NOTICE: Beginning with the February issue of *The College Football Historian* will be sent out the first weekend of each month.

Next month IFRA begin its sixth year of operation... TCFH (as of this month’s newsletter) is being sent to 483 subscribers across the USA and internationally; as you have helped bring us to where we are today—a Texas-size thank you to everyone. (Let’s see if we can hit 500 before the 2013 season kick-offs!!)

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**COMMENTARY**

Hall of Fame curator here from beginning to end

Kent Stephens recalls 'amazing' opening in 1995.

*By AL LESAR*

SOUTH BEND - Memories can’t be archived and put on display.

Artifacts don’t give a true indication of the impact that can happen over 17 years.

That’s why Kent Stephens is out of his element today.
"I still remember the first night we opened (Aug. 25, 1995). It seems like yesterday," said Stephens, historian and curator at the College Football Hall of Fame since its arrival in South Bend. "It was amazing. The gridiron (in front of the hall) was filled with people. It was beyond my wildest dreams.

"The time has gone by so fast. It's been a blur."

Sometime this afternoon, the blur will come to a screeching halt. The College Football Hall of Fame's run in South Bend will end.

In the next few weeks, packing will commence. Three large moving trucks will ship the contents of the hall south to Atlanta. Everything will be put into storage near the new site, in anticipation of its 2014 opening there.

For Stephens, 59, this won't necessarily signal the termination of his tenure. Details must be worked out before he knows whether or not he'll follow the hall to Georgia.

It has been quite a ride. A few years ago, when he first found out out the hall was moving, he was caught off guard.

"Everybody was upset," he said of the dozen or so full-time staffers. "I wasn't worried about losing my job. All the artifacts we've collected, in a weird way, I felt they belonged to me and no one else could have them."

Now that's really taking ownership in his job.

Last summer, during the final Enshrinement celebration in South Bend, National Football Foundation (the College Football Hall of Fame's governing body) executive director Steve Hatchell said one of the biggest disappointments was that the focus was always on "keeping the lights on," rather than keeping the exhibits at the hall fresh.

Stephens wasn't about to disagree.

He said that when the operation began in South Bend, he had an operating budget of $100,000 for exhibits. After a few years, the budget was cut in half.

A lot goes into the production of an exhibit. Mounting materials, audio-visual recordings, and other technology combine to make an exhibit fresh and interesting.

"I'd have to scrimp and save," Stephens said. "We'd re-use the mounting foam; Bob Severeid was an amateur master craftsman, who would volunteer to build things. We'd always have to find a way."

The mission of the College Football Hall of Fame is to educate people. The process can happen in different ways.

"We're strong on history and weak on interactive," Stephens said. "The new museum in Atlanta will be more interactive, hands-on, technology driven. I just hope it doesn't
go to the other extreme. When the people from Atlanta came here and saw the things we had, the pendulum swung back toward the artifacts.

- Where else will people be able to find dirt from the Rutgers football field, circa 1869, where the first college football game was played?

- Where else could people find the trombone from Gary Tyrell, the Stanford band member who was run over on the final play of the Stanford-Cal game in 1982?

"(Tyrell) told me on the phone, 'If this is a trick by someone from Cal, it's the best one,'" Stephens said. "He told me someone from Cal broke into his (dorm) room and tried to steal his trombone. He said they stole his concert trombone, not his band trombone. They stole the wrong one."

The right one has a special place in the hall.

- Where else could people see the barbed facemask of Jack "The Chief" Kaaua, who played for Hawaii in 1935, among other schools? Kaaua was tired of opponents grabbing his facemask, so he doctored it with barbs that would shred fingers and dissuade yanking.

"I've got the greatest job," Stephens said. "The hardest part is coming up with ideas. After a while, I've felt like I've done everything."

Besides being in charge of exhibits and artifacts for the hall, Stephens is the expert on questions about the history of the game. He's also a guy who likes to have fun with the facts.

People will call up asking who has won the most national championships. Alabama (12)? Notre Dame (11)? Michigan (11)?

"I'll tell them 'Yale,' and there will be a silence on the other end of the phone," Stephens said, flashing some historian humor. "There are retro national championships. They all go back before 1903. Yale has 19 or so."

But there has been frustration. When the public doesn't buy into the museum's basic premise, it can be lonely for the guy who is supposed to make it interesting.

"I remember when I was working (at the hall's previous site in Kings Island, Ohio, near Cincinnati)," said Stephens, whose first experience with the hall began in 1990. "I got so disgusted (with attendance) that I went home in the middle of the day. The executive director talked to me. 'My job was to make it the best experience possible for the people who were there.'

"I've never forgotten that."

The mission will remain until the doors close this afternoon.
A number of this publication’s subscribers work with media relations, representing a college or university or bowl games or have a team that qualified for the divisional playoffs...IFRA congratulates you on your successful 2012 college football season.

