Age is just one more number for U.Va. stat trackers

By Ed Miller
The Virginian-Pilot [used by permission]
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If you think modern hurry-up offenses are a pain for defensive coordinators, consider the trouble they cause for Paul Wisman, who has been keeping stats at Virginia games since 1956.

"You write down one play and the next one's halfway through," Wisman said last week.

Make no mistake, Wisman, 88, more than keeps up. He keeps everyone honest, an analog cross-checker in a digital age.

So does his colleague, Dr. John Risher. At 104, Risher does not take a backseat to many in matters of seniority. He saw his first Virginia game in 1920 and played for the Cavaliers during the 1931 season, making him the school's oldest football alumnus.

With "only" 51 seasons under his belt, however, he's not the senior man on the crew.

"Paul's the workhorse," Risher said. "He puts all the data together."
Wisman began keeping stats at VMI games in 1950 while teaching economics at the school. He came to Virginia for graduate school and hooked on with the stats crew in '56.

He's missed one home game since: the 2011 season opener.

"I was sick," he said.

He has by his own admission slowed a little since. In April 2013, Wisman suffered a stroke that affected his balance. Before last Saturday's season opener, he said he was going to see if he was up for another season. As usual, things went off without a hitch.

Wisman mans an NCAA "long sheet," which he fills out by hand. He writes the result of each play and compiles individual and team offensive stats on the fly.

"I never thought I'd do it this long," he said. "I always thought my son would take over, but he's a pediatrician, so he doesn't make all the games."

Risher, who like Wisman lives in Lynchburg, was an ear, nose and throat specialist with his own practice. One day in the late 1950s, Wisman came in with a sinus condition. Risher, a Virginia season-ticket holder since 1950, discovered that Wisman worked on the stats crew. He pestered him until Wisman finally brought him along.

Risher helps maintain the drive chart, tracking punt distances and charting the line of scrimmage.

"I don't do very much," he said. "They could do away with me, but I enjoy it. I try not to get in the way, and they tolerate me."

Risher played nine holes of golf on his 100th birthday and cut his lawn until last year. Friends often take him to the games, but when they can't, he drives himself.

"I don't have any trouble driving," he said. "I see great. And (Route) 29 doesn't have much truck traffic."

A widower, Risher attributes his longevity to "good doctors and looking at good-looking women." There are 24 steps from the front door of his home to the curb, he said. When he can no longer negotiate them, he'll move. He doesn't anticipate that happening anytime soon.

"I don't know why I'm still here," he said. "But I'm enjoying it, and I'm in good health."

Wisman's grandson drives him to games. Vince Briedis, who is in charge of stats as Virginia's assistant sports information director, said both men are
welcome contributors to the Saturday crew - and welcome to continue as long as they want.

Computers can crash, he said. Someone can hit the wrong key and enter bad information. So Wisman and Risher provide an important safety net.

"It's not a token thing that they're working here; they're very valuable to our operation," he said. "If they say otherwise, it's their humility."

Ed Miller, 757-446-2372, ed.miller@pilotonline.com. He covers the Cavaliers’ for the paper.

“Who is John Carroll?” Syracuse Finds Out in 1950

By Timothy L. Hudak

Sports Heritage Specialty Publications

When the football game between John Carroll University and Syracuse University was first announced in April of 1950, there were more than a few in Syracuse, N.Y., who wanted to know “Who is John Carroll?” When the final seconds had ticked off the game clock on Friday evening, November 10, of that year those same people were probably wishing that they had never heard of “him”.

John Carroll University is a small Jesuit University located in University Heights, Ohio, a suburb to the east of Cleveland with a population that struggles to exceed 10,000. The Blue Streaks have been playing football since 1920. Their schedule traditionally consisted of smaller schools in and around Ohio. Carroll had played, and defeated, Duquesne on one occasion, but this was in the early 1920s before that school had become a national football power. They had also played Villanova a couple of times early in the tenure of Rockne alum Harry Stuhldreher, losing both games. That was about the extent of Carroll’s “big time” football experience.

The Blue Streaks had never won more than seven games in any one season. From 1935-1942 they enjoyed only three winning campaigns and the school, like many others, dropped the sport during the war years of 1943-1945. When Carroll resumed football in ’46 it finished with a 1-7 mark.

