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Program

The Star Spangled Banner

Oh say, can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilights last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say, does that tar-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave?

On the shore, dimly seen thro' the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty ost in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam
In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream;
'Tis the star-spangled banner: Oh, long may it wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.

Oh! thus be it ever when free men shall stand
Between their loved homes and wild war's desolation;
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto,—"In God is our trust!"
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.

-Francis Scott Key

Providence College vs. Rhode Island State

PROVIDENCE, R. I.

OCTOBER 22, 1941

Friars Away

Tonight marks the only home appearance of Providence College's famed Fighting Friars. In one of the most rigorous schedules ever devised for the wearers of the Black and White, the grid representatives of Providence travel to Manchester, to Worcester, to Springfield, to Buffalo, to Philadelphia, to Niagara Falls, and to Cincinatti in the course of their eight game schedule.

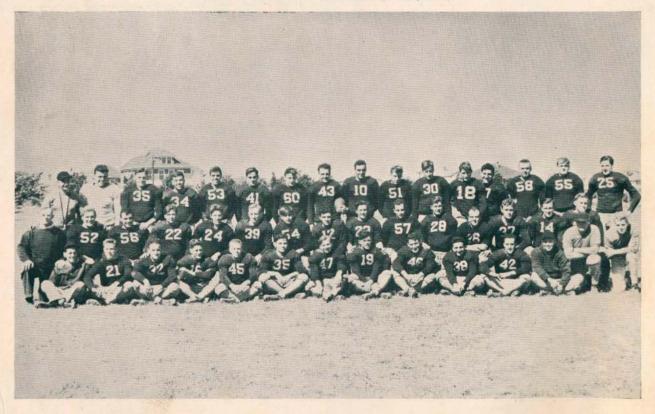
Beginning the season at Worcester on Oct. 4th, the Dominicans held the powerful Crusaders to a pair of touchdowns, and received much acclaim for keeping the score of the valiant purple to a mere 13 points.

The following week Providence shuffled off to Buffalo where they met the highly polished grid machine of Canisius College in the beautiful Civic Stadium. The Friar's running attack, sparked by Ed Haponik, worked beautifully. Despite a marked superiority in play, however, the Friars were matched in the scoring column by the Golden Griffans, and game ended in a tie, 12-12.

Last Friday night's game with St. Anselm at Manchester is still too fresh in your minds to need reviewing at this point. Suffice to say, the Hawks have always been one of the Friar's most noted rivals.

After tonight's game, the Black and White will have some semblance of a rest, for they are not scheduled to play again until Saturday, November 1st, when they trek to the City of Homes for their game with Springfield College. November 9th will see them in upper New York State again for their game with Niagara University. Following that contest, two long trips, closing the schedule, are in store for them as they journey to Philadelphia for their game on the 16th wih LaSalle, and then continue to Ohio for the Thanksgiving classic with Xavier.

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Minus

The Friars and Rams Tackle Each Other

by William G. Mokray

Providence College and Rhode Island State meet this evening amid new surroundings in the ninth renewal of their young but interesting football rivalry. In a way, this series had had a nomadic touch, for LaSalle Field happens to be the fourth gridiron upon which the teams have met in the last eight years.

The first time that the Friars and Rams ever engaged one another on a football field was just 10 years ago, with the scene at Brown Stadium and the entire proceeds going towards the Milk Fund of Depression 1. The teams were very evenly matched, with State's offence built around All-American Ken Goff and Providence's attack centering around Mickey Foster. The Friars managed to get the jump early, thereby accounting for their 6-0 triumph. Freshmen of both colleges played in that post season meeting.

Three years later, the colleges resumed athletic relations to extend their rivalry to basketball and baseball. The 1934 fall classic was originally scheduled for the Cycledrome, but, with the stands declared unsafe, the contest was switched to Brown Stadium again. Providence won again, 21-7.

The following years, the teams met upon a new scene, Hendricken Field, where All-American "Hank" Soar personally led Providence to a 13-0 triumph.

With the scene shifting again, this time to Cranston Stadium for the first of their annual noctural meetings, Rhode Island fared better. Coming up with a peculiar spread that is just as old as that T formation that seems to be the style today, Rhode Island amazed spectators, officials, and players alike. Hence, its 19-0 victory. The feat was duplicated the succeeding season, this time to the tune of 13-0.

In 1938, Providence saw the inception of a new regime under the direction of Hugh Devore. The Notre Dame system took fast and Providence rules once again, for the scores in these last three seasons have been 19-7, 6-0, and, last year, 25-0.

