In an announcement that was made earlier this week, the following players and coaches were selected to and will be enshrined into the College Football Hall of Fame.

IFRA extends its sincere congratulations to the following on this honor.

2011 COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME CLASS

PLAYERS

- Carlos Alvarez - WR, Florida (1969-71)
- Doug English - DT, Texas (1972-74)
- Bill Enyart - FB, Oregon State (1966-68)
- Eddie George - RB, Ohio State (1992-95)
- Marty Lyons - DT, Alabama (1975-78)
- Russell Maryland - DT, Miami, Fla. (1986-90)
- Deion Sanders - DB, Florida State (1985-88)
- Jake Scott - DB, Georgia (1967-68)
- Will Shields - OG, Nebraska (1989-92)
- Sandy Stephens* - QB, Minnesota (1959-61)
- Darryl Talley - LB, West Virginia (1979-82)
- Clendon Thomas** - HB, Oklahoma (1955-57)
- Rob Waldrop - DL, Arizona (1990-93)

* Deceased  ** Selection from FBS Veterans Committee

COACHES

- Lloyd Carr – 122-40-0 (75.3%) – Michigan (1995-2007)
The 20-year-old pre-medical sophomore had been a dominant halfback on the undefeated Penn State freshman football squad and was expected to lead the varsity squad to a similar record during the 1942 season, Daisey said.

Alston and his younger brother Harry, he said, are reported to be the first black football players at Penn State.

Weighing more than 200 pounds and standing more than six feet tall, Daisey said Alston was a “triple-threat” on the field — he ran with amazing speed, was a remarkably accurate passer and could kick more than 60 yards.

As of right now, Penn State doesn’t have any plaques, monuments, or any other mention of Alston, Daisey said.

“Jack Trice from Iowa State has a similar story to Alston,” he said. “The main difference is that while Trice has a stadium named after him, Alston is all but forgotten. I’m not advocating naming Beaver Stadium after Alston, but I do think some recognition is needed.”

College Football Hall of Famer Bob Higgins called Alston “the greatest player I ever coached,” Daisey said.

By August of 1942, the Saturday Evening Post and Esquire magazine hit the stands naming Alston the top sophomore football player in the nation and preseason All-American
prospect, said Wally Triplett, the first black starter for the Penn State Varsity football team and the first black player from Penn State to be drafted to the NFL.

“He was an idol — everyone who played ball wanted to be like him,” Triplett, Class of 1948, said.

Despite his almost unbelievable talent, he was modest and described to go out of his way to help anyone, Walter White, Class of 1948, said.

“In 1942, I entered my summer semester at Penn State and I met Alston,” White said. “He got along with everybody, white and black — he was the one who encouraged me to try out for the freshman baseball team.”

On the morning of Aug. 15, 1942, Alston walked into a Bellefonte hospital for a tonsillectomy. A few hours following the operation, a blood clot formed in his lungs and the football superstar was dead, Penn State historian Lou Prato said.

The entire Penn State community was stunned and shocked by his death, he said.

Daisey said despite his universally acclaimed and unbelievable talent, very few Penn State students, alumni, faculty, staff and even athletes have heard of this “forgotten legend.”

* * *

IFRA MEMBER KNOWS THE SCORE

Kansas City University’s 1923 Season of Futility Continues

By Tex Noel, Executive Director, IFRA

College football has had many teams to allow over 500 points in a single-season; but none “worse” than Kansas City University (in the state of Kansas and it’s not the school UMKC).

Previous research has been documented that this team allowed 532 in the 1923 season—the single-season’s worst.

This was over a 6-game schedule; which included the last three opponents surpassing the century mark.

Recently, IFRA’s resident score researcher, Richard Topp, while browsing through the St. Joseph (Mo.) Gazette, seeking to add additional scores to add to his American College Football Scorebook; when another game appeared for this team.
The school, whose nickname is unknown, traveled to across the state to take-on Highland College.

The home team continued KCUs futility, shutting them out, 6-0—its lowest yield of the season.

Here’s a complete list of each game:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Result</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sep 22</td>
<td>Haskell</td>
<td>L 0-98</td>
<td>Kansas City, Kans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep 28</td>
<td>Highland</td>
<td>L 0-6</td>
<td>Highland, Kans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 13</td>
<td>American School of Osteopath</td>
<td>L 0-46</td>
<td>Kirksville, Mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 19</td>
<td>St. Benedict's</td>
<td>L 0-34</td>
<td>Atchison, Kans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 2</td>
<td>Missouri Mines</td>
<td>L 0-109</td>
<td>Rolla, Mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 23</td>
<td>Ottawa</td>
<td>L 0-114</td>
<td>Ottawa, Kans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 29</td>
<td>St. Mary’s</td>
<td>L 0-131</td>
<td>St. Mary’s, Kans.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Are you searching for scores of your alma mater, but can’t seem to locate it...then, it’s more than likely is in the American College Football Scorebook?

