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With this issue of The College Football Historian, IFRA turns a year old—with 82 members –and going strong!

Note: The following feature appeared in the *1966 Rose Bowl Game Program* and is used by permission of the Rose Bowl Association.

OSCARS AND ROSES FOR COTTON

With a sense of timing that could only come from Hollywood, former Rose Bowl hero Cotton Warburton this year won himself an Oscar just when his boss, Walt Disney, was preparing to serve as Grand Marshall of the 1966 Tournament of Roses.

Warburton, a USC All-America quarterback from 1932-34, is now film editor at Walt Disney Productions, and won the Academy Award fro editing the delightful "Mary Poppins."

Although he weighed but 145 pounds in his playing days, Cotton (named for his snow-white hair) starred in the Rose Bowl Game of 1933 as just a sophomore and enjoyed two more fine seasons during the days of Howard Jones.

He is the first All-America and Rose Bowl star to be voted an Oscar, according to the Academy.

Warburton was a major contributor to Troy's 35-0 victory over Pittsburgh on Jan. 2, 1933. With USC ahead 7-0 early in the game, he made a great open-field tackle to save a possible Pitt touchdown. Then, against a tiring Panther team, he used his fine speed dashing to two touchdowns in the fourth period to put the game out of reach.

Both of the six pointers were set up by his own burst.

Cotton, who has "ballooned " to 155 pounds in his 30 years of film editing, didn't find his size a handicap. "I was big enough," he says. "The worst I got was a broken nose."

There was a time, however, when he tackled a 200-pounder in the open field and had to be carried from the field. He was placed under a blanket in the dressing room. Braven Dryer of the Los

Angles ***Times*** tells the story like this.

"Warburton was so small he was overlooked as the team took the field for the second half."

"A student manager went back to the dressing room to find him still covered with the blanket. Warburton returned to the fray in the final quarter and raced 60 yards for a touchdown that won the game. To this day he doesn't remember that run."

Editor's Note: From the USC Media Guide, the following information is available on Warburton's career.

- Born Oct. 8, 1911, San Diego; Died June 21, 1982, Culver City. He wore No. 13 and was elected to the USC Hall of Fame in 1995, 20 years after being inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame.

- Unanimous 1933 All-American; letter winner, 1932-33-34

- USC was 24-7-2 while he was there, member of the 1932 National Championship team (selectors as listed in the media guide: *Illustrated Football Annual* (William Boand, *Azzi-Ratem*); Dunkel; *the Football Thesaurus [actual selections]. With retroactive selections from Davis (co); National Championship Foundation; Poling and Billingsley.*

- *Led the Trojans in rushing in 1932, 115-420 and 1933, 149-885; his passing stats show: 2-12-0 36 yards and 7-18-3, 106 yards, respectively; stats for his senior season are unavailable, so no career stats are presented.*

As a player "Cotton" rated "a tremendous runner, a fine passer, and a great all-around ball player," as one writer put it.

As an editor, he finds it easy to put his football training to work as he calls signals for the team that puts together such hits as "Son of Flubber," "The Absent Minded Professor," Westward Ho the Wagons," Moon Pilot," The Monkey's Uncle," and others.

Today Irvine Eugene Warburton has lost much of the hair which earned him his nickname, but he retains, happily, the ability that won him the Oscar and Roses.

* * *

Two new members of IFRA, Chris Kelly and Jason Vick, have combined forces and soon will have a website, **OurFanBase.com.**

It's gearing to become a *mySpace* for ALL sports fans, including a welcome addition to the net for fans of small colleges alongside pro organizations.

Should you have any questions, please contact: Kelly at chris@ourfanbase.com or Vick at jason@ourfanbase.com.

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Orange Bowl Scores

The historic Orange Bowl stadium was demolished last year...as a tribute to the many memorable games that were played in this historic venue, members of IFRA say thank you and present the scores from this annual post-season game.