The scene tonight shifts once again, this time to LaSalle Field. Both Providence and Rhode Island have been coming along fast and in the absence of such luminaries as Barnini, Keaney, Avedisian, Abbruzzi and others, there are new names that may yet stand out in the history of this series for years to come.

The records of the teams are virtually alike. There are sprinklings of veterans, ex-substitutes and up and coming sophomores who have excelled in the early season games. The teams look evenly matched, and may the better one win!

Penalties

- Taking more than three times out during either half.
- 2. Illegal delay of game.
- Failure of substitute to report to umpire.
- 4. Violation of kick-off formation.
- Team not ready to play at scheduled time.
- 14. Illegal return of suspended or disqualified player.
- Failure to stop at least one second on shift play.
- 16. Forward pass by member of team which did not put ball in play.
- Forward pass touched by ineligible player.
- Striking, kneeing, or kicking opponent — half the distance to the goal and disqualification of offending player.
- 29. Foul within one yard line half the distance to the goal.
- 30. Interference by defensive team on forward pass first down for passing team at spot of foul.

LOSS OF FIVE YARDS

- Failure to maintain proper alignment of offensive team before ball is snapped. Also, backfield man illegally in motion.
- Offside by either team, or encroachment on neutral zone.
- 7. Attempt to draw opponents off-

LOSS OF FIFTEEN YARDS

- 18. Intentional grounding of forward pass.
- Interference by member of passing team with defensive player eligible for pass.
- Interference with fair catch or tackling player before ball is caught.
- Illegal use of hands and arms by offensive players.

OTHER PENALTIES

- Flagrant roughing of kicker—disqualification, plus fifteen yards.
- Flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct

 disqualification, plus fifteen
 vards.
- Forward pass touched by ineligible player on or behind line of scrimmage — loss of down.

- 8. Taking more than two steps with ball after signalling for fair catch.
- Illegal use of hands and arms by defensive players.
- 10. Flying block or flying tackle.
- 11. Running into kicker.
- 12. Crawling by the runner.
- Defensive player striking opponent above shoulders.
- 23. Roughing the kicker.
- 24. Piling up, hurdling, clipping.
- 25. Tackling player out of bounds.
- 26. Coaching from the sidelines.
- 27. Illegal interference with defense by passing team.
- Illegal touching of kicked ball inside opponent's 10 yard line touchback.
- 35. Refusal of either team to play within two minutes after having been ordered to do so by referee forfeiture of game.



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MONG



Offside and violation of kickoff rmation. (Penalty, 5 yards.)



Unsportsmanlike conduct. (Penalty – 15 yards.) For flagrant unsportsmanlike conduct – 15 yard penalty and disqualification.



necessary roughness, illegal defensive of the hands. (Penalty, 15 yards.)

Military salute also used for clipping, followed by striking the back of the knee with hand. (Penalty, 15 yards.) Signal also used for disqualification fouls and for running into or roughing the kicker. In the latter case, the military salute is followed by swinging the leg as though punting.



Crawling, pushing, or helping ball-carrier. (Penalty for helping ball-carrier, 15 yards; otherwise, 5 yards.)







Intentional grounding of forward pass. (Penalty – loss of down and 15 yard penalty from spot of preceding down.)











Interference with forward pass, pass touching ineligible player, or "kreening" pass receiver. (If penalty on offense, 15 yards and loss of down; interference by defense, ball to offense on spot of foul as first down.)





Illegal touching of kicked ball Inside ent's 10-yard line - touchback,

missed field goal or conver-both sides offside, etc.





Illegal forward pass.