Over the years, through his research, Topp has corrected scores; sites; dates and even opponents—as he has even correctly established these facts that schools were not aware of; or ones that were previously distributed as factual – scores.

His current scorebook total has recently reached its all-time high: 541,196 entries early this month!

He can be reached at: richardtopp@comcast.net.

* * *

1929 All-West Coast Teams

1st Team

Ends Tappaan, Southern California
Muller, Stanford

Tackles Ackerman, St. Mary’s
Colbert, Oregon

Guards Schwarz, California
Barragar, Southern California

Center Riegels, California
Quarterback  Duffield, Southern California

Halfbacks  Lom, California
           Hufford, Washington

Fullback  Schwarz, Washington State

2nd Team

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Ends  Norton, California
       Ebding, St. Mary's

Tackles  Schwegler, Washington
        Christensen, Oregon

Guards  Sheilds, Oregon
        Hansen, Washington State

Center  Heinecko, Stanford

Quarterback  Saunders, Southern California

Halfbacks  Stennett, St. Mary's
           Moffatt, Stanford

Fullback  Smalling, Stanford

*          *          *

Originally published by Historic Madison, Inc. [Used by permission]

Badger Football 1905

By Mark Gajewski

In the first week of November, 1905, Wisconsin’s 6–1 football team faced Minnesota in Minneapolis before a crowd of 22,000.

In the prior three years, the Badgers had won 17 games and lost none while playing Lawrence, Hyde Park, Beloit, Naperville, Osteopaths, Oshkosh Normal, Knox, Ft. Sheridan, Marquette, Kansas and Notre Dame, outscoring them 780 to 31. In the same three years, they were defeated nine straight times by the top three teams in the West – Michigan, Chicago, and Minnesota.

The 1905 Badgers’ heaviest player was right tackle C. M. Dering, who weighed 203 pounds. The lightest was quarterback A. B. Melzner, a slight 140 pounds. Coach Phil King returned as coach after several years away to try to get the team back on track. The Badgers shut out their first five opponents - Company I, Northwestern, Marquette, Lawrence and Notre Dame – scoring 149 points in the process. They lost in the sixth week to Chicago by a score of 4–0, then defeated the Alumni 17–0. At this point the seniors on the team had never defeated one of their major opponents in ten straight attempts.

Miraculously, in Minneapolis, Wisconsin “humbled the mighty Gophers” by a score of 16-12.

Pandemonium ensued in Madison. When the team arrived by train at the Northwestern station, three thousands fans were waiting at the platform, the coeds wearing cardinal ribbons. The players were hoisted onto fans’ shoulders as they stepped from the train and were set down in a wagon. Two hundred men grabbed ropes and pulled the wagon through
the streets while the band played, 
train whistles blew, and revolvers 
were shot into the air. The crowd 
zigzagged up King Street, down 
Pinckney, and into Capitol Park at 
the East Washington entrance. After 
fruitlessly waiting for fifteen minutes 
for Governor Robert La Follette to 
appear, according to the Wisconsin 
State Journal, the crowd began to 
chant: “Come on! Bob has no use for 
us now. U rah rah for Jim Davidson 
(the lieutenant governor).” They then 

The College Football Historian-6 - 
pulled the players to the Red Gym 
for speeches in honor of the 
conquering heroes.

* * *

The Centre College 
Football Team’s Amazing 
Run, Climaxed by 
Winning the “Southern 
Championship” in 1924

Rob Robertson - Author of 
“The Wonder Team”

Drrob4life@comcast.net

Part 2 of 3

On November 8, the Colonels 
traveled on the Southern Railroad to 
play the University of Tennessee. 
The Volunteers played at Shields-
Watkins Field along the Tennessee 
River and were 3-2 with their last 
game being a 33-0 loss to Georgia. 

Centre felt that Tennessee wouldn’t 
offer much opposition and the 
coaches talked Frank Rubarth into 
not making the trip in order to give 
his fractured clavicle from the West 
Virginia game more time to heal. 

“We’ll need you against Alabama. 
We can handle Tennessee without 
you.”

Rubarth very reluctantly agreed.
The coaches were correct. Rubarth wasn’t needed as Centre soundly defeated Tennessee, 32-0. “Chief” Myers played only 13 young men. Two former substitutes shared in filling Rubarth’s tackle position and “Hennie” Lemon was given a rest late in the 4th quarter.

Alabama was next.

Wallace Wade had taken over the Tide’s coaching position in 1923.