1935	Bucknell	26
	Miami FL	0
1936	Catholic	20
	Mississippi	19
1937	Duquesne	13
	Mississippi St.	12
1938	Auburn	6
	Michigan St.	0
1939	Tennessee	17
	Oklahoma	0
1940	Georgia Tech	21
	Missouri	7
1941	Mississippi St.	14
	Georgetown	7
1942	Georgia	40
	Texas Christian	26
1943	Alabama	37
	Boston College	21
1944	Louisiana St.	19
	Texas A&M	14
1945	Tulsa OK	26
	Georgia Tech	12
1946	Miami FL	13
	Holy Cross	6
1947	Rice	8
	Tennessee	0
1948	Georgia Tech	20
	Kansas	14
1949	Texas	41
	Georgia	28
1950	Santa Clara	21
	Kentucky	13
1951	Clemson	15
	Miami FL	14
1952	Georgia Tech	17
	Baylor	14
1953	Alabama	61
	Syracuse	6
1954	Oklahoma	7
	Maryland	0
1955	Duke	34
	Nebraska	7
1956	Oklahoma	20
	Maryland	6
1957	Colorado	27
	Clemson	21
1958	Oklahoma	48
	Duke	21
1959	Oklahoma	21
	Syracuse	6
1960	Georgia	14
	Missouri	0
1961	Missouri	21
	Navy	14
1962	Louisiana St.	25
	Colorado	7
1963	Alabama	17
	Oklahoma	0
1964	Nebraska	13
	Auburn	7
1965	Texas	21
	Alabama	17
1966	Alabama	39
	Nebraska	28

1967	Florida	27
	Georgia Tech	12
1968	Oklahoma	26
	Tennessee	24
1969	Penn St.	15
	Kansas	14
1970	Penn St.	10
	Missouri	3
1971	Nebraska	17
	Louisiana St.	12
1972	Nebraska	38
	Alabama	6
1973	Nebraska	40
	Notre Dame	6
1974	Penn St.	16
	Louisiana St.	9
1975	Notre Dame	13
	Alabama	11
1976	Oklahoma	14
	Michigan	6
1977	Ohio St.	27
	Colorado	10
1978	Arkansas	31
	Oklahoma	6
1979	Oklahoma	31
	Nebraska	24
1980	Oklahoma	24
	Florida St.	7
1980	Oklahoma	18
	Florida St.	17
1981	Clemson	22
	Nebraska	15
1982	Nebraska	21
	Louisiana St.	20
1983	Miami FL	31
	Nebraska	30
1984	Washington	28
	Oklahoma	17
1985	Oklahoma	25
	Penn St.	10
1986	Oklahoma	42
	Arkansas	8
1987	Miami FL	20
	Oklahoma	14
1988	Miami FL	23
	Nebraska	3
1989	Notre Dame	21
	Colorado	6
1990	Colorado	10
	Notre Dame	9
1991	Miami FL	22
	Nebraska	0
1992	Florida St.	27
	Nebraska	14
1993	Florida St.	18
	Nebraska	16
1994	Nebraska	24
	Miami FL	17
1995	Florida St.	31
	Notre Dame	26
1996	Nebraska	41
	Virginia Tech	21
1997	Nebraska	42
	Tennessee	17
1998	Florida	31
	Syracuse	10
1999	Michigan	35
	Alabama	34
2000	Oklahoma	13
	Florida St.	2
2001	Florida	56
	Maryland	23
2002	USC	38
	Iowa	17
2003	Miami FL	16
	Florida St.	14
2004	USC	55
	Oklahoma	19
2005	Penn St.	26
	Florida St.	23
2006	Louisville	24
	Wake Forest	13
2007	Kansas	24
	Virginia Tech	21

NATIONAL CHAMPIONS THAT PLAYED IN THE ORANGE BOWL

1953	Maryland
1955	Oklahoma
1964	Alabama
1965	Alabama
1970	Nebraska
1971	Nebraska
1975	Oklahoma
1981	Clemson
1983	Miami FL
1985	Oklahoma
1987	Miami FL
1990	Colorado
1991	Miami FL
1993	Florida State
1994	Nebraska
1997	Nebraska
2000	Oklahoma
2004	USC

A special thank you to IFRA member, Bo Carter for editing this story.

This story is used with permission of the ***Northwestern Magazine.***

Return of the '49ers

The story behind the 1948 football team's memorable march to Rose Bowl victory.

By William Weinbaum

* * *

A cloudless Indian summer Saturday. Undefeated Northwestern hosting nationally ranked Michigan State.

The setting and the circumstances were perfect for minds to drift back six decades to when the stadium was still called Dyche, the Spartans weren't yet in the same league and the Wildcats carried the Big Nine's hopes to Pasadena. In October almost half of the 45-player roster from the 1949 Rose Bowl team, Northwestern's first bowl team and only bowl winner, returned to Evanston for a 60-year reunion and a halftime tribute.

