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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Thank You for the memories and events of the past 139 years, regardless of the level of competition!!

Nov. 6, 1869... *Taken by surprise, the Princeton men fought valiantly, but in five minutes we (Rutgers) had gotten the ball through to our captains on the enemy's goal and S.G. Gano, '71 and G.R. Dixon, '73, neatly kicked it over.—copied from **The Birth of College Football** (courtesy of Rutgers University) [This is the first recorded scoring play in college football history]*

This is a special edition of *The College Football Historian*. The reason for the special edition is two-fold: First record recognize the anniversary of the very first game and provide some interesting stories on early college football...and to say thank you to the members and contributors for all your efforts during this first year...as we strive to remember college football through all our efforts and interests in each issue of *The College Football Historian* newsletter. (The Nov. issue will be sent later.)

Nov. 6—A Date to Remember

This is the date credited as being when Princeton and Rutgers took part in the initial college football game.

A recent search on a calendar site, turned-up other seasons—past and future—when this date fell on Saturday. This site even sorted the years when Nov. 6 was a leap-year Saturday.

The last year, to date, when college football celebrated on the exact date was in 1999; or in leap year, 2004.

Here is a complete list of years when college football was played on Saturday, Nov. 6:
1875, 1886, 1897, 1909, 1915, 1926, 1937, 1943, 1954, 1965, 1971, 1982, 1993 and 1999; with leap-year seasons the game was played in: 1880, 1920, 1948, 1976 and 2004.

The next season for college football celebrate the exact date of its first official game, will be in two years, 2010; after that, 2021.

In the East Football is a cultural exercise, on the West Coast It's a tourist attraction, in Texas its a big get together, in the Midwest its a slugfest, but in the South, Football is a RELIGION"

--Grantland Rice

By J. Parmly Paret

PRINCETON, 6; YALE, 0.

For the first time in eight years, on November 19th. Harvard beat Yale, and, what was still more to the glory of the Crimson, won by a decisive score and on the home field of the might have been even larger without giving a wrong impression of the difference between the two teams.

Never once during the game was the Harvard goal threatened, and only once, half a minute before the end of the game, was there any possibility of Yale's scoring.

Then Chamberlain, in sheer desperation, tried for a goal from the field. but his attempt was low and wide, and the game was over before any other play could be made. Yale's fatal weakness, as in the Princeton game, was the hopeless fumbling of the backs. and Ely, who was used at quarter in place of the crippled DeSaulles, muffed so often that Harvard regained the ball after punting quite as often as had Princeton.

The reason Harvard's score was larger than Princeton's was that her running attack was so strong that Yale's line crumbled under the constant hammering of Dibblee, Warren and Reid, and

she scored three times, and ought to have scored at least once more.

At every position in the line, with the possible exceptions of Brown and Chamberlain, Yale was distinctly outplayed. Chamberlain played his usual star game, and the duel between him and Donald was about even, while Brown nearly held his own with Burden.

In all of the other five line positions, however, Harvard had the advantage in both attack and defence, while behind the line the visitors completely outclassed Yale. Dibblee is the star half of the year, while Daly is certainly the best quarter on any of the "big four" teams.

Reid and Warren did better work, gained more round, fumbled less, and tackled better than did either Durston or Dudley, and Haughton's punting was on an average fifteen yards better than Chamberlain's or McBride's.

Yale's system of interference and the quick starting of her backs was her only chance to advance the ball, but Harvard's line was so strong in defence that the plays crumbled when the interferers struck the Crimson forwards.

A hard rainstorm lasted throughout the game, and deluged both players and spectators.

The field was a sea of mud, and the ball, in consequence, so slippery that much of the fumbling was undoubtedly attributable to that cause.

