WHICH TEAM IS THE BEST?

NAIA II

by Patrick M. Premo

In the last issue, we saw 1976 Texas A&M capture the NAIA Division I (1970-96) all-time best crown. This issue will feature NAIA II (1970-1996) teams. As I stated previously, I am using Tex Noel’s rankings to pair these champions, with the proviso that no individual school is represented more than once in this tournament.

Here are the top 16 teams as rated by Tex:

1. 1991 Georgetown, KY
16. 1971 California Lutheran
8. 1995 Findlay, OH
9. 1972 Missouri Southern
5. 1983 Northwestern, IA
12. 1978 Concordia, MN
13. 1981 Austin, TX
4. 1993 Pacific Lutheran, WA

3. 1974 Texas Lutheran
14. 1995 Central Washington
6. 1986 Linfield, OR
11. 1987 WI-Stevens Point
7. 1989 Westminster, PA
10. 1990 Peru St., NE
15. 1985 WI-LaCrosse
2. 1996 Sioux Falls, SD

Once again, my FAST-ACTION COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOARD GAME will be used to stage all of these games. All games will be played at neutral sites so there will be no home field advantage to any teams.

Round 1:

1971 California Lutheran shocked the number one seed, 1991 Georgetown, KY, by defeating that team, 20-10.
Pacific Lutheran had no trouble with 1981 Austin, TX, downing them convincingly, 41-14. 1995 Central Washington gave number three seed, 1974 Texas Lutheran, all it could handle before falling 16-27. 1987 WI-Stevens Point was no match for 1986 Linfield, OR, losing big, 12-36. 1989 Westminster, PA, led all the way to defeat 1990 Peru St., 23-7. Number two seed, 1996 Sioux Falls, SD, could not handle fifteen seed 1985 WI-LaCrosse, and lost 21-27, in another big upset. The top two seeds went down in a real shocker as the first round saw some great games.

Round 2:

1972 Missouri Southern ended 1971 California Lutheran’s Cinderella plans, winning 24-10. In a high scoring game, 1993 Pacific Lutheran finally dispatched 1983 Northwestern, IA, 42-31. 1974 Texas Lutheran had no trouble with 1986 Linfield, OR, winning 23-6. Another Cinderella team had its dream end as 1985 WI-LaCrosse lost a close game to 1989 Westminster, PA, 16-21. There were no upsets at all in this round as all the higher seeds prevailed.

Round 3:

Number three seed 1993 Pacific Lutheran was all out to defeat 1972 Missouri Southern, 28-21. 1974 Texas Lutheran, on the other hand, had a relatively easy time with 1989 Westminster, PA, winning by the score of 34-21.

Third Place:

In a tight battle, the defenses of both teams played tough and, in a minor upset, 1972 Missouri Southern upended 1989 Westminster, PA, 13-7.

Championship:

Unlike the third place game, a lot of scoring took place and 1993 Pacific Lutheran, the number 4 seed, led number three seed 1974 Texas Lutheran late in the game, 28-24, but Texas rallied for a late touchdown and won 31-28. **1974 Texas Lutheran** can lay claim to being the all-time **NAIA Division II Champion**.

Prologue:

As promised, 1997 Mount Union, the all-time NCAA...
Division III Champion has been waiting around to play the Champion. That time has come. 1974 Texas Lutheran was a slight favorite, but in a very good game, 1997 Mount Union came through with a 31-21 victory.

The next issue will feature the NAIA Division I (1956-69 and 1997-2007) top 16 teams playing to determine their champion. As you know, from 1970 through 1996, there were two divisions of NAIA teams. In the previous issue, 1976 Texas A&I captured the NAIA Division I crown for that time period. That team will play the winner of next issue’s tournament to determine the all-time NAIA Division I crown. And guess who will be waiting in the wings to play the winner of that game? Yep, 1997 Mount Union!

See you then!

Remember, if you were to conduct these tournaments again using my FAST-ACTION COLLEGE FOOTBALL BOARD GAME, your results will most likely vary. Just as in real life, when two teams play one another twice (or more) in the same season, the results are not always the same.

Falling from the Elite…

By Bob Kirlin

Top ten collapses from one season to the next. Teams with less than two losses and a high national ranking that had a losing record the following season. Teams are listed in chronological order.