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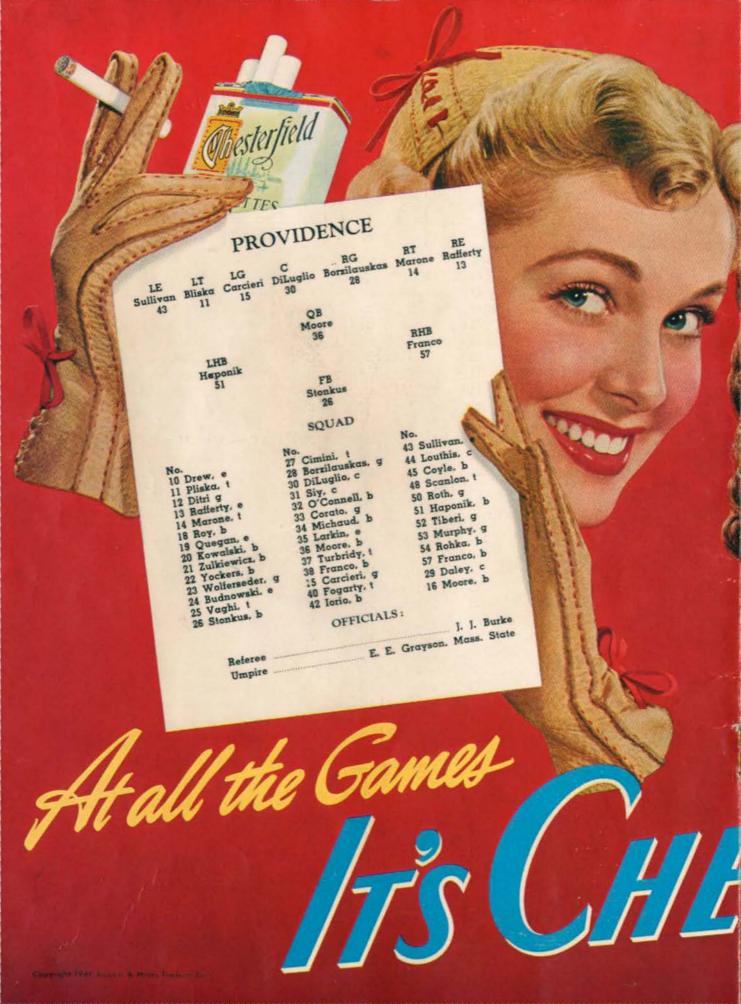
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Providence College Squad Statistics

1st Quarter 2nd Quarter 3rd Quarter 4th Qua	ter TOTA
	1
	TOWN
44 6-11/2 206 E LaSalle Acad., Prov	
43 6-1 195 T St. Bernard's Fitch	
43 5-8 176 G Bloomfield, Bloomfi	
43 5-11 190 E St. John's, Worceste	
42 5-11 199 T New Haven, New 1	ven, Conn.
42 5-9 170 G E. Greenwich, E. G	
43 5-10 185 HB Seton Hall Prep, Ea	
42 5-8 170 HB Windham, Hartford	Conn.
42 5-9 177 E Coyle, Taunton, Mc	3.
42 5-7 171 QB Adams, Adams, Mc	S
44 5-8 167 HB Ware, Ware, Mass.	
42 5-81/2 176 HB Irving School, Tena	y, N. J.
44 5-91/2 170 G LaSalle Acad., Prov	lence, R. I.
43 6-0 190 E Schuyler, Albany, I	Y.
43 6-11/2 185 T Danbury, Bethel, Co	n.
42 6-11/2 195 FB Stoughton, Stoughton	Mass.
43 6-0 200 T LaSalle Acad., Prov	lence, R. I.
43 5-9 185 G Crosby, Waterbury	Conn.
44 5-10 185 C Coyle, Denville, N.	
42 6-1 184 C Cranston, Cranston,	
44 5-81/2 170 C Schuyler, Albany,	
42 5-7 170 HB Burrillville, Pascoag	
44 5-7 190 G New Haven, New H	
44 5-10½ 200 FB Nashua, Nashua, N	
43 5-11 185 E LaSalle, Providence	-
43 5-11 165 QB Mt. Vernon, Mt. Ve	STATE OF THE PARTY.
44 6-1 195 T Fordham Prep, Nev	
42 5-7 170 QB Lincoln, Boundbrook	Maria Control Control Control
44 6-1 220 T LaSalle Acad., Harr	
10 FR III	
Zincom, jersey On	No. of the last of
10	
to a maphatin bayles	
40 F.11 200	
40 510	
Tuanton, Tuanton,	
44 5-7 190 G Central, Providence	
44 5-8 185 G Coyle, Taunton, Ma	
44 5-10 190 FB Danbury, Danbury,	
44 5-7½ 175 HB Brockton, Brockton,	





Rhode Island State Squad Statistics

	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	TOTAL
Touchdown					
Point after Touchdown					0.0
Goal from Field					
TOTAL					C VIII

