New York along with William Lambeth to make an appeal before the ICAA.

firmly rooted. There was no NFL. Colleges controlled the fate and direction of the game.

Alderman rose to the occasion, delivering timely, impassioned speeches before the ICAA delegation. Watterson says Alderman "combin[ed] the moral with the practical, the carrot of hope with the stick of

abandonment.” And foreshadowing the job before the rules committee, Watterson noted, “The fate of football rested with them.”

William Lambeth, who witnessed Christian’s death, was named to the ICAA rules committee during that session. Because Lambeth was so close to the tragedy, he was particularly inspired to reform the rules.

His training as a doctor led him to view the game differently than his fellow committee

*The College Football Historian-14-*

members. He focused on the game’s physical demands and the punishment it inflicted on the body. The rules at that time made football a contest of endurance and brute, physical force. Compounding the issue, player substitutions were treated like those in modern soccer—once a player left the game, he could not return.

When athletes became fatigued, they refused to leave the game because a less-qualified man would take their place. Offenses would begin to direct their attacks toward the weakest players on the defense. Exhaustion led to slow reactions and ultimately to dangerous injuries.

Also like soccer, football was played in two long halves. Lambeth thought dividing the game into four quarters would be one way to give players “a breathing spell,” with brief respites between the first and third quarters

and a long break at halftime. This idea was revolutionary at the time. Opponents thought it would ruin the flow of the game, but Lambeth knew it would allow smaller teams to rest and then utilize their speed and agility to open up the field.

Of the more than 50 suggestions made, Lambeth’s four-quarters proposal and another allowing a player who left the game to return at the beginning of the next quarter were the only ones that met with unanimous approval. Not a bad start for the newest member of the rules committee.

Revisions by the entire group banning mass configurations of offensive players and lessening restrictions on the forward pass were also approved, which not only reduced the number of deaths, but also dramatically changed the game of football as we now know it. U.Va.’s College Topics predicted, “The game as played next fall will hardly be recognizable by many who have followed it.”

Whether an intended consequence or not, Lambeth helped create parity among teams. Like the three-point shot in basketball, the four-quarters concept and the forward pass opened up the possibility of smaller teams defeating the Goliaths of the football world. The entire set of new rules, in part created by U.Va.’s Lambeth, would come to be used throughout college, high school and professional football.

*About the author: Kevin Edds (Col ‘95) is the director and producer of the recently released documentary **Wahoowa: The History of Virginia Cavalier Football.***

**End of Part 1 of 2**

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**Bo Carter presents members of the Hall of Fame: Date of Birth and Death**

**October**

1 (1900) Mal Aldrich, Fall River, Mass.

1 (1911) Herman Hickman, Johnson City, Tenn.  
 1-(d – 1963) Herb Joesting, St. Paul, Minn.  
 2 (1909) Joe Kendall, Owensboro, Ky.  
 2 (1922) Bill Swiacki, Southbridge, Mass.  
 2 (1939) Bob Schloredt, Deadwood, S.D.  
 2 (1948) Chuck Dicus, Odessa, Texas  
 3-(d – 1936) John Heisman, New York City  
 3 (1902) Lynn “Pappy” Waldorf, Clifton Springs, N.Y.  
 3-(d – 2005) Alvin Wistert, Northville, Mich.  
 4 (1896) Tad Wieman, Orosi, Calif.  
 4 (1917) Bowden Wyatt, Kingston, Tenn.  
 4 (1932) Roger Harring, Green Bay, Wis.

