

i

Dear Reader: Thank you for downloading this free book from Brian W. Kelly's finished book catalog. I finished the book titled **Great Players in Navy Football** at <https://letsgopublish.com/collegefootball/navyplayers.pdf> in September 2019. This is a college football classic book about the great players of the Navy Football Program.

Most of my books had previously been published on Amazon.

Click below if you would like to donate to help the free book cause:
<https://www.letsgopublish.com/books/donate.pdf>

Enjoy!

Great Players

In

Navy Football

From the beginning of football all the way to Navy's 2018 team

By

Brian Kelly



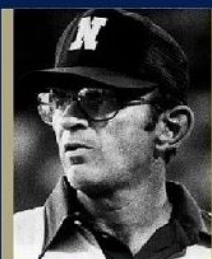
1 VAUX CARTER



37 PAUL JOHNSON



31 GEORGE WELSH



32 GARY TRANQUILL



33 ELLIOT UZELAC



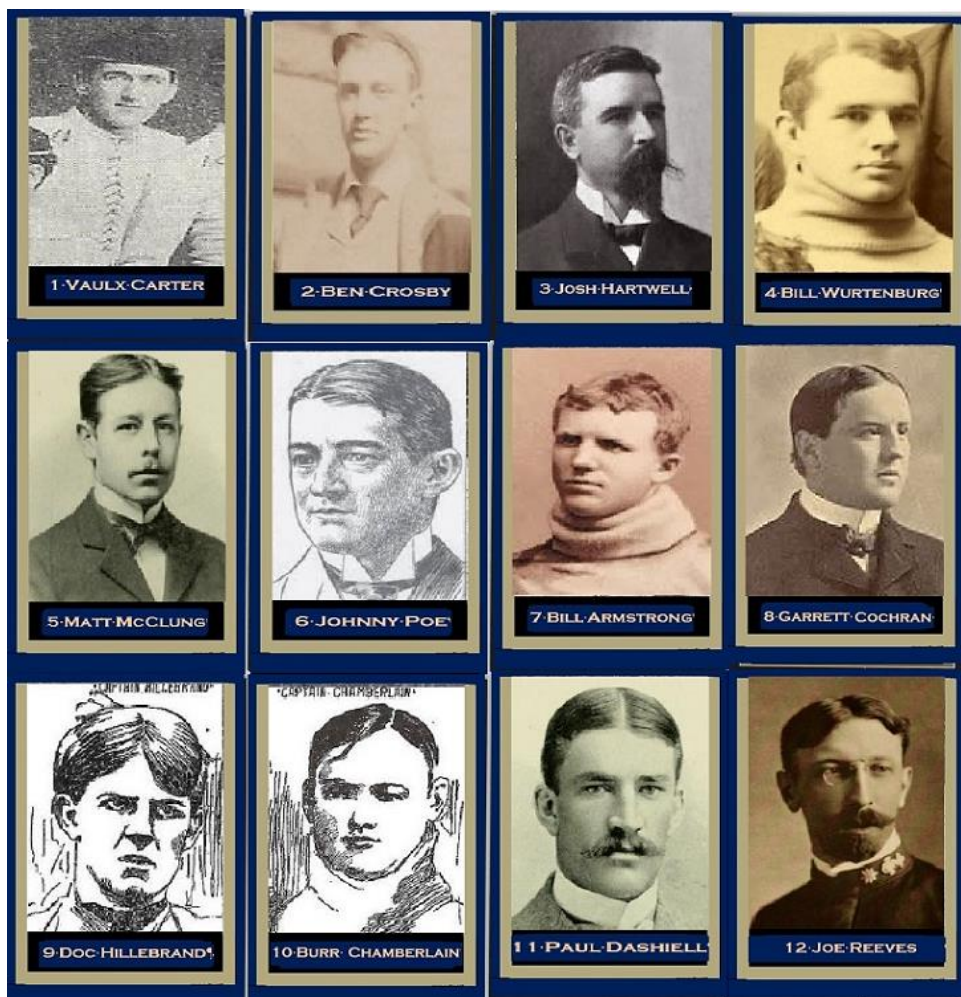
34 GEORGE CHAUMP

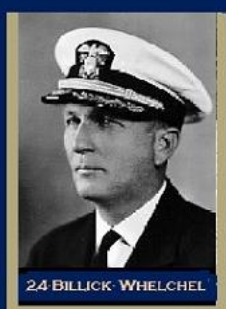
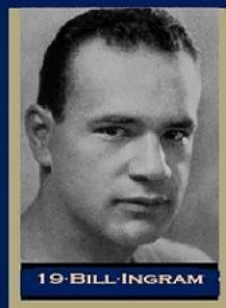
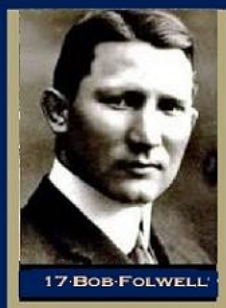
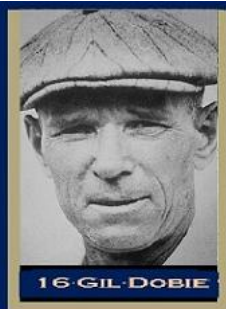
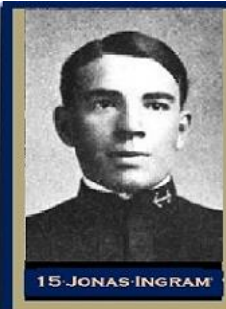
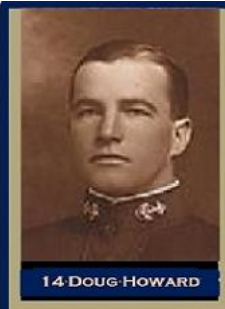
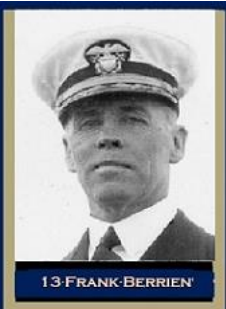


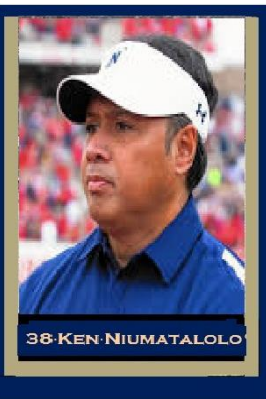
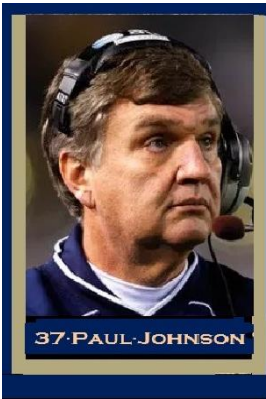
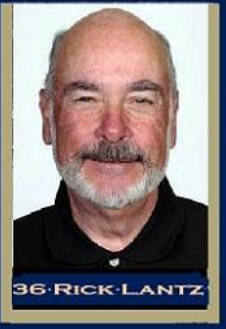
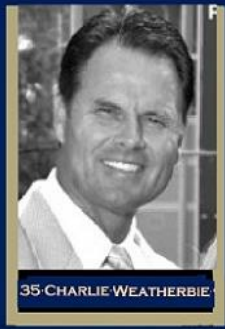
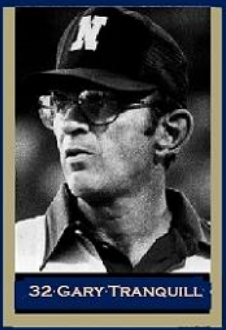
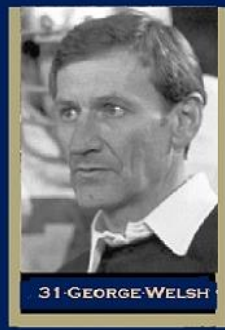
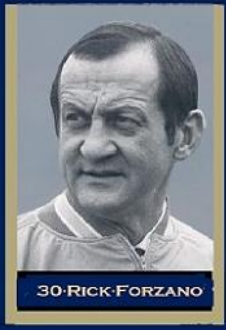
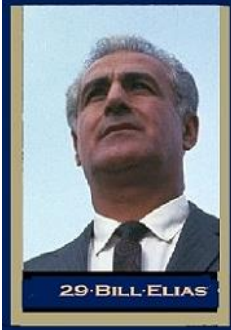
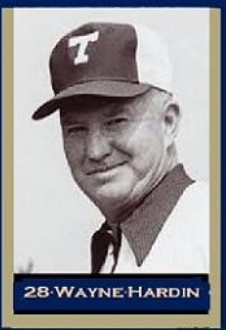
35 CHARLIE WEATHERBIE



38 KEN NIUMATALOLO







Great Players

In

Navy Football

From the beginning of football all the way to Navy's 2018 team

This book is written for those of us who love the US Naval Academy and especially the Navy's Midshipmen Football Team. You'll like all the stories from the Academy's founding on Oct 10, 1845 as the Naval School by Secretary of the Navy George Bancroft just under 180 years ago, to the beginning of American football in 1869, to the great players and the first Navy football game in 1879... and all through the great Navy football teams of the 20th century to today with a revitalized Navy Football Team under coach Ken Niumatalolo..

You will learn that like no other football team, the US Navy Midshipmen are fierce and passionate competitors. From the stadium to the classroom to the research lab, the US Navy Midshipmen always play to win.

You will learn that Navy's first official football game was in 1879 even before American football had been completely defined. There was no Joe Bellino or Roger Staubach back then but nonetheless the Navy tied the Baltimore Athletic Club. It was not until 1890 that a scrappy group of Navy players beat the Army 24-0 in their first game and Army has never forgotten it. Army and Navy players have been beating each other up each year ever since 1890 at their annual Army-Navy Game. To both sets of players a victory against the other in the Army-Navy Game is more important than even a great season.

You'll also learn that First Classman J.H. Robinson was the first to get football going at Navy, but back then it was more like a combo of soccer and rugby and it was used more for training and not for competition. First Classman William John Maxwell is credited with getting the current football program started at Navy. Just one game was played to a 0-0 tie v Baltimore's Athletic Club in 1889 but over thirteen-hundred-games have been played since.

From here, the book moves you one great Navy season at time through with the immortal players finding victory after victory with old and new immortal players such as Joe Bellino, RB 1957-1961. Roger Staubach QB 1962-1964; Chet Moeller, S 1973-1975; Napoleon McCallum RB, 1981-1985 & Ricky Dobbs, QB 2008-2010. Great players come and play football for the Navy every football season. Besides those listed, there are many more such as Ed Sprinkle, Bob Hoernschemeyer, Mike Wahle, and Phil McConkey. The history of their exploits in Navy Football as told here is simply just fascinating.

In this book, we look at every season and we take the reader through great chapters about all the Navy teams with great stories and the accounts of 138 seasons worth of great Navy players and coaches.

This book is your finest source for a great read on your favorite service academy college football team (Navy's Midshipmen). We capture the action and all the memorable players in Navy football. This book is for your reading pleasure, but it also serves as a reference tool for you when you want to learn about a well-known great player in Navy football history.

If you are a Navy Football fan, you will not want to put this book down.

Brian Kelly



Copyright © January 2019, Brian W. Kelly
Kelly

Editor: Brian P.

Title: Great Players in Navy Football

Author Brian W. Kelly

All rights reserved: No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form, or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, scanning, faxing, or by any information storage and retrieval system, without permission from the publisher, LETS GO PUBLISH, in writing.

Disclaimer: Though judicious care was taken throughout the writing and the publication of this work that the information contained herein is accurate, there is no expressed or implied warranty that all information in this book is 100% correct. Therefore, neither LETS GO PUBLISH, nor the author accepts liability for any use of this work.

Trademarks: A number of products and names referenced in this book are trade names and trademarks of their respective companies.

Referenced Material: *Standard Disclaimer: The information in this book has been obtained through personal and third-party observations, interviews, and copious research. Where unique information has been provided, or extracted from other sources, those sources are acknowledged within the text of the book itself or in the References area in the front matter. Thus, there are no formal footnotes nor is there a bibliography section. Any picture that does not have a source was taken from various sites on the Internet with no credit attached. If resource owners would like credit in the next printing, please email publisher.*

Published by:LETS GO PUBLISH!
Editor in Chief..... Brian P. Kelly
Email:info@letsGOPublish.com
Web sitewww.letsGOPublish.com

Library of Congress Copyright Information Pending
Book Cover Design by Michele Thomas
Editor—Brian P. Kelly

ISBN Information: The International Standard Book Number (ISBN) is a unique machine-readable identification number, which marks any book unmistakably. The ISBN is the clear standard in the book industry. 159 countries and territories are officially ISBN members. The Official ISBN for this book is

978-1-947402-70-6

The price for this work is:

\$ 14.95 USD

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Navy Football Seasons by Year/Coach.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Navy Coach</u>	<u>W-L-T</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Navy Coach</u>	<u>W-L-T</u>
1879	No coach	0-0-1	1924	Bob Folwell	2-6
1880	<i>No team</i>		1925	Jack Owsley	5-2-1
1881	<i>No team</i>		1926	Bill Ingram	9-0-1
1882	Vaulx Carter	1-0	1927	Bill Ingram	6-3
1883	No coach	0-1	1928	Bill Ingram	5-3-1
1884	No coach	1-0	1929	Bill Ingram	6-2-2
1885	No coach	1-2	1930	Bill Ingram	6-5
1886	No coach	3-3	1931	Rip Miller	5-5-1
1887	No coach	3-1	1932	Rip Miller	2-6-1
1888	No coach	1-4	1933	Rip Miller	5-4
1889	No coach	4-1-1	1934	Tom Hamilton	8-1
1890	No coach	5-1-1	1935	Tom Hamilton	5-4
1891	No coach	5-2	1936	Tom Hamilton	6-3
1892	Ben Crosby	5-2	1937	Hank Hardwick	4-4-1
1893	Josh Hartwell	5-3	1938	Hank Hardwick	4-3-2
1894	Bill Wurtenburg	4-1-2	1939	Swede Larson	3-5-1
1895	Matt McClung	5-2	1940	Swede Larson	6-2-1
1896	Johnny Poe	5-3	1941	Swede Larson	7-1-1
1897	Bill Armstrong	8-1	1942	Billick Whelchel	5-4
1898	Bill Armstrong	7-1	1943	Billick Whelchel	8-1
1899	Bill Armstrong	5-3	1944	Oscar Hagberg	6-3
1900	Garrett Cochran	6-3	1945	Oscar Hagberg	7-1-1
1901	Doc Hillebrand	6-4-1	1946	Tom Hamilton	1-8
1902	Doc Hillebrand	2-7-1	1947	Tom Hamilton	1-7-1
1903	Burr Chamberlain	4-7-1	1948	George Sauer	0-8-1
1904	Paul Dashiell	7-2-1	1949	George Sauer	3-5-1
1905	Paul Dashiell	10-1-1	1950	Eddie Erdelatz	3-6
1906	Paul Dashiell	8-2-2	1951	Eddie Erdelatz	2-6-1
1907	Joe Reeves	9-2-1	1952	Eddie Erdelatz	6-2-1
1908	Frank Berrien	9-2-1	1953	Eddie Erdelatz	4-3-2
1909	Frank Berrien	4-3-1	1954	Eddie Erdelatz	8-2
1910	Frank Berrien	8-0-1	1955	Eddie Erdelatz	6-2-1
1911	Doug Howard	6-0-3	1956	Eddie Erdelatz	6-1-2
1912	Doug Howard	6-3	1957	Eddie Erdelatz	9-1-1
1913	Doug Howard	7-1-1	1958	Eddie Erdelatz	6-3
1914	Doug Howard	6-3	1959	Wayne Hardin	5-4-1
1915	Jonas Ingram	3-5-1	1960	Wayne Hardin	9-2
1916	Jonas Ingram	6-3-1	1961	Wayne Hardin	7-3
1917	Gil Dobie	7-1	1962	Wayne Hardin	5-5
1918	Gil Dobie	4-1	1963	Wayne Hardin	9-2
1919	Gil Dobie	6-1	1964	Wayne Hardin	3-6-1
1920	Bob Folwell	6-2	1965	Bill Elias	4-4-2
1921	Bob Folwell	6-1	1966	Bill Elias	4-6
1922	Bob Folwell	5-2	1967	Bill Elias	5-4-1
1923	Bob Folwell	5-1-3	1968	Bill Elias	2-8

1969	Rick Forzano	1-9	1995	Charlie Weatherbie	5-6
1970	Rick Forzano	2-9	1996	Charlie Weatherbie	9-3
1971	Rick Forzano	3-8	1997	Charlie Weatherbie	7-4
1972	Rick Forzano	4-7	1998	Charlie Weatherbie	3-8
1973	George Welsh	4-7	1999	Charlie Weatherbie	5-7
1974	George Welsh	4-7	2000	Charlie Weatherbie	1-10
1975	George Welsh	7-4	2001	Charlie Weatherbie	0-10
1976	George Welsh	4-7	2001	Rick Lantz	
1977	George Welsh	5-6	2002	Paul Johnson	2-10
1978	George Welsh	9-3	2003	Paul Johnson	8-5
1979	George Welsh	7-4	2004	Paul Johnson	10-2
1980	George Welsh	8-4	2005	Paul Johnson	8-4
1981	George Welsh	7-4-1	2006	Paul Johnson	9-4
1982	Gary Tranquill	6-5	2007	Paul Johnson	8-5
1983	Gary Tranquill	3-8	2007	Ken Niumatalolo	8-5
1984	Gary Tranquill	4-6-1	2008	Ken Niumatalolo	8-5
1985	Gary Tranquill	4-7	2009	Ken Niumatalolo	10-4
1986	Gary Tranquill	3-8	2010	Ken Niumatalolo	9-4
1987	Elliot Uzelac	2-9	2011	Ken Niumatalolo	5-7
1988	Elliot Uzelac	3-8	2012	Ken Niumatalolo	8-5
1989	Elliot Uzelac	3-8	2013	Ken Niumatalolo	9-4
1990	George Chaump	5-6	2014	Ken Niumatalolo	8-5
1991	George Chaump	1-10	2015	Ken Niumatalolo	11-2
1992	George Chaump	1-10	2016	Ken Niumatalolo	9-5
1993	George Chaump	4-7	2017	Ken Niumatalolo	7-6
1994	George Chaump	3-8	2018	Ken Niumatalolo	2-7

Navy almost always played as an independent Team. In 1978, the team formally joined the NCAA FBS Division for Independent Schools (not a conference). In 2014, Navy became a single-sport member of the American Athletic Conference beginning play in the 2015 season.

Total Games 1,323

Seasons 140

Total Wins 708

Total Losses 558

Total Ties 57 * Prior to Overtime Rules

Stats from 1879 Through December 2018



Acknowledgments:

I appreciate all the help that I received in putting this book together, along with the 185 other books from the past.

My printed acknowledgments were once so large that book readers needed to navigate too many pages to get to page one of the text. To permit me more flexibility, I put my acknowledgment list online at www.letsGOPublish.com. The list of acknowledgments continues to grow. Believe it or not, it once cost about a dollar more to print each book.