Bo Carter presents...College Football Hall of Famers born and passed in

**January**

1 (1901) Century Milstead, Rock Island, Ill.  
1 (1901) Frank Sundstrom, Middleton, N.Y.  
1 (1925) Jack Cloud, Britton, Okla.  
1 (1927) Doak Walker, Dallas, Texas  
1 (1936) Don Nehlen, Canton, Ohio  
1 (1940) Mike McKeever, Cheyenne, Wyo.  
1 (1962) Pierce Holt, Marlin, Texas  
1-(d – 1967) Pete Mauthe, Youngstown, Ohio  
1-(d – 1968) Andy Oberlander, Mt. Vernon, N.Y.  
1-(1 – 1991) Edgar Miller, Annapolis, Md.  
2 (1912) Tony Blazine, Canton, Ill.  
2 (1930) Bob Williams, Cumberland, Md.  
2-(d – 1999) Raymond “Rags” Matthews, Ft. Worth, Texas  
4 (1898) Jess Neely, Smyrna, Tenn.  
4 (1929) Darrell Mudra, Omaha, Neb.  
4-(d – 1943) Bill Edwards, New York, N.Y.  
4-(d – 2000) Tom Fears, Palm Desert, Calif.  
5 (1910) Ed Widseth, Gotvick, Minn.  
5 (1919) Al Blozis, Garfield, N.J.  
5 (1921) Paul Governali, New York City  
5 (1924) Arnold Tucker, Miami, Fla.  
5 (1938) E.J. Holub, Schulenburg, Texas  
5 (1926) Buddy Young, Chicago, Ill.  
5 (1965) Tracy Ham, Gainesville, Fla.  
6 (1910) Doyt Perry, Croton, Ohio  
6 (1913) John Weller, Atlanta, Ga.  
6-(d – 1990) Gerald Mann, Dallas, Texas  
7 (1884) Albert Exendine, Bartlesville, Okla.  
7 (1930) Eddie LeBaron, San Rafael, Calif.  
7-(d – 1938) Philip King, Washington, D.C.  
7-(d – 1979) Andy Gustafson, Coral Gables, Fla.  
7-(d – 1990) Bronko Nagurski, International Falls, Minn.  
7-(d – 2003) Vic Bottari, Walnut Creek, Calif.  
8 (1909) Ben Ticknor, Canton, Mass.  
8 (1922) Steve Suhey, Janesville, N.Y.  
8 (1927) George Taliaferro, Gates, Tenn.  
8 (1959) Mark Herrmann, Cincinnati, Ohio  
8-(d – 1996) Paul Cleary, South Laguna, Calif.  
9 (1916) Brud Holland, Auburn, N.Y.  
9-(d – 1945) Roland Young, Tokyo, Japan
10 (1892) Alex Weyand, Jersey City, N.J.
10 (1909) Harvey Jablonsky, Clayton, Mo.
10 (1921) John Tavener, Newark, Ohio
10-(d – 1979) Herbert Sturhahn, Princeton, N.J.
10-(d – 2006) Dave Brown, Lubbock, Texas
11 (1895) Paddy Driscoll, Evanston, Ill.
12 (1895) Bo McMillin, Prairie Hill, Texas
12 (1899) Fritz Crisler, Earlville, Ill.
12 (1943) Tucker Frederickson, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.
13 (1907) Gerald Mann, Sulphur Springs, Texas
13 (1947) Bill Stanfill, Cairo, Ga.
13 (1958) Tyrone McGriff, Vero Beach, Fla.
13-(d – 1985) Brud Holland, New York City
13-(d – 2002) Bob MacLeod, Santa Monica, Calif.
14 (1908) Vernon Smith, Macon, Ga.
15 (1898) Dutch Meyer, Ellinger, Texas
15 (1953) Randy White, Wilmington, Del.
15 (1957) Marty Lyons, Takoma Park, Md.
16 (1894) Guy Chamberlin, Blue Springs, Neb.
16 (1953) Dave Brown, Akron, Ohio
17 (1933) J.C. Caroline, Warrenton, Ga.
17 (1937) Buddy Dial, Ponca City, Okla.
17-(d – 1974) Bill Shakespeare, Cincinnati, Ohio
18 (1897) Eddie Kaw, Houston, Texas
18 (1950) Pat Sullivan, Birmingham, Ala.
18-(d – 1991) Hamilton Fish, Cold Spring, N.Y.
19 (1892) Eddie Mahan, Natick, Mass.
19-(d – 1942) Jimmy Johnson, San Juan, Puerto Rico
19-(d – 1980) D.X. Bible, Austin, Texas
21 (1879) Gil Dobie, Hastings, Minn.
21 (1901) Lynn Bomar, Gallatin, Tenn.
21 (1925) George Connor, Chicago, Ill.
21 (d – 1989) Morley Drury, Santa Monica, Calif.
22 (1958) Charles White, Los Angeles, Calif.
22 (1964) Joe Dudek, Boston, Mass.
23 (1935) Jerry Tubbs, Throckmorton, Texas
23-(d – 1963) Benny Lee Boynton, Dallas, Texas
24 (1881) Bill Warner, Springville, N.Y.
24 (1920) Chuck Taylor, Portland, Ore.
24 (1936) Don Bosseler, Weathersfield, N.Y.
25-(d – 1999) Herman Wedemeyer, Honolulu, Hawai’i
26 (1899) Marty Below, Oshkosh, Wis.
26 (1905) Allyn McKeen, Fulton, Ky.
26 (1906) Fred Miller, Milwaukee, Wis.
26 (1926) John Merritt, Falmouth, Ky.
26 (1948) Mike Kelly, Troy, Ohio
26 (1950) Jack Youngblood, Monticello, Fla.
26 (1960) Jeff Davis, Greensboro, N.C.
26-(d - 1983) Paul Bryant, Tuscaloosa, Ala.
27 (1894) Fritz Pollard, Chicago, Ill.
27 (1907) Peter Pund, Augusta, Ga.
27 (1920) Frankie Albert, Chicago
27 (d – 2008) Mike Holovak, Ruskin, Fla.
27 (d – 2011) Vaughn Mancha, Tallahassee, Fla.
28 (1937) Charlie Krueger, Caldwell, Texas
28 (d – 1991) Red Grange, Lake Wales, Fla.
29 (1896) Edwin “Goat” Hale, Jackson, Miss.
29 (1945) Jim Donnan, Laurens, S.C.
30 (1925) Bump Elliott, Detroit, Mich.
30 (1923) Frank “Muddy” Waters, Chico, Ga.
30 (d – 1977) Joe Donchess, Hinsdale, Ill.
31 (1909) Bert Metzger, Chicago, Ill.
31 (1913) Don Hutson, Pine Bluff, Ark.
31 (1938) Chris Burford, Oakland, Calif.
31 (1953) Roosevelt Leaks, Brenham, Texas
31 (d – 1945) Al Blozis, Vosges Mountains, France