*The College Football Historian- 15-*

4 (1934) Sam Huff, Edna Gas, W.Va.  
 4 (1937) Lea Langdon, Paoli, Pa.  
 5 (1911) Bill Corbus, San Francisco, Calif.  
 5 (1921) Bill Willis, Columbus, Ohio  
 5 (1937) Barry Switzer, Crossett, Ark.  
 5 (1958) Ken Margerum, Fountain Valley, California  
 5 (1966) Dennis Byrd, Oklahoma City, Okla.  
 5-(d – 1979) Ken Strong, New York, N.Y.,  
 6 (1902) George Pfann, Marion, Ohio  
 6 (1925) Bob Fenimore, Woodward, Okla.  
 6 (1930) Les Richter, Fresno, Calif.  
 6 (1963) Napoleon McCallum, Milford, Ohio  
 7 (1878) Andy Kerr, Cheyenne, Wyo.  
 7 (1921) Vaughn Mancha, Sugar Valley, Ga.  
 7-(d – 1986) Wallace Wade, Durham, N.C.  
 8 (1895) Lawrence “Biff” Jones, Washington, D.C.  
 8 (1911) Cotton Warburton, San Diego, Calif.  
 8 (1956) Johnnie Johnson, LaGrange, Texas  
 8 (1891) D.X. Bible, Jefferson City, Tenn.  
 8-(d – 1985) Marcelino Huerta, Tampa, Fla.  
 9 (1886) Walter Steffen, Chicago, Ill.  
 9 (1930) Hank Lauricella, Harahan, La.  
 9 (1958) Mike Singletary, Houston, Texas  
 9-(d – 2002) Jim Martin, Wildomar, Calif.  
 10 (1894) Walter Gordon, Atlanta, Ga.  
 10 (1920) Frank Sinkwich, McKees Rocks, Pa.  
 10 (1922) Merv Pergulman, Lansing, Mich.  
 10 (1946) Dwayne Nix, Kingsville, Texas  
 10-(d – 1966) Slip Madigan, Oakland, Calif.  
 11 (1905) Joel Hunt, Texico, N.M.  
 11 (1906) Dutch Clark, Fowler, Colo.  
 11 (1930) LaVell Edwards, Orem, Utah  
 11 (1947) Bobby Anderson, Midland, Mich.  
 11 (1961) Steve Young, Salt Lake City, Utah  
 11 (1965) Chris Spielman, Massillon, Ohio  
 11-(d – 1980) James Moscrip, Atherton, Calif.  
 12 (1878) Truxton Hare, Philadelphia, Pa.  
 12 (1921) Les Horvath, South Bend, Ind.  
 12 (1970) Charlie Ward, Thomasville, Ga.  
 13 (1962) Jerry Rice, Starkville, Miss.  
 14 (1896) Tom Davies, Pittsburgh, Pa.  
 14 (1901) Harry Stuhldreher, Massillon, Ohio  
 14 (1940) Billy Joe, Ayner, S.C.  
 14-(d - 1973) Volney Ashford, Marshall, Mo.  
 15 (1873) Ed “Robbie” Robinson, Lynn, Mass.  
 15 (1886) Jonas Ingram, Jeffersonville, Ind.  
 15 (1892) Huntington Hardwick, Quincy, Mass.  
 15 (1917) Bob MacLeod, Glen Ellyn, Ill.  
 15 (1931) Donn Moomaw, Santa Ana, Calif.  
 16 (1885) Hunter Scarlett, Erie, Pa.  
 16 (1893) Harold Ballin, New York, N.Y.  
 16 (1945) D.D. Lewis, Knoxville, Tenn.  
 16 (1946) Chris Gilbert, Houston, Texas  
 17 (1923) Charlie McClendon, Lewisville, Ark.  
 17 (1924) Don Coryell, Seattle, Wash.  
 17 (1947) Ron Johnson, Detroit, Mich.  
 17 (1957) Steve McMichael, Houston, Texas  
 17-(d – 1967) Don Holleder, In Combat in Vietnam  
 17-(d – 1971) Eddie Rogers, Minneapolis, Minn.  
 17-(d – 1977) Cal Hubbard, St. Petersburg, Fla.  
 17-(d – 1987) Peter Pund, Darien, Conn.  
 17-(d – 2000) Leo Nomellini, Stanford, Calif.  
 17-(d – 2003) Charlie “Choo-Choo” Justice, Cherryville, N.C.  
 18 (1902) Charlie Berry, Phillipsburg, N.J.  
 18 (1914) Joe Routt, Chapel Hill, Texas  
 18 (1939) Mike Ditka, Carnegie, Pa.  
 18-(d - 1895) Winchester Osgood, In Combat in Cuba  
 19 (1889) Dick Harlow, Philadelphia, Pa.