Thank you all on the big list in the sky and God bless you all for your help.

Please check out www.letsGOPublish.com to read the latest version of my heartfelt acknowledgments updated for this book. Thank you all!

In this book, I received some extra special help from many avid football friends including Dennis Grimes, Gerry Rodski, Wily Ky Eyely, Angel Brent Evans, Angel Irene McKeown Kelly, Angel Edward Joseph Kelly Sr., Angel Edward Joseph Kelly Jr., Ann Flannery, Angel James Flannery Sr., Mary Daniels, Bill Daniels, Robert Garry Daniels, Angel Sarah Janice Daniels, Angel Punkie Daniels, Joe Kelly and Diane Kelly. Another recent angel, always there to help is Jim Faller.

References

I learned how to write creatively in Grade School at St. Boniface. I even enjoyed reading some of my own stuff as a toddler.

At Meyers High School and King's College and Wilkes-University, I learned how to research, write bibliographies and footnote every non-original thought I might have ever had. I learned to hate *ibid*, and *op. cit.*, and I hated assuring that I had all citations written down in the proper sequence. Having to pay attention to such details took my desire to write creatively and diminished it with busy work.

As a highly published author, I know it is necessary for the world to stop plagiarism so authors and publishers can get paid properly, but for an honest writer, it sure is annoying. I wrote many proposals while with IBM and whenever I needed to cite something, I cited it in place, because my readers, IT Managers, could care less about tracing the vagaries of citations and their varied formats.

I always hated to use stilted footnotes, or produce a lengthy, perfectly formatted bibliography. I bet most bibliographies are flawed because even the experts on such drivel do not like the tedium.

I wrote 184 books before this book and several hundred articles published by many magazines and newspapers and I only cite when an idea is not mine or when I am quoting, and again, I choose to cite in place, and the reader does not have to trace strange numbers through strange footnotes and back to bibliography elements that may not be readily accessible or available. Academicians knowing all the rules of citation are not my audience. In this book, if you are a lover of Navy football, you are my intended group of readers

Yet, I would be kidding you, if in a book about the Great Players in Navy Football, I tried to bluff my way into trying to make you think that I knew everything before I began to write anything in this book. I spent as much time researching as writing. I might even call myself an expert of sorts now about the Navy Midshipmen. This team literally is America's team. As the first Service Academy to play College football, everybody in America has at one time watched and enjoyed Navy football, especially when Navy is having winning seasons, and more especially when Navy is beating Army.

Without any pain on your part you can read this book from cover to cover to enjoy the stories about the many *Great Players in Navy Football*.

It took me about two months to write this book. If I were to have made sure that a thought of mine was not a thought somebody else ever had, this book never would have been completed or the citations pages would more than likely exceed the prose. Everybody takes credit for everything in sports writing—at least that's what I have found.

I used Navy Media Guide season summaries and recaps from whatever source I could to get the scores of all the games. I verified facts when possible. There is little opinion where facts are presented. There are many web sites that have great information and facts. Ironically most internet stories are the same exact stories. Who's got the original? While I was writing the book, I wrote down a bunch of Internet references and at one time, I listed them right here en masse in this section. They were the least read pages. No more. Unless I am citing a reference in a section of the book, you will not see the URL.

I have no favorite source for information to put in my books. However, I continually hunt for articles written by students to amplify the text I present.

While I was writing this book, because I was not sure that my citations within the text would be enough, and I was not producing a bibliography, I copied URLs into some of the book text in those cases in which I had read articles or had downloaded material and had brought articles or pieces of articles into this book. Hopefully, this will satisfy any request for additional citations. If there is anything, which needs a specific citation, I would be pleased to change the text. Just contact me. Your stuff is your stuff.

Many of the facts in this book are also put forth in the Navy Football Media Guide, freely available on the Internet. Our thanks for the use of this material for the accurate production of this book. This, however, is a unique book as you will find. It is not a copy of anything.

This book is a great source about Navy football where you can find a ton of information about your favorite Navy team.

Enjoy

Preface:

This book is all about the great players who donned a blue and gold uniform over the years, representing the Naval Academy in Annapolis MD. Whether the team was playing as the Midshipmen, the Mids, or unofficially as the Middies, it never seemed to matter to the fans or the players. We have the football history right as we begin this book.

In addition to the Midshipmen nickname, the Navy also has a real live mascot—Bill the Goat, that always points to the opponent's end zone. He does not play in the game but there are many who give him credit for some special scoring such as in the Army-Navy game.



Bill the Goat and friends!

The goat gets special treatment especially at the annual Army-Navy game. It is rumored that Bill the Goat often challenges the VIP status that admirals and other dignitaries are granted. Instead of riding a 'goat' wagon, bill is often escorted in limousines, luxury vans and fancy floats to the stadium. When Bill is introduced to the crowd, he receives great fanfare, that ranks just behind the cheers showered upon the Midshipmen players.

It isn't by accident. In 1893, a live goat named El Cid made his debut as a mascot at the fourth Army–Navy Game. El Cid was a gift to the Brigade of Midshipmen from officers of the USS New York. With the goat, Navy gained a 6-3 win over Army that year, so he was adopted as part of the team.

There have been other mascots in those years, including a gorilla -- the very first mascot, two cats, a bulldog, and a carrier pigeon. However, the goat has served without interruption since 1904.

The U.S. sports media uses the term "Navy" as a synonym for the Academy and the football team and the great players on the team. We like that and for this book, Navy, it is!

Along the way to today, we study the founding of Naval Academy in Annapolis Md. then we look at some preliminaries before Navy football officially began, and then we delve right into the storied Navy Football Program--its struggles; its greatness; and its long-lasting impact on American life. This takes us to the football careers of many great college players from the Navy team as the 138 teams of great players engaged tough competition over the years.

I credit Navy with two national championships, but they were so long ago, they may be in dispute. Navy has other records such as 19 players and three coaches in the College Football Hall of Fame and they won a consensus college football national championship in 1926 according to the Board and Houlgate poll systems.

Without a polling group vouching for them, I credit Navy's 1910 team, which was undefeated and unscored upon (the lone tie was a 0–0 game) as another National championship and so let's use two as the proper number. In addition to highlighting games, in this book, we also highlight some great coaches besides great players of Navy's past.

Supporters who love Navy Football as played by the US Naval Academy will read this book and get an immediate burst of emotions such as warmth and love for their favorite team. You will love this book because it has it all. We cannot capture all the great players but we do our best in finding them and describing them with whichever season in which they may have played . Go Navy!

This book walks you through the whole Navy football journey. We examine players, and successes from the early teams to today. This period began in 1879 with the first Navy game against the Baltimore Athletic Club. (tie 0-0). Like all new teams, you can imagine the struggle of

playing on a college football team when getting the right equipment was one of the biggest issues.

At the front of this book, you saw the 38 great Army coaches (including one interim coach) listed within the football seasons in which they coached—from season 1 in 1879 season to 138. Within those 139 seasons, at about 50 players per team, Navy graduated more than 1900 great football players over those 139 seasons. There were a few seasons early on that were skipped—there were no games. Of course, no players played in those years!

In the season listings, we examine them chronologically, and especially in the early years, we make a special mention of the captain (s) as they were most often the best players on the teams. Then there are about 40 special tributes to special players who were hall-of-famers or all-Americans that are sprinkled within the seasons in which the games were played. I sure hope you enjoy this unique approach.

Before Ken Niumatalolo put together ten and then more consecutive coaching seasons, George Welsh was the Navy leader for seasons coached at nine. Their players are among the finest in Navy Football History. Few of Navy's coaches to that point took the team for more than a couple years. Yet, they still produced some powerful teams with powerful players. Until the last few years, Navy consistently dominated Army in the annual Army-Navy Game and those bragging rights are more important than money.

Navy is a long-time football power

One hundred thirty-nine eight, going on One thirty-nine is a long time to be playing football. Navy has a history of being recognized as one of the finest teams in the nation. For many years, the teams were ready to win a national championship or at least, almost, at the drop of the next hat. Though it has been over ninety years since the last recognized championship, Navy is still tough, and nobody can deny that. Nobody, even the vaunted ND Fighting Irish pushes Navy around.

You will be impressed as you look at the highlights of the games and the players as to how many Admirals contributed to the many great Midshipmen football seasons. There's a lot of great reading in this book for sure.

With the current coach who has brought in great teams since taking the reins in 2007, and the most recent great players, would it not be

wonderful for Navy, the major defender of our Nation at sea, to bring home another football championship sometime soon

Your author would like you to know that when football season closes in the second week of January each year, there is now a great football item—this book—that is available all 52 weeks of the year and in fact all 365 days each year. It does not rely on the stadium gates being open for you to get a great dose of Navy Football. Just begin reading right here.

You are going to love this book because it is the perfect read for anybody who loves Navy's storied football program and wants to know more about the most revered athletes to have competed in one of the finest football programs of all time.

Few sports books are a must-read but Brian Kelly's Great Players in Navy Football will quickly appear at the top of Americas most enjoyable must-read books about sports. Enjoy!

Who is Brian W. Kelly?

Brian W. Kelly is one of the leading authors in America with this, his 185th published book. Brian is an outspoken and eloquent expert on a variety of topics and he has also written several hundred articles on topics of interest to Americans.

Most of his early works involved high technology. Later, Brian wrote a number of patriotic books and most recently he has been writing human interest books such as The Wine Diet and Thank you, IBM. His books are always well received.

Brian's books are highlighted at www.letsGOPublish.com. Quantities from 20 to 1000 of any book can be made available from www.letsGOPublish.com. You will see most of Brian's works by taking the following link www.amazon.com/author/brianwkelly. At this site, you can buy one book if you choose or a million, more or less.

The Best!

Sincerely,

Brian W. Kelly, Author
Brian P. Kelly, Editor in Chief
I am Brian Kelly's eldest son.

Table of Contents

Chapter 1 Introduction to Navy Football.....	1
Chapter 2 The Founding of the United States Naval Academy.....	11
Chapter 3 Navy Fields & Stadiums	19
Chapter 4 Navy “Hires” First Football Coach	27
Chapter 5 Navy Football Coach-less Seasons 1883-1891	39
Chapter 6 Five Navy Coaches from 1892-1896.....	47
Chapter 7 Coaches Armstrong, Cochran, Hillebrand, 1897-1902.....	51
Chapter 8 Coaches Chamberlain, Dashiell, Reeves, Berrien—1903-1910.....	55
Chapter 9 Coaches Howard, Ingram, Dobie, & Folwell—1911-1924	69
Chapter 10 Coaches Owsley, Ingram. Miller & Hamilton--1925-1936.....	85
Chapter 11 Coaches Hardwick, Larson, Whelchel, Hagberg, Hamilton, 1937-47...	103
Chapter 12 Coaches George Sauer & Eddie Erdelatz--1948 - 1958	123
Chapter 13 Coaches Hardin & Elias 1959-1968	133
Chapter 14 Coaches Rick Forzano & George Welsh 1969-1981.....	151
Chapter 15 Coaches Tranquill & Uzelac 1982—1989.....	161
Chapter 16 Coaches George Chaump & Charlie Watherbie 1990-2001	171
Chapter 17 Coaches Lantz & Johnson 2001 – 2007.....	203
Chapter 18 Navy Joins the AAC.....	213
Chapter 19 Coach Ken Niumatalolo 2007-2018.....	217
Chapter 20 The Navy, Notre Dame Football Rivalry	231
Chapter 21 History of the Army-Navy Game by Mandy Howard etc.	239
Other Books by Brian W. Kelly: (amazon.com, and Kindle)	245

About the Author



Brian Kelly retired as an Assistant Professor in the Business Information Technology (BIT) Program at Marywood University, where he also served as the IBM i and Midrange Systems Technical Advisor to the IT Faculty. Kelly designed, developed, and taught many college and professional courses. He continues as a contributing technical editor to a number of technical industry magazines, including "The Four Hundred" and "Four Hundred Guru," published by IT Jungle.

Kelly is a former IBM Senior Systems Engineer. His specialty was problem solving for customers as well as implementing advanced operating systems and software on his client's machines. Brian was a certified Army Instructor before retiring. He is the author of 185 books and hundreds of magazine articles. He has been a frequent speaker at technical conferences throughout the United States.

Brian was a candidate for the US Congress from Pennsylvania in 2010 and he ran for Mayor in his home town in 2015. He loves Navy Football and can't wait to see the Midshipmen finish the 2018 season with a win v Army in the Army-Navy Game and then on to a great 2019 season. God bless the Navy Midshipmen!!!

Chapter 1 Introduction to Navy Football

Navy's 139th Year in 2018!

(counting a few years when no games were played)



Coach Niumatalolo On the Sidelines with his Team

The Navy Midshipmen football team represents the United States Naval Academy in college football. Navy is currently a Division I ACC member of the NCAA. The Midshipmen currently play their home games in Annapolis Maryland at the **Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium**. It has a current seating capacity of 34,000.

Navy is currently coached by Ken Niumatalolo, who is in his 10th season as head coach. Navy is a two-time national champion, winning the title in 1910, and 1926. You'll hear that a lot in this book. Navy also has a total of six undefeated seasons.

With the exception of eight seasons in the very early years of the program. (1879, and 1883-1889 1998–2004), Navy always had the benefit of an Academy sponsored paid coach. Navy was always an independent. For a better affiliation, in 1978, the Midshipmen joined the NCAA FBS (no conference) grouping to make it easier to be part

of the NCAA bowl structure. In 2014, they joined the ACC and played their first ACC game in 2015.

Officially the Navy Midshipmen recognize a long and great football history that dates back to 1879. If you are from Army or Air Force or some other rival school, you have to be kind. Such rivals know that Navy was born great and then got greater as the program prospered under a number of fine coaches.

Some had been joking after the fantastic 2016 Army victory over Navy that the new Army goal is to out-Navy, Navy. But then Army again beat Navy—though by just one point in 2017. We'll see this year but one thing for sure. The Midshipmen can taste the win already.

Navy Mids: Can Perry Dazzle Full Season?

Unlike rival Army, the Navy Midshipmen were blessed in 2018 with an abundance of experience at quarterback, with camp focused on junior Malcolm Perry. But when ND came to town in San Diego on Oct 27, Perry was a slot back.

After a bye week that followed a close-call victory against Pittsburgh, Notre Dame stayed unbeaten (8-0) and on a path toward a possible College Football Playoff berth with a 44-22 victory in front of an announced sellout crowd of 63,626 at SDCCU Stadium. ND by the way got its twelfth victory of the season on Nov 24, giving them an unblemished regular season record.

In 2017, after a 5-1 start last season, the Mids went on to lose their next-three games, leaving head coach Ken Niumatalolo searching for a spark. The longtime Navy head coach found it in dynamic slot back Perry, who came to Navy as a high school quarterback. Now, as the Army-Navy game is all there is left of 2018, and it will not have been played before this book hits the streets (I hope), Navy sits at an unexpected 3-9. A lot of close games were fought this year and Navy will again be making itself known in 2019.

2017 starting quarterback Zach Abey, was relegated to receiver and goal-line TD run-attempts. In 2017, he was nursing a sore shoulder when Niumatalolo opted to try Perry under center against

visiting SMU. The move paid off in a big, very big way. Without completing a pass in the game, the versatile Perry ran for a career-high 282 yards on 33 carries with four touchdowns, as Navy held off the Mustangs 43-40.

Perry brings his own electricity to the power game. Arguably, he is the most electric player in service academy football this season, Perry began the season as the full-time starter at QB in 2018 for the Mids, while Abey has moved to wide receiver and special duties as noted.

The biggest question surrounding Perry was whether the 5-foot-9, 185-pounder from Clarksville, Tenn. Could stay healthy for a full 13-game regular season (Navy gets an extra game due to NCAA rules for playing at Hawaii) as he absorbs the pounding quarterbacks take running the triple option.

However, Perry suffered a foot injury early in the third quarter of Navy's 49-7 whipping of Virginia in the 2017 Military Bowl and was hampered in spring practice while still recovering. Abey took over for Perry and went on to be named MVP of the bowl game after rushing for 88 yards and five touchdowns. Navy has talent but bad luck so far in 2018.

Niumatalolo said during American Athletic Conference media days held recently that he expected to play multiple quarterbacks, which also included senior Garret Lewis. Lewis was the QB for the whole ND game. With Perry, Abey and Lewis in short-yardage situations, Niumatalolo and offensive coordinator Ivin Jasper have plenty of options to keep foes guessing. Army will be guessing a lot just like ND did when they faced Navy.

This book that you are reading celebrates The United States Naval Academy USNA; its founding; its struggles; its greatness; and its long-lasting impact on freedom and American life. People like me, who love Navy, will love this book. Navy haters, such as those from the USMA, will want their own copy just for additional ammo. Yet, it won't help them! Hah!

We begin the rest of the Navy football story in Chapter 2 with the founding of USNA Annapolis over 270 years ago and we continue in subsequent chapters, right into the founding of the full Navy football

program in 1879 after the Midshipmen had been toying with a rugby form of American football on campus for years just for fun.

The first nighttime football game was played in Mansfield, Pennsylvania on September 28, 1892 between Mansfield State Normal and Wyoming Seminary and ended at halftime in a 0–0 tie. The Army-Navy game of 1893 was not played under the lights, but it was historical.

This game saw the first documented use of a football helmet by a player in a game. Joseph M. Reeves, later a USN Admiral, had a crude leather helmet made by a shoemaker in Annapolis and wore it in the game after being warned by his doctor that he risked death if he continued to play football after suffering an earlier kick to the head.

Football is a great contagion. Rather than not play, Reeves figured out a way to protect his head. Over the years, more injury-preventive devices were created and used by players and teams. Improvements are made every day. Reeves became an admiral in the United States Navy, and he was an early and important supporter of U.S. Naval Aviation. Think about how tough the great players Navy players of history had to be just to attend the Academy. To play football to boot is amazing.

In defining the format of the book, we chose to use a timetable that is based on a historical chronology. Within this framework, we discuss the great players in Navy football history, and there are many great moments and great players who created those moments. No book can claim to be able to capture all 1900+ great Navy players, as it would be a never-ending story, but we sure do try.

Naval Academy has produced 2 Heisman winners

We have already discussed Navy's national football prominence over their almost 140-year history. While the United States Naval Academy did slip during the drought period from the Roger Staubach period when it was at its lofty status as one of college football's consistently prominent programs, there's no denying the successful past of Navy football and the tough, smart players that produced national championship football teams.

Navy players have always been recognized as college football's best without even considering the pounds Navy gives up at every position in every game. The drought is over Navy fans. With Paul Johnson and Ken Niumatalolo taking over in the more recent past, Navy is again a force with which to be reckoned. Even the vaunted ND program has felt the determination of Navy as the Irish can no longer count Navy in the *sure-win* column looking at the season from September onward.