For the 1947 season John Carroll hired Herb Eisele as its football coach and Athletic Director, and things immediately picked up. Eisele had been schooled in the Notre Dame box formation offense during his collegiate days at the
University of Dayton. He had employed this system during much of his very successful high school coaching career in Cleveland, but had switched to the more modern T-formation in 1943. The results were immediate and dramatic as his teams at Cathedral Latin School won five consecutive Cleveland championships (1943-1947) and three consecutive Ohio high school state titles (1944-1946). When he left Latin after 19 seasons and started at Carroll he brought the T-formation with him.

That first season at Carroll, Eisele’s team went 6-3, definitely an improvement over the 1-7 of the previous year. The next two years the Blue Streaks finished with records of 7-1-2 and 6-3.

Besides striving to win games, Herb was always looking for a way to put his team on to the national football map, and when the opportunity came to play Syracuse during the 1950 season he jumped at it. The Orange was not a premiere national eleven, but as the Plain Dealer’s Gordon Cobledick put it, “In Syracuse they will meet a ‘name opponent’. Not a member of the first rank nationally, but one of the strong eastern teams ...”

Like John Carroll, Syracuse football was also in something of a transition. The Orange had dropped football for just a single year during the war, 1943, but since then the team had not provided its fans with a great many victories. In 1949 the school hired Floyd Schwartzwalder, more commonly known as “Ben”, as its football coach. It was a hiring move that would shortly take Syracuse to the highest reaches of college football.

*          *          *

Source: Outing, 1909

The View-Point On the forward pass

By Glenn S. Warner

The rules, allowing forward passing, putting every one onside when a punted ball strikes the ground and making it necessary to gain ten yards in three downs, have now been in operation three years and there can be no doubt but that the game has been greatly improved.

However, there is one great fault with the rules as they now stand, and this is that they are altogether too complicated. There are so many technical points involved in construing and applying the rules, so many lines to be marked
upon the field of play and so many competent officials needed to enforce the rules, that a severe hardship is imposed upon school and smaller college teams.

Innumerable disputes arise which cause a great deal of dissatisfaction and often hard feeling over the results of many games.

The forward pass has so many restrictions placed upon the execution of it that it is a dangerous play to use. These should be removed or the play prohibited altogether. If the restrictions were removed there would be a preponderance of passing and little punting, and it is probable that if the forward pass was prohibited beyond the line of scrimmage and the players of the offensive team were allowed to secure kicked balls before they touched the ground instead of having to wait, as they do now, for the ball to touch the ground or another player, a much better game would result and one in which accurate and distance punting would be at a great premium.

The game would retain all of its open features, and it would still be football without so much of a basket ball appearance.

The rules prohibiting forward passes and the first man to receive the ball from the snapper-back from crossing the scrimmage line within five yards of the center should by all means be revoked, as it is hard to see what useful purpose they accomplish.

Then, too, it is these rules which make it necessary that the field be marked length-wise with lines five yards apart, and which cause so many disputes and differences of opinion and which put so much responsibility and work upon the officials.

The rules should be such that three officials could run the game satisfactorily.

The referee should be the only official standing within the field of play and he should have sole charge of enforcing all the rules, being assisted by a linesman who, in addition to his duties as now outlined in the rules, should be authorized to report any infraction of the rules which he sees to the referee. An assistant linesman should be stationed upon the opposite side of the field and, besides marking where the ball or the man carrying it goes out of bounds, watch for and report to the referee any violations of the rules.

The rules could easily be put in such shape that these three men could handle the games much more satisfactorily and with much less bickering than the four officials do under the rules as they now stand. This would simplify and benefit the game greatly.
While a great many different suggestions have been made and will continue to be made in regard to how the rules should be changed, there seems to be an almost unanimous opinion prevailing among those most interested in the game, that the Rules Committee should at least put forth every effort to simplify them so that players can more readily learn them, spectators better understand the game, and also to enable the officials to render better and more satisfactory service.

It is a difficult matter to determine satisfactorily the standing of the teams, and it is probable that very few critics will place them in the same order. In placing the teams in the order of their strength, as will be attempted in this review of the season, the form shown throughout their schedule will be taken into consideration, but more importance will be placed upon the results of the final games and the judgment of the writer will be based, not only upon personal observation, but upon the accounts and criticisms of the various games and teams in the public press, and upon opinions and views expressed in conversation and correspondence with coaches and officials, many of whom differ greatly in their estimates of the ability of the different teams and player.

* * *

○ *American Golfer, 1921*

*Ready For the Spring Drive*  *Use of the Pass*

*By Grantland Rice*

GEORGIA TECH had the greatest football eleven in the South last season with the possible exception of V. M. I., but it remained for Centre College against Harvard to show the rare value of the forward pass when properly worked, and just what spring practice might do.