- 19 (1911) Max Starcevich, Centerville, Iowa  
 19 (1963) Jim Dombrowski, Williamsville, N.Y.  
 19-(d – 1941) Hector Cowan, Stamford, N.Y.  
 19-(d – 1995) Don Faurot, Columbia, Mo.  
 20 (1954) Lee Roy Selmon, Eufaula, Okla.  
 20 (1962) Ray Childress, Memphis, Tenn.  
 20 (1965) Chad Hennings, Elberton, Iowa  
 22 (1923) Pete Pihos, Orlando, Fla.  
 20 (1972) Dexter Coakley, Mt. Pleasant, S.C.  
 22-(d – 1975) Dan McMillan, USC/Cal, Location Unknown  
 22-(d – 1990) Frank Sinkwich, Athens, Ga.  
 23 (1869) John Heisman, Cleveland, Ohio  
 23 (1894) Edward Mylin, Leaman Place, Pa.  
 23 (1914) Bruiser Kinard, Pelahatchie, Miss.

*The College Football Historian- 16-*

- 23 (1951) Tom Brahaney, Midland, Texas  
 23 (1962) Doug Flutie, Manchester, Md.  
 23-(d – 1980) Bob Westfall, Adrian, Mich.  
 23-(d – 2004) Hub Bechtol, Austin, Texas  
 24 (1932) Johnny Lattner, Chicago, Ill.  
 24 (1932) J.D. Roberts, Oklahoma City, Okla.  
 24 (1962) Jay Novacek, Martin, S.D.  
 25 (1878) Bill Reid, San Francisco, Calif.  
 25 (1917) Marshall Goldberg, Elkins, W.Va.  
 25 (1921) Bob Steuber, Wenonah, N.J.  
 25 (1954) Giff Nielsen, Provo, Utah  
 25 (1964) Pat Swilling, Toccoa, Ga.  
 25-(d – 1980) Herb Stein, Rocky River, Ohio  
 25-(d – 1990) Bernie Oosterbaan, Ann Arbor, Mich.  
 25-(d – 1992) Wilson Whitley, Marietta, Ga.  
 26 (1911) Sid Gillman, Minneapolis, Minn.  
 26 (1913) Sam Francis, Dunbar, Neb.  
 26 (1929) Jim Weatherall, Graham, Okla.  
 26 (1963) Tony Casillas, Tulsa, Okla.  
 26-(d - 1990) Harry Wilson, Rochester, N.Y.  
 27 (1927) Kyle Rote, Bellevue, Texas  
 27-(d – 1924) Percy Haughton, New York City  
 29 (1881) John DeWitt, Phillipsburg, N.J.  
 29 (1923) Barney Poole, Gloster, Miss.

- 30 (1888) Leroy Mercer, Kennett Square, Pa.  
 30 (1931) Ad Rutschman, Hillsboro, Ore.  
 30 (1950) Jim LeClair, St. Paul, Minn.  
 30 (1958) Joe Delaney, Henderson, Texas  
 30-(d – 1933) Charles Rinehart, Alliance, Neb.  
 30-(d – 1998) Clyde “Bulldog” Turner, Gatesville, Texas  
 30-(d – 2009) Forest Evashevski, Petoskey, Mich.  
 31 (1880) Charlie Daly, Roxbury, Mass.  
 31 (1897) Wilbur Henry, Mansfield, Ohio  
 31 (1900) Cal Hubbard, Keytesville, Mo.  
 31 (1924) Marcelino Huerta, Tampa, Fla.  
 31 (1962) Bill Fralic, Pittsburgh, Pa.

\* \* \*

Originally appeared in **The College Football Historical Society Newsletter** (November 2001 issue); which the author serves as editor... and is used by permission.

**Dr. Louis Baker,  
Historian**

*By Ray Schmidt*

As historians and students of the great game of college football, we all owe a considerable debt of gratitude to the many who have preceded us in documenting and chronicling the stories of the sport’s greatest teams, events, and personalities, since the earliest days of gridiron history.

