

Early Names of 'Foot Ball'

By Mel Smith

In 2008, there are three basic forms of football: soccer, rugby and football.

In 1885, there were three forms of 'foot ball' then called association football (early soccer), American rugby game (rugby) and the American collegiate game (now football).

In 1873, there were two forms of 'foot ball' called association football (soccer) and the Boston rules game (early rugby).

In 1855, there are variations of one form of 'foot ball' - the kicking game (now soccer).

First form: Variations of the kicking Game are played from the beginnings of our country. When the London Football Association rules of 1863 are readily accepted by the American colleges right after the Civil War, the kicking game is called the association game of football - hence association football beginning with the 1866/67 season. This nomenclature is used up to 1904-1905, then Soccer from 1905.

Second form: the Carrying Game shows up in Boston in 1858 and is played by Harvard for two years until the administration stops all 'foot ball'. The prep schools that feed into Harvard readily take up the carrying game and play interscholastic games up to about 1867. Then they just play pickup games of carrying the ball on the Boston Common into the 1870s. When Harvard reinstates 'foot ball' during 1871/72, the newspapers call it the Boston Rules Game. This name lasts for a few years and then Harvard plays McGill's All-Canadian Rugby rules in 1874 & 1875. Since there are almost immediate changes to the early rugby game, the appropriate name is just the American Rugby Game from 1875 until the last college plays this game in 1889. Then this game is played under the English Rugby Union Rules. By 1905, the game seems to be just called Rugby.

Third form: Articles begin to state that 'there are now three forms of foot ball' beginning 10 November 1882. The passage of the 'series of downs' rule brought this on as it now is a game of ball-possession instead of just kicking or carrying the ball. It is called the American Collegiate game for want of a name. By 1886, it

seems like the majority of the articles were calling the game 'Rugby

Football'. I do not know when the game became just football, but my guess would be around the time the passing game started in 1906 or so.

I got in trouble with my first book using 'soccer style' because the word soccer was not used in the 1800s. Several people mentioned it would be better to list the games under their actual names during the early period. I'm sure there will be

Goals and purposes of Intercollegiate Football Researchers Association

1. We all see college football from different views and as a result, as a result our methods of finding college football history is also equally different and diversified...bringing our findings together under one cover, for the same purpose—sharing college football's history with others who share our passion for the game in a historical view.
2. Establish a connection of college football's past and bring it forward in the form of original research as compiled by members and subscribers published in the monthly publication, *The College Football Historian*. (Also, to create annual books of the findings from within the membership and made available

many more interpretations to these names and dates in the future.

Summary: Used in my new book to 1890/91

Kicking Game, From Colonial days through the Civil War 1865/66; Association Football 1866/1867 - 1904/1905; Soccer from 1905.

Carrying Game, From 1858 - 1870/71; Boston Rules Game 1871/72 - 1874/75; American Rugby Game 1875/76 - 1889/90; British Rugby Union Rules 1890/91 - 1904/1905; Rugby from 1905.

Ball-Control Game, American Collegiate Game 1882/83 - 1885/86; American Rugby Football 1886/87 to maybe 1905/06; American Football beginning 1906 to the present.

to members; non-members and the public.)

3. To assist other members of IFRA with projects they are working on...by sharing knowledge or resources or time to your local library or university to help find that missing information.
4. The creation a database of not only accurate scores; but also exact date, location and opponent played.
5. With many sources creating retroactive national champions, the finding of selectors making an actual choice for a season's top team or polls. (Worth noting, most early polls were very heavy-laden, if not all, of schools from the East coast.)—submit it any way. When sending in polls, please list the source (writer and/or publication and year. In

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addition, of course, the teams ranked in the poll.

6. Finding early (Pre-1937) college football statistics and submitting them for publication.
7. While researching for your compilation and you run across anything unusual, regardless how long it is, copy it down and send it in...we can always use it as filler as well as informative.

- ***In the successful organization, no detail is too small to escape close attention.—Lou Holtz.***

American Football Booklist (AFB)

The purpose of the American Football Booklist (AFB) is to acquire, preserve and interpret books for a collection on the subject of football.

The collection began with a commitment by Mike McGuire to donate 500 books on football; serve as curator of the collection and develop a website to make sure this information is available to the widest possible audience.