In the Harvard game Centre came with a very weak line and with an attack built around the pass. The running game would never have gotten very far working back of the wavering line that was no match for the more experienced Crimson forwards.

After Harvard had scored by a quick march down the field, Centre started her passing game. By using it first as a direct assault and then as a threat the Kentucky eleven carried the ball for one hundred and seventy-six yards, netting two touchdowns, before Harvard had a chance to recapture the oval.

On one play McMillan stood near his own goal line and pegged a long, accurate pass to one of Centre’s fleet backs, who took the ball over his left shoulder with his back to the passer and raced the rest of the way for a touchdown. This proved well enough what fast, accurate, passing and good receiving can
accomplish. But this calls for extended training that cannot be picked up in the fall.

Tech with a far stronger line and a great running backfield would have been the greatest scoring machine in the country with the same skill shown in working the pass that she had in other directions.

*   *   *

Source: Sporting Life, 1895

MORE FOOTBALL TROUBLE Yale Reported to be Unwilling to Play Harvard Next Fall

It is learned that Captain "Brink" Thorne, of the Yale Foot Ball team has stated that Yale will not play the Harvard eleven next fall only on certain conditions. These conditions are of a most extraordinary nature. In a few words they stipulate that someone of authority in the Harvard Athletic Committee must make amends to the Yale players for the disagreeable things that were said about Captain Hinkey and some of his men after last fall’s game at Springfield.

Yale's captain goes so far as to say that the Harvard coaches must practically make a public apology to ex-Captain Hinkey and to Yale for their criticisms.

This remarkable demand by the Yale captain was made in reply to correspondence from Captain Arthur Brewer, of Harvard, relating to a game for next fall.

Immediately after the Harvard faculty finally decided, about ten days ago, not to interfere with intercollegiate foot ball this year Captain Brewer wrote to New Haven, seeking a conference with Captain Thorne in regard to next November's game. For some reason they have as yet been unable to meet, but come letters have passed between them.

In these letters Captain Thorne has asserted that before he can consider any arrangements for next fall there must be an apology made to Captain Hinkey and his players. (These two teams did not meet for the next two seasons.)

*   *   *

IFRA Remembers

- Derek Moore, an assistant coach at Missouri Southern State University; he was 37.

➢ Obituaries
- Sergeant 1st Class and former Houston Cougars football player Sam Hairston was killed while serving in the US Army in Afghanistan. He was 35.

- David "Palatka Red" Daniels, Florida A&M, lineman.

- Jason Bitsko, Kent State; he was 21.

- Marqyese Meadow, Morgan State University in Maryland. He was 18.

(Curtsey of NFF): Former Iowa State running back Hiawatha Rutland; he was 33... Homer Jacobs, the editor of Texas A&M’s 12th Man magazine; he 49... Augsburg College (Minn.) football coach and player Edor Nelson; he was 100... Former Oregon State football player Edward Diaz, he was 70...

Former Nebraska quarterback Fran Nagle, he was 90... Former Georgia Southern All-American John Pauley, he was 77... Former Alabama defensive lineman Ozell Powell, he was 40... Former Missouri Southern football player and assistant coach Johnny Berry passed away... Southern Arkansas football player Brandon Hobdy; he was 23

- Randy Hippeard, (UVa-Wise). By the time his career concluded, Hippeard held a combined 24 single-season and career school records, 23 of which still stand. His 11,640 career passing yards are the fourth most by any player in the history of the NAIA and in 2008 Hippeard spearheaded a passing attack that led the NAIA in passing yards per game at 346.5.

- Ra'Shad Morgan (UVa-Wise). finished his career with 4,432 rushing yards, 62 rushing touchdowns, 990 receiving yards, and three receiving touchdowns. His 1,657 rushing yards in 2006 led the NAIA and his 174 points as a senior landed him the NAIA scoring title. He was a two-time All-Mid-South honoree, the 2006 Mid-South Conference Player of the Year, a two-time AFCA All-American, while also becoming the first Cavalier to ever earn the Dudley Award which is awarded annually to the state’s top small-college football player.

(Curtsey of NFF): Former football player Trung Canidate and head coach Dick Tomey have been elected to the Arizona Sports Hall of Fame... Former quarterback Francis Wai was elected to the UCLA Athletics Hall of Fame... Former football player Adrain Hardy, Ed Moses and Ed Orgeron were elected to Northwestern State’s Graduate N Club Hall of Fame
From within the membership

-Daniel Elsass serves as Officer in Charge of Commander Navy Forces Europe detachment Maritime Ashore Support Team (CNE DET MAST) in the United States Navy. Daniel began his naval career in 1986 as an enlisted person in the rank of Seaman Recruit and was promoted up the enlisted ranks to Electronics Technician (Submarines) Chief Petty Officer in 1998. In 1999, he was selected to become a Naval Officer and was promoted to the rank of Ensign and was recently promoted to the rank of Commander.