(Interestingly, Centre’s “Uncle Charlie” Moran had been heavily recruited by Alabama when his team was in Birmingham in 1922 to play Auburn. ‘Bama’s administration knew that its excellent coach, Xen Scott, was suffering from an oral cavity malignancy and wouldn’t be able to return in 1923. Moran turned down the position and Wade, an assistant coach at Vanderbilt, came on board and from 1923 through the 1930 season compiled a 61-13-2 record which included 3 Rose Bowl appearances with 2 wins and a tie. Xen Scott died in 1924 at age 41.)

Wade’s 1923 team went 7-2-1 with losses being to an 8-1 Syracuse Orange team and a 6-1-2 Florida Gators squad. The tie was with always strong Georgia Tech.

Alabama came into the Centre game with a 7-0 record. One win stood out. The Tide had overwhelmed Kentucky, 42-7. Fans and sportswriters couldn’t help but note that Centre, even though it had statistically dominated the Wildcats, only won by 7-0.

- Alabama 55-Union 0
- Alabama 20-Furman 0
- Alabama 55-Mississippi College 0
- Alabama 14-Sewanee 0
- Alabama 14-Georgia Tech 0
- Alabama 61-Mississippi 0
- Alabama 42-Kentucky 7

On the way to Birmingham, again on the Southern Railroad, Centre’s quarterback and captain, Herb Covington, told a reporter that the Colonels planned on scoring first and that he felt Alabama would be unnerved since the Tide hadn’t trailed all season. It was a measure of the little sparkplug’s confidence that he felt his team could score first on a team that had given up only 7 points all season.

The game was played at Rickwood Field before 18,000 fans, absolute capacity. When the two teams took the field, all eyes could see that not only were there significantly more red jerseys than the gold of Centre, but that the Colonels’ players seemed much smaller. Indeed, checking the line-ups in the program revealed that Alabama’s starting line averaged 15 pounds more than Centre’s.

Knowledgeable sportswriters felt that Alabama had the best backfield in the South led by “Rosey”
Rosenfield, “Pooley” Hubert and Mack Brown.

(Mack Brown’s play landed him on a Wheaties box and propelled him into a 40 year movie career beginning in 1927 as Johnny Mack Brown, star of “B” westerns, right up there with Gene Autry and Roy Rogers, amongst others.)

Playing in Birmingham was a familiar venue for Alabama. It was actually a stretch to consider that the site was a road game for the Tide as the team had participated in 60 games in the state’s largest city since 1900.

Betting was brisk. Centre had brought a considerable number of fans on the train which carried the team’s chartered Pullman to Birmingham. Late wagers found the Alabama fans having to give 14 points in order to find a taker.

One sportswriter stated just prior to the kickoff that, “It should be a long afternoon for the Kentuckians.” After all, Alabama was virtually playing a home game. The crowd would be overwhelmingly cheering for the Tide. ‘Bama significantly cheering for the Tide. ‘Bama significantly outweighed the Colonels and had destroyed a Kentucky team which Centre had beaten by just 7 points. Centre had other plans.

From the opening kickoff until the final gun, Centre totally dominated. The smaller linemen wearing the gold and white took control of the line of scrimmage early on. Leather smacking on leather could be heard far up in the stands.

Centre’s ends, “Hennie” Lemon and “Case” Thomasson, drew a line in the sand and dared Alabama to try to challenge their positions. On 15 end sweeps, the Tide had a net loss of 19 yards.

Frank Rubarth, with his healing clavicle, was impregnable on defense and led the charge on offense along with fellow tackle Howard Lynch. Two underclassmen, Walter Skidmore and Alex Bush at the guard positions, totally outplayed their opponents on the opposite side of the line. Center Ed Kubale, playing in his 36th straight game as a Colonel, seemed to be in on every tackle and played flawlessly on offense, with every “pass” back, so vital in the single wing offense, right on target.

Centre scored in the second quarter on a play that found 10 Colonels heading left while Herb Covington darted around the right end, unmolested. Lemon’s kick made it 7-0 at the half.

The margin would have been greater had 2 short field goal efforts been good. Alabama never got close enough to even consider a field goal. Lemon finally hit on a 30 yarder in the third quarter which ended 10-0.

Coach Wallace kept running in replacements in the second half, trying to get something going. Two backfield and 5 line substitutions made no difference in his team’s...
performance, or perhaps more accurately, in Centre’s.

Centre missed another field goal attempt in the last quarter. The 38 yarder had the length but was just wide.

“Chief” Myers stayed with his starting eleven until 2 minutes were left in the game. Walter Skidmore twisted his ankle and was replaced by Jim Priest who was in the game when Covington hit Lemon on a 20 yard T.D. pass. The extra point made the final score 17-0.