- Georgia Tech, 10-0-0 and national champions in 1928 to a 3-6-0 in 1929.
- Michigan, 7-0-1, and national champions in 1933 to 1-7-0 in 1934.
- TCU, 11-0-0 and national champions in 1938 to a 3-7-0 in 1939.
- UCLA, 6-0-4 and 7th (AP) in 1939 to a 1-9-0 in 1940.
- Wisconsin, 8-1-1 and 3rd (AP) in 1942 to 1-9-0 in 1943.
- Navy, 7-1-1 and 3rd (AP) in 1945 to 1-8-0 in 1946.
- Illinois 7-1-1 and 7th (AP) in 1953 to 1-8-0 in 1954.
Maryland, 10-1-0 and 3rd (AP) in 1955 to 2-7-1 in 1956.
Michigan State, 9-0-1 and 2nd (AP) in 1966 to 3-7-0 in 1967.
Arizona State, 12-0-0 and 2nd (AP) in 1975 to 4-7-0 in 1976.

Good but not good enough…

In chronological order, twelve teams that finished in the top three in the final AP poll but did not win their own conference championship: Conference champions are listed with their final AP Ranking.

- Minnesota, 1936, 7-1-0, AP 1st, league champion was Northwestern (7).
- Michigan, 1940, 7-1-0, AP 3rd, league champion was Minnesota (1).
- Wisconsin, 1942, 8-1-1, AP 3rd, league champion was Ohio State (1).
- Michigan State, 1955, 9-1-0, AP 2nd, league champion was Ohio State (5).
- Michigan State, 1957, 8-1-0, AP 3rd, league champion was Ohio State (2).
- Mississippi, 1959, 10-1-0, AP 2nd, league champion was Georgia (5).
- Oklahoma, 1971, 11-1-0, AP 2nd, league champion was Nebraska (1).
- Arkansas, 1977, 11-1-0, AP 3rd, league champion Texas (4).
- Washington, 1984, 11-1-0, AP 2nd, league champion was USC (10).
- Michigan, 1985, 10-1-1, AP 2nd, league champion was Iowa (10).
- Colorado, 1994, 11-1-0, AP 3rd, league champion was Nebraska (1)
- Tennessee, 1995, 11-1-0, AP 3rd, league champion was Florida (2).

Tuxedo-Press offers the following books that may be of interest to football fans:

- A Course in Football for Players and Coaches: Offense (reprints of Offense pamphlets of Pop Warner’s 1908-11 correspondence course).
- A Course in Football for Players and Coaches
Q & A with Slingin Sammy Baugh

By Tex Noel/1st-N-Goal, Editor The College Football Historian

Note: The following is a Q & A that I had with former TCU quarterback, Slingin Sammy Baugh, Nov.10, 1993.

(Interesting, it was 20 years to the day I watched my very first college football game, as Northwestern rallied to defeat Indiana, 21-20.)

TCU during the Baugh-era compiled a 29-7-2 mark and 12-5-1 in the Southwest Conference…the 1935 team was 12-1-0 losing only to SMU and was awarded the Ray Bryce National Championship and tied LSU for Paul Williamson’s selection for No. 1…(1935: 8 polls, 4.75 Average Poll Rank {APR} and 1936, 6 and 6.50, respectively.)

Doctors, Lawyers, Indian Chiefs, Tom Benjey (September 2008).


TN: Describe the feeling of the game with SMU?

SB: We played our hearts out and the thought before the game was that we could win it if we played well

Courtesy of the SID Office at TCU, Baugh’s stats taken directly off the final stat sheet shows Baugh’s numbers from the classic game: 6 rushing attempts, 16 yards.

Passing: to a respective receiver incomplete-intercepted-complete (yards):.

Passing: McCall, Walls, McCall, Kline, 1-0-0; Roach, 9-0-2 (25); Meyer, 2-0-4 (41); Lawrence, 4-0-4 (41); Walls, 6-1-3; Montgomery, 1-0-2 (22) and Manton, 0-0-1 (18)

In a future issue of The College Football Historian, I will provide the final stats—team and individual and starting line-up from one of College Football’s All-Time Games.
Tex Noel: What was it like playing for TCU in the Mid-1930’s (1934-36)?

Sammy Baugh: I was really fortunate to play for a school that stressed the passing. We would play a ball-controlled type of game…throwing like a 7-yard pass and then run into-the-end zone.

TN: You played in one of college football’s most remembered games (TCU vs SMU) in 1935, what was it like?

