

GRIDIRON NOSTALGIA Army 1945

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Blanchard, Davis Again Lead Rout

WEST POINT, Oct. 20—(AP)—Paced by its touchdown twins—Glenn Davis and Felix (Doc) Blanchard—Army's mighty football team got going after a slow start today and ran all over the previously unbeaten Melville (R. I.) Motor Torpedo Boat Training Center to defeat the Night Raiders, 55 to 13.

Davis and Blanchard each scored three touchdowns, Davis accounting for his on runs of 41, 77 and 25 yards, while Blanchard ploughed over twice from the one and sprinted 25 yards for the other. Tom (Shorty) McWilliams, former Mississippi State star, scored once and End Clyde Grimenstein, on a pass from Bill Gustafson, tallied the other Cadet touchdown.



Blanchard and Davis Top Balloting of 163 Experts

By HUGO G. AUTZ

There was little question in the minds of 163 leading sports writers and sportscasters about the two outstanding football players of 1945, for never in the history of THE SPORTING NEWS All-America selections have two men dominated the balloting as did burly Felix (Doc) Blanchard and speedy Glenn (Junior) Davis of the U. S. Military Academy's unbeaten and untied eleven this year.

At the same time, so evenly matched were three candidates for the other two ball-carrying positions that THE SPORTING NEWS for the first time found it necessary to name a five-man backfield.

While Blanchard and Davis were elected virtually unanimously by those who picked complete teams without reservations. Harry Gilmer, Alabama's sensational passing and running whiz; Bob Fenimore, Oklahoma A. & M's Bowl ticket, and Herman Wedemeyer, St. Mary's hula-hula honey, battled neck-and-neck to the finish and ended only three votes apart.

Since all other nominations were far out of the running almost from the start. THE SPORTING NEWS placed all five men on its backfield, to avoid any injustice. Whereas Blanchard received a total of 142 votes to

Touchdown Twins Roar

NEW YORK (AP)—Mighty Army, as advertised, has it again. With sheer power and lightning speed, led by their All-American backfield sensations—Felix Blanchard and Glenn Davis—the Cadets ground out an impressive 28 to 7 victory over Michigan's outmanned Wolverines in Yankee stadium Saturday before a throng of 70,000 shivering spectators.

Army, scoreless for the first 20 minutes of play, powered 68 yards in a second period drive spearheaded by Davis it sent Tom (Shorty) McWilliams swinging around the Wolverine right end from the five-yard line for the game's first touchdown.

After Michigan received the following kick-off and was forced to punt, Blanchard ripped through his own right tackle and easily outran End Leonard Ford to score on a 68-yard sprint. Former Michigan Freshman Dick Walterhouse booted both extra points and the Cadets led, 14-0, at halftime.

DAVIS SWUNG AROUND right end for 14 yards, McWilliams circled left for 15 more and Blanchard bulled his way through the middle from the Michigan one-yard line to put Army in front by 20-7 with only four seconds left in the third period. Just as in the first half, Army scored again the next time it got the ball.

A Michigan drive petered out on Army's 30 and on the first play Davis scampered around

Michigan's left end and went all the way—70 yards for the game's final touchdown. Walterhouse, making his placement

record perfect for the day converted for all four Army extra points.

With Davis and Blanchard running the show, Army had all the better of the statistics, making 16 first downs to Michigan's 11 and reeling off 380 yards rushing to the Wolverine's 143. Davis, in 19 carries, traveled a net 191 yards for an average of 10 yards a carry. Blanchard averaged 8.5 yards on 21 runs, netting 179 yards.

Blanchard, Davis Run Wild Against Middies

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Army's star-spangled array struck swiftly for three touchdowns in the opening period and defeated Navy, 32 to 13, as scheduled Saturday, but not without being given a genuine dogfight by the Middies in the final gruelling 45 minutes of their annual football struggle.