-Joshua Jackson has been named play-by-play broadcaster for Florida A&M University.

Honored

-Florida Atlantic University has named its football stadium after former coach Howard Schnellenberger.

-Former LSU quarterback is being honor by the Marshall (Texas) school board. The board voted unanimously to name its high school football field house in honor of hometown sports legend and Pro Football Hall of Famer Y.A. Tittle.

-Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Commissioner Dr. Kevin T. McGinniss announced former University of Delaware Director of Athletics Edgar Johnson and former Fordham University Director of Athletics Frank McLaughlin as the recipients of the 2014 James Lynah Award for Distinguished Achievement.

-Former University of Texas Sports Information Director Bill Little has been honored with the pressboxes at the school being named in his honor.

* * *

Sporting Life, 1915...Foot Ball Players Get Rewards

WOULD you call—the men who played in the Iowa University and Northwestern game professionals because many of them played for something besides, their expenses. Prior to the game, Iowa City merchants got together a list; of rewards, for the players who made star plays during the game and nobody prevented the students from taking the prizes. Here are some of the things offered the players of the Iowa team: Fall suits, gloves, hats, scarfs, (sic) gold cuff links, shoes, free tonsorial work for the balance of the school term, season tickets to the leading theaters, etc.
WHY NOT A CHAMP?

Long before the advent of the formal Associated Press rankings in 1936, the writer, frustrated with the annual speculation over which team was the best in the country, put forth a proposed method for naming a national champion of college football. And it did NOT include a playoff system.)

New York - The echoes of the football season have not yet died out. Fact is, the echo is even at this date as loud, if not louder than the original noise. It is the season of squabbles, arguments, and boasts that is upon us.

The championship of the East is in dispute, the championship of the West is undecided, the championship of the South is being determined by debate, and the championship of the country is contradicted. And the season of 1911 is over.

Both the Navy and Princeton have sound claims for the supremacy of the country, but since those two teams fought to a tie in the early season, neither can claim superiority over the other.

There should be some way of determining the champion. It could be done - there is no doubt about that. A central body could be created, made up of representatives of, say, eleven of the most prominent universities in the country. These experts could gather together about December 1 of each year, consider the claims of each of the teams, and by vote come to a conclusion and designate the champion of the year, giving to the winner some cup or banner, for possession during the year, emblematic of the championship. The name of the triumphant institution could be engraved upon the cup or embroidered upon the banner, whichever it might be.

There are plenty of football enthusiasts willing to donate such a trophy or contribute to it.

As to the championship board - it could be composed in part, at least, of the members of the present rules committee. The institutions represented should
include Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Dartmouth, Cornell, Pennsylvania, Army, Navy, Chicago, Michigan, and three or four others.

The membership should be an odd number. In the event there were several rightful claimants to the title, the question should be decided by an elimination vote. The three leaders on the first ballot would be candidates on the second. Then it would narrow down to two, and the odd number would compel a majority of at least one. In this way there would be no danger of the committee not being able to select a champion.

The chief objection to such a plan would be that some colleges, or several of them, would be dissatisfied and might even rebel and leave the “national conference”, or whatever it might be called.

But there is no reason why this should occur. The colleges - every one of them - abide by the decisions of the rules committee in regard to changes in the playing code.

Why shouldn’t they abide by the decision of a national conference in regard to the championship?

* * *

**Bo Carter Presents College Football Hall of Famers...date of birth and death**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Born</th>
<th>City, State</th>
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</thead>
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6 (1879) Gordon Brown, New York City
6 (1890) Bill Sprackling, Cleveland, Ohio
6 (1901) George Wilson, Everett, Wash.
6 (d – 1972) Charlie Berry, Evanston, Ill.
6 (d – 1992) Pat Harder, Waukesha, Wis.