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Book Report: Heisman - the Man Behind the Trophy

By Randy Snow

In the new book, Heisman: The Man Behind the Trophy, author John M. Heisman, the great-nephew of famed college football coach John W. Heisman, tells the story of his famous relative. Heisman was very influential in the development of the game of football during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Because of his contributions, his name will forever be associated with the best college football player in the country each season.

John W. Heisman was born in Cleveland, Ohio. His parents were German immigrants and his father, Michael, was a cooper, a wooden barrel maker. He moved his family to Titusville, Pennsylvania when oil was discovered there. He sold barrels to several upstart oil companies including the Columbia Oil Company, which was owned by John D. Rockefeller.

Heisman became obsessed with football while he was in high school. He went on to attend Brown University in 1888 and 1889, but the school did not have a football team at the time, so he transferred to the University of Pennsylvania, which did have a football team. He told his father, however, that the reason for the switch was because Penn had a Law School and Brown did not, but playing football was his main motivation. He played on the Penn football team in 1890 and 1891, graduating with a law degree in June 1892.

In 1893, at the age of 22, Heisman took a job as the head football coach at Oberlin College, just south of Cleveland. Oberlin had fielded its first football
team the year before and was looking to improve its team. Heisman was not paid to be the coach at Oberlin. Instead, he was allowed to enroll as a student and even played on the team. He led the Yeoman to an undefeated season including a controversial "win" over the University of Michigan in the final game of the season. Both teams had agreed that the game would end promptly at 4:50 so that the Oberlin players could catch a train to return home that evening. Oberlin led 24-22 when the team left the field, but Michigan claimed that there was still time remaining. They lined up and walked the ball into the end zone for a 28-24 victory. (Touchdowns were worth 4 points at the time) To this day, Michigan lists the game as a victory in their record books.

In 1894, Heisman signed a one-year contract for $900 to be the gymnasium director as well as football and baseball coach at Buchtel College in Akron, Ohio. He also filled is as Oberlin's head coach when his replacement at the school quit mid-way through the season. Heisman returned to Oberlin full time in 1894. He even played on the team when needed.

Heisman was in love with a young woman named Edith Cole and wanted to marry her, but she became very sick with Tuberculosis and refused to marry him. She did not want him to endure her sickness and possible death which was all too common from TB at the time. Heisman was crushed and decided to leave Ohio to start a new life elsewhere.

He took a job as head coach at the Agricultural and Technical College of Alabama, which later became known as Auburn University. He coached there from 1895-1899. He would go on to coach at Clemson from 1900-1903 and at Georgia Tech from 1904-1919.

On October 29, 1903, Heisman married Evelyn McCollum in Columbia, South Carolina. Evelyn was a divorcee with a small son from her previous marriage. She worked as an actress with a local theater company. As it turns out, when he was not coaching football and baseball, Heisman too loved to act in stage plays during the summer months. He once performed on Broadway in 1898 and, over the years, he performed in many theaters throughout the south. In 1904, he and Evelyn formed the Heisman Stock Company, an acting troupe that toured throughout the summer.

While coaching at Georgia Tech, he led his team to the biggest one-sided victory in college football history. On October 7, 1916, his team beat Cumberland College 222-0. Earlier that year, the Cumberland baseball team had beaten Georgia Tech 22-0. Heisman was certain that Cumberland has used ringers in the game and wanted to beat their football team more than anything. Cumberland was in the process of phasing out football and several other sports at its school and only dressed 15 players when it faced Georgia Tech.
The following year, the United States entered World War I and many young men were drafted into the military. Many colleges and universities did not field football teams that year due to a lack of players. Heisman, however, managed to put together a team that went 9-0 and was voted national champions.

During the 1919 season, Heisman and Evelyn decided to divorce. She was an Atlanta native and planned to stay there. Heisman once again left the state to start a new life elsewhere. He returned to the University of Pennsylvania as head coach in 1920. He was there through 1922 but did not have the kind of success on the field that he had at Georgia Tech.

During his first season at Penn he was reunited with his first love, Edith Cole. She had recovered from her bout with Tuberculosis and had married a wealthy man from Colorado. She too had recently divorced and the two were soon married.

Heisman took the head coaching job at Washington & Jefferson College in Washington, Pennsylvania in 1923. He led the team to a 6-1-1 record in his first season at the school.

However, the alumni were not happy with Heisman and called for his removal. Heisman left and became the head coach at Rice in Houston, Texas and coached there from 1924-1927. Heisman coached his last football game on November 24, 1927, a 19-6 win over Baylor. He returned to New York where he wrote articles for newspapers and magazines and was part owner in a sporting goods store.

In May 1930, he was hired as the athletic director of the Downtown Athletic Club in New York. He had previously held similar positions with the Atlanta Athletic Club and the Houston Athletic Club.

