

## Sideline Chatter



"I was recently reading a CFHS article entitled 'Colored Helmets', and it reminded me of a postscript to the story. In 1961, Navy quarterback Ron Klemic was having problems picking up his wide receivers on pass plays, so Navy athletic director Asbury (Red) Coward suggested to coach Wayne Hardin that he consider painting the helmets of the receivers a fluorescent red, as the Navy did with practice dummy torpedoes for ease of retrieval. Hardin dismissed the idea. When preparations began for the Army-Navy game, Hardin again fretted that Klemic would have problems distinguishing his receivers between the gold helmets that each of the two teams used. Once again, Coward offered his idea, and this time Hardin bit. The helmets of the Navy receivers were painted a fluorescent red and they were dubbed 'Flaming Mamies.' The plan worked because Klemic's passes figured in every Navy score en route to a 13-7 victory."

Jack Clary

Stow, Massachusetts

Copies of the new biography of Red Grange are available at a bargain price to CFHS members from author John Carroll. To obtain a copy, send a check or money order for \$21 (book rate) to:

John Carroll

3825 Holland Drive

Beaumont, Texas 77707

Society member Henry Bryan recently noted that he had compiled a list of ten (10) college football players who had played with significant and permanent physical disabilities. Some examples would include: Bill Fracher, Georgia Tech All-America, with one eye missing; Ellis Jones, Tulsa All-America, only one arm; and Kenny Walker, Nebraska All-America, totally deaf. Henry wonders if others can add to his list. Write to him at:

Henry Bryan

41 Ladue Terrace

St. Louis, Missouri 63124

Copies of the hardcover book on the evolution of football's rules, "Ivy Leaguers Invent Football", are still available from author and CFHS member James Whalen for the special price of \$19 (postpaid). Send check or money order to:

James Whalen

143 Wisteria Drive

Dayton, Ohio 45419

Society member Herb Tiedemann writes to tell us of the following new college football teams and other changes: the Haskell Indians returned in 1999 as they played four varsity and six J.V. games, and the school will compete at the NAIA level; Northeast Louisiana is now called Louisiana-Monroe; Southwestern Louisiana is now Louisiana-Lafayette; Clinch Valley College is now University of Virginia-Wise; two colleges beginning football will be Avila College, in Kansas City, in 2001, and Rockford College of Illinois in 2000; Boise State and Louisiana Tech will join the WAC in 2001; and St Mary's of Leavenworth, Kansas will start varsity football in 2000.

Herb Tiedemann

1358 Ivy Way

Manteca, Cal. 95336

Author/historian Bob Gill of the Professional Football Researchers Association (PFRA) has self-published a new book entitled "It's In Their Blood", which consists of 53 biographical sketches of prominent Oregon football coaches, including Hugo Bezdek, Len Casanova, Tommy Prothro, Lon Stiner, and Roy Thompson. To obtain a copy, send check or money order for \$19.95 to:

Extra Point Publishing P.M.B. 269 10824 SE Oak St. Milwaukie, Ore 97222

"The recent article on John Heisman stated that the 1916 Georgia Tech team won the mythical national championship. Do we believe that? Tech in 1916 had a tie with Washington & Lee, and no team from the South up to that time had ever been considered as the national contemporary consensus leading team I think if polls had existed in 1916 the top spot would have gone to Pitt."

Bob Kirlin

Spokane, Washington