SB: It was quite a thrill and one of my most memorable games. Naturally, we were disappointed that we didn’t win…I really think that this team—in 1935—was the best one of the three teams that I played on.

TN: TCU was one of the first schools to use the forward passing as part of its offense…what was the passing attack like in Pre-1937?

SB: What I really remember most was that regardless of the distance of the pass, it had to be completed. For example, if we had our backs to the end zone, an incomplete pass, or the pass was batted down, our opponents would register a safety.

TN: Who was your favorite receiver?

SB: Walter Roach. He was a different kind of player—exceptionally tough receiver and solid player. Walter was an outstanding end, equally on either side of the ball.

Roach was also one of Pre-1937 best in career receptions and yardage gained.

He caught 63 balls, the highest of the early players; while his 892 yards gained was second.

Comp: 270-Atts: 587-Int: 54
All Pre-1937 career highs; his 46.0 Pass % 8th best.
Total Offense: 745-3756 and TDR: 44
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TN: You were also a skillful punter; please explain your roll in this capacity?

SB: This is one aspect of the game that Coach (L.D. “Dutch”) Meyer had us work on a lot—especially at kicking it out-of-bounds.

- He had 198 career punts; career, 5th best; with his average of 40.9 was 3rd in Pre-1937 records.

TN: The Bowl Games were just becoming part of the college football scene as you were winding-up your career. You were fortunate to play in the second Sugar and initial Cotton bowl games...explain the experiences in playing in these games?

On page 82 in the book Big Bowl Football [written my Fred Russell and George Leonard, writer's for the Nashville Banner newspaper, © 1963]...some of the writers believed that Baugh played what may have been the greatest all-around game of his college career.

SB: We played the Sugar Bowl in a quagmire. LSU played us tough and we took advantage of a fumble on one of my punts to score the winning field goal.

His 47.1 yard average is still a record (on 14 boots)...he also intercepted 2 passes.

Baugh continue on as he explained playing in the initial Cotton Bowl Classic.

Marquette had a really fine team and outstanding player in Art Guepe. He not only played quarterback, but also returned kicks.

Dutch instructed me to not to kick the ball his way, so I didn’t! After the punts, he’d run in front of our bench, calling us chicken for not punting his way.

Once coach thought our defense could stop him...so I kicked the ball toward him—which was a big mistake; as he fielding the kick and returned it for a touchdown (in all he returned 3 kicks for 60 yards and his team’s lone points.)

•Baugh's accomplishments didn’t go unnoticed while he was playing and being remembered of all-time elevens.
*FWAA All-Modern Team of the Century (1919-1968).

*Sports Illustrated All-Century Quarterback.

*Member of the FWAA’s Southwestern area 1921-1968 team.

*All-American, 1935 and Consensus All-American, 1936.

*Charter member of the College Football Hall of Fame, 1951.

*Unanimously selected SWC MVP in 1936 by sportswriters that covered SWC football (7 cities, 49 votes).

*1936 Heisman Trophy voting (4th, 29 points).

*NCAA Panel for Best 1950) Poll for Greatest Player (tied for 4th, 7 votes)

*AP Mid-Century (1900-1950) player of the First Century (2 votes)

*1936 Helms Athletic Foundation Player of the Year.

*1936 CFRA retroactive Player of the Year (7 votes; 2nd 1935, 2 votes).

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**COLLEGE FOOTBALL SCORES**

After years and years of researching old newspapers; now available is the most accurate source of college football scores available anywhere--online or offline!

College football fans can now obtain all-time scores of their alma mater or favorite teams! Curious what school scored the most points in the year you were born....!

The answers to these and countless other enquires count be answered by sending an email to IFRA member, Richard Topp at rjtopp@earthlink.net.

For a reasonable fee, Richard can provide not only accurate scores but exact date a game was played and its location.
Statistics Have Made Baseball Great—Their Utter Lack Has Been a Handicap to Football. A Football Scoring System a Difficult But Not Impossible Achievement.

The great defect in football is the impossibility of maintaining accurate records of the players. Statistics have made baseball great, the lack of them, while by no means destroying public interest in football, has always been a formidable handicap. While it is impossible to devise a scoring system in football anywhere near as accurate and satisfactory as the prevailing method in baseball, it is perfectly possible, as the following article points out, to install a system which shall be a very fair.

ONE of the best things about baseball is the box score. By the same token, one of the chief drawbacks to football is the lack of one.