Book sources, such as *The Library of Congress* and leading bookstores, state that there are over 8300 book titles that have been published with the keyword, "football" as of late 2007.

"We believe there are also several hundred other books about football where football isn't mentioned in the title," said McGuire.

All books on the subject of football will be targeted for the AFB collection.

A website has been registered, www.americanfootballbooklist.com which will be active in early 2008.

Charity donation regulations have been applied for with the IRS.

At such time when the collection has grown to a substantial number, the AFB will accept applications to find a permanent library, preferably at a university or sports museum.

The AFB will be available to the public, students, teachers, sportswriters, researchers, football writers, historians and football coaches will have full access to the collection.

How to contribute to the AFB

Donations of checks and in particular, historical, ex-library, antiquarian and current editions of football books are gladly accepted.

All proceeds will go towards the continuation of the **American Football Booklist**.

For additional information contact:

American Football Booklist (AFB)
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TRIVIA: Name the first coach to lead his alma mater to the National Championship, between the 1936-2007 seasons.

The AP College Football Polls 1936-2007

Playing Against The No. 1 Team

By George McCor

In the 72 years of the Associated Press College Football Polls, the No. 1 ranked team has won 651 times, lost 116 games and tied 13 for an outstanding 0.843 winning percentage. Currently, Notre Dame and Oklahoma each have been No. 1 ninety-five times, the most of any colleges. Ohio State is in third place with ninety-three No. 1 rankings and Southern California, with its 2003-2005 record run of 33 consecutive weeks at No. 1, is in fourth place with eighty-six No. 1 rankings. Eighty-four times the No. 1 team dropped from first place even after winning and seven other times when they were in a bye week (idle) situation. This

summary looks at the success of both individual coaches and colleges when they have played the No. 1 team.

Joe Paterno at Penn State has played the No. 1 team on 11 occasions, winning four of those games against Pittsburgh (1981), Georgia (1982), Miami-FL (1986) and Notre Dame (1990). Lou Holtz's teams played No. 1 six times, winning four while coaching Arkansas against Texas (1981) and three more at Notre Dame against Miami-FL (1988), Colorado (1989) and Florida State (1993). Jimmy Johnson, while at Miami-FL, won all four times that he faced No. 1, beating Auburn (1984), Oklahoma (1986 & 1987) and Florida State (1988). His only loss was to number-one ranked Nebraska in 1983 while coaching at Oklahoma State. Purdue's Jack Mollenkopf also won four times against No. 1 while losing only twice. Michigan State (1957), Minnesota (1960) and Notre Dame (1965 and 1967) were his victims.

Three-time winners against No. 1 include Paul "Bear" Bryant, Dennis Erickson and Barry Switzer who also had two ties in his seven meetings with the No. 1 team. Other notable coaches who beat the top-ranked team were Elmer Layden's Notre Dame team over "Pappy" Waldorf's Northwestern Wildcats, who three weeks earlier beat Minnesota in the very first loss of No. 1 in 1936, and Harry Stuhldreher, Layden's Four

Horseman teammate who beat Paul Brown's 1942 Ohio State National Champion team in a game played at Wisconsin.

COLLEGES

The Miami-FL Hurricanes have defeated the No. 1 team nine times out of 16 games including eight in a row starting with Penn State in 1981. The wins include two against preseason No. 1 teams: Auburn in 1984 in the Kickoff Classic at Giants Stadium and Florida State in 1988 in the season opener at Miami. Notre Dame has defeated No. 1 on eight occasions and their total of 25 games against No. 1 is the most by any college. In their first try, they beat Northwestern in 1936 but then lost nine times, plus the famed 0-0 tie with Army in 1946 at Yankee Stadium, before their second win, denying Texas the National Championship in the Cotton Bowl at the end of the 1970 season.

Purdue, Oklahoma and Southern California each have seven wins and Arkansas, Ohio State, Penn State, Texas and UCLA each have four. Alabama, Auburn, Illinois, Michigan, Michigan State, Minnesota and Wisconsin have defeated the No. 1 team on 3 occasions. A total of 47 colleges have enjoyed beating the No. 1 team. The worst defeat of No. 1 was in the 1942 game at Boston College won by an unranked Holy

Cross team with a score of 55-12.