Everyone except the Centre supporters was absolutely amazed. What had been expected to be an easy victory for an undefeated Alabama team had turned into a classic display of power and finesse by a Centre team which simply wasn’t going to be denied in reaching its goal of being crowned the “Champions of the South.”

Sportswriters began to try to explain to their readers what had happened on the field that Saturday afternoon.

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on November 15, 1924. There were terms like, Centre “out-charged them,” Centre “out-fought Alabama,” Centre “out-generated them,” Centre “out-kicked,” Centre “out-tackled” the Tide. Finally, it was up to reporter Charles Brown, formerly the head coach at Birmingham Southern, to come up with an adequate description of the game when he wrote that Centre totally “out-outed” Alabama.

Alabama only got onto Centre’s side of the field but once, and that was just to the 48 yard line.

Centre had 15 first downs to ‘Bama’s 5. But the statistic that really stood out was that Alabama was able to gain only 78 yards on 54 plays for under 1.5 yards per effort - this from a team which had come into the contest averaging over 37 points per game.

Meanwhile Centre picked up 155 yards on the ground and completed 6 of 8 passes for 102 yards for a total yardage of 257, over 3 times the offense that Alabama was able to generate. Quarterback Covington gained 68 yards on the ground and Minos Gordy, running out of the fullback spot, picked up 67.

A headline read by the Centre team and fans during their early Sunday morning breakfasts at Birmingham’s Tutwiler Hotel stated the obvious:

‘Bama Lucky “Praying Colonels” Not Conference Member

The team was met by the entire student body and most of the citizens of Danville and Boyle County upon the arrival home.

There had been many boisterous welcomings over the last several years when the Colonels pulled into the little brick, Southern Railroad station just a block down from the campus. Most had been organized by the Chamber of Commerce and the college. However, after the Alabama game, the huge crowd that erupted in a deafening roar when the team stepped out of the Pullman
had simply gathered spontaneously, just wanting to be present to show their love and gratitude to their heroes.

The students from Centre and the Kentucky College for Women, with the cheerleaders out front holding the school’s great gold and white banner, led the team up toward the campus and then wound over to Main Street and downtown, clasping hands and weaving back and forth in a snake dance while marching to the rhythm of the town’s brass band, blowing as hard as cheeks could blow.

There were no formal speeches, just hugs, kisses, pats on the back, shaking of hands, arms wrapped around shoulders, fists pumped, jumping, whistling, clapping, laughing, crying, and above all, there was great pride in this wonderful group of young men who were truly living up to the “Chief’s” designation of them as, “The Immortals.”

South. However, as at least some consolation, Alabama was the Southern Conference champion at 5-0 after defeating Georgia to end the season at 8-1.

To put Centre’s dominating victory over Alabama into a bit more perspective, it is enlightening to review the Tide’s record for the 3 seasons, 1924-26.

After the 8-1 record in 1924, Alabama went 10-0 in 1925 which included a 20-19 win over Washington in the Rose Bowl, and 9-0-1 in 1926, the tie being with Stanford, 7-7, in a second straight Rose Bowl appearance. For the 3 years, Alabama had a 27-1-1 record and gave up only 60 points, excluding the 17 put on the board by the Colonels.

* * *

Centre’s win knocked Alabama out of any claim to being the class of the

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**Sports Life 1916**

Foot Ball at Its High Point

*By Robert C. Folwell*

*Coach University of Pennsylvania Foot Ball Team of 1916*

**FOOT BALL NOTES**
The Georgia Tech eleven trimmed a rival by the phenomenal score of 222 to 0, and there was a lot of talk about it in the University of Pennsylvania training house recently.

"We should play that Georgia Tech team; they would be quite an attraction at Franklin Field," said Senator Charles Wharton.

"No, Dr. Wharton." spoke up "By" Dickson, end coach. "We should play that team which got licked, and we might better that 222 score; at least you will recall that this is the day of safety first."

*          *          *

Bo Carter remembers when the members of the College Football Hall were born…and when the left us.

**May**

1 (1900) Stan Barnes, Baraboo, Wis.
1 (1905) Chris Cagle, DeRidder, La.
1 (1907) Ernby Pinckert, Medford, Wis.