It is unquestionable that the possibility of reducing an athletic contest to figures adds greatly to the account of the game, throws light upon the reasons for victory or defeat, and furnishes inside information concerning the units which make up the team.

If one wishes to contrast Cobb and Wagner, or Plank and Marquard, he can find the figures in a few moments.

If, on the other hand, he would contrast the comparative football abilities of Thorpe against Wendell, or Coy against Brickley, he can find no records which will be of material assistance.

So far as its presentation in statistical form is concerned, then, football is in an scientific stage of development.

The writer is far from holding that the baseball box score represents a baseball player’s ability accurately to the mind of the reader.
Not at all.

The box score is lacking in many respects, but it is definitely superior to no box score at all.

While the need for a football box score has been felt, there has never been any agreement upon the method for making one.

Each year some of the larger papers print tables of statistics, most of them founded on mere surmises, showing the number of yards gained by various players on various teams, the average length of kicks and related information.

A few football writers who take a scientific interest in their business have worked out schemes for obtaining these statistics. Some of these are very good, but no two of them are alike.

The object of a football box score, as the writer sees it, is to give information concerning a number of essential things.

For instance:
1. The number of yards gained carrying the ball, by what player gained, whether through the line or in the open field.
2. The distance of punts, by what player punted.
3. The length of returns on kick-offs and punts, and by whom made.
4. Ground gained by forward passes, thrower and receiver.

The summary should contain the number of blocked punts, incomplete forward passes, fumbles upon which the ball was lost, fumbles recovered and by whom, penalties, and additional information which will suggest itself.

In a baseball scorebook the scorer can take you through the game, play by play, by reading from square to square.

This would be impossible in football, but a record could be kept of the length of each gain or punt. It would also be advisable to keep these records by quarters, for it is frequently of interest to contrast the play of teams by quarters.

The system which the writer has used himself for scoring football games consists of a number of cardboards with
vertical lines. There is a separate column for each quarter under each entry, and separate entries for each team.

If Jones, right halfback, skirts left end for eight yards a letter indicating Jones is put in the proper column together with the number of yards gained and a character to denote that the play was a run around left end.

Other plays are denoted in similar fashion, so that at the end of the game it is possible to tell what each player has done in advancing the ball in any particular way.

Of course, little can be told of defensive play by using this kind of box score except by showing that few gains were made by the opposing side through a particular position. No credit can be given for good or bad tackles, or for sins of omission, particularly for failures in the interference.

A system could undoubtedly be worked out to give many of these things, but it would probably be too cumbersome. It is necessary to have a box score which can be easily printed, easily understood, and which will give the features of individual and team play at a glance.

If the football box score reaches anything approximating the excellence of the baseball box score, the football public will be deeply grateful.

Meanwhile, it would be well for the rules committee to entertain and make suggestions for the formulation of a uniform system of scoring football games so that we will be able to give the records of football a permanency for the edification of future generations.

American Football Booklist

Through the efforts and commitment of Mike McGuire, the American Football Booklist (AFB), will serve as a central point of for all books relating to the sport of football.

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

McGuire, who got this effort off the ground with a donation of 500 books on the sport, will serve as curator of the will serve as AFB’s curator.

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

McGuire stated visitors to the site would find it much easier and time saving by the use of searchable databases.

Visitors to the AFB site will be able to locate a particular book by author, team, coach, league and more, according to McGuire.

**How to contribute to the AFB**

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

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

Donations are tax deductible.

For addition information on AFB, its purpose or to donate a book, McGuire can be contacted:

American Football Booklist (AFB)
Mike McGuire
27081 N. 96th Way
Scottsdale, AZ 85262

Phone: (480) 563-1424…
Email: mmcguire@fastening.com

**Did you know that…**

"Blood, Sweat, and Tears: A History of Black College Football" has been on exhibition at the College Football Hall of Fame and will be on display through Aug. 31, 2008.

Visitors to the exhibit will have the opportunity to walk through a historic locker room filled with memorabilia representing all 50 Historic black colleges and universities. The exhibit features the rich pageantry of the black marching bands, the hallowed black college All-America teams, and a tribute to the black college national champions.

**In Honor of…**

Several former college football standouts have been inducted
into their respective school’s halls of fame.