Throughout the college football landscape there is traditionally a long list of programs that have produced waves of great teams and All-Americans. While unknowing pundits might hesitate to put Navy in that category, only ten schools such as Notre Dame, Ohio State, Oklahoma and USC, Army, Auburn, Florida, Florida State, Michigan, & Nebraska, have produced more Heisman Trophy winners than the Midshipmen.

This book about Navy football hero players, highlights the fact that the two Heisman's were not a fluke. They are part of a tradition of excellence that is not always recognized by the national media.

Navy's Bo Bellino at running back and Roger Staubach at quarterback are two of the best football players ever. Nobody ever missed them in the stat books as their records are indisputable and well-heralded. Their greatness on the field is a tribute to the great teams and a great coach Wayne Hardin, for whom they played at the Naval Academy.

When you add Joe Bellino, RB 1957-1961, and Roger Staubach QB 1962-1964, to any mix of players, you know that a good team will come from all that talent. A great football tradition spawns great players and great teams.

But there is more. There are a lot more than Heismans that create great teams. For example, Chet Moeller, DB, 1973-1975; Napoleon McCallum RB, 1981-1985 & Ricky Dobbs, QB 2008-2010 are in the upper leagues in talent and performances.

Great players come-by and they play football for the Navy every football season. Besides those listed, there are many more such as Ed Sprinkle, Bob Hoernschemeyer, Mike Wahle, and Phil McConkey.

The history of their exploits in Navy Football as told in this book—right here, is simply fascinating.

USNA Heisman Winners—Joe Bellino 1963, Roger Staubach 1963 below:



USNA Plaque Honoring Heisman Trophy Winners Joe Bellino & Roger Staubach

Joe Bellino

Joe Bellino, the “Winchester Rifle” is the first Naval Academy football player to win the Heisman Trophy.

Born and raised in Winchester, Mass., Bellino was a three-sport star for Winchester High. He was good enough in baseball to be offered a contract out of high school by the Pittsburgh Pirates, but he chose to play football for Navy despite offers from Notre Dame and several Big Ten schools.

After a year in prep school, Bellino became an instant star for the Midshipmen. In his three years at Navy, he scored 31 touchdowns, rushed for 1,664 yards on 330 carries, returned 37 kicks for 833 more yards and altogether set 15 Naval Academy football records.



In 1960, Bellino rushed for 834 yards and 15 touchdowns and scored another three TDs via pass receptions. He was a unanimous All-America selection and also the winner of the Maxwell Award. He won the Heisman handily over Richie Lucas of Penn State, totaling 1,929 points to Lucas' 613.

In addition to his football exploits, Bellino was an outstanding catcher and outfielder on Navy baseball teams. He hit .428 in 22 games in 1959 and led the Eastern Intercollegiate League in stolen bases. He had a .320 average in 1960 and was the baseball team captain in 1961.

Bellino's number 27 jersey was retired after the 1960 season. He had a three-year stint with the Boston Patriots after he had completed his four-year service obligation. He then stayed in the Navy Reserves and reached the rank of Captain.

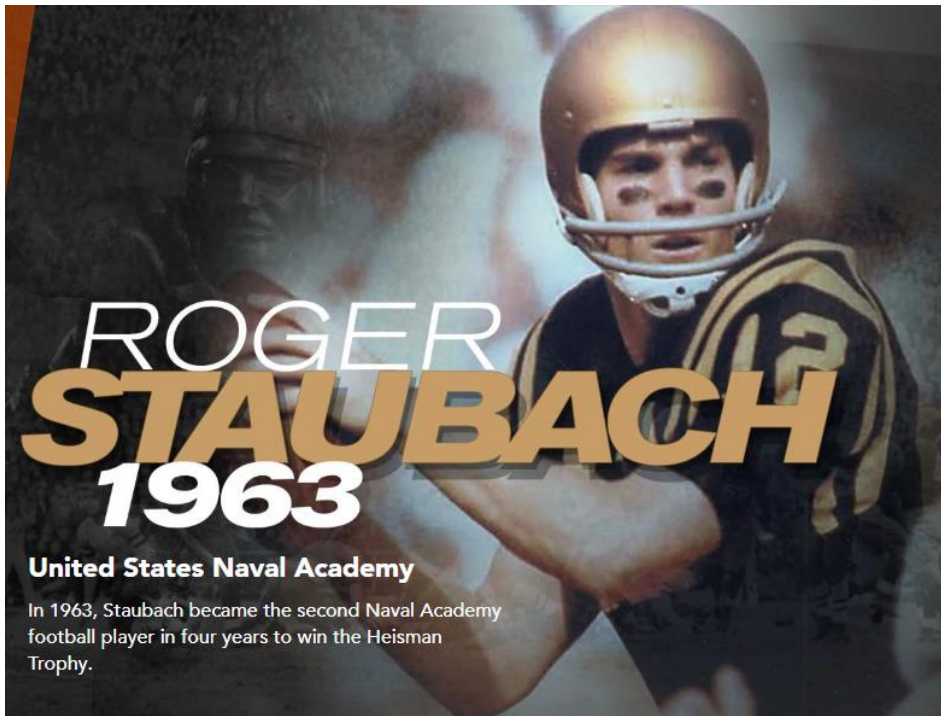
Bellino was a 1977 inductee into the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame and was a charter inductee into the Maryland Football Shrine in 1984.

Bellino is semi-retired after working for 40 years in the auto leasing and auction industry. His son, John, is a 1989 graduate of the Naval Academy, and his daughter, Therese, is a public-school teacher in Cambridge, Mass.

Roger Staubach

“ROGER THE DODGER”

In 1963, Staubach became the second Naval Academy football player in four years to win the Heisman Trophy.



Known as “Roger the Dodger,” all he did as a junior quarterback was lead Navy to a ranking of second in the country and a berth in the Cotton Bowl, where he set Bowl records for pass completions (21-of-31) and yards passing (228). The Midshipmen posted wins over West Virginia, Michigan, Notre Dame and Maryland that season. He completed 106 passes in 161 attempts for 1,474 yards, while earning consensus All-America honors, as well as the Maxwell Trophy and Walter Camp Memorial Trophy.

At one time, Staubach, who was hampered by injuries in his senior season of 1964, had set 28 Naval Academy records in football. He also had some outstanding performances as a varsity baseball player and a brief but significant moment as a varsity basketball player. He lettered in baseball three-straight years (1963-65) as an outfielder and pitcher. In 1963, he hit .420, and in 1965 he was the team captain. He also won a letter in basketball in 1962-63.

Staubach was the recipient of the Thompson Trophy Cup at the Academy for three-consecutive years and was the 1965 winner of the Naval Academy Athletic Association Sword. He was the first sophomore to win the Thompson Trophy Cup and is its only three-time winner. He was only the fourth midshipman since 1900 to win both the Thompson Trophy Cup and NAAA Sword.

After four years in the U. S. Navy, including a tour in Vietnam, Staubach joined the Dallas Cowboys and led that team to unprecedented heights. Again, displaying the daring play he had shown at Navy, Staubach directed the Cowboys to 23 fourth-quarter comeback wins, 14 in the final two minutes of a game or in overtime. He played 11 seasons with the Cowboys and led them to the Super Bowl four times, including world championships in 1972 and 1978. The Cowboys were 90-31 with Staubach as their starting quarterback.

Among his awards were the NFL Players Association Most Valuable Player and The Sporting News NFL Player of the Year in 1971, Most Valuable Player of Super Bowl VI (1972), Washington Touchdown Club NFC Player of the Year in 1976 and 1978, NFC Pro Bowl selection five times, the Vince Lombardi Sportsman of the Year Award in 1975, NFL Players' Association NFC Offensive Player of the Year (1978), and the Byron "Whizzer" White Humanitarian Award in 1979.

Staubach was named Walter Camp Foundation Man of the Year in 1985, was selected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1985, his first year of eligibility.

The football locker room in Ricketts Hall was named in his honor in 1996 and in 2008, Staubach received the National Football Foundation's Gold Medal, the highest honor one can receive from that

organization. Staubach has also been honored as a “Distinguished Graduate” of the United States Naval Academy.

He recently was named to the Walter Camp All-Century Team, was elected into the Cotton Bowl Hall of Fame, spearheaded a successful movement to land North Texas and the Dallas Cowboys the Super Bowl in 2011 and was named to the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium All-Stadium Team.

Staubach is a member of the Board of Directors at Jones Lang LaSalle. He was inducted into the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame in 1981.

A bit more about Navy-Army Game

The U.S. Armed Forces have fought for centuries to allow all Americans the right to choose whatever profession they desire.

So, most of the players in whatever version of the rivalry are more likely to end up at Fort Leavenworth than with the 49ers—a choice they've proudly made.

Still, the Army/Navy contest has produced its share of extremely talented players, including Heisman Trophy winners Roger Staubach (Navy, 1963), Joe Bellino (Navy, 1960), Pete Dawkins (Army, 1958), Glenn Davis (Army, 1946) and Felix "Doc" Blanchard (Army, 1945).

Entering each afternoon's matchup wherever it might be held, there was a time when the Midshipmen led the series 55-49-7 and they had won the nine of the most recent contests. Of course since that day, Navy has won more, and Army came back and broke the streak. Air Force is now in their looking for recognition. Bravo!

So, when you see a special tribute to Army/Navy Games in sections and chapters of this book, it is because outside sources whoever they may be have looked back at arguably the 10 greatest games in the history of this historic rivalry featuring players who all eventually will end up on the same US military team. In this book, we make a point of rooting for the Navy in the Army-Navy Game. Go Navy.

Chapter 2 The Founding of the United States Naval Academy



Entrance to the Beautiful USNA Campus

The Naval Academy Short Story: Courtesy of USNA

Don't enlist just because I say you should. But, you should! Unless you are an old fart like me who already put in his time—like me!

When the founders of the United States Naval Academy were looking for a suitable location, it was reported that then Secretary of the Navy George Bancroft decided to move the naval school to "the healthy and secluded" location of Annapolis in order to rescue midshipmen from "the temptations and distractions that necessarily connect with a large and populous city." The Philadelphia Naval Asylum School was its predecessor. Four of the original seven faculty members came from Philadelphia. Other small naval schools in New York City, Norfolk, Va., and Boston, Mass. also existed in the early days of the United States.

The United States Navy was born during the American Revolution when the need for a naval force to match the Royal Navy became clear. But during the period immediately following the Revolution, the Continental Navy was demobilized in 1785 by an economy-minded Congress.

The dormancy of American sea power lasted barely a decade when, in 1794, President George Washington persuaded the Congress to authorize a new naval force to combat the growing menace of piracy on the high seas.

The first vessels of the new U.S. Navy were launched in 1797; among them were the *United States*, the *Constellation*, and the *Constitution*. In 1825, President John Quincy Adams urged Congress to establish a Naval Academy "for the formation of scientific and accomplished officers." His proposal, however, was not acted upon until 20 years later.

On September 13, 1842, the American Brig *Somers* set sail from the Brooklyn Navy Yard on one of the most significant cruises in American naval history. It was a school ship for the training of teenage naval apprentice volunteers who would hopefully be inspired to make the Navy a career.

However, discipline deteriorated on the *Somers* and it was determined by a court of inquiry aboard ship that Midshipman Philip Spencer and his two chief confederates, Boatswains Mate Samuel Cromwell and Seaman Elisha Small, were guilty of a "determined attempt to commit a mutiny."

The three were hanged at the yardarm and the incident cast doubt over the wisdom of sending midshipmen directly aboard ship to learn by doing. News of the *Somers* mutiny shocked the country.

Through the efforts of the Secretary of the Navy George Bancroft, the Naval School was established without Congressional funding, at a 10-acre Army post named Fort Severn in Annapolis, Maryland, on October 10, 1845, with a class of 50 midshipmen and seven professors. The curriculum included mathematics and navigation, gunnery and steam, chemistry, English, natural philosophy, and French.

In 1850 the Naval School became the United States Naval Academy. A new curriculum went into effect requiring midshipmen to study at the Academy for four years and to train aboard ships each summer. That format is the basis of a far more advanced and sophisticated curriculum at the Naval Academy today. As the U.S. Navy grew over the years, the Academy expanded. The campus of 10 acres increased to 338. The original student body of 50 midshipmen grew to a brigade size of 4,000. Modern granite buildings replaced the old wooden structures of Fort Severn.

Congress authorized the Naval Academy to begin awarding Bachelor of Science degrees in 1933. The Academy later replaced a fixed curriculum taken by all midshipmen with the present core curriculum plus 18 major fields of study, a wide variety of elective courses and advanced study and research opportunities.

Since then, the development of the United States Naval Academy has reflected the history of the country. As America has changed culturally and technologically so has the Naval Academy. In just a few decades, the Navy moved from a fleet of sail and steam-powered ships to a high-tech fleet with nuclear-powered submarines and surface ships and supersonic aircraft. The academy has changed, too, giving midshipmen state-of-the-art academic and professional training they need to be effective naval officers in their future careers.

The Naval Academy first accepted women as midshipmen in 1976, when Congress authorized the admission of women to all of the service academies. Women comprise over 20 percent of entering plebes --or freshmen-- and they pursue the same academic and professional training as do their male classmates

More on USNA

As noted, the United States Naval Academy, located in Annapolis, Maryland, is a premier training institution offering a comprehensive 4-year midshipmen course. It was established in 1845 by George Bancroft, the then-Secretary of the U.S. Navy.

To date, more than 60,000 young men and women have graduated from the academy. Many of these graduates have worked up their way to earn a special place in the nation's pride and history.

The academy offers the latest academic and professional training, keeping abreast with the cutting-edge technologies utilized in naval warfare. Apart from the strenuous physical training and exhaustive curriculum, the academy strives to instill the highest ideals of duty, honor, and loyalty into its graduates. The stress is on overall physical, mental, moral and ethical development. All students are treated equally, irrespective of their race, religion, or sex.

The training program begins with Plebe Summer, which is the initial training program designed to familiarize the new arrivals with the naval life. Here, the students are taken through a routine consisting of military indoctrination, physical education, basic seamanship and sailing, small arms training, first aid, and computer training. The four-year immersion program involves comprehensive classroom and field training.

The professional courses include naval science, engineering, navigation and weapons systems. These courses are designed to give the trainee a working knowledge of modern naval operations and technology. Additionally, courses in leadership, ethics and military law provide the necessary leadership skills and sense of responsibility, which are the absolute qualities needed for an upper-class midshipman and a commissioned officer.

Leadership skills are further groomed by the academy's athletic program. The trainees are encouraged to participate in a variety of athletic events to make them fit and fine.

The strenuous physical training of the Naval Academy is complemented by its quality academic education. The faculty consists of 600 highly qualified members, derived from both the Navy and civilian background. The curriculum includes courses in engineering, science, mathematics, humanities, and social science.

Apart from the general subjects, the students can choose a subject for a major. The students excelling in the academic studies have the opportunity for enrolling in special scholarship and honors programs.

The United States Naval Academy boasts state-of-the-art facilities and equipment such as a propulsion lab, wind tunnels, towing tanks, sub-critical nuclear reactor, oceanographic research vessel, Cassegrain reflector telescope, and a 12-meter satellite earth station.

The Naval Academy is accredited by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle State Association of Colleges and Schools. Additionally, six of the engineering majors are professionally accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). A highlight of the four-year training program is the eight weeks of annual summer training. Starting with the initial Plebe Summer program, the summer trainings are held at the end of each academic year, proceeding through Third class, Second class and finally First class.

Specialized trainings on ships, submarines, and naval crafts are given, along with simulations of naval operations. The final summer program gives an opportunity for the trainees to test their leadership skills. They are posted in any Navy or Marine Corps operational unit as junior officers. Here, the trainees can choose their areas of specialization such as surface warship, submarine, aircraft carrier, or aviation squadron.

On completion of the 4-year training program, the graduates are commissioned as an ensign in the Navy or a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps.

The Naval Academy Mission

The Naval Academy has a unique clarity of purpose, expressed in the mission, which is verbalized in a mission statement. On the next page, look at a few Midshipmen enjoying becoming Naval Officers at graduation.

United States Naval Academy Graduation



United States Naval Academy Graduation

The mission is simple:

"To develop Midshipmen morally, mentally and physically and to imbue them with the highest ideals of duty, honor and loyalty in order to graduate leaders who are dedicated to a career of naval service and have potential for future development in mind and character to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship and government."



The Naval Academy mission forms the basis for everything the students do, and the Administration supports at the Academy. It also encourages a sense of spirit and pride found at few other schools.



You can see the school spirit in the stands. Remember, not all students at the Academy play football. But, they love the team as it reflects a lot of Naval spirit and tradition.

Chapter 3 Navy Fields & Stadiums

Worden Field was not the first Navy Field



The First Navy Football Team from 1879

Worden Field was not the last field used for regular home games either. Moreover, for big games such as Army and Notre Dame, often Navy would find a much larger field such as Franklin Field or Soldier Field or the Polo Grounds to accommodate a much larger crowd, The first football field used for a Navy game was a temporary field drawn on part of the superintendent's cow pasture. The Naval

Academy hosted a Baltimore Athletic Club Football Squad for the first and only engagement of the year and with the Baltimore Team.

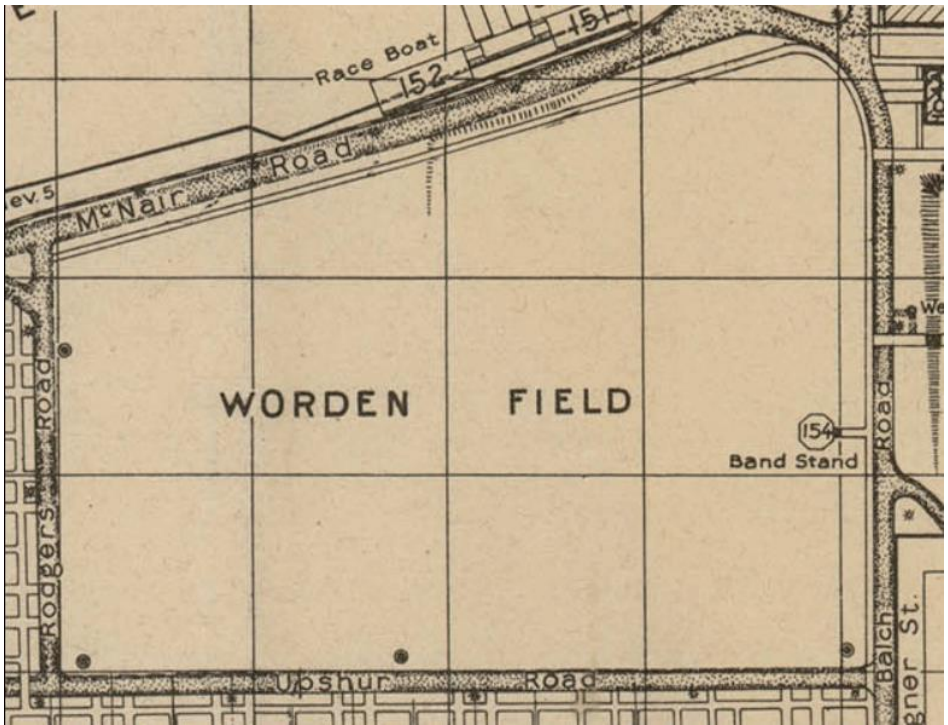
In all subsequent writeups of Navy games, the field is listed as #unknown until 1891 when Navy began to list Worden Field as its regular home field.