The difference in the final analysis—that which gave the golden-helmeted Cadets their 18th straight victory and their second national football championship — was the ripping, tearing running of those two great All-America backs, Glenn Davis and Felix (Doc) Blanchard.

BLANCHARD REELED off three three touchdowns and Davis the other two through a furiously-fighting Navy defense that, for surprisingly long periods, checked and hamstringed what has been called one of the greatest attacks in gridiron history.

Army chose to receive the kick-off and Arnold Tucker, the Soldiers' ailing quarterback, who had been in bed with the flu since Tuesday and didn't feel so good—he said—ran the kick back to Army's 44. From there, in exactly seven plays, Army's great team drove to a touchdown.

The Cadets scored in seven plays. Tucker, the invalid, ripped for 13, and Davis, on a lateral from Tucker, picked up 19. Finally, with the ball on the one-yard mark, Blanchard plummeted over.

NOT MUCH later, but after Navy had run for a couple of first downs, the boys from the plains struck again. This time they started from Navy's 42. On the first play Tucker banged through the Navy center for 25, and on the next play Blanchard broke away and ran 17 yards for the score.

Davis then decided to take a



Glenn Davis

hand. With the ball on Navy's 49-yard line, little Scatterfoot took off around the Middies' right end, stopped abruptly at the sideline, and sprinted for a score.

WITH ONLY 15 seconds remaining in the second period, and with the ball on Navy's 38, Bruce Smith, the Miami, Fla., boy, fell 'way back and threw a pass in the general direction of Clyde Scott, the Smack-over, Arl., product.

Scott gathered it in on Army's 35 yard line, and lit out for the goal line, with Davis in Pursuit. and just made it. Jack Currence kicked the point to make it Army 20-7.

Early in the third period Blanchard intercepted a short pass by Smith and barged 45 yards to Army's fourth score.

MIGHTY ARMY ROLLS OVER NOTRE DAME

Davis, Blanchard Spark Cadet Win

BY GAYLE TALBOT

NEW YORK, Nov. 10—(AP)—Army's atomic twins, Glenn Davis and Felix (Doc) Blanchard, ran wild for five touchdowns between them as the Cadets' great eleven overpowered Notre Dame, 48 to 0, for its 16th consecutive victory today.

It was the first time in their gridiron rivalry that Army won two straight games from the Fighting Irish. The score might have mounted higher than last year's 59-0 had not both Blanchard and Davis been yanked midway of the third period and the second and third cadet teams been permitted to play out the contest.

Davis, wing-footed halfback of the Cadets, reeled off three touchdowns on beautiful runs and Blanchard, pile-driving fullback, bounced across for a pair before Coach Earl Blaik decided the throng of 76,000 had seen enough of his twin beauties.

The Cadets, as usual, chilled their adversaries right at the start, and left no doubt in anyone's mind that they were the bosses. On the second play from scrimmage after they had recovered a fumble deep in Irish ground, Davis broke to his left, cut back and raced 26 yards for his first score.

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DICK WALTERHOUSE place-kicked the first of his six extra points, and Notre Dame headed for its first defeat since the Cadets turned the trick a year ago. Davis scored another early in the second period climaxing a grinding drive of 74 yards, and Blanchard soon after plowed across from the one after the Cadets had gone 53 yards.

Davis made it 22-0 with a spectacular 21-yard run early in the third quarter, and the big, bruising Blanchard intercepted a pass by George Ratterman two minutes later before blurring 36 yards for another score. From there on the two terrors watched the game from under their fur-collared great coats while their less talented teammates played out the string.

Mighty Cadet Eleven Bumps Duke, 48-13

NEW YORK (AP) — Army's ponderous, prime movers flattened a valiant but over-matched Duke team, 48 to 13, at the Polo grounds Saturday for their 14th consecutive football victory and but for the kindness in Coach Earl Blaik's heart the score might have run ridiculously high.