The 1948 Wildcats were predicted to be pretenders after finishing 3-6 and eighth in the conference the year before under rookie head coach Bob Voigts, who had succeeded his mentor, Lynn "Pappy" Waldorf.

Following the longest and winningest tenure in Northwestern history — 12

years and 49 victories — Waldorf became the head coach of the University of California, Berkeley. A former All-America tackle for Northwestern, Voigts was 31 years old when given the job.

Voigts, a former officer in the U.S. Navy, had a squad anchored by veterans, not just of the gridiron but of World War II. Many of the 'Cats had been in combat and were older, wiser and tougher than the typical student-athlete. As Lawrence "Fatso" Day, a WWII veteran and Wildcat lineman is quick to point out, junior end Al Thomas was awarded a Silver Star, the third-highest honor bestowed by the armed forces.

Band of Brothers

"I understood leadership by being around those guys," says Gaspar Perricone, a fullback who went straight from high school to Northwestern. Perricone later served in the U.S. Army and became a Colorado district court judge.

"We were in various services all over the world, really," says Ed Nemeth, a paratrooper for the 101st Airborne Division in Germany who played guard for the Wildcats and still marvels at the group's maturity and camaraderie. "Our guys were so tightly knit and so well-known to each other, we were really like brothers at that time.

"When we came to Northwestern we connected almost automatically. You learned how to work together. It worked, believe me."

Early in the 1948 season Northwestern confounded the prognosticators and gained national respect. The 'Cats opened with a 19-0 road victory over UCLA and then a second-straight shutout, 21-0 over Purdue at Dyche. Then, after spotting visiting Minnesota 16 points, Northwestern stormed back to win 19-16. As halfback Ed Tunnicliff recounted in a recent phone interview, "Sarki [Wildcat

center Alex Sarkisian, a future College Football Hall of Fame inductee] rallied us. He was not only a great football player but also a great team captain, and we were a team that was going to accomplish things."

The following week, the now third-ranked Purple & White traveled to Ann Arbor to face mighty Michigan, defending Western Conference (later known as the Big Ten) and Rose Bowl champion. It turned into the only lopsided blemish on the Wildcats' season, a 28-0 defeat. The Wolverines, in the midst of a second consecutive perfect season, were the only team to score more than 16 points against Northwestern.

The 'Cats rebounded with a 48-0 thumping of Syracuse, followed by triumphs of 21-7 over Ohio State and 16-7 at Wisconsin. Northwestern then took on powerhouse Notre Dame in South Bend, and the visitors fell, barely, 12-7.

With only a home game left against archrival Illinois, the 'Cats had a 6-2 record and a chance for their first Rose Bowl because conference rules then prohibited teams from going to Pasadena in back-to-back years. Michigan was ineligible to return in '49 after its 49-0 romp for the roses over USC in 1948.

Rose Fever

On a frigid November day, before 48,000 fans, halfback Frank Aschenbrenner led Northwestern to victory over the Illini with 84 yards on 11 carries, including a touchdown. Charles Bartlett's flowery Chicago Tribune game story began with: "Northwestern's Wildcats, a feline football tribe, suddenly turned into horticulturists, yesterday became posy fanciers of the Rose variety as they wrought a 20 to 7 victory over Illinois in the final Western Conference game of the season."

Thousands of students paraded around the campus and the streets of Evanston, and a reported 500 more did a snake dance in front of Marshall Field's in

downtown Chicago. The giddiness climaxed in the cancellation of classes that ensuing Thanksgiving week. Above the masthead on the Daily Northwestern's front page was "No School! No School! No School!" and just below it was "Roses!"

"Everybody was out of their dorms," Day recalls. "We went down to the women's quad, and they put us up on the balcony and had a great time. A lot of cheering, a lot of fun…"

Northwestern's South Side collegiate neighbors, who had dropped football and left the conference within the previous decade, apparently took a dim view of the hoopla and traveled north to show it. "University of Chicago students came and criticized us for being athletes rather than students," Perricone says. "We weren't in their eyes very intellectual, and they wanted to make sure we knew that."