Under the circumstances, the lack of fumbling among

The teams lined up as follows:

Harvard.....	Position.....
.....Yale	
Hallowell.....	right—end—left.....
Hubbell	
Haughton.....	right—tackle—left.....
Stillman	
Burden.....	right—guard—left.....
Brown	
Boal.....	left—guard—right.....
Marshall	
Jaffray.....	center.....
Cutten	
Donald.....	left—tackle—right.....
Chamberlain	
Daly.....	quarter—back.....
Ely	
Cochran.....	left—end—right.....
Eddy	
Warren.....	right—half-back—left.....
Durstun	
Dibblee.....	left—half-back—right.....
Dudley	
Reid.....	full-back.....
Townsend	

During 1885

Eugene L. Richards

Harvard’s backs was really remarkable. The victors showed excellent physical condition and seemed strong at the end of the game. As in the Pennsylvania game, their snap and aggressiveness did not wane toward the end of the game, as has been the case with so many other Harvard teams.

* * *

FOOT-BALL in America

In 1876 the American Intercollegiate Association was formed, which brought order out of a chaotic combination of different codes, choosing, as was thought, the best parts of each English system; and this association — the press to the contrary notwithstanding — is still opening and benefiting the game at each successive convention.

The three leading members of the association have been Harvard, Princeton, and Yale, with Columbia occasionally flitting across the scene of action.

And it is worth remembering that the English game, in all its branches, was in 1876, and still is, a rougher and more nearly dangerous game than the American sport has ever been.

After considering the game in its more general aspects it will perhaps not be out of place to give a short *résumé* of the football characteristics of separate colleges, with a statement of their success in the contests up to 1885.

The writer will hardly lay himself open to the charge of partisanship by the statement that Yale at present has the lead; for Harvard, since the terrible defeat she administered to her old rival in 1875, has never been wholly successful.

The vital struggle, therefore, has been between Princeton and Yale, who have annually contested the championship before one of the largest and most refined audiences that the country can produce.

No championship was won in 1877, '79, '80. Princeton won in '78, and Yale in '76, '81, '82, '83, leaving out the last contest, which the referee declared technically to be no game, although the score at the close was 6 to 4 in Yale's favor.

Throughout all these contests the fundamental principles of play in the two colleges have maintained their marked individuality.

Princeton has clung to the idea of running and passing, while Yale's creed has been always to kick the ball, and, when that is impossible, to force it.

For, while admiring the appearance of Princeton's game, the directors of Yale's policy have been skeptical of its winning merits, since, each time a pass is made, it is necessarily, however slight the variation from a right angle to the touch-line, towards one's own goal, and therefore so much ground lost.

So the principle of a heavy and active line of rushers, with long punters for half-tends, has appeared to Yale the most direct road to an opponent's goal-line. And her faith is rapidly being justified by the steady advance towards a kicking game, which has been evinced in the last three years,—the principle which, in "the eternal fitness of things," should govern a game called football.

The last Thanksgiving game has doubtless been the exciting cause of the recent editorial upheaval. It certainly has been both capital and interest for the jealous portion of the enemies to football.

But at the bottom of all the odium cast on the game is a cause that clearly shows of what

frail and unstable stuff the mortal mind is made. I mean the unfortunate delay caused by Princeton's objection to the referee. Here is the problem: Given, a dozen or more reporters, with the reputation of the game at their mercy, and perfectly unconscious of the responsibility; a tedious waiting of half an hour on a cold afternoon exhausts what little patience they possess. There is nothing divine in these dozen bits of clay; and what is the result? They are disgusted with the whole affair, and retaliate for their slight inconveniences on an entirely unoffending party, —the game itself.

Their notes begin to take on a darker shade; mole-hills appear like mountains, and tumbles become earthquakes; the hands and feet of the players assume gigantic proportions; and, in fact, to the troubled mind of the reporter every manly wrestle seems a prize-fight. This, I team from the kick-off, with the requisite plays, was accurately traced out on paper.

The Yale team, with one slight error, carried out that plan of tactics, and in three minutes and a half they had crossed Princeton's goalline.