Northwestern has played the top-ranked team 18 times without a victory, Indiana 15 and Pittsburgh 14 games without a win and in 1948, Indiana lost in consecutive weeks to Notre Dame and Michigan. The Wolverines

are 3-17-1 against the No. 1 ranked team.

On 19 occasions, the No. 1 team has lost in bowl games and BCS title games, denying them the National Championship. Before the Final Poll was taken **AFTER** the bowl games, Oklahoma (1950 season), Tennessee (1952), Maryland (1953), Alabama (1964) and Minnesota (1960) all lost in bowl games after being voted National Champion. Notre Dame remained No. 1 after losing to the Great Lakes Naval Training Station team in 1943 and Army (1946) and Notre Dame (1966) remained No. 1 after ties.

First and only Playoff Game in Major College History

College football's first playoff game took place in 1885 as Northern Intercollegiate Football Association teams Williams and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, after finishing the season with identical records of 5-1-0, met to decide the league title.

Mel Smith, who has written two books on the very early history college football, shared this:

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That game on 25 Nov 1885 at the Hampden Park in Springfield, MA was a playoff game between Williams & MIT. Williams won 18-10, said Smith.

Mel also pointed out that the NIFAL was one of two "major college" leagues in 1885; with the other the more well known, Intercollegiate Football Association.

Williams also claimed the 1886 title under the same name, before the league changed names, and became known as the Eastern Intercollegiate Football League, 1887-90.

In his forthcoming book, **"Evolvements of Early American 'Foot Ball': Through the 1890/91 Season"** Mel states that the book contains 30 pages of early leagues and conferences.

1885 Northern Intercollegiate Football Association Standings

	League			All		
	Record	PF	PA	Games	PF	PA
Williams College*	6-1-0	189	45	6-1-0	189	45
Mass Inst Tech	5-2-0	268	41	6-5-0	288	136
Tufts College	2-4-0	34	218	4-5-0	60	244
Amherst College	0-6-0	42	217	1-8-1	42	235

Dartmouth College (withdrew-faculty interference) (no data)

**Defeated MIT in the first playoff game in college football history*

Missouri: 1960 and 2007— a Similarity in Seasons

Bob Kirlin writes...Did the 2007 Missouri season remind you of their 1960 team? Both were ranked number one by the AP poll for one week late in the season. Both lost their last game before the bowl game...before winning their bowl game. In addition, both finished in the final AP top five. Missouri drops out of the list of schools that have been ranked number one for just one week in the history of the weekly AP polls.

Harry Carson Frye reports on the teams that AP has ranked No. 1 just once...Missouri's 2007 football season brought to mind their 1960 team. Both teams were ranked number one for a single week in the AP poll.

Four teams have been ranked first just once in the history of the weekly AP Poll, they include:

Boston College in 1942 was 8-0-0 (November 24 poll) but dropped to 8th after losing to Holy Cross. North Carolina in 1948 was 3-0-0 (October 12 poll) but dropped to 3rd the following week despite defeating North Carolina State. Wisconsin in 1952 was 2-0-0 (October 7 poll) but

dropped to 12th after losing to Ohio State. Finally, Arkansas in 1965 was 5-0-0 (October 19 poll) but dropped to 2nd the following week despite defeating North Texas State.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Nine teams have won the AP title just once. 1938 TCU; 1939 Texas A&M; 1953 Maryland; 1957 Auburn; 1959 Syracuse; 1980 Georgia; 1981 Clemson; 1984 BYU and 1990 Colorado.

FYI...Colleges that won an AP Title in the first season ranked in the final poll:

- **1936 Minnesota**
- **1939 Texas A&M**

Memories **Sewanee Football History Includes Seasons in SEC**

By John Shearer

As the Southeastern Conference celebrates its 75th anniversary this year, a look at its history reveals that the closest college to Chattanooga that has been a member of the SEC is not the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

It is Sewanee, or the University of the South as it is officially known.

From the 1933-34 school year until 1940-41, the Episcopal school was one of the 13 original members of the SEC. Unfortunately for the

Tigers, they did not fare very well in football.

Of the 37 SEC games Sewanee played during that stretch, it lost all 37 of them. And only one game during that stretch was played in Sewanee, a 20-0 loss to Vanderbilt in 1940.

This, of course, was obviously in the days before the conference set which teams had to play each other and where.