In 1935, the DAC decided that it wanted to present an award honoring the best college football player in the country. A young 23-year-old sculptor named Frank Eliscu was hired to design the trophy. He used his friend Ed Smith, a running back from New York University, as his model. In order to accurately sculpt the body of a player stiff-arming a defender to avoid a tackle, Eliscu went to Fordham University where head coach Jim Crowley, one of the legendary Four Horsemen of Notre Dame in 1924, had several of his players demonstrate the technique. Eliscu then took the model and showed it to Notre Dame head football coach Elmer Layden, another member of the 1924 Four Horsemen, at a dinner held in New York. Layden and his players loved it, so Eliscu cast the first bronze trophy.

Halfback Jay Berwanger from the University of Chicago was awarded the first Downtown Athletic Club Trophy on December 9, 1935. Heisman passed away on October 3, 1936 from complications of pneumonia. The DAC changed the
name of the award to the Heisman Memorial Trophy in his honor. Just a few months later, the 1936 Heisman Trophy was awarded to Larry Kelley, an end from Yale.

After his funeral in New York, John W. Heisman was buried in Rhinelander, Wisconsin, where he and his wife had a summer home.

Heisman is credited with many innovations pertaining to the game of football including the center snap to begin a play (1893), the hidden ball trick play (1895), the audible "Hike" signal (1898), the lateral pass (1899), the Heisman Shift, dividing the game into quarters and something we all take for granted today, the football scoreboard. He was also a proponent for legalizing the forward pass long before it was adopted in 1906.

The game that we know and love today owes a great deal to John Heisman, one of the early pioneers in the sport and a man who changed the game forever.

This year's Heisman Trophy, the seventy-eighth, will be awarded on December 8.

This story was originally published in Yahoo Voices; it was submitted by the author who granted IFRA permission to republish it. 2012 ©Voices.

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2012 COLLEGE FOOTBALL – A PLAYOFF, OR TWO

By Patrick M. Premo

In 2014 college football will have its first official playoff at the top level, Division I-A, or FBS (which may have to be changed to some other abbreviated description), and it is about time. However, I thought it might be fun to set up a playoff, or two, for 2012 just to see how it might look. All the teams selected and the premises used for this project are my own and I take full responsibility for them.

Section I:
Prior to the bowl games, I decided to set up three playoff scenarios – one with four teams, one with eight teams, and one with sixteen teams. I as long as I am dreaming, why not dream big. I also decided that I would allow Ohio St. to be in the mix, even though officially they could not be involved – this is, after all, a fantasy project. Anyway, here are my three playoff scenarios with team records prior to any bowl games:

4 Teams:
1 Notre Dame  12-0
4 Florida  11-1
2 Alabama  12-1
3 Ohio St.  12-0

8 Teams:
1 Notre Dame  12-0
8 Stanford  11-2
4 Florida  11-1
5 Oregon  11-1
2 Alabama  12-1
7 Kansas St.  11-1
3 Ohio St.  12-0
6 Georgia  11-2
16 Teams:
1 Notre Dame  12-0
16 No. Illinois  12-1
8 Stanford  11-2
9 LSU  10-2
4 Florida  11-1
13 Clemson  10-2
5 Oregon  11-1
12 South Carolina  10-2
2 Alabama  12-1
15 Boise St.  10-2
7 Kansas St.  11-1
10 Texas A&M  10-2
3 Ohio St.  12-0
14 Florida St.  11-2
6 Georgia  11-2
11 Oklahoma  10-2

Section II:
Now that the bowl season is over, I decided to set up a sixteen team playoff using only bowl game winners. Once again, I used my own judgment in deciding which sixteen bowl winners to use. This time I will exclude Ohio St. since that school did not play in any bowls due to the NCAA sanctions. The strange part about this playoff scenario is that all bowl game losers are not eligible, even though many of the losers are probably better than some of the lower bowl game winners. So here are the teams and the seeding:

1 Alabama  13-1
16 Tulsa  11-3
8 Clemson  11-2
9 Utah St.  11-2
4 Stanford  12-2
13 San Jose St.  11-2
5 Texas A&M  11-2
12 Louisville  11-2
2 Oregon  12-1
15 Cincinnati  10-3
7 Florida St.  12-2
10 Boise St.  11-2
3 Georgia  12-2
14 Texas  9-4
6 South Carolina  11-2
11 Northwestern  10-3

Admittedly, there are some unexpected teams on the list, but every single one of them earned its spot since each won its respective bowl. Some bowl winners were on the bubble (Arkansas St. (10-3), Central Florida (10-4), Michigan St. (7-6), and Oklahoma St. (8-5)), but I decided to go with the sixteen winners above.

Section III:
Next issue I will present a fantasy playoff of the after-bowls tournament using my FAST-ACTION COLLEGE FOOTBALL game. Pick your winners and stay tuned!

*          *          *

Introduction of Numerical Scoring

In the early ’80s (1880s) he old rugby system of scoring was the source of a number of disputes and quarrels. This system was not a numerical one but balanced one play against another. Thus a goal from
the field was superior to a touchdown, but four touchdowns took precedence over a goal from the field. If the question of victory involved safeties, then the side making four safeties less won the game.

Unfortunately, this system was not complete and comprehensive. Hence there came a Harvard-Princeton battle in 1882, bitterly waged, in which Frank A. Mason of Harvard scored a touchdown and a goal on the try through the cleverness of James T. Haxall. Each eleven claimed the victory, contending for the superiority of its particular goal.

The referee, Robert W. Watson of Yale, awarded the game to Harvard. Princeton, contending that this award was arbitrary and not in accordance with an existing rule, refused to accept it and informally claimed the game for years.