7 (1883) Bob Maxwell, Chicago, Ill.
7 (1902) Mort Kaer, Omaha, Neb.
7 (1923) Emil “Red” Sitko, Ft. Wayne, Ind.
7 (d – 1982) Thad “Pie” Vann, Jackson, Miss.
7 (d – 1985) Bruiser Kinard, Jackson, Miss.
8 (1904) Bud Sprague, Dallas, Texas
8 (1915) Duffy Daugherty, Emeigh, Pa.
8 (1952) Anthony Davis, San Fernando, Calif.
8 (d – 1935) Ted Coy, New York, N.Y.
9 (1878) Willie Heston, Galesburg, Ill.
9 (1908) Bill Murray, Rocky Mount, N.C.
9 (1941) Pat Richter, Madison, Wis.
9 (1944) Jim Grabowski, Chicago, Ill.
9 (1949) Joe Theismann, New Brunswick, N.J.
10 (1902) Jim Crowley, Chicago, Ill.
10 (1936) Ron Harms, Houston, Texas

10 (1940) Buck Buchanan, Gainesville, Ala.
10 (d – 1952) Jonas Ingram, San Diego, Calif.
11 (1908) Biggie Munn, Grow Township, Minn.
11 (1913) Paul Bryant, Moro Bottom, Ark.
11 (d – 1973) Belford West, Cooperstown, N.Y.
12 (1964) Lynn Thomsen, Sioux City, Iowa
12 (d – 1951) Frank Murray, Milwaukee, Wis.
12 (d – 1975) Joe Alexander, New York City
13 (1898) Glenn Killinger, Harrisburg, Pa.
13 (1904) Joe Aillet, New York City
13 (1906) Chuck Carroll, Seattle, Wash.
13 (1915) Clint Frank, St. Louis, Mo.
13 (1922) Ziggy Czarobski, Chicago, Ill.
14 (1907) John Baker, Denison, Iowa
14 (1934) Dicky Maegle, Taylor, Texas
15 (1887) John McGovern, Arlington, Minn.
15 (1894) Charles “Chic” Harley, Chicago
15 (1924) Jack Green, Kent, Ind.
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<td>Merlin Olsen</td>
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<td>Dan Marino</td>
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<td>Will Shields</td>
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<td>Wilbert Montgomery</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>Jim Holder</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>Louis Salmon</td>
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Sporting Life, 1915...Deaf Man on Foot Ball Field?

We have had major league ball players who have been afflicted with deafness, and athletes in other lines suffering in the same way, but a foot ball player who cannot hear is a distinct novelty. This sport, which demands a keen ear as well as a sharp eye, now has in its ranks a deaf man. He is Williams, of the Ohio State University, of Columbus, O. Williams has been deaf all his life, yet it was never a bar to his foot ball and base ball play at preparatory school, and now he is determined that it will not keep him from college foot ball. He has an unusual amount of ability in foot ball, being fleet and strong. Whether his defect will spoil his chances of being a 'varsity star remains to be seen.

College Football Rivalries...and the National Championship

By Tex Noel/Executive Director IFRA

RIVAL on the LEFT won FIRST NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP...while the one on the RIGHT won MORE TITLES

- Minnesota (4)-Ohio State (7)
- LSU (3)-Alabama (8)
- Auburn (2)-Alabama (8)
- Michigan (2)-Michigan State (3)
- Tennessee (2)-Alabama (8)
- Georgia (1)-Florida (3)
- Ole Miss (1)-Alabama (8)
- UCLA (1)-USC (7)
- TCU (1)-Texas (4)
- Texas A&M (1)-Texas (4)

**RIVAL WINNING MORE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- Notre Dame (9)-USC (7)
- Notre Dame (9)-Miami FL (5)
- Notre Dame (9)-Army (2)
- Oklahoma (7)-Nebraska (5)
- Oklahoma (7)-Texas (4)
- Oklahoma (7)-Colorado (1)
- Ohio State (7)-Michigan (2)
- Ohio State (7)-Michigan State (2)
- USC (7)-Washington (1)
- Nebraska (5)-Colorado (1)
- Texas (4)-Arkansas (1)
- Michigan State (3)-Michigan (2)
- Tennessee (2)-Georgia (1)

**RIVALS TYING for NUMBER of TITLES WON**

- Florida State (3)-Florida (3)
- Pittsburgh (2)-Penn State (2)
- Georgia (1)-Georgia Tech (1)
- Maryland (1)-Clemson (1)

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.mongo Football Geography.com

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❖ The UnderDawgs.com—CSD football

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❖ Blog on College Football http://www.tuxedo-press.com/

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❖ College Football Universe http://www.collegefootballuniverseblog.com

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❖ Ehbcsports—Edd Hayes Black College Sports History & Legends

*Edd Hayes*
www.ehbcsports.com

Lighting-up the Scoreboard (College Football Scoring StatHistories)
https://texnoel.wordpress.com/