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1 (1910) Cliff Battles, Akron, Ohio
1 (1925) Chuck Bednarik, Bethlehem, Pa.
1 (1930) Ollie Matson, Trinity, Texas
1 (1937) Roger Brown, Surry County, Va.
1-(d – 1982) Ed Tryon, St. Petersburg, Fla.
2 (1887) Joe Utay, St. Louis, Mo.
2 (1955) Richard Ritchie, Mineral Wells, Texas
4 (1903) Elmer Layden, Davenport, Iowa
4 (1928) Don Coleman, Ponca City, Okla.
5 (1921) Eddie Talboom, Delphos, Ohio
5 (1927) Al DeRogatis, Newark, N.J.
5 (1941) Terry Baker, Pine River, Minn.
5 (1947) Bob Babich, Youngstown, Ohio
6 (1909) Johnny Vaught, Olney, Texas
6 (1922) Pat Harder, Milwaukee, Wis.
7 (1896) Belford West, Hamilton, N.Y.
7 (1905) Henry “Red” Sanders, Asheville, N.C.
7-(d – 1960) John Kilpatrick, New York City
8 (1930) Doug Atkins, Humboldt, Tenn.
8 (1959) Ronnie Lott, Albuquerque, N.M.
8-(d – 2006) John Kimbrough, Haskell, Texas
10 (1917) Charlie O'Rourke, Montreal, Quebec, Canada
10-(d – 1911) Gordon Brown, Glen Head, N.Y.
10-(d – 1982) Alex Weyand, North Bellmore, N.Y.
10-(d – 1995) Gil Steinke, Austin, Texas
11 (1874) Langdon Lea, Germantown, Pa.
11-(d – 1986) Fritz Pollard, Silver Spring, Md.
12 (1888) John Wilce, Rochester, N.Y.
12 (1934) Harold Davis, Youngstown, Ohio
12 (1948) Joe Cichy, Fargo, N.D.
13-(d – 1985) Morley Jennings, Lubbock, Texas
14 (1907) Howard Harpster, Salem Ore.
14 (1924) John Ferraro, Cudahy, Calif.
15 (1958) Ron Simmons, Perry, Ga.
15 (1966) Thurman Thomas, Houston, Texas
15-(d – 1999) Bobby Wilson, Brenham, Texas
16-(d – 2006) Dan Ross, Haverhill, N.H.
17 (1912) Ace Parker, Portsmouth, Va.
17-(d – 1963) John Wilce, Westerville, Ohio
17-(d – 1993) Bill Wallace, Houston, Texas
18 (1916) Paul Hoernemann, Lima, Ohio
18 (1924) Charlie “Choo Choo” Justice, Asheville, N.C.
18-(d – 1963) Ernie Davis, Cleveland, Ohio
18-(d – 1977) Nathan Dougherty, Knoxville, Tenn.
19 (1893) Tuss McLaughry, Knoxville, Ill.
19 (1899) Archie Manning, Cleveland, Miss.
19 (1967) John Friesz, Missoula, Mont.
20 (1867) Andy Wyant, Chicago, Ill.
20 (1920) Al Sparlis, Los Angeles, Calif.
20 (1924) Herman Wedemeyer, Honolulu, Hawai’i
21 (1923) Ara Parseghian, Akron, Ohio
21 (1940) James Saxton, College Station, Texas
21 (1943) Glenn Ressler, Dornsife, Pa.
21 (1943) Johnny Roland, Corpus Christi, Texas
21 (1958) Jim Ritcher, Berea, Ohio
22 (1907) Paul Schwegler, Raymond, Wash.
22 (1909) Paul Schwegler, Raymond, Wash.
22 (1960) Dave Rimington, Omaha, Neb.
22-(d – 2002) Paul Giel, Minneapolis, Minn.
23 (1888) Ted Coy, Andover, Mass.
23-(d – 1938) George Sanford, New York, N.Y.
24 (1894) Harry Baujan, Beardstown, Ill.
24-(d – 2002) Creighton Miller, Shaker Heights, Ohio
25 (1927) Calvin Roberts, Hector, Minn.
26 (1887) Ed Hart, Exeter, N.H.
26 (1895) Ira Rodgers, Bethany, W.Va.
26 (1902) Bernie Shively, Oliver, Ill.
26 (1939) Herb Deromedi, Royal Oak, Mich.
26-(d – 1965) Homer Norton, College Station, Texas
27 (1889) George Little, Leominster, Mass.
27 (1960) Randy Trautman, Caldwell, Idaho
27-(d – 1932) Bill Morley, Pasadena, Calif.
28 (1888) Jim Thorpe, Prague, Okla.
28 (1948) Bruce Taylor, Perth Amboy, N.J.
28-(d – 1964) Barton “Botchey” Koch, Temple, Texas
28-(d – 1979) Lou Little, Delray Beach, Fla.
29 (1892) Earl Abell, Portage, Wis.
29 (1949) Rex Kern, Lancaster, Ohio
3 (1919) Gil Steinke, Bremham, Texas
3 (1927) Bobby Davis, Columbus, Ga.
3 (1941) Dave Robinson, Mt. Holly, N.J.
3-(d – 1971) Scrappy Moore, Chattanooga, Tenn.
30 (1891) Bob Peck, Lock Haven, Pa.
30 (1915) Larry Kelly, Conneaut, Ohio
30 (1941) Charlie Richard, Grain Valley, Mo.
30 (1949) Lydell Mitchell, Salem, N.J.
31 (1953) Richard Wood, Elizabeth, N.J.
Outing 1886, Our Monthly Record