Here Come the 'Cats

For the first two years of the Rose Bowl's deal to exclusively match teams from the Western and Pacific Coast conferences, the Midwesterners ruled. Illinois whipped UCLA 45-14 in 1947 before Michigan's resounding '48 triumph. But New Year's Day of 1949 seemed to portend the end of the trend, as undefeated and explosive California was the opponent for a two-loss team that got in on a technicality.

"A lot of people didn't think we belonged in it," Nemeth recalls. "Even the national media felt we didn't have a prayer and were pretty upset we were selected. But the rules were the rules."

"All the papers out there and everybody thought that Cal would win," Aschenbrenner said recently by phone. "And Cal had our old coach [Waldorf], so they figured he knew our plays. We were laughing among ourselves at how they were calling us so lousy."

When the Wildcats opened their season with the blanking of UCLA, their

roundtrip was by plane. This one, with school out of session and a big entourage to bring, was a two-day journey via special train that departed Chicago on Dec. 18. When the 'Cats arrived and conducted their first practice before the watchful West Coast media, the Los Angeles Times reported initial impressions:

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The Intercollegiate Football Researchers Association congratulates the 2008 College Football's National Champions….keeping with the theme of The College Football Historian all years of previous titles won are also included.

- Florida, *Bowl SubDivision*
- Richmond, *Championship SubDivision*
- Minnesota-Duluth, *NCAA II*
- Mount Union, *NCAA III*
- Sioux Falls, *NAIA*
- Albany, *Mid-Major*
- Grambling, *HBCU*
- Northwestern College, *NCCAA*
- Butler County JC, *NJCAA*
- Brute College CA, *JC Grid-Wire+*

+JC Grid-Wire covers all two-year college in the USA; the NJCAA only its members

Previous Titles won by 2008 National Champions:

Florida: *1996-2006*

"Onlookers were amazed by the speed, pep and streamlined appearance of the Wildcats, who had engaged in only five exam-hampered drills since the closing of their regular season."

End of Part 1 of 3

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Mount Union: *1993-96-97-99-98-2000-01-02-05-06*
Sioux Falls: *1996, NAIA II and 2006*
Grambling: *1955-67-72-74-75-77-80-83-92-2001-02-05*
Northwestern MN: *2000*
Butler County: *(NJCAA) 1981-98-99-2003-07*-08…(NJCAA/JC Grid Wire) 1981*98-99*-2003*-07*-08*
{*Tied}

* * *

WHICH TEAM IS THE BEST? MAJOR COLLEGE FOOTBALL (1883-2007) PART II

By Patrick M. Premo

In the last issue, I listed the 16 team fields for each of the **Major College (1883-2007) tournaments** (the winners of each tournament will eventually play one

another to determine the best ever):

THE FIELD (1883-1936):

1. 1886 Yale
16. 1923 California

9. 1936 Minnesota
8. 1929 Tulane

12. 1926 Navy
5. 1895 Penn

13. 1932 TCU
4. 1934 Alabama

3. 1917 Georgia Tech
14. 1935 SMU

6. 1916 Pittsburgh
11. 1920 Notre Dame

7. 1929 Colgate
10. 1898 Harvard

15. 1924 Dartmouth
2. 1889 Princeton

THE FIELD (1936-2007):

1. 1944 Army
16. 1951 Tennessee

9. 1996 Florida
8. 1991 Washington

12. 1951 Maryland
5. 1994 Penn St.

13. 1969 Ohio St.
4. 2005 Texas

3. 1956 Oklahoma
14. 1959 Syracuse

6. 2001 Miami, FL
11. 1947 Michigan

7. 1954 UCLA
10. 2005 USC

15. 1993 Florida St.
2. 1995 Nebraska

The results for the 1883-1936 tournament were reported in the previous issue and, as you will recall, 1895 Penn won in a thriller over 1917 Georgia Tech, 32-28.

This article will reveal the outcome of the 1936-2007 tournament. As I stated in the past, I am using Tex Noel's rankings to pair these champions, *with the proviso that no individual school is represented more than once in each tournament.*

ROUND ONE:

1944 Army had little problem with 1951 Tennessee, winning 40-21. 1991 Washington squeaked by 1996 Florida, 24-20. 1951 Maryland scored a minor upset of 1994 Penn St., 35-33, as Penn St.'s comeback attempt fell short. 2005 Texas had a surprisingly easy time over 1969 Ohio St., 40-18. In the first real stunner of this tournament, 1959 Syracuse took down 1956 Oklahoma, the number three seed, 33-24. 2001 Miami, FL, won a close battle over 1947 Michigan, 21-18, scoring a last minute field goal to pull out the win. In another small upset, 2005 USC handed 1954 UCLA a 40-24 loss. 1993 Florida St. could not handle 1995 Nebraska, losing 15-31.