And that record is not indicative of the success and tradition Sewanee had once enjoyed until a few years before joining the SEC.

In 1891, for example, the Tigers had a one-sided victory over Tennessee in the Vols' first-ever game. The contest took place in Chattanooga at the Mission Ridge Driving Park in the general area of Dodds Avenue and the current Interstate.

And in 1899, Sewanee had a famous team that went 12-0 against future SEC and ACC teams. Among the victims was LSU, which lost 34-0 to the Tigers.

But by the 1930s, as state schools and other colleges started seeing larger enrollments, the Tigers tradition as a Southern powerhouse at the top level was pretty much over.

In Sewanee's first year in the SEC, 1933, the Tigers played Florida, Kentucky, Ole Miss, Vanderbilt, Mississippi State and Tulane.

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Tulane and Georgia Tech were original members of the SEC as well,

but they would not leave the conference until 1966 and 1964, respectively.

Among their other games while in the SEC, the Tigers played Alabama at Montgomery in 1934 at a time when Alabama had a couple of ends named Don Hutson – who would enjoy a Hall of Fame career as a member of the Green Bay Packers – and future coaching legend Paul “Bear” Bryant.

The Crimson Tide won 35-6 on its way to an undefeated season, a Rose Bowl win and national championship.

Sewanee also played Georgia Tech in 1935 and Tennessee in 1937 and 1938. In the late 1930s, Coach Robert Neyland was already building quite a tradition in Knoxville.

The closest SEC game Sewanee came to winning during that period was a 10-6 loss in 1938 at Florida.

The Sewanee coach during the SEC years was Dr. Harry E. Clark, except for 1940, when J.F. “Jenks” Gillem became the coach.

Sprinkled among the SEC teams on the schedule during that time were schools such as Tennessee Tech, Tennessee Wesleyan, traditional rival Southwestern (now Rhodes) in Memphis, and Chattanooga.

A high moment in Chattanooga football occurred in 1939, when the Mocs beat Sewanee for the first time ever, 10-7, at Chamberlain Field.

Chattanooga also had some other connections during that time. The 1936 Tiger football captain was Rupert M. Colmore Jr., who was a 1933 graduate of Baylor School.

And the Sewanee vice chancellor when the school decided to drop out of the Southeastern Conference was Alex Guerry Sr.

The father of the late Chattem Inc. head Alex Guerry Jr., he had been a teacher, coach and administrator at both McCallie and Baylor and had been the president of the University of Chattanooga before going to Sewanee.

He later became an outspoken advocate against college athletic scholarships before his untimely death in 1948.

On Oct. 22, 1949, one year after Dr. Guerry’s death, the purple-colored team of mountain Tigers did have one last hurrah against a bigger school – although no one likely knew it at the time.

On that day, Florida State – yes, the same team later coached by Bobby Bowden – came up to Monteagle Mountain and defeated Sewanee, 6-0.

Here is how longtime former

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Chattanooga Times sports editor Wirt Gammon Sr. described the

action, "A mountain-top battle in a cloud of mist and fog here today

went to Florida State over Sewanee's Purple, 6-0, in a clash of teams in the vanguard of the nation's no-pay-for-play ranks."

Some 1,500 fans witnessed the close game, in which Florida State

scored the only points when speedster Wyatt "Red" Parish scored on a 17-yard touchdown run for the Indians, as Mr. Gammon called the team today known as the Seminoles.

Mr. Gammon also wrote that he found the small-college atmosphere refreshing.

"Nostalgically simple was the whole, clean-aired picture of a game between non-scholarship teams trying to turn back to the age of chivalry from the age of chiselry," he said

"This was a far cry from the big-time colleges' towering, leg-creaking acrophobic stadiums, their grim-faced athletes and their alibiling coaches."

Of course, Florida State would soon become a big-time school.

And Sewanee, which now competes in Division III, had once been big-time itself.

FYI...Through the 2007 season Sewanee has played college football in 113 seasons, compiling a record of 464-445-39, 0.510 (2007: 1-8-0).

Also, Sewanee was 1 of 3 teams to play Cumberland TN in 1916...anymore need to be said?

In Memory & Honor

- Former Boston College running back and 1942 All-American, Mike Holovak passed away Jan. 27. He was 88.