A picture of Worden Field. You can see the faint color of football lines on the grass

As you can see in the picture, Worden Field is a large grass field located on the campus of the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. First mentioned in 1890, the field served as the home stadium for the academy's Midshipmen football team from that year through 1923, replaced by Thompson Stadium in 1924. Since the early 1900s, the field has hosted all of the academy's various yearly parades and many of its drills. It has progressively grown smaller, due to the addition of buildings and roads within the academy.

The field is bordered on all four sides by small academy roads. On two of its sides, it is surrounded by officers' quarters and is bounded by a parking lot and the Severn River on its other two borders. It has rows of bleachers located along its south side and has long contained a small gazebo on its east side. A small historical marker is located on the southwest corner; it is used regularly for drills and important parades. Check out the map on the next page.



Thompson Stadium

As Navy became a more popular name in College Football, more fans wanted to see games featuring the Midshipmen. After Worden Field, the greatest advantage of which was that it costs basically nothing, and it cost nothing to maintain, there was a better option available for the Mids.

Robert Means Thompson Stadium was that answer. It was an American football stadium in the Eastern United States, located on the campus of the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

It was constructed in 1914. However, it was not until 1924 that it became the home stadium of the Navy Midshipmen and was where all, but special games were played until 1958. From 1924 through 1958, Thompson Stadium was the place to be for Navy fans on Saturday Afternoon.

It was named after alumnus Robert Means Thompson (1849–1930). He created or led several athletically-based organizations at the academy until his death. It was succeeded by the larger Navy–Marine Corps Memorial Stadium in 1959, the current venue of Navy football.

Before its conversion to a football stadium, the Thompson Stadium site was an unused area on the south end campus, near the water of Annapolis Harbor. Work on the stadium began in 1914 and was finished later the same year but not used for football til 1924.

Navy was becoming a college football powerhouse and in fact, the 1926 Navy team was named as the national champion under Board and Houlgate Systems with a 9-0-1 record.

The seating capacity of Thompson was 12,000, and it underwent few changes during its entire use. It was surrounded by a regulation quarter-mile (402 m) running track, and only had a single seating section, along the southwest sideline. The field had a northwest-southeast alignment, at an elevation slightly above sea level.

During the 1940s, the Naval Academy began to look for options to construct a new, larger football stadium. The school's directors collected money to build the stadium, for which much support was given by the public, due to the lack of seating at Thompson Stadium. Construction on the new stadium began in 1958 and it opened in September 1959. The use of Thompson Stadium ended for varsity games, but it remained a mainstay until the early 1980s, when it was replaced by Lejeune Hall, the venue for USNA water sports.

From its origins until 1931, Thompson Stadium went without a name, and was referred to on maps as simply "Football Field." That year on May 30, the stadium was formally dedicated as the Robert Means Thompson Stadium, for the benefactor and alumnus of the Naval Academy.

Born in March 1849, Thompson graduated from the Naval Academy as part of the class of 1868. He was commissioned as an officer in the Navy in 1869 but retired two years later to pursue a career in law. After leaving the navy, Thompson became active in helping with the athletics program at the academy, donating the Thompson Cup, an award given to the academy's athlete with the greatest improvement

throughout the course of the season. In addition, he served as the head of several Naval Academy organizations and founded the Naval Academy Athletic Association.

Looking back in summary, we see that the Naval Academy's football team played their first game 139 years ago in 1879, an away game against the Baltimore Athletic Club, which ended in a scoreless tie.

The Navy football team, not yet known as the "midshipmen," did not have an official stadium. For the duration of the 1880s, during which the squads obtained a record of thirteen wins, twelve losses, and two ties, the football squads most likely played home games on an unused #unknown, drill or parade field.

From the beginning of the 1890s until 1924, a period in which the Navy squads finished with an overall record of 202–82–23 (.695), the football team used Worden Field, a large multi-use athletic field for their home games.

Army–Navy Game

This game was first played at Thompson Stadium at Annapolis in 1942 and the following year it was played at Michie Stadium, but just once, in 1943 during World War II,. Neither Army nor Navy have played at an on-campus facility since very early in the rivalry, since neither teams' home stadiums are large enough to accommodate the crowds and media that usually attend these great rivalry games. Their rivalry game is normally played at a neutral site between the campuses on the East Coast, most often in Philadelphia in early December.

Here is a list for your convenience from Wikipedia and other sources on the Internet of stadiums in which Navy played Army from the first game ever.

Total games by venue and geography

Venue	Games	Army victories	Navy victories	Tie games	First game	Most recent game
<u>John F. Kennedy Stadium</u>	41	16	22	3	1936	1979
<u>Franklin Field</u>	18	11	7	0	1899	1935
<u>Veterans Stadium</u>	17	11	5	1	1980	2001
<u>Lincoln Financial Field</u>	11	1	10	0	2003	2017
<u>Polo Grounds</u>	9	5	3	1	1913	1927
<u>Giants Stadium</u>	4	1	3	0	1989	2002
<u>M&T Bank Stadium</u>	4	1	3	0	2000	2016
<u>The Plain</u>	2	0	2	0	1890	1892

Venue	Games	Army victories	Navy victories	Tie games	First game	Most recent game
<u>Worden Field</u>	2	1	1	0	1891	1893
<u>Municipal Stadium (Baltimore)</u>	2	2	0	0	1924	1944
<u>Yankee Stadium</u>	2	2	0	0	1930	1931
<u>Osborne Field</u>	1	0	0	1	1905	1905
<u>Soldier Field</u>	1	0	0	1	1926	1926
<u>Thompson Stadium</u>	1	0	1	0	1942	1942
<u>Michie Stadium</u>	1	0	1	0	1943	1943
<u>Rose Bowl</u>	1	0	1	0	1983	1983

Venue	Game s	Army victori es	Navy victori es	Tie game s	First gam e	Most rece nt gam e
<u>FedExFie ld</u>	1	0	1	0	2011	2011

FYI We hope to bring out another version of Great Moments in Navy Football in about five years. It will have a nice section on Naval Academy Football that offers a commentary on what’s new Thank you for choosing this book among the many that are in your options list. I sincerely appreciate it! We plan to offer two new Navy titles over the next six months highlighting great players and great coaches of the Midshipmen from over the years.

The best to you all – Go Navy!

Chapter 4 Navy "Hires" First Football Coach

1879	No coach	
1880-1981	No team	
1982	Vaulx Carter	Coach #1

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Conf</u>	<u>Record</u>
1879	No coach	0-0-1	Indep	
1880	No team	-	-	-
1881	No team	-	-	-
1882	Vaulx Carter	1-0	Indep	1-0



1890 First Army Navy Game (Only game this season) Notice no protective gear

Nobody of the day would have characterized it as a hiring. But the formerly coach-less Middies became managed by a real coach. The 1879 season was unique in many ways. First of all, it was Navy's first football season. Second, it was a player who arranged the game to begin Navy's many seasons of football, and Third, it was one of the few seasons in which the Army-Navy game was not played. It was too early for anybody to have thought of it. Navy was the first service academy to field a football team with or without a coach.

So, at the time, Army had no football team and did not get a team to play any football until 1890, and in this 1890 season, Army played just one game—Navy. Army's football program began on November 29, 1890, when Navy played in the only game of Army's short inaugural season.

A short history of Army-Navy bouts

On December 8, 2018 the teams played their 119th Army-Navy game. From 1890 to 2018, the game was not played just six times. The first five non-game seasons were from 1894-1898. In the years 1894 to 1898, no games were played between Army and Navy. According to Military.com, the suspension came about because the rivalry was so intense that the 1893 game between the two almost ended with a duel between Army and Navy officers. The Secretary of Navy and the Secretary of War banned the two teams from playing each other and the ban lasted five years.

In 1909, the game was not played because Army had canceled its remaining games after Cadet Eugene Byrne died from a football injury sustained in an October game against Harvard. Twice during World War I, in 1917 and in 1918, games were canceled on orders from the War Department. And in 1928 and 1929, the academies could not reconcile player eligibility standards.

Despite those few difficulties, both Navy and Army officers of their respective academies will swear that the most important football game of any year is the Army-Navy game. Though Air Force has whipped both Army and Navy for a number of years, the Falcons do not measure as a part of this major rivalry.

The Army football program began on November 29, 1890, when Navy challenged the Cadets to a game of the relatively new sport. Navy defeated Army at West Point that year, but Army avenged the loss and beat the Midshipmen in Annapolis the following year.

The academies continue to clash every December in what is traditionally the last regular-season Division I college-football game. The 2016 Army-Navy Game marked Army's overcoming its fourteenth consecutive loss to Navy, defeating the Midshipmen in a great game W (21-17). Army won again in 2017 in a one-point game. In 2018, the Navy is ready to make amends. This book is not yet at the point of the year in which this game is complete so we will have to put the final parts of this year's season on our web site at

www.letsGOPublish.com.

Look for it please and you will get the same text as would have been here in this book and the Great Moments book and the Great Coaches book. Enjoy.

From 1944 to 1950, Army had a phenomenal run which included all wins against Navy--57 wins, 3 losses and 4 ties. During this time span, Army won three national championships. It was Army's heyday and nobody in the country could beat them consistently.

As noted, on November 29th, 1890, over 125 years ago, Army hosted Navy at West Point on the Plain in their very first football game. Navy beat Army 24-0 that day. Army did not take too long to learn how to win. The Cadets came back the next year with a 32-to-16 win.

Before it had lived for five years, the classic rivalry almost died an early death in 1894, when, for mostly stupid reasons, such as the prospects of an officer's duel, both academies, the teams were forbidden to play anything but HOME games. Some would suggest that the intensity of the rivalry was such that only a cessation of the mini-war would end the immediate hostilities among the officers.

One of the greatest football fans of the ages was Teddy Roosevelt. At the time, TR was Assistant Secretary of the Navy. After an appeal to bring back the games that was made to President Theodore Roosevelt, the game was re-instated in 1899. Some bureaucrat in Washington had taken five good years away from the rivalry. Heck they could have brought in the National Guard to prevent the DUEL!

Since 1899, with just a few interruptions as noted above, it's been "game on" ever since.

Few may know this but in the pre-Super Bowl era, Army-Navy was widely considered to be THE game to watch. I can remember cozying up on the 363 High Street WB PA couch with my dad in his favorite chair watching the Army-Navy game in the 1950's on our 1956 B/W Admiral Console TV.

Usually played on neutral ground in Philadelphia or elsewhere, the game quickly became a magnet for Presidents. Harry Truman was a frequent fan, and John F. Kennedy attended in 1962.

In the period of mourning following his assassination, the very next year, it was Jacqueline Kennedy who urged that the game go on, as her late husband(a Navy guy) was a great fan of the rivalry.

Navy won 21-to-15, in a game also remembered for featuring the very first instant replay ... a CBS Sports innovation, as it happens. Sadly enough, that game cannot be replayed now as it was erased long ago.

After 119 games in the series, when this book went to press, Navy currently led the series with 60 wins to Army's 52, with seven ties. In the 2016 game, another president was in attendance. This was president elect Donald Trump. He was in the crowd for the 117th match. Like him or not, our President supports the Army-Navy game.



President-elect Donald Trump waved to the crowd and pumped his fist as he arrived in the first quarter of the Saturday December 10, 2016 edition of The Army-Navy game

Navy had won 14 straight contests in the rivalry, but Army's underdog Black Knights prevailed 21-17, in a fourth-quarter comeback that came weeks after Trump's stunning victory over Hillary Clinton.

Trump spent the first half of the game in the box of David Urban, a West Point graduate and one of his Republican advisers in battleground Pennsylvania, and the second half in the box of retired Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North, a graduate of Annapolis. The Marines are in fact a subdivision of the Navy and operate under Navy auspices.

1890 Army-Navy-Game was 1st Army Navy Game

This game which, since 1890, comes almost like clockwork in late November or early December, does not have the same national championship implications it once had during some of the many seasons of Navy football. Some think that the rise of the National Football League has a lot to do with that, as elite young athletes now are choosing major colleges as a path to the professional game rather than one of the service academies as a path to serving their country.



USNA Navy Midshipmen 1890 Football Team that Beat Army

And there is nothing wrong with that.

The U.S. Armed Forces have fought for centuries to allow all Americans the right to choose whatever profession they desire.

So, most of the players in the 119th version of the rivalry that played in 2018 were more likely to end up at Naval Station Norfolk than with the 49ers—a choice they've proudly made.

Still, the contest has produced its share of extremely talented players, including Heisman Trophy winners Roger Staubach (Navy, 1963), Joe Bellino (Navy, 1960), Pete Dawkins (Army, 1958), Glenn Davis (Army, 1946) and Felix "Doc" Blanchard (Army, 1945).

As we go through each season, since the players drive the great Army-Navy games, we will amplify the short coverage of arguably some of the greatest games in the history of this historic rivalry featuring players who all eventually would wind up being professionals.

In their inaugural season, the Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy. Officially with a coach Navy kept getting better as a team.

The Army-Navy game was a different animal. In the 1890 college football season. Navy had been playing for over ten years and its record was 5-1-1 including the win against Army. In its first season fielding a team in inter collegiate football, Army had compiled a 0-1-0 record with just one game played. The game was against Navy.

Navy had been playing organized football in 1879. On an intramural and "fooling around" basis, footballs had been tossed around on Navy's campus for a number of years before the first season (one game) in 1879.

After Navy had been playing for a number of years, the Army-Navy match was a natural. In this historical game, the Army team lost to the Navy team, L (0-24). Navy's Midshipmen were the only players to score in the kickoff game to a long-time series of great Army-Navy Games.

Even though it was just a first for Army, there was a lot of pre-game publicity. In fact, a week before the game, the New York Times reported that the planned match "is beginning to assume almost national proportions."

During the game, Army's quarterback Kirby Walker was knocked out of the game four times, the last time being carried off the field and to the hospital in an unconscious state. As you can see in the picture beginning this chapter, in those days there was no protective headgear.

After the victory, Navy Cadets in Annapolis "fired twenty-four great guns, and then paraded the streets with horns." If the score were reversed, Army would have been doing some powerful celebrating

also. As it is, the Cadets would have to wait just one more year in order to get back at Navy for the loss.

1879 Navy Midshipmen Football No Coach

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Military Academy in the 1879 college football season. It was their first season of intercollegiate football. There was no coach. The team played as an independent (no conference) and had a one-game record of 0-1-1. First-classman William John Maxwell and several friends got the team together to play the Baltimore Athletic Club and Maxwell served in the Captain role, which for a coach-less team meant he was the de-facto Coach.

The Naval Academy's football program is one of the nation's oldest, with its history dating back to 1879. Army did not get into football for twelve more years in 1890. The tale of how Navy began its football program is told in many sources across the Internet. All of the sources that I have read basically tell the same story.

There were two separate efforts to establish a Naval Academy football team in 1879. The first was guided by first-classman J.H. Robinson, who developed it as a training regimen to help keep the school's baseball team in shape. Because American Football rules were still being formed at the time, the team played the sport under rules that made it much closer to soccer, where the players were permitted only to kick the ball in order to advance it.

The second effort, headed by first-classman William John Maxwell was more successful in its efforts. Maxwell met with two of his friends, Tunstall Smith and Henry Woods, who played for the Baltimore Athletic Club and officially challenged their team to a game with the Naval Academy. A team was formed from academy first-classmen, which Maxwell led as a manager, trainer, and captain.

The team would wake up and practice before reveille and following drill and meals. The squad received encouragement from some of the faculty, who allowed them to eat a late dinner and skip final drill for additional practicing. This was against the direct orders of the school superintendent, who had banned football and similar activities.

The year's sole contest was played on December 11 against the Baltimore Athletic Club. The opposition's team was reportedly composed of players from Princeton, Yale, Pennsylvania, and Johns Hopkins.

The Naval Academy hosted the Baltimore team on a temporary field drawn on part of the superintendent's cow pasture. Rules decided upon between the teams established that the game was to be played under rugby rules. The Baltimore American and Chronicle, which covered the contest, described it well.

The game, played under rugby rules, was a battle from beginning to end—a regular knock down and drag out fight. Both sides became immediately excited and the audience was aroused to the highest pitch of enthusiasm by the spirited contest. The ball oscillated backward and forward over the ground without any material result.

The scrimmages were something awful to witness—living, kicking, scrambling masses of humanity surging to and from, each individual after the leather oval. If a Baltimorean got the ball and started for a run, he was unfailingly caught by one of the brawny Cadets and dashed to earth with five or six men falling on him.

The 1879 team introduced a white canvas jacket uniform (shown being tailored, c. 1892) which is believed to be the first in college football

The game was closely fought and was finally declared a scoreless tie by the referee about an hour after it began. Navy reportedly never gained possession of the ball. However, the Naval Academy managed to keep the Baltimore Athletic Club from ever being in a scoring position. On three separate occasions, Navy forced Baltimore back into its own end zone for a safety; these were not worth any points until 1882, however, so they offered Navy no benefit. The American and Chronicle reported that Maxwell, Craven, and Sample of Navy gave the strongest performances, but were also reckless in their play and were repeatedly penalized for jumping offside or kicking the ball out of play, a form of delay of game.



THE NAVAL ACADEMY FOOTBALL TAILOR

Sometime after the game, Walter Camp, known as the "Father of American Football", credited Maxwell as the inventor of the first football uniform. After he was informed that the Baltimore team, he was playing outweighed his by an average of ten pounds, Maxwell looked for a way to make the teams more evenly matched.

Using his knowledge of sailing, he decided to design a sleeveless canvas jacket which would make his players "difficult to grasp when they began to sweat". He presented the design to the academy's tailor, who created the double-lined jackets which "were laced down the front and drawn tightly to fit snugly

around a player's body". The weighted suits were worn by the team, which was confused by the "strangle, heavy, newfangled getups".

This was technically Navy's first season fielding a team in intercollegiate football, the Midshipmen compiled a 0-1-0 record with just this one game played in 1879.

1880 Navy Midshipmen Football No Team, No Coach

1881 Navy Midshipmen Football No Team, No Coach

1882 Navy Midshipmen Coach Vaulx Carter

WINNING FAME.

A Nashville Youth Receives a High Compliment in New York.