This is the game which is pictured as won by brute force. It is really won by the greater

think, is the most reasonable explanation for the marvelous accounts of the Thanksgiving match, and it surely is the most charitable one. There is nothing wrong in the whole matter.

Simply, the brutality of college foot-ball proves to be only a tiresome delay in disguise; and a serious injury to a noble sport turns out to be but the trifling vexation of a few individuals.

So much has been said as to what the game is not, that the reader will ask what foot-ball really is. A veteran player will tell him that it is the healthiest sport in existence; that it produces the best action of the lungs, the back, and the limbs; that a good run down afield in the bracing autumn air is worth a year of life; and that to secure a touch-down against an old rival is better than falling heir to a fortune.

While it may be said, in illustration of the head-work required in foot-ball, that, before the recent match with Princeton, the line of march for the Yale coolness and the quicker thinking.

No one but a veteran can describe the fascination, and even the romance, which foot-ball possesses for its players.

There is nothing like their loyalty to the sport either in the faithfulness of a base-ball player or of a boating man.

Their hearts are in the game, and they never forget it.

The old player never watches a game without being seized with a mad desire to join it; he lives his

* * *

The World of Sport Outing, 1914 [as is]

If there are any left who are inclined to be severe in their judgment of football as a good game and a useful one, they should have been present at a reunion dinner of the 1888 Yale team in New Haven last fall.

That team is enshrined in the hearts of the older Elis as "Pop" Corbin's team and their record stands as an incentive and a marvel to all the younger generation.

They were not scored on in the course of the season, and their total of points was 698. Their opponents included such worthy victims as the University of Pennsylvania—two games—the Crescent Athletic Club containing many old college players, Wesleyan, Amherst, and Princeton.

But not only was it a strong football team, but its members

important matches over and over again in his dreams and before his fire; and he will see foot-ball come to harm with feelings akin to those of a lover at the loss of his mistress, and those of a patriot at the betrayal of his country.

have been good and successful citizens since 1888.

It is twenty-five years—a quarter of a century—since that team left the gridiron, but they are all still here and in good health and spirits. Indeed, one of them, the great Heffelfinger, can still don football togs and show the Yale line what real opposition is.

As they stand to-day the old lineup includes a former United States Judge, one of the best-known university directors of athletics in the country, a State tax commissioner, a president of a city board of health in a large city, a former United States Treasurer, three successful physicians, one of them being a professor Bison Coming Home Protection in no less a place than the Harvard Medical School; a well-known manufacturer and a minister.

Evidently football was not the only game that 1888 crowd could play. Furthermore, a little investigation would show that the members of other teams at other colleges have not lagged behind in the race after graduation.

* * *

Baseball Magazine

1908 [as is]

The Increased Value of the Kicking Game

By Walter Camp

WHILE football, the present American game, has usually many attributes other than that of kicking, nevertheless the art of using the foot in propelling the ball is still a large factor in the result of games.

How large, only those can realize who have faced an accurate placement kicker and seen three or four field goals mount up against them, or who find themselves short of sufficient kicking ability in their teams to protect themselves in an interchange of punts

In the first place, one side or the other, by the toss of a coin, has possession of the ball in mid-field, but by modern rules they are not allowed to scrimmage it there, but must kick off.

This means that the side receiving the kick-off always has the first opportunity to make a try of their running game, but that opportunity, provided the side that kicks off has a good kicker, is minimized by the fact that the best those receiving the kick can do is to begin their

running game under the shadow of their goal posts, and with something like 100 yards of steady gains to make in order to put the ball across the opposing goal line and thus secure a touchdown.

As the side which wins the toss usually takes the wind, thus giving the opponents the kick-off, that kick-off is made against the wind, which, if it is direct and strong, plays a considerable part in the struggle.