On the Cadets' first play from scrimmage Tom McWilliams broke smack through the Blue Devil's line and bulldozed his way 54 yards to a touchdown and from that point on it was only a question of how tall a score the Army invincibles wanted to run up.

THE PEERLESS Doc Blanchard counted twice, once on a 54-yard pass play from Davis and a gain on a 36-yard run in which he simply bulled his way through a mess of tacklers and then lit for the goal.

Cadets Awe 73,000 by Terrific Power; Blanchard, Davis Star

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 17—(AP)—Army's incredible team just about clinched its claim to gridiron immortality by overwhelming a supposedly strong University of Pennsylvania eleven, 61 to 0, before an awed crowd of 73,000 at Franklin Field today.

BLANCHARD AND DAVIS were, as usual, superb. For the third time against a major opponent this year Davis figured in an Army

Davis, Fenimore Set Pace For Nation's Best Backs

DALLAS, Nov. 1.—(AP)—The California Comet—Glenn Davis of mighty Army—is travelling at the most meteoric pigskin packing pace in modern football history.

National Collegiate athletic bureau statistics through games of October 20, released Thursday by Director Homer F. Cooke jr., who is at Camp Swift, Texas, show Davis has netted 606 yards in four contests although carrying the ball only 42 times, which is an average of 14.4 yards per effort. That betters the all-time record set last year by Davis with 11.5 per try when he made 667 yards on 58 rushes.

Bob Fenimore, blond bullet of Oklahoma A&M, is close on Davis' heels in yardage with .603 but he has carried 69 times. Fenimore, however, still holds the year's best single-game rushing mark—241 against Arkansas. Davis' high thus far is 230 on 11 trips through Melville PT Boat.

St. Mary's Back Tops

Herman Wedemeyer of St. Mary's and Fenimore continue to dominate the total-offense rankings. The former's combined rushing and passing has piled up 1,010 yards on 116 plays in five games, to the Aggie Bomber's accumulation of 900 on 104 plays in four contests.

Glenn Davis Star in Rout

WEST POINT, N. Y. — (UP)—Army's brilliant Glenn Davis sparked the National Champion Cadets to a 32 to 0 triumph over Louisville Personnel Distribution Command as they opened the 1945 season before 9,000 at Michie Field.

The all-America left halfback not only counted two touchdowns and passed to another, but his 86-yard sprint in the waning seconds of the first quarter broke up a staunchly-contested struggle.

Late in the second period, Davis accepted a 23-yard pass from Quarterback Dick Walterhouse and ran 25 more for the score which made it 19-0 at the half.

score on the second play from scrimmage when he raced 27 yards around right end for a touchdown after only 2.28 minutes of play. Each of the Cadets' all-American twins had scored 16 touchdowns during the season.

Davis on Long Jaunts.

Davis piled it on with a dazzling forty-two-yard jaunt through tackle and then in the third quarter was on the scoring end of a seventy-three-yard pass play. He took a thirty-six-yard toss from Arnold Tucker and went thirty-seven yards to pay dirt. Blanchard matched those two touchdowns, scampering thirty-two yards for one tally and crashing over from the 1 for the second in capping an eighty-two-yard drive.

Army Subdues Villanova, 54-0

Dream Team Runs Like Well-Oiled Robot as War Secretary Looks On

WEST POINT, N. Y. (INS) — Army's dream eleven operated like a well-drilled robot Saturday as it drubbed Villanova 54 to 0 for its 15th consecutive victory. A throng of 12,000, including Secretary of War Patterson, witnessed the contest.

BLANCHARD and Davis did their scoring early, then left matters up to a bevy of capable Army reserves. On the second play following the opening kickoff, Davis tossed to Blanchard for a 61-yard scoring operation. The next time Army got the ball, Blanchard went 66 on an end run for his 11th touchdown of the year.

Then it was Davis' turn, and Glenn responded with two touchdowns of his own.