•Young Vaulx Carter, youngest son of the late Samuel J. and Anne Vaulx Carter, who was born in this city, is achieving eminence in the East. His working model of the projected Nicaragua ship canal has been accepted as the best. Harper's Weekly devotes a page to the project, and at the introduction of an elaborate article based on the model says: "Visitors to the American Institute Fair must have been struck by an object exhibited there for a few days, which, at a moment when the American Eagle is jealously scrutinizing the attitude of the French Government with regard to the abortive and distracting Panama Canal, assumes no small degree of interest and importance. This was the working model of the projected Nicaragua Inter-Oceanic Ship Canal, designed and constructed by Mr. Vaulx Carter, who has been awarded the contract for the work by the canal company, in open competition with several skilled engineers; his design having been selected both on account of its intrinsic merit and its applicability to the difficulties of the situation. Mr. Carter is a young man of Southern birth, but he has resided for the greater part of his life in Brooklyn. He was educated at Swarthmore College, and at the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis. While at the latter place he became permanently lame, and since then he has devoted himself to drawing, engineering and designing, for the last of which he has a decided natural taste. Mr. Carter holds at present the position of Instructor in Mechanical Drawing and Mechanics at the Technical Institute, New York, and this interesting and ingenious model, which is now on its tour of the principal cities of the United States, is the product of his spare time.

William Vaulx Carter became a Brigadier General, United States Army. His biography was provided courtesy of Russell C. Jacobs, Aug. 2007 He led a long life. William Vaulx Carter (1883-1971)

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Military Academy in their second college football season in 1882It . It was their second season of intercollegiate football. There was a coach for the first time. The team played as an independent (no conference) and had a one-game record of 1-0-0.

Navy's First Football Season with a Coach

The team was coached by player-coach Vaulx Carter, and was entirely student-operated. It was captained by squad member Alex Jackson. The team played just a single game, an 8 to 0 (8–0) shutout of Johns Hopkins, which was the school's first ever win. The squad was entirely student operated and was not supported by the Naval Academy's faculty. The season would mark the beginning of eight season rivalry between the Midshipmen and Johns Hopkins.

On Nov 30, the Mids took on the Clifton Athletic Club in an unknown field in Annapolis and prevailed W (8-0)

There is a lot of information written about this lone game in 1982.

The 1882 season began when second-year cadet Vaulx Carter formed a team, which he led as both a player and the coach. Alex Jackson was appointed captain of the squad. Carter scheduled a single game for the season, which was played on Thanksgiving Day against the Baltimore-based Clifton Football Club. The Clifton team was made up of players from Johns Hopkins University, who were unable to play for their school due to their administrator's negative views towards the sport.

Navy's team itself played without official permission; the first year the team received approval was in 1885, when, according to Morris Allison Bealle, "some of the faculty actually gave in and admitted that football might, at that, be or become an interesting diversion".

It snowed heavily before the game, to the point where players for both teams had to clear layers of snow off of the field, making large piles of snow along the sides of the playing ground. The field was 110 yards by 53 yards, with goalposts 25 feet (7.6 m) apart and 20 feet (6.1 m) high. The first half of the game went scoreless; the Baltimore American reported that "the visitors pushed Navy every place but over the goal line in the first half".

During play, the ball was kicked over the seawall a number of times, once going so far out it had to be retrieved by boat before play could continue. The American described the second half in detail.

After ten minutes interval the ball was again put in play, this time being kicked off by the Cliftons. The rest period had apparently stiffened the Cliftons, for the Academy making a vigorous spurt got the ball thru them, and Street, following it up well, scored a touchdown for the Academy.

The try at goal failed, but the ball, instead of going to the Cliftons behind the line, fell into the field and into the hands of one of the Academy team. By a quick decisive run, he again got the ball over the Cliftons goal line and scored a touchdown.

Cadet George Washington Street, of Wisconsin, was identified as the first person ever to score a touchdown for the Naval Academy. The Baltimore Sun stated that William Ambrose O'Malley, of Pennsylvania, was the cadet who caught Street's blocked kick and scored the second touchdown. The Sun also covered, in detail, the uniforms the squads wore; Johns Hopkins sported blue, black, and white striped uniforms, while the Naval Academy wore maroon and white uniforms. Both teams also nailed strips of leather to the bottom of their shoes to help deal with slipping.

Chapter 5 Navy Football Coach-less Seasons 1883-1891

1883-1891

No Coaches

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Conf</u>	<u>Record</u>
1883	No coach	0-1	Indep	0-1
1884	No coach	1-0	Indep	1-0
1885	No coach	1-2	Indep	1-2
1886	No coach	3-3	Indep	3-3
1887	No coach	3-1	Indep	3-1
1888	No coach	1-4	Indep	1-4
1889	No coach	4-1-1	Indep	4-1-1
1890	No coach	5-1-1	Indep	5-1-1
1891	No coach	5-2	Indep	5-2

1883 Navy Midshipmen No Coach

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1883 college football season. It was their fourth season of intercollegiate football. This squad was the first to have the approval of the academy's staff, and the one game is regarded by many as the first official game played by the Midshipmen. This season continued a seven-season, eight game rivalry between the Naval Academy and Johns Hopkins. There was no coach this year while Frank Hill served as team captain. As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 0-1-0.

The Naval Academy team played its only game of the 1883 season against a squad from Johns Hopkins University. Previously, the Navy team was operated entirely by students. The game was played at the Naval Academy on November 29, 1883, Thanksgiving Day, most likely on an unused drill field or parade field. This "0 to 2" shutout-loss to Johns Hopkins, was the school's first ever loss. The game "began in heat and discussion", with the "skillful and light weight" Johns Hopkins controlling the "endurance and muscle" of the Naval Academy's team.

However, tensions in the game quickly escalated. During the middle of the game, "matters grew so hot" that Johns Hopkins players were preparing to stop playing. Johns Hopkins scored two single-point safeties and shutout Navy, winning 2-0. The game as the pundits proclaimed say "ended in quarrel and wrangle".

1884 Navy Midshipmen No Coach

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1884 college football season. It was their fourth season of intercollegiate football. This season continued as part of a seven-season, eight game rivalry between the Naval Academy and Johns Hopkins. There was no coach again this year while Jim Kittrell served as team captain. As an independent football entity, the team had an unblemished one-game season record of 1-0. This was the final season that a Naval Academy team would go unbeaten and untied.

The season like the last began and ended with one game. The sole game of Navy's 1884 season was what had become the annual competition against rival Johns Hopkins, the third consecutive playing of the series. In what was the final season where the rivalry was the only game of the year, Navy defeated Johns Hopkins 9–6.

The game, played on November 27, was hosted by the Academy, likely on an unused drill or parade field. In an unusual agreement between the two schools, the contest was played entirely under rugby rules. In the first half, Hopkins scored twice, on a touchdown from Mr. Bonsall and on a two-point safety. Navy scored twice in the second half of the game, when halfback Julius Dashiell, brother of Hopkins' Paul Dashiell, kicked a five-point goal and rusher David W. Taylor scored a touchdown to secure a victory. The game was somewhat marred by one of the players suffering a broken collarbone and another spraining an ankle.

1885 Navy Midshipmen No Coach

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1886 college football season. It was their fifth season of intercollegiate football. This was the fifth year in which the team competed. This season continued as part of a seven-season, eight game rivalry between the Naval Academy and Johns Hopkins. There was no coach again this year while Cornelius Billings served as team captain. [They were coached by Harry Nelly in his second of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen.] As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 1-2. This was the first season Navy played more than one game.

On Nov 24 in the season opener, in an unknown field in Annapolis, the Midshipmen defeated St. John's College W (46–10) . The next game on Nov 26 was against rival John Hopkins in a carved-out field for the game on Navy's campus, The Midshipmen lost L (8-12) in a close match. On Nov 28, Navy lost their second game Princeton reserve team Unknown location in Annapolis, MD L 10–0

The Naval Academy scheduled three games for the 1885 season, breaking from the tradition of playing only Johns Hopkins. According to Morris Allison Bealle, "Football at Annapolis had shed its swaddling clothes when the autumn of 1885 rolled around. Some of the faculty actually gave in and admitted that football might, at that, be or become an interesting diversion" so the squad was allowed to schedule three games.

As noted, the first game was played against St. John's College, also located in Annapolis. The game kicked off a brief rivalry with St. John's, which would conclude in 1911 with Navy winning eighteen of twenty-one contests. The 1885 match was a 46–10 blowout victory over St. John's. The second game of the season was the annual Thanksgiving Day match against Johns Hopkins. After winning the previous year, Navy fell to Johns Hopkins 12–8.

The season concluded with the Naval Academy challenging the Princeton freshman team, a game which ended in a 10–0 shutout loss for Navy.[7]

1886 Navy Midshipmen No Coach

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1886 college football season. It was their sixth season of intercollegiate football. This 6-game season continued as part of a seven-season, eight game rivalry between the Naval Academy and Johns Hopkins. There was no coach again this year while Clarence Stone served as team captain. As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 3-3-0. This was the first season that a Naval Academy team would play more than three games,

All games were played on makeshift fields that were available on the Navy's Annapolis campus.

On Nov 10, in the season opener, Navy beat St. John's College W (12-0). Then on Nov 13, the Midshipmen defeated Johns Hopkins W)6-0). On November 19, the Midshipmen lost to St. John's College L (0-4) On Nov 25 in a second game v Johns Hopkins, the Midshipmen prevailed W (15-14). Then, on Nov 27, the Princeton reserve team beat Navy L (0-30). In the last game of the season on Dec 4, Gallaudet defeated Navy L 16-0.

Season Details:

Against St. Johns, one of the first contests in what would become a heated rivalry, Navy won the game with relative ease, 12-0. The following game was against Johns Hopkins, played on November 13. The contest was an irregularity in the schools' rivalry; all previous and most following games were played on Thanksgiving Day, as a part of the Naval Academy's Thanksgiving athletic carnival.

Although the score was close, a 6-0 win for the Naval Academy, Hopkins was never a threat to the cadets. After this point, the Academy's luck shifted. The squad was upset 4-0 in a rematch with St. Johns, and barely defeated Johns Hopkins in a 15-14 contest, played as a part of the athletic carnival. The Baltimore American covered the Johns Hopkins game in detail:

Early in the first half, by much rushing, forcing, snapbacks and vigorous bullyragging Riggs, the huge Hopkins quarterback, crashed over the goal line for 4 points. Paul Dashiell converted. Riggs repeated his performance, but Dashiell missed conversion. Navy then adopted the Hopkins rushing tactics and Stone went over for the first score.

With Hopkins backed up against her own goal line, Dashiell broke through the entire Navy team for a touchdown. Goal was missed, and the score was 14 to 6 against Navy. With the game fast coming to a close The Tars formed a closely-knit ball with the halfback in center.

Navy hit pay dirt but the referee found something illegal and called the ball back, much to the consternation of the Cadet rooters. But on the next play George Hayward kicked a field goal, making the score 14 to 11. Just before the game ended a double

pass, Bill Cloke to captain Clarence Stone, carried to ball over the Hopkins goal for the 4 points that won the game.

Just two days after the second Hopkins game, on November 27, the Naval Academy challenged the Princeton Tigers reserve squad and was easily shutout, 30–0. The Academy never came close to scoring on the reserves. The Naval Academy hosted Gallaudet in its final game of the season sometime in December, a contest that the visitors won in a shutout, 16–0.

1887 Navy Midshipmen No Coach

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1887 college football season. It was their seventh season of intercollegiate football. This 4-game season continued as part of a seven-season, eight game rivalry between the Naval Academy and Johns Hopkins. There was no coach again this year while George Hayward served as team captain. As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 3-1-0.

All games were played on makeshift fields that were available on the Navy's Annapolis campus.

The season opened on Nov 5 as Navy beat St. John's College on the Annapolis Campus W (4-0). On Nov 12, the Midshipmen beat St. John's College again W 24–0. On Thanksgiving, Nov 24, Navy beat Johns Hopkins at Annapolis, Maryland W 8–0. In the season finale, on Nov 26, the Princeton Reserves beat the Navy L (5-22).

The Johns Hopkins game was played at the Academy grounds in Annapolis, Maryland, and was described by The Sun (New York) as "a veritable slugging match" and "one of the roughest games of football" ever seen there. In the final game of the 1887 season, the Midshipmen lost to the Princeton Tigers "B" team in the final game of the season.

1888 Navy Midshipmen No Coach

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1888 college football season. It was their eighth season of intercollegiate football. This 5-game season continued as part of a seven-season, eight game rivalry between the Naval Academy and

Johns Hopkins. There was no coach again this year while George Fermier served as team captain. As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 1-4-0.

All games were played on makeshift fields that were available on the Navy's Annapolis campus.

The season opener on Oct 27, found Navy losing a close one to St. John's College L (4–6). This was followed on Nov 3, by a victory over Gallaudet L(4–0.) Next was a close loss on Nov 29 v Johns Hopkins L (12–25). Then, on Dec 1 Penn beat the Midshipmen L (9–20). Navy lost its season finale on Dec 9 to St. John's College L (6–22).

1889 Navy Midshipmen No Coach

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1889 college football season. It was their ninth season of intercollegiate football. There was no coach again this year while Albertus Caitlin as team captain. As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 4-1-1.

All games were played on makeshift fields that were available on the Navy's Annapolis campus.

On Oct 26, Navy beat St. John's College W 20–10. Then on Nov 9, the Midshipmen defeated Johns Hopkins in their classic football rivalry by a big score W (36–0). On Nov 9 Navy and Dickinson played to a tie game T (0–0). The next game was Lehigh on Nov 28, and the Midshipmen suffered their first loss of the season L (6–26). On Dec 7, for the first time the Midshipmen played and beat Virginia W (26–6). On Christmas day, Navy beat the Washington All-Stars W (24–0) to wrap up the 1889 season.

1890 Navy Midshipmen No Coach

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1890 college football season. It was their tenth season of intercollegiate football. There was no coach again this year while Charles Emrich was team captain. [They were coached by George Chaump in his first of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen.] As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 5-1-1.

Navy achieved a nice 5–1–1 record and outscored its opponents 204 to 49. The season as noted below featured the inaugural meeting in the Army–Navy Game, which ended in a W (24–0) victory for Navy. After the victory, Navy cadets in Annapolis "fired twenty-four great guns, and then paraded the streets with horns.

All games were played on makeshift fields that were available on the Navy's Annapolis campus. The 1890 season results are as follows

On Oct 25, Navy shellacked St. John's College W (45–0). The next game against Georgetown on Nov 1 was a runaway with the midshipmen winning in a blowout W (70-4). At Annapolis again on Nov 8, the midshipmen beat Dickinson W 32–6. This was followed on Nov 12 by a tie v the Columbia Athletic Club T (6-6). On Nov 27, the Midshipmen lost their only game of the season v Lehigh L (4–24). Then in the first ever edition of the classic Army-Navy game, played on Nov 29, at Army on The Plain in West Point, NY, Navy prevailed W (24–0) Then on Dec 7, Navy gained a victory over Gallaudet W(24–0).

1891 Navy Midshipmen Final Year with No Coach

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1891 college football season. It was their eleventh season of intercollegiate football. There was no coach again this year while Charles Macklin was team captain. As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 5-2.

The season opened on Oct 24 with a nice win v St. John's College at Worden Field, Annapolis, MD W (28–6). On Oct 31, Navy beat Rutgers W (21–12). Then, on Nov 7, the Midshipmen grabbed a close win v Gallaudet W (6–0). On Nov 11, the Midshipmen beat Georgetown W (16–4)

Three days later on Nov 14, Navy crushed Dickinson W (34-4) . On Nov 21, in a tough close game, Lehigh defeated the Midshipmen L (0–4) . In the second “annual” Army-Navy Game on Nov 28 at Army, the Cadets prevailed L 16–32.

Chapter 6 Five Navy Coaches from 1892-1896

Crosby	Coach # 2
Hartwell	Coach # 3
Wurtenburg	Coach # 4
McClung	Coach # 5
Poe	Coach # 6

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Conf</u>	<u>Record</u>
1892	Ben Crosby	5-2	Indep	5-2
1893	Josh Hartwell	5-3	Indep	5-3
1894	Bill Wurtenburg	4-1-2	Indep	4-1-2
1895	Matt McClung	5-2	Indep	5-2
1896	Johnny Poe	5-3	Indep	5-3

1892 Navy Midshipmen Coach Ben Crosby

His full name was Benjamin Lewis Crosby. He was born March 22, 1868 and after a short life, he passed away on December 29, 1892 of typhoid fever. He played football, coached, and was a law student.

The Navy Season

Crosby received commendation for an Army-Navy victory, including a gift of a personalized trophy. When football was over, he went back to New York to continue his studies. However, he fell ill and was hospitalized after an illness he contracted while coaching worsened shortly after his arrival. He died from typhoid fever in late December, at the age of 24. He had a lot to offer Navy and wherever he might have ventured had he lived a normal length life.

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1892 college football season.

This was their second season with a coach and Navy would always have a coach for every season henceforth. It was their twelfth season of intercollegiate football. Martin Trench was team captain. They were coached by Ben Crosby in his first year of one as head coach of the Midshipmen. As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 5-2.

Instead of makeshift fields from this year onward, before the new stadium was built, home games were played at the named Worden Field. Since few colleges and athletic clubs in the 1890's could afford real football fields, having Worden Field was a big plus for Navy. Navy began playing a number of Ivy League schools such as Penn and Princeton as well as some "Little Ivies," such as Lafayette 7 Lehigh.

The season opener was October 12-- a loss played against a tough Penn Team at Worden Field L (0-16). Loss # 2 came on Oct 15 at home v Princeton L 0-28. The first win of the season was on Oct 22 v Lafayette at home W (22-4). Navy evened its record on Oct 29 v Franklin & Marshall W (24-0). Rutgers was next on Nov 5 as the Midshipmen hammered the Scarlet Knights W (48-12).

Navy beat Georgetown on Nov 19, W (40-0). In the annual season finale v Army, aka, the Army Navy Game, on Nov 26, at the Plain in West Point, NY, the Midshipmen defeated the Cadets. (Army-Navy Game)W (12-4)

1893 Navy Midshipmen Coach John Hartwell

John Augustus "Josh" Hartwell was born September 27, 1869 and he passed away at 71 on November 30, 1940. He played football, coached, was a military officer and a physician.

Navy Football 1893

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1893 college football season. This was their third season with a coach. It was their thirteenth season of intercollegiate football. Art Kavanagh was team captain. They were coached by John A. Hartwell in his first of one season as head coach of the Midshipmen. As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 5-3.

All games including the Army-Navy game were played at Worden Field on the campus of the Naval Academy.



1893 Navy Football Team

1894 Navy Midshipmen Coach William Wurtenburg

William Charles "Bill" Wurtenburg was born on Christmas Eve -- December 24, 1863 and he passed away on March 26, 1957). He was a college football player and coach. He grew up in Western New York to German parents and attended the prestigious Phillips Exeter Academy, where he played football.

He received his medical degree from Yale's Sheffield Scientific School in 1893. Then he was hired by the United States Naval Academy to coach their football team. He led the squad to a 4-1-2 record for the season, including a 1-1-1 record against rival schools. He then accepted a coaching job at Dartmouth College, and distinguished himself as a fine coach. He died in 1957 at the age of 93, in New Haven.

All games including the Army-Navy game were played at Worden Field on the campus of the Naval Academy.