The Annual Meeting of the Intercollegiate Foot-Ball Association for 1886, was held at the Fifth Avenue Hotel in this city on October 16, on which occasion the college delegates were as follows: Captain R. M. Corwin, '87, and C. L. Hare, '87, represented Yale; Capt. W. A. Brooks, '87, and C.E. Hamlin, '84, Harvard; Capt. H. S. Savage, '87, and R. P. Bradford, '87, Princeton; Capt. J. C. Wells, '88, and J. M. Stevens, '87, Wesleyan; and Capt. F. W. Graham, '87, and N. B. Young, '87, the University of Pennsylvania. Up to the date of this convention Yale may be said to have had a control.

Having voice at the annual meetings, and in fact has generally run the conventions the past two or three years; but this time the new element from the Pennsylvania University made itself known, and “pooling their issues” with Harvard and Princeton, out-voted Yale and Wesleyan on every important issue. The main point in view for discussion was the question of the schedule of games for the champion cup campaign of 1886, and in settling the issue of the Yale and Princeton games the Princeton delegates advocated the playing of their match with Yale at Princeton. Captain Corwin of Yale, said that such a motion was unconstitutional, as the constitution provides that “the game between the two leaders shall be played on the New York Polo grounds on Thanksgiving day.”

Princeton said that the decrees of any of the Faculties of the contesting colleges were paramount to the constitution; that her Faculty last year had forbid her forever from playing on other than the grounds of one of the contesting colleges; that this Faculty decree had set aside the constitution last year, and would have to set it aside this year and in all ensuing years; and that she had played in New Haven last year on Yale’s promise to play in Princeton this year.

This Yale denied. Harvard and Pennsylvania viewed the matter in the same light as Princeton, while Wesleyan’s idea of the subject corresponded with Yale’s. The convention set the game for Princeton. Yale threatened to leave the association, but the threat was not heeded, and the date-making was gone on with, Yale having nothing to say. At last she came to terms, and a new schedule was arranged to suit the majority. On the question of the adoption of a ball it was decided to make the Lillywhite ball No. 5 the regulation ball of the association, the same to be purchased from Spalding Brothers, the American agents on Broadway. No changes were made in the rules, save that of inserting the words “in play” in the place of “until
the ball has been put in motion” in rule

*          *          *          *

Originally appeared in the North American Society For Sport History and is used by permission of its author and IFRA member.

The Harvard-Yale Dual League Plan of the 1890s:
A Failure of Elitism

RONALD A. SMITH
Penn State University

When Harvard and Yale chose to isolate themselves athletically in crew in the 1870s, a Dartmouth student said sarcastically: “Harvard and Yale delight in their own company best.” A decade and a half later, Harvard and Yale attempted to do for all major sports what they had done previously in crew. A dual league would tell the entire athletic world that Harvard and Yale, like Oxford and Cambridge in England, were something special and apart. That the Dual League plan of the 1890s failed, tells us a great deal about the nature of American society. Athletically it might be stated that if one wants to “play ball’ in egalitarian America, it is most difficult to do so attempting to remain a social elitist. The paper’s theme is that in a highly competitive society based upon an ideal of egalitarianism, it is nearly impossible to be an elitist and aloof, and at the same time to remain in the mainstream of American life.

For Harvard and Yale, the retreat to dual competition occurred first when the two institutions were beaten by the small, “freshwater” colleges such as the Massachusetts Aggies, Amherst, and Cornell at the intercollegiate regattas of the 1870s. By the 1880s when intercollegiate athletic problems began to multiply, the Harvard Overseers, part of Harvard’s governing body, formed a committee to study athletic abuses. A recommendation of one member of the committee was to limit Harvard competition to contests with Yale only.

Harvard participated with a number of other colleges, and in football alone was a member of the Intercollegiate Football Association which included Pennsylvania, Princeton, Wesleyan, and Yale. As football was the key sport by the late 1880s Harvard felt that it was necessary to beat the other members before it could acceptably withdraw from the league. Only Princeton (and of course Yale) stood in the way. The 1889 Harvard-Princeton game was not a Harvard victory, but an eligibility controversy and the brutal nature of the game gave Harvard cause to break relations and set the stage for a possible dual league with Yale.