Arnold Tucker of Army has been named to the Army Sports Hall of Fame... Auburn standout Gregg Carr, Tennessee great Condredge Holloway and Alabama star DB Don McNeal highlight the 2008 Alabama Sports Hall of Fame Class... Former Washington standouts Mark Stewart and Blair Bush have been included in the 2008 class of Husky Hall of Fame inductees... The University of Houston has added All-America QB David Klingler, former UH linebacker and Wade Phillips and TE Riley Odoms to its Athletics Hall of Fame... Columbia’s second annual Athletics Hall of Fame class includes football standouts Gene Rossides, Marty Domres and Dr. Russell Warren.

FSN Southwest will launch the "SWC Legends" television series in conjunction with the Texas Sports Hall of Fame to promote the museum’s new Southwest Conference wing in 2009. The regional sports network will air a series of 30-minute SWC season features with the likes of NFF College Hall of Famers James Saxton of Texas, Jerry LeVias of SMU, TCU's Bob Lilly, and Texas Tech's Donny Anderson...

Winners of The National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame (NFF), announced the recipients of the NFF's Schenkel Award and the Outstanding Football Official Award:

CHRIS SCHENKEL AWARD
Co-Recipients
Bob Curtis - University of Idaho
Dick Galiette - Yale University

OUTSTANDING FOOTBALL OFFICIAL AWARD

Thomas Robinson - Mountain West Conference / Western Athletic Conference

In Memory of...
Jack Mildren, Oklahonma quarterback. He was 58.

Dr. Bob Leyen, an offensive guard/defensive tackle for Yale from 1970-72.

Richard Evans, one of Iowa's "Ironmen" in 1939. He was 93.

North Carolina A&T OL Chad Wiley, was 22.
Former Texas Tech defensive tackle Stoney Garland, was 33.

David Scobey football official in the SEC referee for 25 years. He officiated the 1978 Gator Bowl, during which legendary Ohio State football Coach Woody Hayes threw a punch at a Clemson University player who had just intercepted an Ohio State pass to seal Clemson's victory.

Mr. Scobey also officiated the 1976 Orange Bowl, 1977 Cotton Bowl and 1980 Liberty Bowl.

Dwight White, He was 58. East Texas State.

Oaka Williams, 77, an end and placekicker on Tennessee's 1951 national championship squad.

Former Notre Dame player Dewitt Patrick "Pat" Buell Jr. He was , 76.

Tom Catlin, a two-way star in the 1950s at the University of Oklahoma has died. He was 76.

Tyrone Jones, a linebacker at Southern University, was 46.

John Rauch, former Georgia quarterback was 80.

Former Marshall defensive end Johnathan Goddard died June 15, in northern Florida.

Ambrose "Bud" Dudley, who founded the Liberty Bowl football game in 1959 and oversaw the game for decades, has died. He was 88.

Compiled by Tex Noel (1st-N-Goal)/Editor, The College Football Historian

In early college football, games were scheduled and often times, canceled for any number of reasons.

While gathering information for Stars of an Earlier Autumn, a number of schools were gracious in sending pictures, stats, scores.

One school, Centre College located in Danville, KY, sent a copy of its all-time scores and within a number of seasons, footnotes were added to games and scores—some were really unusual and since they were
apart of this school's history, I thought the reasons would be interesting and worth mention in The College Football Historian.

Each reason will be written exactly how it appeared with the scores.

- **1880**—(vs Kentucky)...First game played in a cow pasture in Lexington where University of Kentucky’s Stoll Field was built. Second game in a cow pasture in Danville.*

- **1897**— Game with U of Virginia cancelled by Centre due to numerous injuries.

- **1900**—Game with U of Cincinnati cancelled after 15 minutes due to fighting.

- **1902**—Catlettsburg Ath. Club due to team disbanding (teams met in 1905 with Centre a 6-0 victor).

- **1903**—Team disbanded Oct. 20 because of accusations by other teams of playing “ringers”. New team formed for Georgetown Coll. Game (Centre winning, 6-0.)

- **1906**—Ringer of Kentucky U team 11/4 caused the game to be forfeited to Centre.

- **1913**—Game on Nov. 15 with the U. of the South was cancelled due to a train wreck which prevented Centre’s train from arriving.

- **1919**—Game with Maryville (Tenn.) Coll. Cancelled due to numerous injuries to Maryville team.

- **1931**—Game at S. Carolina was added as a charity event. One thousand dollars was raised for the Red Cross Family Welfare Fund.

A special thanks to Mike Prichard, Centre’s SID for granting permission to use this information.

Should you come-up with anything off the wall as it relates to college football...IFRA WANTS IT!