1895 Navy Midshipmen Coach Matthew McClung

Matthew McClung Jr. was the fifth head football coach for the United States Naval Academy Midshipmen located in Annapolis, Maryland and he held that position for the 1895 season. His coaching record at United States Naval Academy was 5 wins, 2 losses, and 0 ties. As of the conclusion of the 2007 season, this ranks him 28th at United States Naval Academy in total wins and ninth at United States Naval Academy in winning percentage (.714).

He was an alumnus of Lehigh University, graduating in mining engineering in the class of 1894. He passed away in Illinois in 1908

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1895 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's fifteenth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Matthew McClung in his first and last season as head coach of the Midshipmen. Ed Macauley was team captain. As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 5-2.

All games including the Army-Navy game were played at Worden Field on the campus of the Naval Academy.

1896 Navy Midshipmen Coach Johnnie Poe

Johnnie Poe was a football player and a coach. He was a player at Princeton and dropped out, but he reenrolled and started at quarterback, moving to halfback midway through the season. After readmission, he played much better than in his freshman year. He finished second on the team for touchdowns scored. However, he was once again forced to leave the university for scholastic reasons. He then got around as best he could. He coached two seasons at Virginia, worked as a steamboat operator, selling real estate, and he was head coach of the fledgling Navy Football Team.

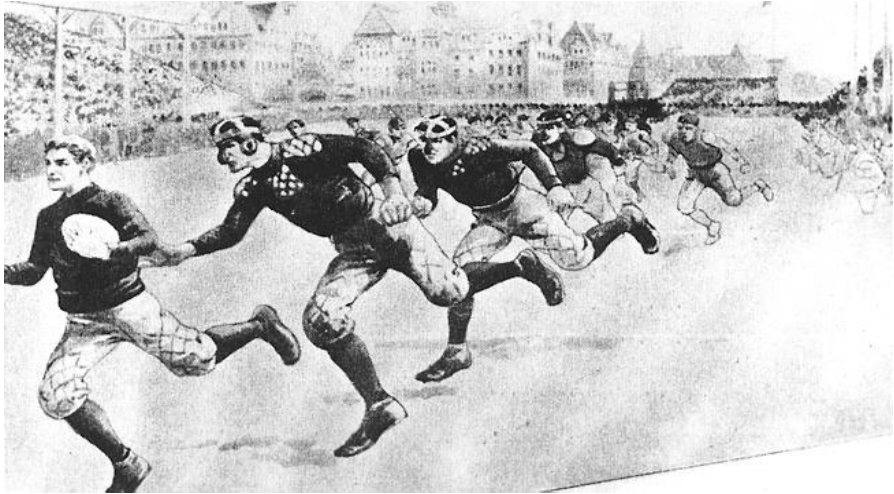
The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1895 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's sixteenth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Johnny Poe in his first and last season as head coach of the Midshipmen. Joe Powell was team captain. As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 5-3.

Chapter 7 Coaches Armstrong, Cochran, Hillebrand, 1897-1902

Armstrong Coach # 7
 Cochran Coach # 8
 Hillebrand Coach # 9

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Conf</u>	<u>Record</u>
1897	Bill Armstrong	8-1	Indep	8-1
1898	Bill Armstrong	7-1	Indep	7-1
1899	Bill Armstrong	5-3	Indep	5-3
1900	Garrett Cochran	6-3	Indep	6-3
1901	Doc Hillebrand	6-4-1	Indep	6-4-1
1902	Doc Hillebrand	2-7-1	Indep	2-7-1

1897 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bill Armstrong



Richard "Bill" Armstrong was born July 16, 1873 and he passed away on August 4, 1938). He was the seventh head college football coach for the United States Naval Academy Midshipmen located in Annapolis, Maryland. Armstrong held the head coaching position for three seasons, from 1897 until 1899.

Like most of the early coaches at Navy, because of the toughness of the Navy students who played football, and because most men were not as tough as a Navy officer, he had a fine coaching record at United States Naval Academy. It was 20 wins, 5 losses, and 0 ties. Armstrong had a name to go along with his personal toughness after growing up from his birth in Connecticut in 1873.

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1897 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's seventeenth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Bill Armstrong in his first of three fine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Johnny Halligan was team captain. As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 8-1, shut out seven opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 111 to 34. The Army–Navy Game was canceled due to Presidential cabinet order. It was Army's finest complete season to-date.

1898 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bill Armstrong

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1898 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's eighteenth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Bill Armstrong in his first of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Charles Fischer was team captain. As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 7-1, shut out three opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 130 to 56. The Army–Navy Game was again canceled due to Presidential cabinet order.

1899 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bill Armstrong

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1899 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's nineteenth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Bill Armstrong in his third and final season as head coach of the Midshipmen. Ward Wortman was team captain. As an independent football entity, the team had a record of 5-3, shut out five opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 94-27. It was Navy's finest complete season to-date.

1900 Navy Midshipmen Coach Garrett Cochran

Navy coach Garrett Cochran was born August 26, 1876 and he passed away on July 8, 1918. He was a football player and a coach. He played his college ball as an end at Princeton University from 1894 to 1897. He was a fine player, twice named to the College Football All-America Team.

He first served as the head football coach at the University of California, Berkeley (1898–1899), and then he came to Navy at the United States Naval Academy (1900) for just one year. Then he returned to Princeton University in 1902. His record as a coach in total was 29–5–3.

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1900 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's twentieth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Garrett Cochran in his first of one season as head coach of the Midshipmen. Orie Fowler was team captain. As an independent football entity, the team compiled a 6–3 record, outscored its opponents 106 to 51, and shut out five of its nine opponents.

1901 Navy Midshipmen Coach Art Hillebrand

Arthur Ralph Thomas "Doc" Hillebrand was born on March 9, 1877 and he passed away on December 14, 1941. He was a football and baseball player and coach. He played as a tackle for Princeton University and was the head football coach at the United States Naval Academy from 1901 to 1902 and also at his alma mater, Princeton, from 1903 to 1905. He compiled an overall career college football coaching record of 35–15–2.

In addition to football, he was good enough to be the head baseball coach at Navy and Princeton during the same years. His career college baseball coaching mark was 65–31. He was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame as player in 1970.

He is in this book because he coached Navy Football in 1901 and 1902. He served as the ninth head football coach at the United States Naval Academy located in Annapolis, Maryland . His coaching record at Navy was 8–11–2.

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1901 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's twenty-first season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Art Hillebrand in his first of two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Neil Nichols was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 6–4–1 record and outscored their opponents by a combined score of 113 to 81.

Best Army Navy Game #5

The 1901 game marked the first time a U.S. President attended the annual Army-Navy gridiron battle. Less than three months after taking office following the assassination of then-President William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt traveled to Philadelphia to watch the Cadets top the Midshipmen, 11-5.

Army's Charles Daly was the day's biggest standout. He kicked a field goal, and, with his team down 5-3, returned a kickoff 95 yards to open the second half. The defenses took over from there, and the Cadets won for the second time in three seasons.



President Roosevelt at 1901 Army Navy Game (Roosevelt loved Football--I know it is tough to see

1902 Navy Midshipmen Coach Art Hillebrand

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1902 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's twenty-second season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Art Hillebrand in his second of two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Charles Belknap was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen had a big problem winning and compiled their worst record in years, 2-7-1. They were outscored by opponents by a combined score of 99 to 35.

Chapter 8 Coaches Chamberlain, Dashiell, Reeves, Berrien—1903-1910

Chamberlain	Coach #10
Dashiell	Coach #11
Reeves	Coach #12
Berrien	Coach #13

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Conference</u>	<u>Record</u>
1903	Burr Chamberlain	4-7-1	Indep	4-7-1
1904	Paul Dashiell	7-2-1	Indep	7-2-1
1905	Paul Dashiell	10-1-1	Indep	10-1-1
1906	Paul Dashiell	8-2-2	Indep	8-2-2
1907	Joe Reeves	9-2-1	Indep	9-2-1
1908	Frank Berrien	9-2-1	Indep	9-2-1
1909	Frank Berrien	4-3-1	Indep	4-3-1
1910	Frank Berrien	4-3-1	Indep	4-3-1



1910 Navy Football Champs – the players

1903 Navy Midshipmen Coach Burr Chamberlain

Burr Clark "B. C." Chamberlain was born August 21, 1877 and he passed away on November 11, 1933). He was a national football player and coach. His college playing days were at Yale University from 1896 to 1898 where he specialized at the center and tackle positions. He was a fine player being named an All-American.

Besides Navy, Chamberlain served as the head football for one season at Stanford University in 1899 and of course he stayed a season at the United States Naval Academy in 1903 season. Chamberlain was from Dalton, Massachusetts. He passed away young from a heart attack at his home in Bronxville, New York on November 11, 1933. He is part of Navy football history

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1903 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's twenty-third season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Burr Chamberlain in his first and only season as head coach of the Midshipmen.

Charles Soule was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen had a big problem winning and compiled their worst record in years, 4–7–1. They shut out four opponents (including a scoreless tie with Baltimore Medical College), and were outscored by all opponents by a combined score of 130 to 77

Great Navy Players Charles Belknap Jr



<< Ensign Charles Belknap Jr. circa 1903

Navy football player and Lieutenant Commander Charles K. Belknap Jr. was born September 6, 1880 and passed away December 29, 1954). was the commander of the USS Ammen (DD-35) in 1913. He worked as a censor for the United States Navy in 1917. Biography

Belknap was all American in 1902 and was inducted into the Navy Football Hall of Fame

In the Dec. 1, 1900, Army-Navy game in Philadelphia, Navy 11,

Army 7. Emory Land scored on a naked reverse and Byron Long won a pulsating race for a blocked punt on the game's final play to lead

Navy to the upset. The Mids led 11-5 with 10 seconds to play when Army's Quinn Gray blocked **Charles Belknap's punt**. Gray led the pursuit of the ball and had he won the race, would've scored the game-winning touchdown.

He attended the United States Naval Academy from 1899 to 1903 and was a star football player who made the Hall of fame. He married Gladys Goodrich on October 26, 1909 in Pomfret, Connecticut.

Belknap was the commander of the destroyer USS Ammen (DD-35) in 1913 and attended the Naval War College from 1915 to 1916. He was promoted to the rank of lieutenant commander on August 29, 1916. World War I

In 1919 Belknap received the Navy Cross from the Navy and also the Distinguished Service Medal from the Army for his service with the Naval Overseas Transportation Service during World War I. He was one of a very few individuals to receive both the Navy Cross and the Army Distinguished Service Medal. He was also entitled to the Victory Medal.

-- End of player tribute--

1904 Navy Midshipmen Coach Paul Dashiell

Paul Dashiell deserves to be on every Navy football fan of "the great ones." As you know, from 1897 through 1899, Bill Armstrong guided the Mids to 20 wins against only five losses. However, over the next four seasons under three different coaches, the Midshipmen did not do as well, slipping to a collective record of 18-21-3. As the 1904 season began, someone needed to reset – and firmly establish – expectations for the program. Of course he had to be hired first. Paul Dashiell became that man.

With Dashiell at the helm, Navy rebounded with a 7-2-1 record. The Midshipmen allowed only 3.8 points per game, recording six shutouts along the way. Navy allowed nine points in three games, and its "worst" defensive performance of the whole season came in the finale against Army. Still the Middies conceded just 11 whole points... but since Navy got shut out, that was more than enough that year for Army to prevail and of course, gloat. Nevertheless, it did not take

much time for Dashiell to have restored something, which was missing the previous four seasons. Heading into 1905, Navy had a right to think it could do even better. Dashiell made sure of that.

That's exactly what Navy did. They improved and reached a milestone that seemed impossible at the end of 1903.

Reading along and knowing how poorly the teams executed the prior four years, and then later in this book when you read about 2004 with Coach Paul Johnson, the teams were impressive on the "D" side. The Midshipmen were legitimately (and more to the point, precisely) twice as good in 1905. Dashiell's defense conceded only 1.9 points per game, never allowing more than six points in a game and recording eight shutouts.

There was just one little issue, or shall we say, one wonder of the 1905 season in that Navy did not turn in a 12-0 record. Nevertheless, the double-digit-win season that Michigan and Yost turned into an ordinary event in the first decade of the 20th century became Navy's proud possession in 1905. The Midshipmen stormed to a 10-1-1 record. The Midshipmen had just one defeat – that being a 6-5 loss to Swarthmore on October 28.

Though the Mids found that game and its outcome hard to accept, they dusted off their cleats and came right back. The team and Dashiell need to take credit for their demeanor. Everyone in the locker room turned the page. Navy fought past Penn State, 11-5, the next week after the setback, and by getting through that game, the team's confidence was fully restored.

The Midshipmen won their next three games by a composite score of 68-6 to reach the 10-win mark. The team could not beat Army in the finale, but the Midshipmen did not lose, either. It was a 6-6 tie. No, it was not everything the Navy wanted, but Army was forced to acknowledge the considerable improvements its opponent had made in the intervening year between meetings. That's for sure.

With 10 wins in a season, Navy as expected, became a target in the 1906 season. Dashiell came back for what would be his final season – both in Annapolis and as a college head coach. Bearing that bulls-eye was not supposed to be easy, and it wasn't.

Yet, again, all things considered, Navy handled the season with great resilience and determination. The Midshipmen did lose twice, but even then, their defense could not have been better, allowing only three points in each defeat. (The scores of both losses were 5-0, so obviously, the defense did not allow either safety against Princeton and Penn State.)

Shall we say, improbably but genuinely, Navy's defense managed to become still better in 1906. The offense – which had averaged over 20 points in 1905 – regressed and averaged under 13 points per game. The tough Middle players endured two scoreless ties in 1906, and the offense labored through six games in which it did not score a touchdown. The Mids scored fewer than six points in each of those six contests.

Given that record of offensive futility, a rational person would have expected a crash-and-burn season, a “come down to earth” narrative after the soaring successes of 1905. Yet, Navy went 8-2-2 in 1906. The defense, as mentioned above, improved upon an already remarkable standard of excellence.

The Navy defense did not allow a single touchdown in that entire 1906 season. Two field goals were all the defense allowed, since the rest of the scoring done by opponents consisted of four safeties given up by the offense unit. Six points—only six points were allowed by the defense. Eight were permitted by the offense or special teams. That's how six games with virtually no offensive production can be overcome.

The lasting point of satisfaction for Dashiell and Midshipmen everywhere is that when the time came to face Army for a third time, Navy got it right. The stadium was almost not large enough to contain all of the Navy smiles. After losing in 1904 and tying in 1905, Dashiell wanted a win. Navy fans wanted a win and both Dashiell and the fans deserved a win, and they got a win.

However, the notion about “deserving” anything in life is that you have to work hard enough and well enough to put yourself in position to deserve anything. The Midshipmen did just that, blanking the Cadets, 10-0, to give Dashiell the perfect send-off for his career.

Dashiell put the “D” in Annapolis, and as a result, he lost only five of his 34 games as Navy’s head coach. What a record!

The postscript to Dashiell’s career at Navy is that the program was on very sound footing when he left. Joe Reeves went 9-2-1 in 1907, and Frank Berrien went 9-2-1 in 1908. Paul Dashiell had taken a drifting ship and righted its course. He turned Navy into a powerhouse, winning 10 games in a season at a time when few college programs ever managed that feat. Navy became the little engine that could because Paul Dashiell had a big enough heart to carry the load.

Make sure folks if ever you choose to compile a list of great Navy coaches and achievements, Paul Dashiell and the teams of 1904 through 1906 certainly ought to be in that number. Fir sure!

More on the teams of Paul Dashiell

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1904 college football season. It was the Naval Academy’s twenty-fourth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Paul Dashiell in his first of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Lou Farley was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen snapped out of their losing streak and began a nice win streak under Dashiell. Navy compiled a 7–2–1 record, shut out six opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 149 to 38.

Great Navy Player William F. Halsey

William Frederick Halsey, Jr. 30 October 1882 - 16 August 1959. One of Coach Dashiell’s preat players was Bill Halsey who later went on to fame as a Navy Admiral and as a big reason for the US victory in WWII.

William Frederick Halsey was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey, on 30 October 1882, son of the late Captain William F. Halsey, US Navy, and Mrs. (Anne Masters Brewster) Halsey. He attended kindergarten in Coronado, California, public schools in Vallejo, California, Pingry School, St. John's College, Annapolis, Maryland, the University of

Virginia in Charlottesville, and the Naval Academy Preparatory School in Annapolis, Maryland.



Appointed to the US Naval Academy by President William McKinley in 1900, he was a member of the "Lucky Bag" staff, won his letter in football, playing fullback on the team, was president of the Athletic Association, and as First Classman had his name engraved on the Thompson Trophy Cup as the Midshipman who had done most during the year for the promotion of athletics. Halsey is a member of the Navy Football Athletics Hall of Fame

Graduated in February 1904, he served the two years at sea then required by law before he was commissioned Ensign, 2 February 1906. He was promoted to Lieutenant, both grades, 2 February 1909, to Lieutenant Commander, August 29, 1916, received temporary promotion to Commander during the World War, was commissioned in that rank 3 June 1921.

His subsequent promotions were as follows: Captain, 10 February 1927 Rear Admiral, 1 March 1938; Vice Admiral, 13 June 1940; and Admiral, 18 November 1942. On 28 November 1945, he was nominated to be a Fleet Admiral of the US Navy, his nomination confirmed by the Senate on 14 December 1945, and on 11 December 1945 he took the oath as Fleet Admiral, becoming the fourth officer to hold that rank. He was transferred to the Retired List of the Navy, at his own request, on 1 March 1947.

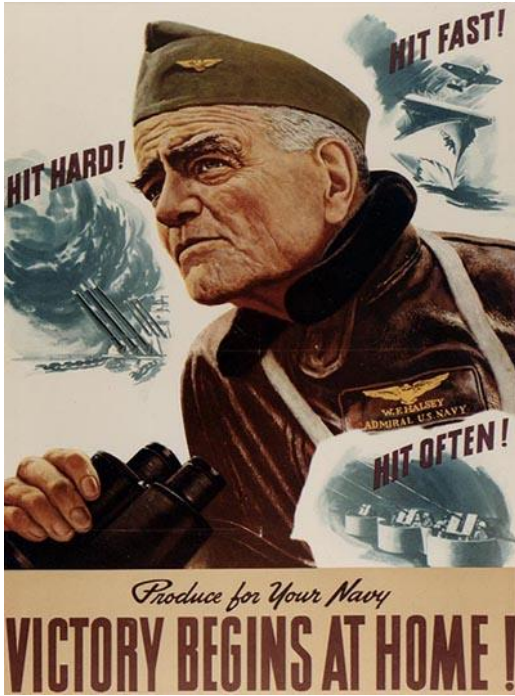
He commanded the aircraft carrier Saratoga from July 1935 until June 1937, and the succeeding year had command of the Naval Air Station, Pensacola. On June 28, 1938, with rank of Rear Admiral, he was

assigned duty as Commander, Carrier Division TWO, USS Yorktown, flagship, and on 31 May 1939, was transferred to duty as Commander, Carrier Division ONE, Aircraft, Battle Force, USS Saratoga, flagship. On June 13, 1940, with the rank of Vice Admiral, he was designated Commander, Aircraft, Battle Force, with additional duty as Commander, Carrier Division TWO, his flag again in the Yorktown. He was serving in that command, with his flag in the USS Enterprise, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii, 7 December 1941.