Later he coached the Eagles, 1951-59, compiling a 49-29-3 record.

- Larry Smith, who coached four schools between 1976 and 2000, died Jan. 28. He was 68.

He began his career at Tulane in 1976 and later coached at Arizona, USC and Missouri, compiling a 143-126-7 record, taking 10 teams to bowl games.

- Chris Taylor, the head football coach at St. Peter's College NJ when the school dropped the sport, died Jan. 25. He was 34.

His career three-year record was 7-23-0.

- Tom Price, who served as SID at South Carolina for 30 years, died Feb. 1. He was 81.

National Championship Team Inducted into School's Hall of Fame

Northeastern State University
(located in Tahlequah, OK) inducted

the entire 1958 National
Championship team into the school's
Hall of Fame.

Ceremonies took place Feb. 2, 2008.

NSU won the third annual NAIA title
with an 11-0-0 record, defeating
Flagstaff AZ (now Northern Arizona),

19-13, in the Holiday Bowl, played in
St. Petersburg, Fla.

- **Dayton Coach Retires**

After 27-years at the helm, Dayton's
Mike Kelly has hung-up his whistle.

During his time there, he led the
school from NCAA III into NCAA 1-
AA/now Championship Subdivision.

His career record was 246-54-1,
0.819—both tops in NCAA
Championship Subdivision.

In his overall record, between 1981
and 2007, shows that the Flyers had
only one losing season; advancing to
the NCAA III Playoffs eight times:
1981-86-87-88-89-90-91-92, winning
the 1989 title (13-0-1) and was
runner-up in 1981.

Even though his teams were
successful following the move-up to
1-AA, they never made the playoffs.
He did win two additional titles in
Mid-Major (which began in 2001) in
2002 and this past season, both
finishing at 11-1.

WHICH TEAM IS THE BEST?

By Patrick M. Premo

Which team is the best? That
question has been asked over and
over again, not only in college
football but in all sports venues.
Which team is the best for any given
year? Which team is the best of a
certain decade? Which team is the
best of all-time? The last two
questions can never be realistically
answered, of course, but they do
lead to a lot of debate. As to which
team is the best in any given year, in
my opinion that question is rarely
answered either. Even for the sports
that have playoffs, the "best" team
does not always (usually?) win (or
even participate in) the final game.
In the 2008 Super Bowl, many were
calling the 2007 New England
Patriots one of the best, if not the
best, pro football team ever to play.
Yet they could not even beat the
Wild Card New York Giants (a team
they had already beaten during the
regular season) in the Super Bowl.
Are the NY Giants the best NFL
team of the 2007? No, but they were
certainly the best team on Super
Bowl Sunday.

College football has had playoffs in
its lower divisions for many, many
years, but the best team does not
always win. With the advent of the
BCS, the supposed top two teams
have met every year for a number of
years. However, many will dispute
whether either or both of these so-
called "top two BCS teams" really
were the best picks, at least in most
years.

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Many college football aficionados have prepared lists of their all-time great college football teams, some

formula driven and some pure opinion. Tex Noel recently prepared his lists of not only the top major college football teams from 1936 through 2007, but of the small colleges as well (from 1956 through 2007). The small colleges were further broken down by division, NAIA, NCAA I-AA, NCAA II, etc. I thought it would be interesting to have Noel's top teams in each division play in mythical dream tournaments to determine the best team, by division, of all-time. While there are many sports simulation board and computer games on the market that could be used, I have decided to use my own **FAST-ACTION COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOARD GAME**. Besides the fact that I am familiar with it, to the best of my knowledge it is the only game that includes small college divisions and teams.

I will conduct 8, 16, 32, or perhaps 64 team single-elimination tournaments for all of the college football divisions, but I am going to add a twist. Instead of just taking Noel's top 8 teams of a division, for example, I will select the best team for each school. After all, we don't want an all-Mount Union tournament for NCAA III, do we? In fact, in the next issue of this newsletter, I will begin with a 16 team NCAA III tournament. The teams will be seeded based upon Noel's formula.

I hope you will enjoy this fantasy undertaking.

However, to give you a taste of how this will work, I thought I would use a special tournament proposed by Bob Kirlin over 10 years ago in his CFRA Newsletter. Kirlin listed some of the "forgotten teams" of college football and wondered how a tournament among these teams would end up. I selected 16 of these teams (again, no more than one team per school) and played a single-elimination tournament using my board game.