It is easy to see, if the two sides are equally matched in kicking ability, that the side which receives the ball when kicked, having the wind in its favor, will usually gain when they come to kick, and will thus put the ball past the center of the field on a punt.

Now, if both sides are equally matched in both the running game and the kicking game, the chances are that, barring flukes, certain exchanges of punts will take place always favoring the side which has the wind, and, therefore, after a certain length of time, the position of the two teams will be reversed, that is, the sides that received the kick-off in their own goal will have possession of the ball in mid-field, having gained, by the benefit of the wind, say eight to

ten yards by five or six interchanges of punts.

This takes place early enough in the half so that the side having secured the advantage with the wind can, by making let us say fifteen or twenty yards on their running game, establish themselves in a position where drop-kicks or kicks from placement are possible at the opponent's goal, and where, whenever the opponents are forced to a touchback, fair catches are possible with more tries at goal.

This is all on the supposition that the sides are equally matched in both respects, that is, in the running and in the kicking game.

If one side is stronger than the other in the kicking game, and it happens to be the side that receives the kick-off, the gain may be more rapid. If, on the other hand, the side that kicked off has the stronger punter, that

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THOSE FOOTBALL RULES

The World of Sport Outing, 1912

IT is to be hoped that the football rules committee will not adopt the suggestion of increasing the number of downs or shortening

side may be able to so neutralize the effect of the wind as to keep the ball in the enemy's territory the greater part of the half.

Even then, however, the superiority in the kicking against a strong wind does not usually establish a position for a try at goal such as is secured by the side that has the wind favoring it.

But there are several other elements entering into the kicking game which may turn the tide.

For instance, if a punter, when kicking with the wind, kicks so far that he outkicks his ends, that is, his ends cannot get down in time to stop the man who receives it from running the ball back, that individual may not only neutralize the effect of the wind's advantage, but may even turn it to his own advantage if the man who is a good runner back of kicks gets a certain amount of start, for when once under way he may gain twenty or thirty yards, which will then count for additional gain to that he may later make by a kick.

* *

the distance to be gained.

Either alteration will be a step back to the old condition and will tend to tighten the play instead of opening it. The plea that under the present rules, with two evenly matched teams, a massed defense can prevent scoring gains inside the twenty-five-yard

line seems rather pointless.

Under the old rules it was equally difficult, as the record of last stands on the goal line itself in more than one historic game will testify.

Admitting that the past season has been an unsatisfactory one, what does that prove?

How much of the final results is to be charged against the rules?

And how much against captains and coaches?

The forward pass has never been a favorite play with the "big" teams and they have used it reluctantly and with correspondingly poor results. Give it a chance; remove the present restrictions as to the men who may make it and those who may receive it.

Throw off the restrictions on the on-side kick and place a premium on accuracy and quickness in placing the men and getting off the pass or the kick.

It will increase the chances of the game, to be sure, but success as between evenly matched teams has always gone to the captain who was the readiest to see and take the long chances.

Above all things simplify the rules.

A good place to begin reform would be in the rules committee itself.

It is too large and cumbersome now to be effective. Three capable men could draft a much more workable and understandable code than the present rules, and one that would be much more satisfactory to the majority of players and spectators alike.

* * *

Dating, 1909

The **Funny side** of football

By George Jean Nathan

As good a story as any in this vein is told on himself by Dr. whose regular football schedule was that with Princeton.

John H. Finley, now head of the College of the City of New York.

In his days of post-graduate study Dr. Finley was a member of the Johns Hopkins team, one of the most important games on

In one of these games, the quarterback of the latter team, upon gaining possession of the ball, gave the signal to his men

for a double-pass. Now it so happened that this play had never come to the attention of the

Johns Hopkins men and its execution took them completely by surprise.

"Snake" Ames, acting on the signal and being the initial peg in the play, received the ball and started across the field at top speed. Finley, believing the play to be the usual end run and unaware of the fact that such a thing as the double-pass existed

in football, was after Ames like a flash.