The Enterprise was returning to Pearl Harbor from delivering planes at Wake Island when the news of the attack was received, and planes were launched in a fruitless search for the fleeing enemy. Early in February 1942, in the first offensive war in the Central Pacific, his force, consisting of the Enterprise, the carrier Yorktown, four heavy cruisers, one light cruiser and ten destroyers, made a foray into the Gilbert and Marshall Islands, bombing and bombarding Wotje, Maleolap, Kwajalein, Roe, Jaluit, Makin, Taroa and Gugewe. Later that month, with the Enterprise, two cruisers and seven destroyers, he shelled and bombed Wake Island, which had been in enemy hands since 22 December 1941, and proceeded on to bomb Marcus Island.

For distinguished service in the Gilbert and Marshall raids, Admiral Halsey was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal, the citation states: "For distinguished service in a duty of great responsibility as Commander of the Marshall Raiding Force, United States Pacific Fleet, and especially for his brilliant and audacious attack against the Marshall and Gilbert Islands on January 31, 1942. By his great skill and determination, this drive inflicted heavy damage to enemy ships and planes."

He also received the Ribbon for the Presidential Unit Citation awarded the USS Enterprise, the first carrier to be so honored. The citation follows:



On June 16, 1944, he assumed command of the Third Fleet, and was also designated Commander, Western Pacific Task Forces. Beginning in August 1944, his forces left a trail of enemy ruin and destruction in the Palaus, Philippines, Formosa, Okinawa and the South China Sea, inflicting greater loss upon the Japanese Fleet than had ever been suffered by any fleet.

On September 13, 1944, he made urgent recommendation for the revision of the campaign plans and for the early landing at Leyte, which resulted as the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt later announced, "in a complete change in the campaign plans for the Philippine invasion." During the period August 24, 1944, to January 26, 1945, when the THIRD Fleet was engaged in supporting the Western Carolines and Philippine Islands operations, 4,370 enemy aircraft were destroyed, 82 enemy combatant ships were sunk, and 372 enemy auxiliaries and miscellaneous shipping were sunk (excluding small craft), against the loss in combat of 449 planes and the light carrier Princeton.

He was awarded a Gold Star in lieu of a Third Distinguished Service Medal. In the final phases of the War in the Pacific, Admiral Halsey's THIRD Fleet participated in the latter stages of the Okinawa campaign. Subsequent to the Okinawa operations, the fast carrier task forces of his Fleet, comprising the greatest mass of sea power ever assembled, proceeded northward toward Japan and in July 1945 struck at Tokyo and then attacked Honshu and Hokkaido. Moving southward, the THIRD Fleet, joined by units of the British Pacific Fleet, with Fleet Admiral Halsey in overall command, on July 17, made the first combined American-British bombardment of the Japanese homeland, and later that month the same force made extended air strikes in the Inland Sea area and on the Japanese naval

base at Kure, returning to harass Tokyo for the third time in three weeks.

On 29 August 1945, when Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, USN, Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas, arrived from Guam to break out his flag in the USS South Dakota, Fleet Admiral (then Admiral) Halsey, Commander THIRD Fleet, flying his four-star flag in the USS Missouri, entered Tokyo Bay and anchored off Yokosuka naval base. The following day General of the Army Douglas MacArthur arrived at Atsuzi Airfield to set up General Headquarters for Yokohama, and on 1 September 1945 (Eastern War Time), aboard the Missouri in Tokyo Bay, was signed the formal surrender of the Japanese Imperial Government.

Late in September 1945, fifty-four ships of the THIRD Fleet of which the USS South Dakota had been flagship since 5 September 1945, were ordered to return to the west coast of the United States for participation in the annual Navy Day celebration, 27 October. On 22 November 1945, in the harbor at San Pedro, California, Fleet Admiral Halsey hauled down his flag from the South Dakota, relinquishing command of the THIRD Fleet which had exemplified his slogan of "Hit hard, hit fast, hit often."

1905 Navy Midshipmen Coach Paul Dashiell

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1905 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's twenty-fifth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Paul Dashiell in his second of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Douglas Legate Howard was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak under Coach Dashiell. Navy compiled a 10-1-1 record this year. They were a powerhouse shutting out six opponents and outscoring all opponents by a combined score of 243 to 23.

1906 Navy Midshipmen Coach Paul Dashiell

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1906 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's twenty-sixth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Paul Dashiell in his third and last year as head coach of the Midshipmen. Herbert Spencer was team captain. As an independent

football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak under Coach Dashiell. Navy compiled an 8–2–2 record, shut out nine opponents (including scoreless ties with Bucknell and Dickinson), and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 149 to 14.

1907 Navy Midshipmen Coach Joseph Reeves

In Chapter 1, we first mentioned Coach Joseph Reeves who in his football playing days had a leather helmet built for him as another head injury might cause his death. Rather than avoid further play, he wore the helmet religiously. He was a real bull.

After he served as a great Navy football coach, eventually, “the Bull” became a United States Navy Admiral. Nicknamed "Bull," he became known as the "Father of Carrier Aviation" for his role in integrating aircraft carriers into the US Navy Fleet as a major part of the Navy's attack capabilities. He was quite a man.

In 1907 he served as the Academy's Head Football Coach, guiding the team to a nice 9-2-1 record and more importantly, a 6-0 victory over Army. After serving as an ordnance officer on board the battleship USS New Hampshire, he served as ordnance officer in the staff of the Commander in Chief, U.S. Atlantic Fleet.

Navy Football 1907

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1907 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's twenty-seventh season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Joseph M. Reeves in his first and only year as head coach of the Midshipmen. Arch Douglas was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak under Coach Reeves. Navy compiled a 9–2–1 record, shut out eight opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 118 to 34. Arch Douglas made Walter Camp's third-team All-America, the second Southerner ever to have done so

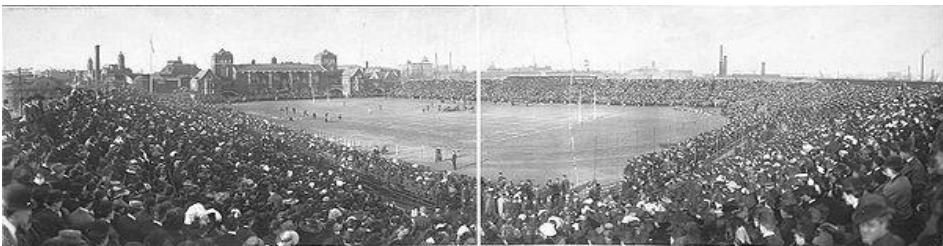
1908 Navy Midshipmen Coach Frank Berrien

Frank Berrien graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Class of 1900. He retired as a U.S. Navy Rear Admiral. F. D. Berrien was the 13th head college football coach for the United States Naval Academy Midshipmen located in Annapolis, Maryland and he held that position for three seasons, from 1908 until 1910. His coaching record at United States Naval Academy was 21 wins, 5 losses, and 3 ties. As of the conclusion of the 2007 season, this ranks him tenth at United States Naval Academy in total wins and fifth at United States Naval Academy in winning percentage (.776).

As captain of the USS Nicholson he fought in the Action of 17 November 1917 and was awarded the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the highest U.S. Navy award. It out ranked the Navy Cross until 1942. Besides being a great sailor/soldier, he was one heck of a football coach.

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1908 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's twenty-eighth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Frank Berrien in his first of two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Percy Northcroft was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak under Coach Berrien. Navy compiled a 9–2–1 record, shut out seven opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 218 to 38. The Midshipmen had become a college football powerhouse.

In the season finale on Nov 28, in the most important game of the year for the Naval Academy and for the Cadets, Navy fell just a bit short v Army L (4-6). The game was played in a familiar but high-capacity venue, Franklin Field Philadelphia, PA.



1908 Army Navy Game at Franklin Field

1909 Navy Midshipmen Coach Frank Berrien

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1909 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's twenty-ninth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Frank Berrien in his second of two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. George Meyer was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak under Coach Berrien. Navy compiled a 4–3–1 record and outscored their opponents by a combined score of 99 to 42.

1910 Navy Midshipmen Coach Frank Berrien

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1910 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's thirtieth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Frank Berrien in his third of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. T. Starr King was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak under Coach Berrien. Navy compiled an undefeated 8–0–1 record and were not scored upon, having defeated all nine opponents by a combined score of 99 to 0 .

Two players from the 1910 Navy team received first-team honors on the 1910 College Football All-America Team. Guard John Brown received first-team honors from The New York Sun, New York Herald, and Pittsburgh Leader. Jack Dalton received first-team honors from The New York Times. Brown and Dalton were both later inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame.

The 1910 season was Navy's third with Lt. Frank D. Berrien as head coach. Despite the undefeated season, the Navy announced on December 2 that Berrien would be assigned to duties outside the Naval Academy and would not return as the head football coach for 1911.

With an 8-0-1 record for the year—a great undefeated and one 0-0 tie season, in later years, there would have been a rating group such as Houlgate who would have slotted the Navy as the National Champions.

At the end of the 1910 season, Jack Dalton, the halfback who scored Navy's only points against Army, was selected to serve as captain of the 1911 team.

All home games except the Army-Navy game were played at Worden Field on the campus of the Naval Academy.

Chapter 9 Coaches Howard, Ingram, Dobie, & Folwell—1911-1924

Howard Coach #14
 Ingram Coach #15
 Dobie Coach # 16
 Folwell Coach # 17

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	<u>Conf</u>	<u>Record</u>
1911	Doug Howard	6-0-3	Indep	6-0-3
1912	Doug Howard	6-3	Indep	6-3
1913	Doug Howard	7-1-1	Indep	7-1-1
1914	Doug Howard	6-3	Indep	6-3
1915	Jonas Ingram	3-5-1	Indep	3-5-1
1916	Jonas Ingram	6-3-1	Indep	6-3-1
1917	Gil Dobie	7-1	Indep	7-1
1918	Gil Dobie	4-1	Indep	4-1
1919	Gil Dobie	6-1	Indep	6-1
1920	Bob Folwell	6-2	Indep	6-2
1921	Bob Folwell	6-1	Indep	6-1
1922	Bob Folwell	5-2	Indep	5-2
1923	Bob Folwell	5-1-3	Indep	5-1-3
1924	Bob Folwell	2-6	Indep	2-6



1911 Navy National Championship Team

1911 Navy Midshipmen Coach Doug Howard

Douglas Legate Howard -- born on 11 February 1885 in Annapolis, Md., the eldest son of Lt. (later Adm.) and Mrs. Thomas B. [Anne J.] Howard -- he entered the United States Naval Academy in 1902, where he played on the football team through the 1902, 1903, and 1904 seasons, becoming the team's captain in 1905. Howard graduated from the Naval Academy in 1906. He later married Ruth Bowyer, a union that produced two children, John M. B. and Anne C.

Howard became the assistant coach of the Naval Academy's football team (1906–1911), being ordered to the institute for that purpose on temporary detached duty from his regular tours of duty with the fleet. He became the Naval Academy's head coach (1912–1914), leading the team to a total record of 25–7–4. His leadership inspired his students, and their class of 1914 dedicated the Naval Academy's annual, *The Lucky Bag*, to Howard.

He received the Navy Cross for his distinguished service as the commanding officer of *Drayton* (Destroyer No. 23), *Rowan* (Destroyer No. 64), and *Bell* (Destroyer No. 95) during World War I, "vigorously and unremittingly" escorting Allied convoys through waters "infested" with German U-boats and mines. He was detached from *Bell* in April 1919 and ordered to duty as the Director of Athletics at the Naval Academy (1920–1922) until January 1923, when he was ordered to battleship *Texas* (BB-35) as her navigation officer.

The 1911 Season

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1911 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's thirty-first season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Douglas Legate Howard in his first of four seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Jack Dalton was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak under Coach Howard. Navy compiled an undefeated 6–0–3 record, shut out seven opponents, and defeated its opponents by a combined score of 116 to 11.

Fullback Jack Dalton was the team captain and also a consensus first-team selection for the All-America team. Three other Navy player

received first-team honors from one or more selectors: tackle John Brown received first-team honors from Ted Coy; guard Ray Wakeman received first-team honors from Henry L. Williams; and guard George Howe received first-team honors from The New York Globe. Brown and Dalton were both later inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame.

The 1911 season began with a Navy win on Oct 7 v Johns Hopkins W(27-5). The opener was played at Worden Field on the campus of the Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD.



Navy v John Hopkins 1911

On Oct 11 St. John's College played Navy at home and were shut out W (21-0). As noted above, the annual Army–Navy Game was played on November 25 at Franklin Field in Philadelphia. For the second consecutive year, the game was a low-scoring affair; Navy won 3-0 on a field goal by Jack Dalton.[3]

1912 Navy Midshipmen Coach Doug Howard

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1912 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's thirty-second season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Douglas Legate Howard in his second of four seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Pete Rhodes was team captain. As an

independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak under Coach Howard. Navy compiled an undefeated 6–3 record, shut out four opponents, and defeated its opponents by a combined score of 126 to 61.

1913 Navy Midshipmen Coach Doug Howard

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1913 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's thirty-third season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Douglas Legate Howard in his third of four seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Harvey Overesch was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak under Coach Howard. Navy compiled a 6–3 record, shut out three opponents, and defeated its opponents by a combined score of 174 to 83.

On Nov 29, in the Army-Navy Classic, the Navy was not as dominant as the Cadets beat the Midshipmen L (9-22) at the Polo Grounds in New York, NY.

1914 Navy Midshipmen Coach Doug Howard

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1914 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's thirty-fourth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Douglas Legate Howard in his fourth and last of four seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Harvey Overesch was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak under Coach Howard. Navy compiled a 6–3 record, shut out three opponents, and defeated its opponents by a combined score of 174 to 83.

Great Navy Player K. P. Gilchrist

K.P. Gilchrist, Leeton, Missouri---Gillie was our veteran, our battle-scarred captain, who bossed our football team, from the time they entered the dressing room until the whistle blew and time was up. Gillie drove our team and drove it well; he was the man for the job.

The first thing that one learns with some surprise about Gillie is that contrary to the case of most of our football men, he stands well up in the class. He has attained this class standing just as he has attained his athletic ability, by constant, persistent, consistent, hard work. He is above all a plodder.



Not essentially savvy, he has left many men naturally brighter and naturally better equipped way behind him. He is an excellent example of the man who made good use of his one talent and finds it multiplied by his efforts. He never goes into anything half-heartedly.

He believes that whatever is worthwhile putting his time on is worth doing well, and to this his success may be attributed. He goes into anything with the determination to win, and he usually does.

Gillie isn't strong on the Mexican athletics, but once in a while he gets started and he has a wealth of novel experiences to dispense which puts the ordinary bull artist quite out of the running. From what has been said, it will be inferred that he is a rather serious-minded chap.

He is deep, smiling seldom. He will work hard for any enterprise in which he is interested and the ship he gets will receive a worker, and if he doesn't make his division the best on the ship it will be the first time Gillie has failed in getting the best results out of his material.

"Theoretically speaking, from a hypothetical standpoint."

"You git that bird; I'll git thissun."

Hinder (8th Co.); Bird (5th Co.); Football (4, 3, 2, 1); Football N***; Captain (1); Baltimore Sun's All-American (1913); Lacrosse (3, 2, 1); LNT; Heavyweight Boxing Champion (4); Treasurer of Athletic Association (2); Athletic Representative (4, 3).

1915 Navy Midshipmen Coach Jonas Ingram

Admiral Jonas Howard Ingram (15 October 1886-9 September 1952) was an officer in the United States Navy during World War I and World War II. He commanded the United States Atlantic Fleet during World War II and was a recipient of the Medal of Honor for his actions in 1914 in Veracruz, Mexico.

As a youth, Ingram attended Culver Military Academy in Culver, Indiana, then entered the United States Naval Academy at the age of 17. During Ingram's time at the Academy, he was a member of the school's rowing, track and football teams, leading the latter team to the Midshipmen's first victory in six years over their bitter rivals from Army by scoring the lone touchdown in the 1906 clash. His athletic exploits helped earn him the Academy's prestigious Athletic Sword.

Ingram served as head football coach at the Naval Academy from 1915 to 1917. During World War I he was on the staff of the Commander, Division 9, Atlantic Fleet, and received the Navy Cross for distinguished service.

1915 Season

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1915 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's thirty-fourth season. They were coached by Jonas Ingram in his first of two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Arthur Miles was team captain. The Midshipmen ended their win streak under Coach Ingram in this his first year as coach. the team compiled a 3-5-1 record and was outscored by a combined score of 118 to 99. In the classic once a year rivalry, the Army beat the Navy on Nov 27 at the Polo Grounds in New York, NY L (0-14)

1916 Navy Midshipmen Coach Jonas Ingram

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1916 college football season. It was the Naval

Academy's thirty-sixth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Jonas Ingram in his second of just two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Clarence Ward was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen began a new win streak this year under Coach Ingram. Navy compiled a 6–3–1 record and outscored their opponents by a combined score of 199 to 76.

Wrapping up the 1916 season in the classic Army-Navy series, Navy lost another on November 25 vs. Army at the Polo Grounds in New York, NY L (7–15).



Army Navy National Championship Game 1916

1917 Navy Midshipmen Coach Gil Dobie

Coach Gil Dobie was a great coach at Navy and elsewhere. He was the head football coach at North Dakota State, Washington, Navy, Cornell and Boston College. A star quarterback and end at the University of Minnesota, he led the Golden Gophers to the Big Ten title during the 1900 season, before beginning a distinguished career coaching college football.

He was undefeated through his first 11 seasons as a college football coach. His greatest success came at the University of Washington in Seattle, coaching the team that would later become known as the Huskies. During his nine-year coaching tenure at Washington he never lost a football game, compiling a record of 58 wins, zero losses and three ties. From 1908 to 1916, he was instrumental in creating one of

college football's most impressive records of all time, coaching Washington in 61 of 63 straight games without a loss.

In 1920 he abruptly resigned from Navy after turning down a three-year contract extension, to accept the head coaching position at Cornell University. Over the next 16 seasons he led the Big Red to 82 victories, including national championships in 1921, 1922 and 1923. He spent his final years as the head coach at Boston College winning 16 games, losing six and tying five.



Coach Gil Dobie (center) with the football players

He finished his coaching career after 33 years with an overall record of 180 wins, 45 losses and 15 ties, including 14 undefeated seasons and a winning percentage of .781. In 1951 he was inducted as a charter member into the College Football Hall of Fame and as a charter member in the Husky Hall of Fame in 1979. He was also inducted into the North Dakota State, Navy, Cornell and Boston College Halls of Fame.