ROUND TWO:

1944 Army continued on its winning ways, downing 1991 Washington, 38-30. 2005 Texas stopped 1951 Maryland's upset plans, but only barely, 31-24. 1959 Syracuse saw its upset dreams end as 2001 Miami, FL, won a close game, 28-24. A lot of points were put on the board before 1995 Nebraska eliminated 2005 USC, 52-42.

ROUND THREE:

1944 Army was finally defeated by 2005 Texas, 24-31. 1995 Nebraska won over 2001 Miami, FL, 27-19.

THIRD PLACE:

The number one seed, 1944 Army, was determined to redeem itself and won over 2001 Miami, FL, 24-14 to claim third place.

CHAMPIONSHIP:

2005 Texas put up 30 points against 1995 Nebraska, but it wasn't enough as the Cornhuskers scored 47 of their own. **1995 Nebraska** is the winner of the 1936-2007 Major College Tournament.

COMING UP:

Next month will see **1995 Nebraska**, winner of the 1936-2007 tournament, take the field against **1895 Penn**, winner of the 1883-

1936 tournament. This game will crown the best Major College Football team in US history. In addition, there will be a little surprise in store in that issue – I will also stage contests between the number two finishers, the number three placed teams, and the number four finisher. Thus we will have, in order, the eight best teams in the history of Major College Football.

And, of course, the Penn-Nebraska winner will then take on **1996 Marshall** to see which team is the all-time best, regardless of division.

EPILOGUE:

Remember, if you were to conduct any of these tournaments again using my **FAST-ACTION COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOARD GAME**, your results will most likely vary. Just as in real life, when two teams play one another twice (or more) in the same season, the results are not always the same. *[**NOTE:** As I have mentioned in the past, after 40 years of designing and distributing sports board games, I have decided to discontinue operations. **Initially, I was not going to prepare any more annual updates, but due to overwhelming demand I have decided to continue updating my games until I find an acceptable buyer for my game business.** Thus, the 2008 college football season will be available shortly. My web site features a **half-price close-out** sale (**except for the computer games**) that will be on a first-come, first serve basis. Some games are in very short supply; in fact, the Major League Baseball game is already sold out. **I am also offering FREE games with purchases.** My web site address is: **members.tripod.com/newaction**. Payments with PayPal are welcomed. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at pmpremo@gmail.com.]*

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BOOK FOR SALE

Title: ***EVOLVEMENTS OF EARLY AMERICAN FOOT BALL: THROUGH THE 1890/91 SEASON***

Author: Melvin I. Smith

This book is a 724 page revision/extension to the author's first book and includes many more games found under the name of foot ball played up through the 1890/91 season. The games are separated by three major styles in their time. The kicking game/association

football/soccer is the original style of foot ball.

The second form of foot ball is the carrying game/Boston rules game/American rugby game/English rugby union game/rugby. The third form of foot ball is the American collegiate game/American rugby football/football. By the 1905 period these games are known as soccer, rugby and football. All games are divided into three groups: colleges, independent clubs and high schools; plus divided into two and three divisions by seasons. There also is a section with early leagues/conferences. Three appendices list short histories and the types of foot ball played by most of the teams found in the book.

The book can be obtained at the publisher by going to: www.authorhouse.com/bookstore/ItemDetail~bookid~50561.aspx

It will be available in other bookstores by January 2009.

AUTHORHOUSE, 1663 Liberty Drive, Suite 200, Bloomington, IN 47403 Book Order Dept. Tele. 888-280-7715; Fax. 812-961-3134. Shipping by UPS

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As we start our second year, with the February issue; IFRA member George Macor will be offering a compressed folder of the **AP History (of the weekly AP poll).**

This is a very detailed work and answers every question regarding the vital source weekly polls and interesting and informing compilation that George has created from them.

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UPDATE...In an email dated, January 14, IFRA member Richard Topp stated his CD of the *American College Football Encyclopedia*, of scores, locations and dates has reached 498,670 entries; and that night he had hopes of surpassing 500,000!