The rancor and disorder was intolerable to the methodical Camp. Therefore, in the convention of October 17, 1883, he introduced another distinctively American institution, numerical scoring. The original values were given to the scoring plays were as follows: safety, 1 point; touchdown, 2 points; goal from a try, 4 points; goal from the field 5 points.


*          *          *

1924 with the Irish

Notre Dame’s First Bowl Trip Was One For The Ages

By Jim Lefebvre

Knute Rockne’s “wonder team,” led by the Four Horsemen and the Seven Mules, ripped through the regular season with a 9-0 mark, before heading to southern California for a January 1, 1925 meeting with Pacific coast champion Stanford at the Rose Bowl. It would be no ordinary trip, but rather a three-week celebration of this special group of young men. In a time of widespread anti-Catholicism, the Irish were becoming a source of intense pride for Catholics across the U.S.

The train trip began from Chicago Dec. 20, with lengthy stops in Memphis, New Orleans, Houston and Tucson en route to Pasadena. The return trip started with several days in the Bay area, followed by celebratory stops in Salt Lake City, Denver, Cheyenne and Lincoln, Nebraska, before returning to Chicago and finally campus.

When Knute Rockne stepped off the train in Tucson, he looked up at a bright blue sky and broke into a wide grin, rubbing his hands together in anticipation. Finally they had encountered the mild weather he had hoped for. Minutes later, after a member of the welcoming committee gave him the
schedule of receptions, dinners and banquets, his mood darkened. Rockne thought that his club was already showing the physical and psychological effects of too many feasts on the trip and that the players needed a different regimen. His hosts explained that special care was being taken to feed his players healthy food and allow them plenty of rest, and he again smiled and gave his approval.

Originally, there was no practice scheduled for Sunday, but Rockne decided to add one to make the best use of the good weather and available time. “We have been giving alibis for four days,” the coach scolded his players. “We are going to get down to business. We’ve got a reputation to uphold and we are going to win from that coast gang.” After the session, Rockne expressed satisfaction with the workout, saying his players were returning to form.

In Glenn Scobey “Pop” Warner of Stanford, the Irish would face one of the most experienced, accomplished and innovative coaches in college football history. The wily veteran had seen almost everything in his 30 years as a college coach – and much he had developed himself. The spiral pass, numbered plays, the dummy scrimmage, the double-wing formation, the unbalanced line were all the creative work of Warner.

Pop Warner had amassed a record of 60-12-4 in the previous nine seasons at Pitt, and in coming to Palo Alto, he inherited one of the great talents of the game – fullback Ernie Nevers. The great back was frequently injured in 1924, but was ready to go in the Rose Bowl despite two sore ankles. Warner had assembled a huge body of information on Notre Dame’s formations and tendencies, prompting one commentator to write, “Never before did a coach have as much information about a team as has Warner. The intelligence section of the United States expeditionary force during the World war...was a mere amateur compared to Warner’s volunteer informants.”

Football fans were now pouring into Pasadena and environs. Those still wishing to find a ticket descended on the Stanford headquarters in the hopes, against all odds, of finding one. A special train filled with Notre Dame alumni and Knights of Columbus members from the San Francisco area headed south on Monday evening. A special from Chicago carrying Notre Dame alumni and fans...rolled into town Tuesday. One report said the travelers “have plenty of money, given them by Notre Dame enthusiasts back home, to wager on the result.” Stanford backers demanded 2-to-1 odds, though the “experts” were making the Irish an 8-to-5 favorite.

Stanford was expected to have the edge in color and student support. There would be a full rooting section including 1,100 Stanford students, equipped with brilliantly-colored cards and organized stunts. A 72-piece Stanford band was preparing to march in the Tournament of Roses parade and to accompany the rooting section at the game. Notre Dame would need to rely mainly on its
support within the general admission audience as well as the attending alumni....The Irish had support from many quarters. Hundreds of alumni of various eastern and Midwest schools purchased blocks of tickets in adjoining sections and planned to cheer for Notre Dame.

For millions of fans across the country, the game would enter their homes via radio broadcasting, with four stations providing coverage. A direct wire from the field in Pasadena to the WGN studios in Chicago was to be relayed to WCBS in New York, resulting in “the first time in radio history that Eastern stations have broadcast direct a Pacific coast event.” Across the Midwest, telegraph offices in countless towns and cities planned to remain open on the holiday to receive reports from Pasadena. By all accounts, the game would be the most widely followed in the history of football.

A huge crowd greeted the Irish upon their arrival in Los Angeles, including world heavyweight champion Jack Dempsey. Fans strained to get a look at the “four horsemen,” the “seven mules” and their teammates. The players were hustled into waiting autos for the ride to their headquarters at the Maryland Hotel. There, another rousing reception awaited the squad, and people jammed the lobby day and night hoping to see any of the lads in person. Chicago’s Walter Eckersall, in his dispatches back to Chicago, noted that “never before in the history of football along the Pacific seaboard has so much interest been shown in a pending gridiron struggle.” The game would be seen by a capacity crowd of 53,000, and “if the stadium was larger, double that number of tickets could have been sold.”

January 1, 1925 began in customary fashion in Pasadena with the annual Tournament of Roses parade, a colorful assemblage of pageantry attracting tens of thousands of viewers to the city’s streets. Throughways were clogged with traffic for hours after the last of the floats finished the route. Despite that, the 53,000 seats of the Rose Bowl stadium in the Arroyo Seco valley were filled by 1:45 p.m., a half hour before the scheduled kickoff. An estimated 10,000 cars were parked nearby.