While this writer has great respect for the College Football Hall of Fame, I also believe that



the Hall has been seriously delinquent in not inducting some of the many great historians to whom so much is owed. I don't mean the many excellent sportswriters who have covered college football over the decades – they're much too plentiful – but rather I believe that the game's "significant" historians – and there have really only been a handful – deserve a place in *The College Football Historian-17-*

the Hall of Fame. A few that come to mind include Caspar Whitney, Parke Davis, and Dr. Louis Baker.

Dr. Baker wasn't his real name. His authentic moniker was Louis Henry Levy, and he was a real physician. Born on April 9, 1883 in New Haven, he was always destined to be a Yale man.

He entered Yale in 1901 and graduated with honors, then moved on to teach at Hillhouse High School while he earned a Master's degree in chemistry. Levy next graduated cum laude in 1911 from the Yale Medical School. Specializing in research pathology, Levy

worked four years at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City, but he was deeply disappointed when he did not obtain the long sought-after research position at Yale Medical.

He then went into private practice back in New Haven as an ulcer specialist and soon built up a very lucrative business. In the early 1930s he would return to live in New York. Always a devoted fan of both Yale and college football in general, he began a collection of material relating to the sport, and eventually he would accumulate an estimated 30,000 books, 200,000 pictures, 20,000 programs, and a newspaper clippings file that contained approximately 150,000 items – and he knew this because the collection was all organized and cross-indexed.

As his material grew and word of his expertise on college football history spread, he was eventually swamped with inquiries and requests for information from schools and fans. Hit hard by the Depression, around 1934 Levy decided to make ends meet by starting a research service on

college football under the business name of Dr. Louis Baker.

Beginning with the *1941 NCAA Football Guide*, Baker started serializing his history of the intercollegiate game, entitled “*American Football History*,” but the series was ended after the 1929 season in the 1949 Guide. His last article appeared in the 1950 Guide, a *The College Football Historian-18-*

piece on all-time All-Americans. In introducing the series in 1941, the Football Guide referred to Baker as “the greatest living historian on the game today.” In 1945, Farrar & Rinehart of New York published Baker’s now classic book, **Football: Facts and Figures**, and a small Supplement was issued in 1948.

Then in 1946 Baker wrote *Do You Know Your Football?* –now very difficult to find. It has also been rumored that Baker left behind a lengthy unpublished manuscript history of Yale football.

Baker once said that he spent an average of 65 hours per

week on his college football work.

Baker retired from medical practice in 1958, which is about when his legendary football research collection was sold off, and he passed away on May 26, 1960 in New York City at age 77.

\* \* \*

### ***Stars of an Earlier Autumn***

***An Unofficial College Football Records Book  
(covering the 1869-1936 seasons)***

TCFH subscribers can purchase it at a special price...See additional information on Page 24.

### ***IFRA Remembers***

#### ***<Halls of Fame>***

**Stuart Burleson**, Howard Payne University... **Ben Bennett**, Duke Athletics Hall of Fame...into the Arkansas’ Sports Hall of Honor, **Gary Adams, Steve Cox, Brison Manor, Jr., and Jimmy Walker**...**Rich Seubert**, Western Illinois University Athletics Hall of Fame... **Lloyd Carr** (Michigan) entered the State of Michigan Sports Hall of Fame... former head coach **John Robinson**, along with former players **Anthony Calvillo** (Utah State) and Steven Jackson (Oregon State) and bowl founder **Rossi Ralenkotter**, will form the inaugural MAACO Bowl Las Vegas Hall of Fame... Former head coach **Tom Bryant** and offensive

lineman **Alan Dunn** entered the Tusculum Athletics Hall of Fame . . . Former running back **Dr. Alan White** and former offensive lineman **Paul Kiser** will enter the Wake Forest University Athletics Hall of Fame. . . **Marcus Spears** will enter the **Northwestern State** University Athletics Hall of Fame. **Sam Manos** and **Tim Martin** and former coach **George Chaump**, Marshall Hall of Fame.