NO	NAME	DOG	1877	****	* 00		
NO.	NAME	POS.	WT.	HT.	AGE	CLASS	HOME
10	Conti, George L.	RHB	152	5-8	23	1943	Newark, N. J.
11	Grupposo, Vincent F.	RHB	155	5-6	20	1944	Natick, Mass.
12	Merolla, Mitchell A.	RHB	170	5-6	21	1944	Providence
20	Holmberg, Carl W.	C	165	5-7	19	1944	Providence
22	Bertwell, Charles W.	QB	174	5-11	23	1943	E. Greenwich
23	McCabe, Robert V.	QB	182	5-10	21	1943	Waltham, Mass.
30	Dwyer, Donald M.	FB	153	5-9	20	1944	Cranston
31	Wilson, Richard S.	FB	170	5-11	22	1942	Chicopee Falls, Mass
34	Cure, Armand A.	FB	181	6-0	22	1944	New Bedford, Mass.
40	Bellino, Frank R.	LHB	150	5-6	20	1943	Providence
41	Fournier, Richard O.	LHB	174	5-10	21	1943	Woonsocket
42	Narducci, Ralph J.	LHB	157	5-7	19	1943	Providence
50	Blecharczyk, Walter J.	C	181	5-9	20	1943	New Bedford, Mass.
51	Allen, David	C	174	5-9	20	1944	Providence
54	Pierik, Michael G.	C	164	6-0	20	1943	Providence
60	Maher, Edmund D.	RG	182	5-8	23	1942	Providence
61	Dubee, Warren T.	LG	202	6-1	19	1943	Hughesdale
62	Del Gizzo, Ludovico	RG	181	5-10	20	1944	Providence
63	Conyers, Roy C.	LG	172	5-9	19	1944	Seekonk, Mass.
64	Morel, Oscar J.	RG	161	5-9	21	1943	Woonsocket
65	Bowen, B. Thomas	LG	150	5-8	19	1944	E. Providence
66	Bergesson, Charles H.	RG	183	5-11	22	1942	Woonsocket
67	Flynn, Maurice E.	LG	223	6-1	23	1942	Taunton, Mass.
70	Heditsian, Manoog T.	RT	183	5-9	19	1944	Providence
71	Wilcox, Norman O.	LT	181	5-8	22	1942	Providence
72	Magee, Robert J.	RT	185	5-8	19	1944	Newport
73	Carpenter, Albert A.	LT	190	6-0	21	1942	Slatersville
74	Flori, C. Arthur	RT	192	6-0	23	1943	Providence
75	Hanna, David L.	LT	186	5-9	20	1944	N. Scituate
76	Zweir, Francis X.	RT	172	6-0	19	1944	Jamestown
77	Siegelman Joseph	LT	191	6-1	24	1942	Pawtucket
78	Duffy, James J.	RT	198	6-0	20	1944	Bristol
79	Roberts, W. Franklin	LT	195	5-10	20	1943	
80	Panciera, Lawrence R.	RE	155	5-8	19	1944	Pawtucket
81	Hildebrand, George A.	LE	162	5-7	21	1944	Westerly
82	Strehlke, Albert L.	RE	155	5-8	19	1944	Warwick
83	Harvey, James H.	LE	163	6-3	20	2000	Edgewood
84	Smith, William L.	RE	165	5-8	20	1943	Westerly
85	Tanner, Robert A.	LE	171	6-2		1944	Pawtucket
86	Coates, Robert I.	RE	184		20	1943	Portland, Me.
87		LE		6-1	25	1943	Woburn, Mass.
0/	Mooshian, John G.	LE	151	5-10	21	1942	Cranston

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HUGH J. DEVORE



Leader of the Friars is Hugh J. Devore, head coach of the football squad. And he leads, not only in title, but also by reason of his ability, his knowledge of the game, and his all around interest in the sport.

The New Jersey native came to Providence via Fordham, where he was assistant Varsity coach following his graduation from Notre Dame in 1934. While at South Bend he was awarded three football monograms for his outstanding work at end.

This marks Coach Devore's fourth season as chief mentor of the Friars. Facing a difficult task when he came to Rhode Island's capital in installing the Notre Dame style of play and building up football spirit to the pitch existent in other college, the young tactitian has improved his club gradually over the course of the past few years until this fall he bids fair to have one of the best teams ever under his direction.

Devore is a hard worker. As such, he expects his players to be hard workers, also. And woe be to the gridder whom he finds taking it easy in the strenuous practice sessions. Running five laps around the field is apt to remind a player that it is easier to participate in all the sessions than to try to do a Paavo Nurmi and keep up with the practice, too.

Throughout the State the Dominican coach is known as one of the keenest students of the game. He spends hours in the athletic office with pencil and paper and chart working out a new offense, plotting a new defense, or polishing up a deceptive play. During the season, and during the spring practice sessions, he lives his job 24 hour a day,

working, eating, sleeping, and talking football.

The young coach commands the respect of the players and his fellow workers alike. A keen adherent of the code of sportsmanship, the Friars' mentor insists that his charges carry out their assignments blocking hard, tackling clean, and running fast. His assistant coaches, Ed Crotty and Joe Dulkie, are equally insistent that the players live up to the rules and regulations set down for them.

Right from the beginning of practice, down through to the last ball game on the schedule, Devore demands that the squad be sure of its fundamentals. Even as the season draws to a close, some time each day is spent on polishing up on good fundamental football. Fine points can come only when the basis of football rests on a good foundation, the coach believes.