In the hills surrounding the valley, thousands more onlookers took their spots alongside the eucalyptus trees. In the distance, the snow-capped San Gabriel mountains stood sentinel over the scene. Down below, the Rose Bowl’s grass field gleamed in the brilliant sunshine. The soft breeze created perfect comfort. It was, said one observer, all the Chamber of Commerce could have hoped for.

Up until game time, Rockne had been vague about who he planned to start. But he continued the season’s strategy of starting the Shock Troops – a complete second unit meant to take some of the energy out of the opposition’s starters. They kept Stanford off the scoreboard on its first possession, even nailing Nevers for a loss on a fake double-pass.
The Shock Troops had held, and now it was time for the regulars. The crowd roared as they saw the “four horsemen” and “seven mules” take the field. On the first play from the Irish 20, Don Miller took the snap and started around left end, as he had so many times during the season. This time, though, he lost control of the ball and Stanford’s Johnston recovered on the Irish 17, sending the red-clad rooters into hysteria. Nevers plowed to the 13. The mighty fullback churned for two yards to the 11. With Walsh, Kizer and Weibel on alert, Cuddeback tried to go around end, but failed. On fourth down, Cuddeback made the 20-yard placekick for a 3-0 Cardinal lead.

The Irish then drove to the Stanford 5, only to be stopped. On a fourth-down pass attempt, Stuhldreher was clobbered, and lay crumpled on the turf. Shortly after, tackle Joe Bach suffered an injury the Irish believed to have been caused by a steel brace worn on a Stanford player’s knee. The Irish, with Stuhldreher limping badly, stiffened their resolve, and drove to their first touchdown, with Layden plowing over for a 6-3 lead. But the Cardinal continued to press.

Everything old “Pop” tried seemed to be working. He was especially fond of plays that kept Cardinal backs wide in the backfield for a pass, then upfield once they had the ball. But the Irish were spotting the pattern, and it matched what Coach Madigan of St. Mary’s had told them. On a third-and-five from deep in Irish territory, Nevers faded and attempted a cross-field pass. Elmer Layden anticipated this play and perfectly timed a leap between two Cardinal targets. The ball hit his shoulder and bounced a few feet over his head. But Layden kept his eye on the ball, snared it in his arms and continued running. With his sprinter’s speed, Layden dashed into an open field. Within seconds, there was only a Blue-jerseyed horseman accompanying him. Layden waltzed into the end zone to complete a 78-yard play. Frenzied Notre Dame backers jumped and hugged. Crowley made the kick and the Irish led, 13-3.

Early in the second half, ND still leading 13-3, Stanford bobbled a punt by Layden. Solomon dove for the ball but Chuck Collins brushed him aside, and Irish end Ed Hunsinger flew past, picking up the ball and racing 20 yards into the Cardinal end zone. Another huge Stanford miscue had resulted in Notre Dame’s 20-3 lead. However, Stanford had far too much pride to lie down. Nevers, like a human battering ram, led another charge downfield, and threw a short TD pass to pull Warner’s troops to within 20-10 heading into the final quarter.

Warner’s crew had ten points to make up in 15 minutes of play. The next few minutes would be critical. Stanford’s Baker made the first big play, stepping in front of a Layden pass at the Irish 25. The Cardinal, now playing with the confidence of a champion, drove relentlessly. Nevers made three yards over right tackle, then three more on the left side. On fourth-and-one from the 10, the Cardinal star drove for four yards to the six.
By now the brilliant sun had dropped behind the mountains and the chill of nightfall hung over the stadium. On each play, the throngs roared. A Stanford touchdown here could cut the lead to three points. Nevers had to have the ball. He dragged Irish tacklers for four yards to the 2. Another play gained a yard. Nevers made a half-yard dash – fourth down inside the 1-yard line. Adam Walsh encouraged his mates as they bunched together on the Irish goal line. They had a pretty good idea of who was headed their way. Nevers took the snap, smacked into the ND wall and fell forward. Harry Stuhldreher ignored the piercing pain in his ankle and drove his 152-pound frame into the pile. The stack of gridders was untangled and revealed the football – less than six inches short of the goal line. Notre Dame ball. Stanford hearts sank.

Stanford’s last-ditch comeback effort was thwarted by two more ND interceptions, first by Crowley and then another returned 63 yards for a TD by Layden, providing the final 27-10 margin.

The gun sounded and the battle of the ages was history. Notre Dame had survived the knockout punches of a great opponent, made the most of its opportunities and capped its most memorable season to be truly crowned with glory.


**About the Author**—Jim Lefebvre (La-FAVE) is a member of the IFRA, and specializes in Notre Dame football history. He operates the website Forever Irish at www.NDFootballHistory.com, and is the author of the award-winning book Loyal Sons: The Story of The Four Horsemen and Notre Dame Football’s 1924 Champions. He is currently writing the definitive biography of Knute Rockne, entitled *Coach For A Nation: The Life and Times of Knute Rockne*, scheduled for release in 2013.