*The College Football Historian-19-*

<Deaths>

Former SMU player **Carl Wallace**; he was 82. . . . Former Northern Illinois player **Gary Stearns** passed and was 69...Central State University football player Kordero D. Hunter, 21...Roderick Mosley, assistant SID at Grambling; he was 38...**Orlando Brown**, who played at South Carolina State; he was 40 years old... **Tony Knap**, the winningest coach in UNLV history; he was 96...**Fred Bleil**, the former head coach at New Mexico Highlands and assistant coach at North Texas, San Diego State, Tulane and Utah State, passed at the age 62....Mike Heimerdinger, 58, Eastern Illinois (and an assistant at Air Force, Cal State Fullerton, Duke, Florida, North Texas and Rice)....former Averett player, Rick Quintanilla; he was 23.

<Awards>

Michigan's **Desmond Howard** became the first player in Michigan football history to receive the designation of "Michigan Football Legend". His number 21 jersey will be honored in perpetuity at Michigan Stadium....Central (Iowa) College honored its late coach **Ron Schipper**. Schipper won 287 games at the school and claimed the 1974 Division III national championship. **Charlie Ward** (Florida State) will honor his former coach, **Bobby Bowden** at the *Charlie Ward Tribute to Excellence*...Notre Dame unveiled a statue of coach **Dan Devine**.... **Bruce Smith** (Minnesota) was honored prior to the Golden Gophers' game with Miami (Ohio)... Miami (Ohio) will unveil statues of coaches **Ara Parseghian, Bo Schembechler and Earl "Red" Blaik**, along with former Miami (Ohio), Yale, Indiana and Northwestern head coach **John Pont**. Those statues will join the previously-unveiled statues of College Football Hall of Fame coach **Carm Cozza, Weeb Ewbank and Paul Dietzel**. Lafayette College has retired the number 53; which was worn by **F.M. Kirby**, a two-way end on the 1940 team.

\* \* \*

**Colleges with most players on opening day rosters (Sept. 8, 2011)**

**By Greg Dayton**

Traditional powers Miami (Fla.), USC and Texas rank 1-2-3; as each school has 40 or more players at the next level.

57 of the 120 teams in college football's Bowl Subdivision have at least 10 players on appearing on opening day rosters.

Not surprising that 4 members of the SEC rank 4-5-5-9 in the Top 10; with 3 additional in the Top 25.

The three service academies and Western Kentucky are the only schools not represented in the complete 120 team ranking.

17. Oklahoma	22
18. North Carolina	21
18. Oregon	21
18. Virginia	21
21. Alabama	20
21. Clemson	20
21. Mississippi	20
21. Notre Dame	2
21. South Carolina	0
	2
21. UCLA	0

\* \* \*

**By Walter Eckersall**

*Famous Western Foot Ball Player and Critic*

### **The Origin of Foot Ball Signals**

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

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

From the November day in 1869, when Rutgers and Princeton played the first game of foot ball, until 1888, the colleges got along

### *The College Football Historian- 20-*

#### **Colleges with 20 or more players in the NFL**

1. Miami (Fla.)	42
2. Southern California	41
3. Texas	40
4. Tennessee	36
5. Georgia	35
5. LSU	35
5. Ohio State	35
8. Iowa	33
9. Florida	29
10. California	28
10. Maryland	28
12. Auburn	27
13. Florida State	25
13. Nebraska	25
15. Michigan	24
15. Penn State	24

by using systems which varied with every eleven, letters being frequently used. It was left to Pennsylvania Military College to originate the present system of numbers.

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

The numbers not only mystified Princeton, but they so speeded up Penn Military's  
*The College Football Historian-21-*

play that it was able to outrush the Tigers at every stage of the game, which was witnessed by more than a thousand persons, a great foot ball gathering for those days. From that day the use of numbers for signals spread rapidly.

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

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

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

"Foot ball signals now being used by all of the teams were used for the first time in this contest. Princeton was swept off her feet by the speedy play, and was outclassed and outplayed. It was the most successful 'coup d'etat' ever sprung by a foot ball team. It made such an impression on Princeton that the coach adopted it for his team, and within a year Yale, Harvard, Pennsylvania, and others also took it up. Penn also was defeated in that same year. This revolutionized foot ball."