This year Cach Devore has a particularly wearing schedule. There is much traveling to be done, for with the exception of tonight's game, all the other games are on the road. He must see to it that his players do not get overtired. He must be sure that train schedules mapped out are accurate. He must plan time for practice between trips. And he must frequently urge a gridder to brush up in math or catch up on his English, so that his studies are right up to par.

That he has been able to do all this and bring his team up to the peak you see here tonight is an unwritten tribute to the powers and prowess of this great leader. It means constant work, constant attention to detail. It speaks, louder than any words, of the inate ability of the Friar coach -- Hugh J. Devore.



BILL BECK

A Land-Grant Institution, founded in 1892, Rhode Island State College is marking the 50th year of its existence. It is located in Kingston, R. I., an attractive colonial town that was founded in 1700 as "Little Rest". The institution has, this fall, a registration of 1100, of which 789 are men. All home games are played at Meade Field, which has a seating capacity of 4000.

The 1941 season marks the first year that Frank W. Keaney hasn't directed the Rams' football fortunes since 1920, the year of his arrival at Kingston. After 21 colorful years in which he made the most of what little football talent came his way, the veteran director of athletics has voluntarily resigned to confine his duties to basketball and baseball and to direct the operations of the athletic department.

A logical successor to Keaney was William Mitchell Hawkins Beck, whose introduction to football came on the eventful day of October 12, 1917, up at Everett, Mass., high school, where Keaney

happened to be coach.

Beck well remembers that day. Columbus Day, to be exact, for there were no classes and practice was extremely long. The fact that Bill was only a sophomore, weighing less than 135 pounds soaking wet, made no difference to Keaney, who immediately ordered him to scrimmage. Bill tackled with amazing vigor. Each play brought from Keaney great praise. Everything was sweet, until—the next morning, much to Beck's discomfort.

On arising the next day, with the slightest move in any direction — even the mere move of a finger — Beck experienced excruciating pain. Displaying the lessons learned the previous afternoon, Bill tried hoisting himself in some ingenious way, only to give up in favor of another, another, and still another. Once up, he was himself again and all the cussing he had directed at that guy Keaney was forgotten.

Bill was a star in his own right at Everett. He played all the line positions and was rarely taken out. He also played second base, when the baseball season rolled around.

When Bill graduated in 1920, he followed Keaney down to State where he played every minute of an eight game schedule. He also played the keystone bag. In the middle of his sophomore year, Beck switched to Providence College, where he starred at football and baseball.

His greatest baseball bid for fame came on June 7, 1924, a 20-inning baseball game with Brown which probably still stands as the longest college game on record. With the interest of 5000 spectators watching every play intensely, Brown might have won in the 18th stanza, were it not for Bill. With two out and a man on third, Hoffman, the Bruin first baseman, sent a drive along the right field foul line, a blow that was a sure hit. Taking immediate judgment of the play, Bill 'grabbed the ball two inches off the turf and then did two or three turns and a half twist before he could recover." Providence was saved from certain defeat!

The most timely play, though, came in the 20th inning. With Ray Doyle on third and one out, Beck, who previously had been fanned five times by Duggan, the Brown pitcher, swung under a fast shoot to send a lazy Texas Leaguer 25 feet past second base to score the ouly run of the game.

In another instance, in that season's opener against Yale, Beck turned in a play that amazed Eli followers. "Ducky" Pond was having an easy time subduing the Friars 7-1, when, with the bases loaded, a Yale man sent a certain homer into deep right. Fearful of a one-sided score, Beck took to his feet, and, just as he looked back to gauge the flight of the pill, he noticed it overhead. A quick stab caught the ball, a phenomenal play that caused the spectators to halt the game with ap-The next morning, newspaper accounts credited the play to Earl Ford, currently a visiting instructor at Rhode Island State College. To make sure that Beck was rightfully credited with the play, Fred wrote Yale authorities, but the damage already had been done.

Upon his graduation, Beck could have coached at Providence College, but he turned down the opportunity because he felt he was too familiar with the players to ensure his chances of succeeding, as a coach.

At first, Bill became a life guard at Southampton Beach. Later, he tried his hand as a clothes salesman. Not liking that task, Bill tried his hand at a sure-fire million dollar proposition that sounded well — on paper only!

(Continued on page 20)

BILL BECK

(Continued from page 19)

A high school team mate of Bill's convinced him that there was money galore for both of them, if they cashed in early on a Christmas card program. If cards could be purchased at the rate of 100 for 25c, and resold at a penny apiece, there would be a profit of 25c for the salesman, and a quarter for both Bill and his friend. How could they fail?