*          *          *

**IFRA Remembers**

*Obituaries*

Bill Goods, Tulsa...Jerry Brown, Illinois, he was 25...Donald LaBlanc, Superior State College and the University of Wisconsin...Walter Ledet, Northwestern State; he was 93...Bob Odel, former Penn player and head coach at Bucknell, Penn and Williams; he was 90...Charles “Chuck” Gavin, Tennessee State University; he was 78 years old...Jim Whalen, Boston College; he was 69...Eagle Keys, Western Kentucky, he was 89...Lurlyn Guyol “Ms Fitz” Fitzpatrick, who worked 40 years in the football office at Tulane University and a member of the school and state of Louisiana Halls of Fame; she was 93...James H. "Chief" Hanna, Kentucky; he was 81...Lt. Col. Clyde W. Lollis Jr., United States Air Force Retired, (East Central Junior College, [Miss.]) and University of Nebraska at Omaha; he was 90...Norm Fletcher, Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame broadcaster and voice of Northwestern State; he was 81...Joseph S. Howanski, Villanova; he was 85...Joe Krivak, former Maryland football coach; he was 77...Ted M. Phelps, Wofford College; he was 67...Dar Christiansen, Albion College; he was 71...Charles "Chuck"
Cherundolo, Penn State; he was 96...William “Rip” Scherer, Penn State; he was 87...Robert (Bob) Beeks Sr., Lincoln University; he was 85...Colonel Walter Blakely Todd, U.S. Army (Ret.), Presbyterian College; he was 94...Frank E. Ramirez, Sr., Arkansas State University; he was 85…Ronald L. Lauterback, Michigan; he was 71…Richard “Lefty” Cerino, Montana; he was 84…General H. Norman Schwarzkopf, Jr., United States Military Academy (Army); he was 78…Izzy Isrow, athletic trainer at North Dakota State…J.O. ‘Bo’ Coppedge, former Navy athletic director; he was 88…Sam J. Burks, Jr., Mississippi State University…John P. Latone Jr., Washington & Jefferson; he was 54…John Albright Diehl, Sr., Virginia…Zavier Stringfellow, Ferrum; he was 19…Samuel R. Baer, Kent State; he was 22…Jeff Lewis, Northern Arizona; he was 39…Dr. Richard Balzhiser, Michigan…Mirko Jurkovic, University of Notre Dame; he was 42.

**Hall of Fame**

Lee Castana, Gannon… Boris Henderson and Dr. William T. Iverson, Davidson…Jim Harding, John Wesley Saunders and Tom Ward, Toledo…Nick Saban, (Alabama), Eric Davis (Jacksonville State), Ronnie Baynes (Southeastern Conference referee), Forrest Blue Jr., State of Alabama Sports Hall of Fame…1972 Bluffton University football team…Casey Beran, Chadron State College…Joe Murphy, Central Connecticut State University…Justin Smith and James Taylor, Missouri…Tony Richardson (Auburn), Conrad Hitchler (University of Missouri), Missouri Sports Hall of Fame…Tom Carper, Western Illinois…Contributor Ron Allen, former Tennessee Coach Phil Fulmer, former executive director Robert Dale Morgan, retired Clemson athletic director Terry Don Phillips and former Georgia lineman Matt Stinchcomb, into the Chick-fil-A Bowl Hall of Fame…John Cooper, Brian Griese and Ron Yary, Rose Bowl Hall of Fame…Bob Brudzinski (Ohio State), Warrick Dunn (Florida State) and Torrance Marshall (Oklahoma), Orange Bowl Hall of Fame … Rich McGeorge, (Elon College) and Kelvin Bryant, (North Carolina); into the 2013 North Carolina Sports Hall of Fame; it’s 50th class.

**Honored**

Tim Brown (Notre Dame) and Terry Baker (Oregon State) were honored during the Heisman Dinner on respectively celebrating their 25th and 50th anniversaries of their Heisman moments

(From the AFCA)—Former Pacific Lutheran University head coach Frosty Westering has been named the 2013 recipient of the AFCA’s Amos Alonzo Stagg Award. The award, which honors those “whose services have been outstanding in the advancement of the best interests of football…”

The Silver Anniversary Award annually recognizes distinguished individuals on the 25th anniversary of the conclusion of their collegiate athletics careers.

The 2013 recipients of the NCAA’s The Silver Anniversary Award are Chad Hennings (Air Force) and Keith Jackson (Arkansas).

Grant Teaff has been recognized as the recipient of the FBA’s 2013 Champions Award.

Vernon “Skip” McCain, best known for his coaching career at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, formerly Maryland State College, has been named the American Football Coaches Association’s recipient of the 2012 Trailblazer Award.

**Retired**

Chris Ault, who served three stints as head coach at Nevada, has announced his retirement.

*          *          *

**Pop Warner Ranks Teams in 1908**

Glenn S. “Pop” Warner is more known in college football history for his coaching career as well as many of the game’s innovations that caused changes in the game.
In his 44-year career (1895-1948), he compiled a 319-106-32 .733.

However, in 1908, he was asked by legendary sportswriter Caspar Whitney to release a ranking of top teams in the East and West—as teams were often ranked in the early days of the sport.

- *In order to conclude the 1908 football season comment in this number, I give space here to the following review, by Mr. Glenn S. Warner, whose comment and selections I fully endorse, with two exceptions: Yale in my opinion would rank second, and Pennsylvania third, and West Point seventh, and Brown eighth—Caspar Whitney*

This quote appeared in the *The Outing Magazine*, under the heading: **REVIEW OF THE FOOTBALL SEASON OF 1908.**

*The Outing Magazine* was a noted publication of all sports; and was published from 1883-1915.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank of teams in East</th>
<th>Rank of teams in West</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>1 Harvard</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Pennsylvania</td>
<td>2 Wisconsin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Yale</td>
<td>3 Kansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Dartmouth</td>
<td>4 Illinois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Carlisle</td>
<td>5 Minnesota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Cornell</td>
<td>6 Nebraska</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Brown</td>
<td>7 Michigan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 West Point</td>
<td>8 Ohio State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Annapolis</td>
<td>9 Ames</td>
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<tr>
<td>10 Princeton</td>
<td>10 Indiana</td>
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<td>11 Syracuse</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Penn. State</td>
<td>12 Iowa</td>
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* * *