Beginning in 1890, negotiations between Harvard and Yale to produce a dual league were begun. The Yale negotiator saw the chance for making “the grandest college
alliance ever made between two
great universities - one which will
elevate college sports and elevate us
far above possible rivalry. ” Harvard,
though, because it was a step or two
above Yale in prestige, negotiated
from a position of strength and
generally made demands which Yale
felt compelled to reject. For five
years, negotiations were carried on,
often using participation with
Princeton and Pennsylvania as a
wedge to gain a bargaining
advantage.

Five years from the break in
Harvard-Princeton relations,
Harvard and Yale played in another
brutal football game. The game
produced broken bones but more
importantly broken relations with
Yale in all four major sports for
nearly a two year period, including
crew which had for two decades
been a joint dual competition. The
break in the Harvard-Yale crew
relations created an opportunity for
the perennial rowing power, Cornell,
to once again row against Harvard.
Yale, miffed, sailed to England to
row Oxford. Harvard remained to
row against Cornell and Columbia,
and open the door to its social
inferiors.

When the “mechanics” of Cornell
whipped Harvard, Harvard could not
easily retreat without charges of
cowardice. The next year, Yale was
drawn into a triangular meet with
Cornell and Harvard and both
Harvard and Yale were beaten. The
crew example clearly showed the
dilemma of Harvard and Yale. If they
remained withdrawn and aloof, they
could not prove that they were best.
If they participated and lost, it was
even clearer proof that in athletics
they were no longer superior.

The 1890s dual league proposals
were not the last of the attempts by
Harvard and Yale to stand above
and apart from other colleges, but
future attempts were no more
successful. If Harvard and Yale
wanted to compete in America, they
had to meet the competition. If they
would not, they would eventually
lose the struggle. Egalitarian
America would not countenance the
attitude of a Harvard man who said
in 1889 at the beginning of the
Harvard-Yale Dual League attempts:
“I can only add that if we are left
alone we shall be in excellent
company.” Neither Harvard nor Yale
could for long separate themselves
from other colleges and remain as
leaders in American intercollegiate
athletics.

*          *          *

IFRA Remembers…

Halls of Fame

Ben Bennett a former QB, at
Duke...Damon Huard and Junior
Coffey, former University of
Washington Football players. were
inducted into the Pacific Northwest
Football Hall of Fame....Ace
Mumford, West Virginia Sports Hall of Fame

Obituaries

Former players Jim Seymour, wide receiver, 64 and Joe Heap 79...
Notre Dame... Homer Smith, former Princeton player and head coach at Davidson, Pacific and Army, while assistant at others; he was 79...
PRENTIS WILLIAMS, former University of Texas defensive line coach...Former Iowa football assistant coach H.W. "Whitey" Piro (1952-65); 93...Former Michigan State All-America Lynn Chandnois, one of college football’s top two-way players in the late 1940s; at age 86...Former Purdue player Bernie Flowers; he was 81... North Carolina All-ACC selection Jim LeCompte, at 70...Peter Bogardus, Dartmouth, he was 81... Cortez Smith, Wayne State (MI); age 20... Alabama offensive lineman

Awards

Former Texas A&M Head Coach, R.C. Slocum, received from the Neyland Trophy from the Knoxville Quarterback Club... A statue of Jack Kemp is now on the Occidental College campus. It is to honor the school’s onetime quarterback... Eddie Thornton, Hope College, Karen Page Courage Award... Lloyd Carr, former Michigan football coach, the Duffy Daugherty Memorial Award.

Retired

After a career after 45 seasons as a college football coach, Fred Goldsmith has retired. Last season he coached Lenoir-Rhyne to a 7-4 record.

*[Anaconda Standard Feb. 8, 1914]*

FOOTBILL COACHES MUST OCCUPY BENCH

New York, Feb. 7.—The intercollegiate football rules committee decide today that hereafter coaches should be barred from, the side lines. That was the most radical change in the rules adopted at the meeting today, which was one of the shortest in the committee's history.
The rescinding of the rule which permits one player or coach of a team to walk along the side lines of the field will necessitate the coaches remaining on the bench with the substitutes. It was decided to abolish the obsolete rule which permitted the ball to be put into play from a touchback by a kick out from the goal line. Following the suggestion of Walter Camp, teams were given the optional right to use a fourth official in their games if they desired. This official will be known as "field judge."

Other changes penalize for five yards a team whose player or players are out of bounds when the ball is snapped on first offense Instead of second, as heretofore, and make it obligatory for the team losing the toss to kick off when the winners elect to defend a given goal. Also the definition of roughing the full back was clarified.

The appointment of the following members to the central board of officials was announced: J. A. Babitt, chairman; Walter Camp, C. W. Savage, Parke Davis, E.K. Hall, Percy Houghton, H. G. Cope and A. A. Stagg.