Gaining an entrance to most of the Greater Boston high schools, the two lined up prospective salesmen. On disclosing the salient features of their program, Bill wound up his sales talk with: "... and if any of you are still interested, we shall be glad to talk business. All others may leave." The entire group departed, much to the amazement of the two entrepreneurs. A switch in sales tactics brought encouraging results but nothing that bordered on the glorious vision that engulfed them at the start.

Landing in New York, Bill worked for an employment agency as a "vocational analyst", but a year's doodling with symbols that represented two fooball teams convinced him that his place was in the coaching field. Bill became coach at Holderness, in Plymouth, N. H., in 1927, and in 1933 coached at Cataret, near Newark, N. J. In the meantime, he earned his master's degree in Physical Education at Boston University.

In 1934, Beck returned to Rhode Island, as assistant coach of football and freshman baseball coach. He has proven a success at both tasks. In winter, he loves to ski. This past summer, while driving from beach to beach, checking up on the State' life saving equipment, he often used to stop his car and pull up to the side of the road, trying to devise new plays and trying to figure out why some new maneuver just wouldn't work.

It is with this background that Beck becomes head football coach at Rhode Island. Bill is a realist and understands his situation very well.

"I'm a fellow who loves to take a chance," says he, "and I'm glad to make a try at my new job. There is a thrill to being a small college coach, and I know that certain members of this year's squad will help us tremendously."

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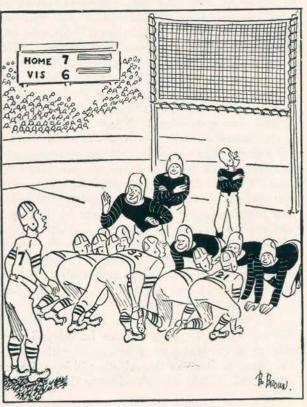
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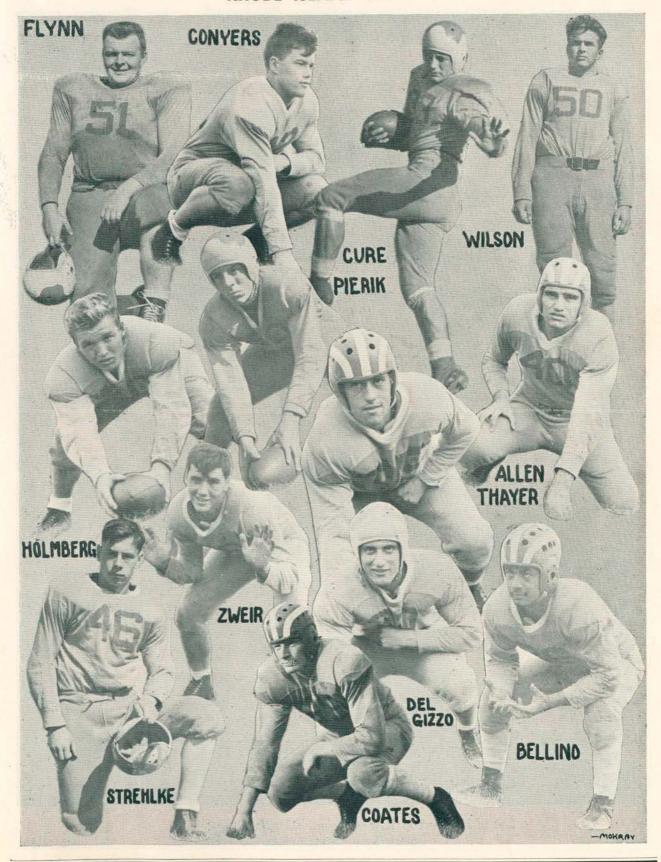
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"Okay! Okay! So we play dirty!"

RHODE ISLAND STATE



PROVIDENCE COLLEGE



Left to Right — Top Row — Stonkus, DiLuglio, Plaska Bottom Row — Moore, Sullivan, Rafferty

Reaction To The New Rules

By MR. "Z"
Boston Daily Record Football Expert

Early last winter, the Football Rules Committee radically revised the grid code with so many startling changes that the grid world was in an upset as to the advantages or disadvantages of the many changes.

At this late October date, the football season is now a month along and the rulings have been amply tested. Many critics have since changed their tune as to disadvantages, but there are still many that believe that the Rules Committee is still wrong in two of their rules.