**Patrick Premo** reviews the records of teams in the 2012 NCAA and NAIA Playoff.

*Regarding the 4 College Football playoff tournament fields, here is an analysis regarding the records of the participating teams:*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NAIA</th>
<th>NCAA 2</th>
<th>NCAA 3</th>
<th>CSD</th>
<th>TOTALS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unbeaten teams</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>18</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Loss teams</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
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<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest of teams</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>16</td>
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Here is the analysis after Round One (except for CSD which plays next weekend)

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<th>CSD</th>
<th>TOTALS</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
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<td>2</td>
<td>6*</td>
<td>7</td>
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<td>17</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>16</td>
<td>20</td>
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* - all had byes in round one

After playoffs on November 24, 2012

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<th>TOTALS</th>
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<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
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After playoffs on December 1, 2012

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<th>TOTALS</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Loss teams</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Loss teams</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
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<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>18</td>
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</table>

After playoffs on December 8, 2012 (please note that the NAIA did not play this weekend)

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<th>TOTALS</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Loss teams</td>
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<td>0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>4</td>
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After playoffs on December 14-15, 2012

<table>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Loss teams</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Rest of teams</td>
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<tr>
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After the CSD championship game on January 5, 2013, here is the final analysis:

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</tr>
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<td>1 Loss teams</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Loss teams</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Teams</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After starting with 18 unbeaten teams, only one won its championship to remain undefeated; it should be noted, however, that the CSD did not have any unbeaten teams in its tournament.

* * *

Congratulations to IFRA member Jay Langhamer. He has received the Heminger Award for Interfraternal Excellence. He has worked over 45 years with various frateraties and written on various topics, mostly sports, throughout this time covering them.

* * *

2012 in Review

By Tex Noel, Executive Director, IFRA

National Champions

(Previous years winning the title, if applicable)

- **CSD**: North Dakota State (College Division: 1965-68-69; CSD: 2011)
- **NCAA II**: Valdosta State (2004-07)
- **NAIA**: Marian (1st title)
- **NCCAA**: Greenville College (1st title)
- **NJCAA** and **JC Gridiron.com** Iowa Western Community College (1st title)
# Teams scoring and allowing 500+ Points

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scored 500+ Points</th>
<th>DIVISION</th>
<th>W-L-T</th>
<th>PTS</th>
<th>OP PTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mount Union</td>
<td>NCAA III</td>
<td>15-0</td>
<td>792</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Hardin-Baylor</td>
<td>NCAA III</td>
<td>13-1</td>
<td>685</td>
<td>282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oregon</td>
<td>BSD</td>
<td>12-1</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Oregon</td>
<td>NAIA</td>
<td>10-2</td>
<td>633</td>
<td>400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morningside</td>
<td>NAIA</td>
<td>13-1</td>
<td>618</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana Tech</td>
<td>BSD</td>
<td>9-3</td>
<td>618</td>
<td>462</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shippensburg</td>
<td>NCAA II</td>
<td>11-2</td>
<td>609</td>
<td>324</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winston-Salem</td>
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<td>603</td>
<td>261</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sam Houston State</td>
<td>CSD</td>
<td>11-4</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>322</td>
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<td>Oklahoma State</td>
<td>BSD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Old Dominion</td>
<td>CSD</td>
<td>11-2</td>
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<td>372</td>
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<tr>
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<td>BSD</td>
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<td>578</td>
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<td>The Cumberlands</td>
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<td>Georgetown KY</td>
<td>NAIA</td>
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<td>505</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Allowed 500+ Points</th>
<th>Division</th>
<th>PA</th>
<th>W-L</th>
<th>PS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Idaho State</td>
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<td>552</td>
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<td>228</td>
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<td>517</td>
<td>0-11</td>
<td>159</td>
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<td>Marshall</td>
<td>BSD</td>
<td>517</td>
<td>4-8</td>
<td>491</td>
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<tr>
<td>Misericordia</td>
<td>III</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>0-10</td>
<td>54</td>
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<td>Bethel (Kan.)</td>
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<td>512</td>
<td>1-9</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>BSD</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>1-10</td>
<td>179</td>
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<tr>
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<td>BSD</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>1-11</td>
<td>190</td>
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<tr>
<td>Idaho</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notre Dame (Ohio)</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>502</td>
<td>3-8</td>
<td>306</td>
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**Composite of all Post Season Games Played**

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<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>GP</th>
<th>PS</th>
<th>OSA</th>
<th>PA</th>
<th>DSA</th>
<th>AMV</th>
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<tr>
<td>BSD</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>1230</td>
<td>35.1</td>
<td>707</td>
<td>20.2</td>
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<td>588</td>
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<td>NCAA II</td>
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<td>18.3</td>
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<td>1295</td>
<td>41.8</td>
<td>512</td>
<td>16.5</td>
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<td>557</td>
<td>37.1</td>
<td>360</td>
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<td>ECAC^</td>
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<td>277</td>
<td>31.4</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>17.1</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Composite</strong></td>
<td>135</td>
<td>4791</td>
<td>35.5</td>
<td>2568</td>
<td>19.0</td>
<td>16.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Average Margin of Victory:
  net points in games won, divided by the number of victories.

^East Coast Athletic Conference Games

! National Christian Colleges Athletic Association

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