The better team (decided upon by me!) played at home in each round.

Here are the pairings:

1927 Centenary (10-0-0)
1905 Chicago (10-0-0)

1941 Duquesne (8-0-0)
1926 Lafayette (9-0-0)

1899 Sewanee (12-0-0)
1929 St. Mary's, CA (8-0-1)

1928 Detroit (9-0-0)
1937 Fordham (7-0-1)

1949 Pacific (11-0-0)
1937 Santa Clara (9-0-0)

1951 San Francisco (9-0-0)
1911 Carlisle (10-1-0)

1919 Centre (9-0-0)
1932 Colgate (9-0-0)
1946 Hardin-Simmons (11-0-0)
1921 Washington & Jefferson (10-0-1)

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There was only one loss and three ties among these 16 marvelous teams – which one will come out on top? Here are the results:

Chicago had no trouble with Centenary, winning 31-10. Duquesne and Lafayette played a great game with Duquesne prevailing, 24-21, in a minor upset over Lafayette at home. St. Mary's had a surprisingly easy time with Sewanee, 24-14. Fordham crushed Detroit, 35-14. Santa Clara unleashed a furious offense against Pacific, winning 53-16. Carlisle easily won 31-14 over UCF in what many thought would be a close, hard-fought battle. Centre staged an unbelievable rally to tie Colgate and then won it with a field goal in overtime, 28-25. Washington & Jefferson easily handled Hardin-Simmons, 32-8.

In the second round, Chicago downed Duquesne 28-14. St. Mary's withstood a late Fordham rally to win 27-18 in a mild upset. Santa Clara's scoring machine continued to put points on the board as it crushed Carlisle, 40-17. Washington & Jefferson handled Centre with no problem, winning 31-19.

In round three, St. Mary's was no match for Chicago, falling 27-12. Washington & Jefferson stopped Santa Clara's scoring blitz to win 34-22.

I decided to also have a third place game: Santa Clara defeated west coast rival St. Mary's, 24-20.

The championship game saw Chicago, playing at home, being stunned by Washington & Jefferson's defense as it fell 21-18 in an upset. 1921 Washington & Jefferson is the champion of the forgotten teams of college football. (But is it the "best team"?)

I hope you enjoyed this little diversion. I might add that if you were to stage the tournament again, the results might very well be different.

See you next issue!

If you would like to stage your own college football games, you can check out my **FAST-ACTION COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOARD GAME** at my website: members.tripod.com/newaction.

The game comes with over 5,000 of the top teams in college football since 1869 (through the 2007 season), including smaller division teams.

It costs \$29.95 postpaid. You can use PayPal through the website or you can send a check or money order to:

Patrick M. Premo
1250 Chipmonk Rd.
Allegany, NY 14706

On The Bookshelf. . .

Books written by IFRA members

Think you know all about Ohio State football or The Heisman Trophy?

Check-out the answers to be sure in

What to expect in future issues of *The College Football Historian. . .*

- Col. Weir civil war and football hero?
- Results of Round 1 from Patrick Premo's NCAA III
- No. 1 vs No. 2 in the AP Poll by George McCor.
- What sport said its players influenced the legalization of the forward pass?
- Remember when in the SWC by Bo Carter
- Parke H. Davis, statistics innovator—his other football accomplishments.

***Your research... share with us
your findings!***

two books written by Mike McGuire.

800 Ohio State Football Trivia Q & A and 500 Heisman Football Trivia Q & A.

Email Mike
mmcguire@fastening.com

Interested in early college football statistics? **Stars of an Earlier Autumn** reveals college football statistics from the first 68 years, 1869-1936. Also, actually selected—and not retroactive--National Champions.

Email Tex at statwhiz@hotmail.com

Several of the readers of the newsletter have enquired on how much a membership/subscription would cost.

Like any organization, we want to grow and add additional members that share in our interest in college football history.

By use the web as our medium we can reach many prospective members and website would greatly aid in this cause.

In addition, our plans call for producing an annual publication of what members and subscribers have contributed.

Contact Tex if you are willing to assist with these projects.

One man doesn't make a team. It takes 11—Bear Bryant.