Source: Sporting Life, 1915

\* \* \*

This is included in the newsletter—and will be available on the IFRA website—per request as many of TCFH subscribers do not subscribe to <i>ESPN the Magazine</i> .
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*The following appeared in the College Football issue of ESPN the Magazine (dated August 22, 2011); and is used by permission.*

**The Mag's Alyssa Roenigk revises history**

Like any solid investigative journalist, my search to find the first recorded quarterback sneak began with a visit to Wikipedia.

There, under “quarterback sneak,” was a curious entry: “The origins of this play date back to 1912, [when] standout Yale quarterback Graham Winkelbaum first used it in a game against rival Harvard.”

Taking my obvious next step, I Googled him. But Winkelbaum’s only Internet mention came courtesy of that single Wikipedia entry.

### *The College Football Historian- 22-*

So I went straight to the experts, starting with an e-mail to Tex Noel, executive director of the Intercollegiate Football Researchers Association.

“Just searched through my histories of the college game and don’t see a single mention of Graham,” he replied. “I’m broadcasting this to all 340 members of the association and will forward you their replies.”

Did he ever. Within a week, historians from around the country were weighing in, all confirming the nonexistence of Winkelbaum. “I have the play-by-play breakdown of that game from the Nov. 24, 1912, New York Times,” says college football historian Robert Stevenson. “No mention of Winkelbaum. No mention of a quarterback sneak.”

A call to Yale University removed any doubts.

“No Graham Winkelbaum listed among our letter winners,” says Steve Conn, associate AD of sports publicity. “Perhaps he was the quarterback for Barney Rubble’s Shale squad. Or Fred Flintstone’s Prinstone team.” Good one, Conn.

But who did run the first QB sneak?

“Hard to say,” says sports historian Shane Holmes. “Based on the rules, the QB sneak as we know it today was allowed before 1880 [rugby] and from 1910 until the present.

I have a Los Angeles Times clip from a 1904 game between Los Angeles High School and Occidental with this sentence: ‘By Holland’s quarter-back [sic] sneak of 15 yards ... the ball was worked over the center to the 45-yard line.’

This was likely not the QB sneak we know today, but I can report that the etymology of the phrase can be traced back to at least 1904.”

The first sneak, it seems, may remain a mystery. But one thing’s for sure: It wasn’t Graham Winkelbaum. “When a person reads anything online, they should remember the old cliché: ‘Consider the source,’” Noel says.

Shortly before this issue went to press, I submitted a revision to Wikipedia that removed Winkelbaum and explained

that the sneak's etymology dates to the 1904 Occidental game. The history of the QB sneak might not be complete. But at least now it will be more accurate.

\* \* \*

#### Winningest Teams by Division Since 2000

By **Chad Waller**, Director of NAIA Sports Information

**NCAA III:** Mt. Union (Ohio), 157-6 (.963)

**NAIA:** Carroll (Montana), 143-15 (.905)

**NCAA II:** Grand Valley State (Mich.), 134-18 (.882)

**BSD:** Oklahoma, 125-26 (.828)

**CSD:** Montana, 128-29 (.815)

*The College Football Historian-23-*

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## **THE IMPERIAL ADVOCATE OF ATHLETIC AMATEURISM**

Dr John A. Lucus

(On Caspar Whitney)

Beginning in 1887, Whitney wrote for a small New York City newspaper called *The Week's Sport*. The paper was sold in 1890 and Whitney wrote his friend, the great Yale University football coach, Walter Camp:

*Camp, you have no idea of what a hold this paper has taken and what*

*labor we have expanded in putting it where it is.*

Whitney moved over to *Harper's Weekly* in late 1890 and wrote lengthy weekly columns until late 1899, when he purchased *Outing* magazine, assuming the position of president.

For nearly another decade, Whitney's columns in *Outing* were widely read. He wrote skillfully... on intercollegiate sporting contests of all kinds (especially football and baseball).

\* \* \*

Foot-Ball Rules,  
Revised by Walter  
Chauncey Camp.

Authorized and Adopted by  
the

AMERICAN INTERCOLLEGIATE  
ASSOCIATION

November, 1882.

For the Season of 1883.

COPYRIGHT 1883, BY WALTER  
C. CAMP

**[First Scoring Values  
Established]**

*Rule 27-*

The following shall be the value of each point in the scoring.