The latter, in his flight, tossed the ball to a fellow player, but Finley, with his eyes riveted on Ames, kept close after him. The rest of the Johns Hopkins team centered their attention on the speed contest between these two players and when Finley finally tackled Ames near the side-lines, the Princeton man who really had the ball was well on his way down the field.

Dr. Finley admits that it took some time to convince him that he had not thrown the right man.

* * *

Dating, 1910

By Walter Camp

HONOR LIST OF 1909 FOOTBALL

Yale: Coy, full back; Kilpatrick, right end; Philbin, left half back; Andrus, left guard; Hobbs, left tackle; Cooney, center; Howe, quarter back.

Harvard: Fish, right tackle; Minot, full back; Corbett, left half back; McKay, left tackle.

Pennsylvania: Braddock, left end; Miller, right end; Pike, right guard; Hutchinson, quarter back.

Dartmouth: Marks, full back; Tobin left guard; Ingersoll, left

half back; Bankhart, right end.

Princeton: Siegling, left tackle; Bergen, quarter back; Cunningham, right half back.

Lafayette: Blaicker, left end; McCaa, full back; Irmschler, right half back.

Fordham: McCaffery, right end; Barrett, center; McCarthy, right half back.

Brown: Regnier, right end; Sprackling, quarter back; Ayler, left guard.

Michigan: Benbrook, left guard; Magidsohn, left half back; Allerdice, right half back; Casey, left tackle; Smith, center; Wasmund, quarter back.

Minnesota: McGovern, quarter back; Rosenwald, half back; Walker, tackle; Farnam, center.

Chicago: Page, quarter back; Worthwine, half back.

Wisconsin: Anderson, quarter back.

Notre Dame: Miller, left half back; Vaughan, full back; Edwards, tackle.

* * *

Caspar Whitney was an early sportswriter...here is his poll and All-American Team for the 1903 season

disregard of wholesome sport is patent and persistent.

This ranking is not based only on comparative scores, but on style of play, conditions under which games were contested, relative importance of games on the best the schedule, as well as the season's worth.

FOOTBALL RANKING

No college is eligible for consideration here, whose

1 Princeton	11 Lehigh	21 Wesleyan
2 Dartmouth	12 Dickinson Penn	22 Kansas
3 Yale	13 State	23 Exeter
4 Minnesota	14 Lafayette	24 Andover No.
5 Michigan	15 Wisconsin	25 Western
6 Harvard	16 Annapolis	26 Iowa Notre
7 Carlisle	17 Haskell	27 Dame
8 West Point	18 Cornell	28 Vanderbilt
9 Columbia	19 Amherst	29 Missouri
10 Pennsylvania	20 Brown	30 Texas
		31 Colorado

ALL-AMERICA ELEVEN FOR 1903

Mitchell (Yale) full-back
Kafer (Princeton) and Heston (Michigan) half-backs
Witham (Dartmouth) quarter and captain
Rafferty (Yale) and Henry (Princeton) ends

Schacht (Minn.) and Knowlton (Harvard) tackles
De Witt (Princeton) and Bloomer (Yale) guards
Hooper (Dartmouth) center

SUBSTITUTES

* * *

Baseball Magazine
1908

On Small College Football

By Walter H. Eckersall

Too much credit cannot be given to the smaller college teams who turn out good elevens, but are forced to play the larger teams earlier in the season and then pass out of sight for the remainder of the year.

Probably the most noticeable example of this is the Wabash College team of Crawfordsville, Ind.

The Little Giants, as they are called, have met and made good showings against all the "Big Eight" teams in the past.

* * *

Baseball Magazine
1912

Editor's Note: *The following information was listed with a picture of these two outstanding players. [Printed as is; with only removing of all capitalization that was in every word.]*

HALF-BACK PENDLETON OF PRINCETON

This brilliant player has been the most consistent ground gainer

Prince (West Point full-back); Farnsworth (West Point) and Vaughn (Dartmouth), half-backs and Johnson (Carlisle) quarter

Last year Wabash played Michigan at Indianapolis, and held them to a six to nothing score in the first half, but the superior weight of the Wolverines finally wore them down, and they were beaten badly.