The free substitution rule, which was designed primarily to benefit the small colleges, has been more of an aid to large schools. Major football elevens with ample manpower have been able to rush specialists in and out of action. Punting, place-kicking, passing and defensive standouts have been shuttled in and out with such rapidity in many cases that spectators and newspapermen became completely confused. Then, too, free substitution has added from 15 to 30 minutes to every ball game. This has not been too bad a factor during early October games, but when November rolls around with its cold afternoons and early sunsets, the officials may have to swing lanterns during the closing minutes of long-drawn-out ball games.

Reports from different parts of the country have it that some games there were anywhere from 100 to 140 substitutions per tilt, which is ridiculous on the face of it. This rule will have to be clarified in another year in which limited substitutions will have to be made or the clock will have to be kept going when changes are under way.

So, a rule that was designed to help the small colleges has proven a boon to large squads and has lengthened the running time of the game to the extent where it may become fashionable to bring a dinner pail for your afternoon's entertainment.

Two changes made by the Rules Committee which have been very well received are: one, permitting the passing of the ball forward, and two, the loss of the ball at the spot of a preceding down when a fourth down pass has been thrown in the end zone.

The handing of a ball forward opens up the offense and permits a much more diversified attack. The second ruling is as it should be. If a team is on the opponent's 8-yard line and throws a fourth down pass into the end zone, it should not be penalized back to the 20-yard line. On the other hand, a team on the opponent's 45-yard line throwing a pass into the end zone should not be able to pick up 25 yards as was possible under the old rules.

Another new rule which is not stated in the rule books and which has not been seen by followers of any team who have had good weather on Saturdays is one that requires the home team to supply three footballs for any game played on a wet field. Two men are designated, one on each sideline, who follow the play with a towel. After each play, the referee throws the ball to the nearest sideline and another is put into play. This assures a center of a fairly dry ball and will aid passers, kickers and ball handlers in treacherous weather. This supplementary rule, which was decided upon after the rule book was published, is something that should have been done sometime ago.

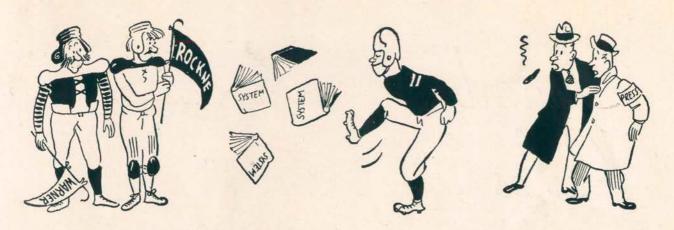
One other change worth mentioning is the rule which prevents any member of the kicking team from touching a ball in the opponent's 10-yard line. This ruling has taken away one of the big thrills of the game — opposing ends can no longer charge down the field and ground the ball on the 1-yard line. Why that rule was put into effect is something that this writer will never understand.

Football has been in the national limelight long enough. It is time that they stopped fooling with the rules. A man can stay way from baseball for half-a-dozen years and go back to the sport with the knowledge that he can pick it up where he dropped it years back. Anybody staying away from football for six years will not know what it is all about if he should ever rekindle interest in the national fall sport.

This writer, therefore, is starting a one-man campaign to let the game alone — it's all right as it is.

RHODE ISLAND STATE





FOOTBALL SYSTEMS ARE PASSÉ

By EDDIE DOOLEY

THE YEAR 1940 will be remembered in football as the year of the collapse of the systems. For more than a decade gridiron conversation has invariably centered around the merits of the Warner system and the Rockne system. Occasionally some brave spirit would venture to say a word about the style of play formerly used by Howard Jones at Southern California, or that employed by Bernie Bierman at Minnesota. But by and large it was a bi-partisan subject.

Last fall, two men almost unheard of three years back, suddenly rocketed into the spotlight. Neither one of them was a stickler for any set system. Clark Shaughnessy, whose Chicago University teams couldn't lick a postage stamp, took over at Stanford, and by means of the T formation — a style of play that was old before the Panama Canal was opened — piloted his eleven to the Rose Bowl. On the other side of the continent, Frank Leahy, former assistant to Jim Crowley at Fordham, taught his Boston College team a combination of the spread and T formations. He did it so successfully his eleven not only went through its campaign unbeaten but defeated powerful Tennessee in the Sugar Bowl game at New Orleans.

For two of the four best teams in the country to be coached by men who didn't believe the sun rose and set on the Warner and Rockne systems, was nothing short of high treason. For years misinformed sports writers had been preaching the doctrine of football systems, and informing their readers there was something inherently valuable in them.

Shaughnessy, old fox that he is, knew full well that football is still a game of power and deception, and the fact that a team isn't labelled with one or the other of the well known styles of play means absolutely nothing. His T formation plays made most five and six man lines look about as formidable as a papier mache cannon. Direct thrusts inside the tackles, and quick sweeps around the flanks picked up plenty of yardage for Stanford against any kind of opposition.