- \*Goal obtained by touch-down...6
- \*Goal from field-kick 5
- \*Touch-down failing goal 2
- \*Safety by opponents 1

In case of tie in other points it shall require two safeties to decide.

Historian Mel Smith offers his input of the above rules.

That is a great find for these reasons. Apparently it was written & published in November 1882, one month after the series of downs rule went into effect on Oct. 14, 1882. The point scoring seems the

*The College Football Historian-24-*

## **Stars of an Earlier Autumn By Tex Noel**

**Is now available for purchase**

STARS, as it is commonly called, is an unofficial college football records book covering the first 68 seasons (1869-1936) of college football. It has 520 pages.

The book list for \$42.95.

Subscribers who might be interested and would like to read the release and/or the

same to me in that since a 'td failing a goal=2' and a 'goal obtained by a td=6'; that means a goal after td must equal 4. How else could it total to 6? Maybe some people would total 8 for a td plus goal?

Everybody was doing different totaling in those days.

The note that is new to me is the last paragraph line after 'safety by opponents=1'. It states, 'In case of tie in other points it shall require two safeties to decide'. Now I understand who really won the 12/02/1882 Harvard 1886 Frosh-Yale 1886 Frosh game. The actual score is 1fg,5s for Harvard & 1fg,3s for Yale. The Yale Frosh actually won the game because they caused the Harvard Frosh to make two more safeties than the Yale Frosh had!

\* \* \*

Table of Contents; please send an email to Tex at [ifra.tcfh@gmail.com](mailto:ifra.tcfh@gmail.com)

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*The College Football Historian- 25-*

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- Any questions, please ask.

\* \* \*

(The Outing 1902) The Sportsmans View-Point

*By Caspar Whitney*

## **Excellent Playing**

### **Outlook**

The football season appears to promise well, and from all directions come reports of an average return of seasoned players and a satisfactory amount of new material. Of the larger universities, Yale seems to have a generous proportion of its most important players back again.

The fallacy of a preliminary season has been learned by practically all the leading universities, East and West; particularly in the Middle West, where hitherto a very early preliminary season has been the rule.

Nearly all have abandoned the extra period as useless and harmful. Pennsylvania, alone among the large universities, still clings to the preliminary season, and this year has even returned to its custom of four or five years ago by taking the full month very generally condemned. I venture to say that Pennsylvania will lose more than it will profit by those four weeks of additional

training. The other universities will be content with the one week immediately previous to the college opening.

We are again promised a professional league this season, and I hope the long delayed scheme will materialize. A professional league is a needed institution. It will supply an outlet for that class of athletes who desire to

*The College Football Historian- 26-*

put their athletic ability on a paying basis. It is sincerely hoped that the, project is not the myth it has hitherto turned out to be.

\* \* \*

## **Early Years When Freshmen We're Eligible to Play Varsity Football**

*By Bo Carter*

Freshmen were eligible to play varsity through 1952 (and technically started with the advent of football).

They (the NCAA) made a major reinstatement in the early 1940s because of the World War II student and manpower shortage, but I notice most schools played freshmen rather regularly from the late 1800s-1952.

They kept it going through 1952 because of the influx of WWII and Korea veterans and then shortages in the 1946-52 era because of postwar and then Korean War drafts.

And since 1972 freshmen have been permitted to play on the varsity at NCAA schools.

\* \* \*

#### **From the University of Cincinnati Media Guide**

UC football can lay claim to a first of sorts.

During the 1961 season, the Bearcats featured a soccer-style kicker in Heinrich "Hank" Hartong.

A native of Eindhoven, Holland, Hartong caught the eye of the coaching staff in preseason drills when he successfully made 48-of-50 extra point tries.

Used on PATs and short field goals (under 40 yards) during the campaign, Hartong kicked five extra points and two field goals during the 1961 season.

In the opening game against Dayton on Sept. 16, Hartong kicked two points after touchdown.

This was four days before Pete Gogolak made his first conversion for Cornell. Later he and his brother, Charlie Gogolak received much attention for this style of kicking which has now become commonplace.

Hartong can claim being the first, if not the more noteworthy player, in this department.