After this defeat Wabash went down to St. Louis and met the St. Louis team, one of the strongest aggregations in the South, and defeated them.

It may be said, however, that one of the St. Louis players, Acker, was not in the game, and his loss sadly crippled the St. Louis team.

Other teams deserving mention are Marquette, state champions in Wisconsin, De Pauw, St. Viateur, (sic) Beloit, Lawrence and Oberlin.

for his team, his specialty is in making large gains in a broken field, as a dodging back he probably has no superiors.

If indeed, he has an equal it is the work of such players as he who slip away in spite of the best of the opposition, and score long brilliant runs which makes so

much uncertainty in football circles.

And are always likely to overturn the best of calculations Pendleton has certainly done his share in full measure in winning the championship of the world for the season of 1911.

Pendleton did not win a place on an All-American eleven this year, owing to the large number of brilliant half-backs on the various college teams, but his name will long be remembered in the annals of the Orange and Black.

CAPTAIN HOWE OF YALE

The brilliant quarterback of the blue team has had a spectacular career on the gridiron during the past season as a field general he as no superiors.

* * *

No more championship football for New York

Walter Camp, in 1896

Those persons who hold at heart the best interests of intercollegiate sport, have for several years been convinced that playing the annual game for the intercollegiate championship in New York City was not desirable, and the point has now been reached where a change seems certain.

He has led all rivals in the number of field goals and is fast and brilliant in every department of the game.

In fact his only rival is Sprackling of Brown, who excels in that he has played the whole schedule for the season, while Howe has been laid up part of the time with injuries.

Howe's work during the Princeton game, although he scored only three points which the Blue could register, was a disappointment to himself and to some of his friends, the game was played under the most unfavorable conditions, and the Yale captain was off form this unfortunate occurrence, however, does not detract materially from his remarkable successful record.

At a meeting of the Council of the University Athletic Club, held January 13th, the Foot-ball Committee submitted a report to the Council of the University Athletic Club in which they presented their reasons for urging the Colleges to hold their annual contests on College grounds and not elsewhere.

After some interchange of views, the Council, by unanimous vote, accepted the report of the

Committee and adopted the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the report of the members of the Club interested in the management of the annual Yale-Princeton Foot-ball Game be accepted and adopted as the views of the members of this Council; and

Further resolved, That the Secretary of the Club send a copy

of the report and a copy of these resolutions to the Presidents of the Yale and Princeton Foot-ball Associations and to the Athletic Committees of the Universities.

This action makes it certain that the intercollegiate championships hereafter will be decided on the grounds of one of the competing colleges, and will thereby become more of a collegiate affair and less of a great public spectacle.

* * *

Outing Magazine

(1900) ANALYSIS OF PLAY

(Score)	(12)	(0)	(28)	(0)
	Yale	Princeton	Yale	Harvard
Touch-downs.	5	0	4	0
Goals from touchdowns.	4	0	3	0
Goals from field.	0	1	1	0
Gains in rushing including				
Running back kicks.	684	97	531	150
Fumbles.	6	2	3	4
Punts.	6	12	11	12
Gains from punts.	159 yds.	508 yds.	332 yds.	366 yds.
Average length of punts.	26.7	42.3	30.2	30.6

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American Intercollegiate Football Association National Champions

1877-Princeton

1878-Princeton

1879-Princeton

1880-Yale and Princeton

1881-Yale

1882-Yale

1883-Yale

1884-Yale and Princeton

1885-Princeton

1886-Yale and Princeton

1887-Yale

1888-Yale

1889-Princeton

1890-Yale

1891-Yale

1892-Yale

1893-Princeton