Leahy, raised on the Notre Dame system, made so many changes in it that had it not been for the balanced line no one would have known he had so much as a speaking acquaintance with football as taught at South Bend.

Like Shaughnessy, Leahy spread his line, hit from the T formation frequently, and made all kinds of innovations in the standard styles of attack. The result is there will be more experiment and ingenuity in evidence in football this year than ever before. Coaches are quick to follow the example of a winner, especially a Bowl Game winner, and they will be eager to take a leaf from the books of one or the other of these men.

Leahy is even more daring in his experiments than Shaughnessy. The latter clings to the old and proved methods of play with the tenacity with which a fisherman hangs on to his favorite hat. The present Notre Dame mentor will take a halfback and make him a guard if he thinks it will help the situation. He will convert a center into a fullback if he believes his team's strength will be stepped up by the move. And as for plays, forward passes, lateral, and reverse — there is no end to what Leahy will try.

All too long coaches have been laboring under the delusion that football has to be played according to certain prearranged patterns. In their loyalty to their pet system they overlooked the fact that there is merit in the unbalanced line and in the balanced line; in the single wing, and double wing backfields; and in the spread as well as the compact line. Because they use one is no reason why they shouldn't use the other.

This season will see teams that previously employed only a balanced line, the leading earmark of the Notre Dame system, suddenly switching to the unbalanced line, if only for variety. Warner system teams will be seen using the balanced line from time to time. In other words it begins to look as though the age of systems is a thing of the past. Football is sprouting wings, — not wings in the sense of increased aerials, but rather in the sense of boundless imagination.

All of which should make for a more dramatic and interesting campaign. The game was designed for the boys who play it, but it is nice to know the customers who pay for it are going to get a break in more spectacular contests. The breakdown of systems means more colorful football, and more fun.

Thumb Rules

by Lou FitzGerald

Everybody is yelling about the new rules. Everybody is yelling about the new taxes. What ever became of all those people who used to yell about Roosevelt?

When I say that everybody is yelling about the new rules, I don't necessarily say that they are criticising them, although the same thing can't be said about the taxes. Now my left eye, jaundiced as it is said to be, has seen a couple of football games this year, and while the new regulations are all right, they don't go quite far enough. And so in an effort to complicate matters even further, I have set down in black and white, some of the really important changes that ought to be incorporated if football is going to be a living, vital game.

As I see it, if the coach is allowed to make unlimited substitutions, why isn't the spectator accorded the same privilege? But is he? No. If he takes his wife to one game, she expects to go to games all season — and no substitutes allowed (particularly that blonde, the third from the left, in the Beachcomber review.)

Eddie Dooley says "Under the present mandate, a back can go ripping towards the line, and just before he ploughs through, he can hand the ball to a teammate going the other way". As a spectator, I tried to do that with a blanket I brought to a game last week. I handed the blanket to a friend of mine who was going the other way, and he ended up nice and warm in the Brown Stadium while I nearly froze to death watching our freshmen play R.I. State.

There's another new rule that says an incompleted pass into the end zone on the fourth down is regarded as any other play and the defending team takes possession at the point where the last play started. That's another thing that doesn't help the spectator. I had an incompleted pass for the Albee only the other night. All I needed was the manager's signature on a couple of slips of

paper. I was defending my rights. But as a defender, did I take possession of a seat in the loges? Don't answer that question.

Lest I be considered merely dishing out destructive criticism, and offering nothing constructive, let me put in my two cents worth (making the cost of the program only 23c) of things that ought to be done.

First of all, and merely as a health measure, let me suggest that all stands should be heated to a 68 degree temperature. I further recommend that all front row seats be covered with a light veneer of glue, thus obviating the necessity of of shouting four times during the quarter, "Down in Front".

I think something ought to be done about standardizing the size and quality of peanuts sold at a game. It seems that they should at least be of 1941 vintage and not smaller than 1/16 of an inch in length. Something official should be proclaimed, too, about people who drip mustard on your brother-in-law's borrowed overcoat. A special section should be set aside for those who insist on yelling at remarkable plays when they have a mouthful of hot dog.

Very important rule: Mascots should be seen and not stolen.

Girls will have a few special rules promulgated for their benefit. Wearing angora mittens is strictly prohibited. They are not to say they are cold, midway through the first touchdown drive. They will be expected not to keep the program open at the ads suggesting the most expensive place to go after the game. And most important of all, they are distinctly not to make eyes at the junior two rows away, even if the Prom is going to be held in a month.

I will be glad to go into further details on any of these proposals (or any proposal, for that matter) at your earliest convenience.

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