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Other changes were as follows: intentional grounding of a forward pass will be penalized by the loss of 10 yards from the point of scrimmage.

When the ball from a free kick hits a goal post and bounces back into the field, the play is counted as a touchback.

After the teams line up the team having the ball shall not enter the neutral none in shift formation.

A player out of bounds when the ball is put in play penalizes his team by the loss of five yards. Under the old rule there was no penalty for this offense, the first time it was committed. The committee left it optional with teams to decide whether they shall have a fourth official, to be known as field judge, who shall have no specific duties of his own, but act as assistant to the referee and umpire.

The committee reached no decision regarding the question of distinguishing player in games by numbers. The members concluded to observe how this plan worked out next season before making any recommendations.

*          *          *

Week-Ending at Football
Lardner Sees Notre Dame Triumph but Finds It Doesn't Count

By Ring Lardner

TO THE EDITOR:

Well a great many people has wrote in
lately with a personal appeal to please not bore them to death with articles in regards to what has happened in my family affairs and what I been doing lately and etc. but it has been my ambition for a long while to bore people and at least the people in question will half to admit that I have been successful along these lines but in orders to make insurance doubly sure it looks like I would half to write a few more wds. on the lines of what has been happening in our family affairs and which very few writers would have the nerve to touch but I am different.

How It Started

WELL about 3 wks. ago I happened to come down for breakfast one morning and greatly to my surprise it turned out to be a Saturday. So the little woman says what was you planning to do over the week end. So I says well I was planning to run down to a place called Princeton, N. J., and see a football game.

So she says: "Was you planning to go alone?"

So I says: "No it looks like they would be a big crowd there as Princeton is vs. Notre Dame who they say has got a pretty fair football nine who it might maybe be worth my while seeing as Notre Dame is eight miles from my home and if they happen to win I might not be so grouchy around the house."

So she says how about me going with you and I says that was my intensions all the time so we went to Princeton and seen the game and seen Notre Dame win by the hair line margin of 25to 2 and afterwards we come home and I picked up a couple N. Y. papers in the next few days and they was storys in them by eastern football coaches that the senses of opinion was that the reason Notre Dame had won was on acct. of them having 2 wks. head start in their practice and besides when a Eastern team plays anybody but Harvard or Yale, why they don't want to win.

That is a important fact for experts to remember, namely that when a team like Notre Dame beats one of the big three, why it is because the last named dont want to win and further and more the results is on acct. of the western team having 2 wks. more practice though personally it looked to me like the Tiger as I call them could of used 4 more yrs. practice and made a tie game out of it and that would of satisfied them as they dont want to win.

At this junction it should be stated in justice to old Bill Roper, the Princeton coach, that his printed criticism of the game was to the effect that Notre Dame had a pretty fair football nine
and after they had played a hr. or so they sent in a substitute backfield and the last named was better than Team No. 1 and I wished you could of seen them, to say nothing about the line.

On the way back to N. Y. city I says to the little woman, how can you beat the Irish when it comes to football. She had no reply ready. The best backfield Notre Dame seemed to have was Stuhldreher, Miller, Bergman and Layden. The last named may be a Greek.

Well we finely got home and I says to the little gal what are we going to do with the rest of the evening, as I am feeling very fresh. So she says let the telephone take care of itself and in about a ¼ of a hr. a party called up and said how would you like to play cards.

So my answer was obvious, namely I would like to play without cheating. But they wanted to play stud poker. So pretty soon we had a 6 hand game running in full tilt and it lasted till three o'clock in the morning as the song hath it and when we come to settle up I had won 11 cents and the Mrs. Had loose 9 cents so I tried to settle with mine banker for 2 cents but he did not have change for a nickel.

That is life.

Well the next night the telephone rung and it was Raymond Hitchcock the comic and he says we are going to have a spiritual meeting over to our house and would like you to come over. So I says why, and he says well I would just like you to come over. So I says well do you want me to talk with some dead people. So he says: "Yes, I want you to be on equal terms for once."

That is about all I can tell you in regards to Long Island society this mo.

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Week-Ending at Football
American Golfer, by Ring Lardner. 1924 Pg. 18 Vol. 27 Issue 21.
www.la84foundation.org/SportsLibrary/AmericanGolfer/1924/ag2721n.pdf

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FYI Our subscriber base is currently at 334—should any of new members have a college football-related blog, website and would be interested in forming the rest of us please send your information to Tex ifra.tcfh@gmail.com.
Also, if you have written a book on college football, please contact me personally.

* * *

The College Football Historian will be back on its regular publishing schedule starting with the June issue.

Thank you for your patience during the issues I was having with my pc.