Navy 1917 Season

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1917 college football season. It was the Naval

Academy's thirty-seventh season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Gil Dobie in his first of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Ernest Von Heimberg was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak this year under Coach Dobie. Navy compiled a 7–1 record, shut out four opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 442 to 23. The Midshipmen were tough to handle and tough to beat.

All home games except the Army-Navy game were played at Worden Field on the campus of the Naval Academy.

1918 Navy Midshipmen Coach Gil Dobie

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1918 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's thirty-seventh season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Gil Dobie in his second of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Bill Ingram was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak this year under Coach Dobie. Navy compiled a 4–1 record, shut out two opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 283 to 20.

The United States was in WWI at the time and the Naval Academy was producing officers for the war effort. The Navy continued to play during the war as the players were also students on their way to becoming Navy Officers. This year, with just five opponents, it is clear that with US men going off to war that it was tough for a lot of colleges and universities during the war to field football teams. In fact, the ceremonious Army-Navy Game was not conducted this year because of the war. Other than Naval Training schools (NTS), Ursinus was the only college team that played this year.

1919 Navy Midshipmen Coach Gil Dobie

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1919 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's thirty-ninth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Gil Dobie in his third and last of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Eddie Ewin was team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win

streak this year under Coach Dobie. Navy compiled a 7–1 record, shut out five opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 298 to 18.

This year, since the War ended on November 11, 1918, the football seasons for most colleges and university were put back on schedule. After the war broke out in 1914, there was plenty to study about sports and war. Tony Mason and Eliza Reidy wrote the following in their 2010 study *Sport and the Military: The British Armed Forces 1880-1960*.

“It was not long before officers came to appreciate the game’s military benefits in “improving fitness, relieving boredom, providing distraction from the horrors of war, and building morale, officer-men relations and esprit de corps...in 1914, sports such as football were not officially part of military life but with the war came change, and sports, with football pre-eminent, “became formally integrated into the military system, both as ‘recreational training’ and an officially sanctioned form of leisure for other ranks”. After the war, sports became an integral part of life in the US, first for young men and then for young women.

All home games except the Army-Navy game were played at Worden Field on the campus of the Naval Academy.

Best Army Navy Game # 7

After a two-year hiatus for World War I, the Army-Navy game returned to the football field in 1919.



President Wilson attended the 1919 Army-Navy Game

Each team entered the contest without a loss, as the Midshipmen were 5-0-3 and the Cadets were 6-0-1.

Navy finished the day with seven times more yards than Army but could not get into the end zone. However, Clyde King booted a pair of field goals to give the Midshipmen a 6-0 victory on a rainy day in a turnover-free game. It would mark the fourth time in 10 years that Navy had won the game by just kicking field goals. The Midshipmen finished the season 6-1, while the Cadets ended up 6-3.

Great Navy Player Fred Denfeld

Fred Denfeld was a great guard for Navy. While playing guard for the Naval Academy, Denfeld was selected as a First-Team All-American by football pioneer Walter Camp in 1919.

Denfeld became a plank owner of the fledgling American Professional Football Association (renamed the National Football League) when he

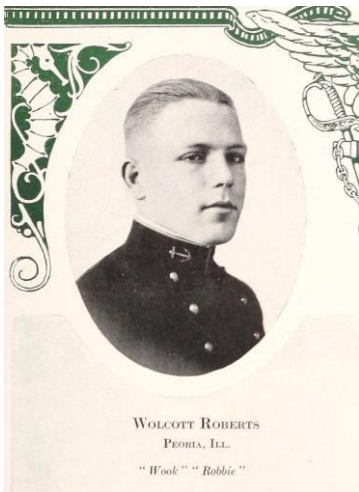
joined the Rock Island Independents in 1920 and earned First-Team All-Pro honors.



He returned to his hometown of Duluth, Minnesota to serve as the player/coach of an independent professional team sponsored by the Knights of Columbus named the Kaycees (sometimes listed as KCs).

He then played semi-pro football in Michigan before heading back to the Kaycees for one more year after they had been admitted to the NFL as the Kelley Duluths. In later life, he rejoined the Navy during WWII and was made an “honorary alumnus” of the Minnesota Vikings.

Great Navy Player Walcott “Wooky” Roberts 1919



Roberts was a great running back for Navy. Besides have a great nickname, Navy’s “Wooky” was selected as an All-American in 1919 after distinguishing himself on the gridiron as a terrific broken field runner and threat on punt returns.

In 1922, Wookie became a member of the Canton Bulldogs team that went on to win the NFL Championship that season and again in 1923. In 1924, he remained with the team when it merged with Cleveland Indians and won another NFL

Championship. He became a Frankford Yellow Jackets in 1926 and added yet another championship trophy. Beat Army 1919.

1920 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bob Folwell

Robert Cook Folwell Jr. (February 17, 1885 – January 8, 1928) was an American style football player and coach. He served as the head coach at Lafayette College (1909–1911), Washington & Jefferson College (1912–1915), the University of Pennsylvania (1916–1919), and the United States Naval Academy (1920–1924), compiling a career college football record of 106–29–9.

Folwell then moved to the professional ranks, coaching the New York Giants of the National Football League (NFL) in 1925, the Philadelphia Quakers of the American Football League in 1926, and the Atlantic City Roses of the Eastern League of Professional Football in 1927.

1920 Navy Season

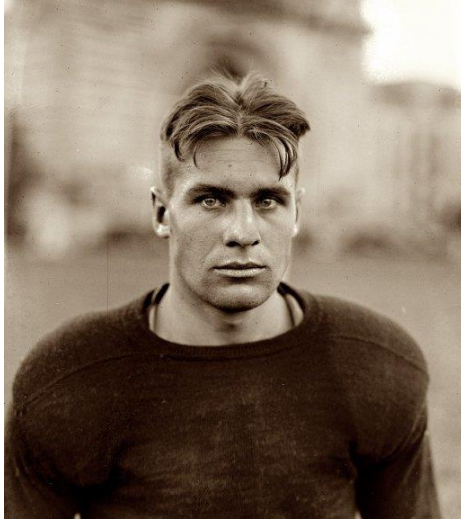
The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1920 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's fortieth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Bob Folwell in his first of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Folwell was the first coach to handle the team for more than four years. Eddie Ewin was again the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak this year under Coach Folwell. Navy compiled a 6–2 record, shut out three opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 164 to 43.

1921 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bob Folwell

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1921 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's forty-first season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Bob Folwell in his second of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Folwell was the first coach to handle the team for more than four years. Emery Lawson was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak this year under Coach Folwell. Navy compiled a 6–1 record,

shut out six opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 147–13.

Great Navy Player Stephen Barchet, HB



Steve Barchet was born April 4, 1901; passed away November 30, 1964. He is a hall of fame Navy Football Player. Like many Navy players and coaches, he held a high rank in the Navy. He was a Rear Admiral in the United States Navy.

He attended the United States Naval Academy where he played college football as a halfback for the Navy Midshipmen USNA football team. He was selected by Walter Camp as a third-team All-

American in both 1921 and winner of the Thompson Trophy in 1922. After graduating from the Naval Academy, Barchet served in the United States Navy, attaining the rank of rear admiral. He is buried at the United States Naval Academy Cemetery in Annapolis, Maryland with his wife Louise Elizabeth Lankford.

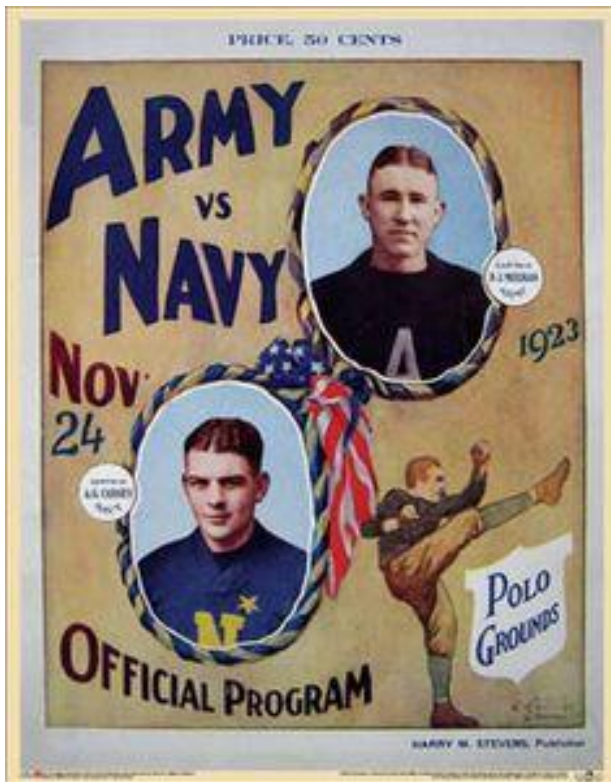
-- End of player tribute

1922 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bob Folwell

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1922 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's forty-second season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Bob Folwell in his third of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Vincent Conroy was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak this year under Coach Folwell. Navy compiled a 5–2 record, shut out four opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 185 to 37

1923 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bob Folwell

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1923 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's forty-third season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Bob Folwell in his fourth of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Arthur Carney (No relationship to Ed Norton—I checked) was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen continued their win streak this year under Coach Folwell. Navy compiled a 5–1–3 record, shut out three opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 168 to 62.



In the final regular season game on Nov 24, the annual classic Army-Navy game was played to a tie at the Polo Grounds in New York, NY T (0–0). Navy's one-loss record got them invited to the Rose Bowl on January 1, 1924. They played Washington to a tie in the Rose Bowl, Pasadena, CA T (14–14) before 45,000 fans.

1924 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bob Folwell

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1924 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's forty-fourth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Bob Folwell in his fifth and last of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Edmund Taylor was the team captain. As

an independent football entity, the Midshipmen ended their win streak this year under Coach Folwell. Navy compiled a 2–6 record and outscored opponents by a combined score of 84 to 69.

All home games except the Army-Navy game and those so marked below were played at Thompson Stadium on the campus of the Naval Academy. Thompson became the field for football play at Navy for many subsequent years.

Army got its moxie back and began to wallop teams on the way to its undefeated and untied 1916 season. On Oct 21, the Cadets thumped Trinity in a shutout W (53-0). The following week on Oct 28, the Cadets routed Villanova W (69-7). The following week on Nov 4, the Cadets overpowered Notre Dame W 30-10). On Nov 11, the Cadets defeated Maine W (17-3).

Great Navy Players Arthur G Carney

Arthur Carney graduated from the US Naval Academy after a fine career as captain of the football squad and having been a designated 1923 All American Football Player

Hailing from New York, Carney was an All-American guard and the captain of the 1923 Navy team. As it so happened, his best friend from high school, Dennis Mulligan, was named captain of the Army squad.

The teams of the two boyhood friends battled to a stalemate resulting in the only scoreless game in the history of the rivalry. Carney would also lead his team in a hard-fought tie again the Washington Huskies in the Rose Bowl. Carney went on to play with the New York Giants in 1925 and 1926.

Chapter 10 Coaches Owsley, Ingram. Miller & Hamilton--1925-1936

Owsley	Coach # 18
Ingram	Coach # 19
Miller	Coach # 20
Hamilton	Coach # 21

<u>Year</u>	<u>Coach</u>	<u>Record</u>	Conf	Record
1925	Jack Owsley	5-2-1	Indep	5-2-1
1926	Bill Ingram	9-0-1	Indep	9-0-1
1927	Bill Ingram	6-3	Indep	6-3
1928	Bill Ingram	5-3-1	Indep	5-3-1
1929	Bill Ingram	6-2-2	Indep	5-3-1
1930	Bill Ingram	6-5	Indep	6-5
1931	Rip Miller	5-5-1	Indep	5-5-1
1932	Rip Miller	2-6-1	Indep	2-6-1
1933	Rip Miller	5-4	Indep	5-4
1934	Tom Hamilton	8-1	Indep	8-1
1935	Tom Hamilton	5-4	Indep	5-4
1936	Tom Hamilton	6-3	Indep	6-3



1926 Navy National Championship Team

1925 Navy Midshipmen Coach Jack Owsley

In December 1924, Owsley interviewed at Annapolis, Maryland, to as interviewed to become the head football coach at United States Naval Academy. He got the job and was hired by Navy in January 1925.

Owsley became the 18th head coach for the Navy Midshipmen football team. His coaching record at Navy was 5–2–1.[21]

<< Jack Owsley's Passport Picture



The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1925 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's forty-fifth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Jack Owsley in his first and only season as head coach of the Midshipmen. August Lentz was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 5–2–1 record, shut out four opponents, and outscored all opponents by a

combined score of 134 to 81.

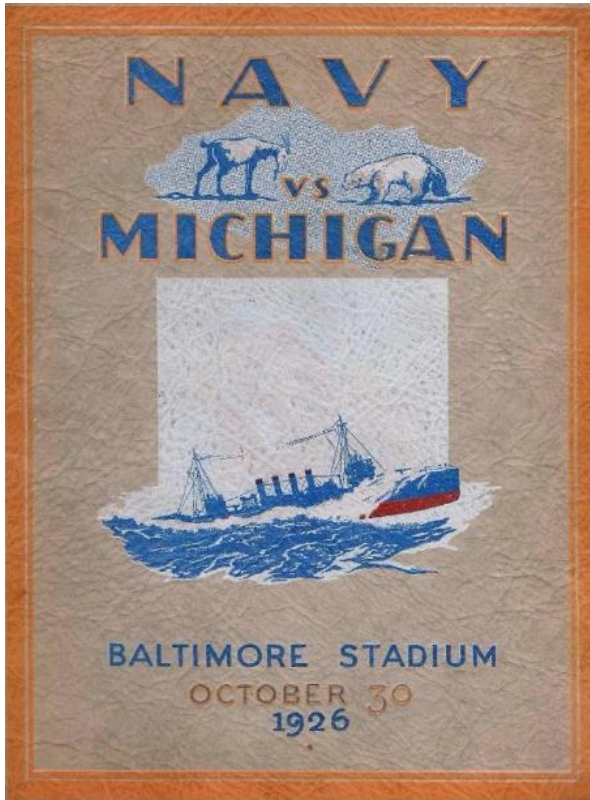
1926 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bill Ingram

Coach Bill Ingram of Navy was born June 16, 1898 in Feffersonville, Indiana. He died very young at age 44 on June 2 in Los Gatos California. He played football for Navy from 1916 to 1918. He had a very successful coaching career (75-42) from 1922 to 1934, coaching at William & Mary, 1922, Indiana, 1923-1925, Navy 1926-1930, and California from 1931 to 1934. He was the coach of the 1926 Navy National Championship Team. In 1973, he was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame as a coach in 1973. He died in his sleep while serving as a Major in the Marine Corps.

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1926 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's forty-sixth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Bill Ingram in his first of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. August Lentz was the team captain.

As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen finished the season undefeated with a record of nine wins, zero losses and one tie (9–0–1). Although Alabama and Stanford have been named the 1926 national

champion by most selectors, the 1926 Navy team was named as the national champion under Board and Houlgate Systems.



<< Official Program

All home games except the Army-Navy game and those so marked below were played at Thompson Stadium on the campus of the Naval Academy.

The 1926 Michigan Wolverines were led by All Americans Bennie Oosterbaan (End) and Benny Friedman (QB). The team was coached by Fielding Yost. Michigan finished 1st in the Big Ten and ranked #3 overall.

The 1926 Naval Academy were led by All American Tackles Frank Wickhorst and D. Thomas Eddy. The team was coached by Bill Ingram. As noted, it was a great year for Navy—one of its best. Navy finished the year 9-0-1, with a season ending tie with Army. They were ranked #1 in the country by many, although Stanford went 10-0-1 and also received national championship recognition.

Played on Nov 27 at Soldier Field Chicago, IL, this year's Army-Navy Game resulted in a tie T (21-21).



1926 Army Navy Game at Soldier Field

About the 1926 Army Navy Game

THE GREATEST ARMY-NAVY GAME

Thanks to Ray Schmidt

PAGE 9

<https://forwhattheygave.com/2007/12/11/1926-football-team/>

There was a time — more difficult to remember with each passing season — when the results of the annual gridiron showdown between the teams of West Point and Annapolis (that's Army and Navy) were

followed by football fans across the country, and often carried significance in the race for mythical national honors. Yet even more so, the game and its surrounding pageantry represented the best moments of college football. No other rivalry in college football consistently created such anticipation at the host cities, and then actually came through with the color, the excitement, and the spectacle that was unmatched — with even a good football game on occasion.

From this long-running series there is one game that stands above the others as the greatest Army-Navy clash ever, and one of the best in the annals of all college football history. In the early 1940s, *Esquire* magazine conducted a poll and named the game “the greatest in history” to that time, while the long-time prominent coach, Clark Shaughnessy, selected it as one of the 12 greatest games of all-time. Shaughnessy described it as one game “seldom matched for brilliant and courageous individual play, and for daring and spectacular team strategy.” It was of course the legendary 1926 Army-Navy showdown.

In those times, the service academies alternated years in selecting the site for their annual game, and during the 1920s bids were frequently received from several cities — usually always along the Eastern Seaboard. In late 1924, a group from Chicago — supported by U.S. Representatives Fred Britten and Martin Madden of Illinois — entered the bidding to host the 1925 Army-Navy game.

The other cities seeking the game included Washington D.C., Philadelphia, Baltimore, and two different groups from New York (one representing the Polo Grounds and the other the relatively new Yankee Stadium). Chicago was under a handicap because of its distance from the two schools, and West Point officials (who would be selecting the 1925 site) were on record as opposing any site that would keep the Corps of Cadets away from the school overnight — a position endorsed by War Secretary John W. Weeks.

The 1925 game was ultimately awarded to the Polo Grounds — despite Yankee Stadium’s larger seating capacity — but Chicago businessmen were soon preparing another bid for the 1926 game which would be selected by Naval Academy officials. Again, the Midwest city was challenged by New York, Baltimore, and Philadelphia, but this time it was better prepared. The Chicago group

announced its willingness to raise \$100,000 for each academies' athletic fund, in addition to the approximately \$600,000 which would be required to cover the expenses of bringing the teams and students to the game. Yet the Eastern cities continued in the role of the favorites.

Political pressure upon the academies intensified, as Midwest congressmen and service men's organizations turned up the heat. No stone was left unturned — in December 1925 the Chicago Herald-Examiner ran an editorial stating that an Army-Navy game in Chicago would “arouse in youthful civilian minds a new understanding of love of country and eager appreciation of what education at West Point and Annapolis means” — this at a time when many leaders of America were urging the need for much better preparedness and training for the nation's youth, given the recent experiences of World War I. In case patriotism didn't strike the right chord, the editorial declared that, “Those great schools are not the exclusive property of the East.”

In the end, political pressure and big money carried the day — along with a stadium that could seat in excess of 100,000 ticket-buying fans — and so Annapolis officials awarded the 1926 game to Chicago.

The Midwest city had built mammoth Grant Park Stadium on the banks of Lake Michigan just south of the downtown area in 1925. Some football games had been played there that first season — including Northwestern's famous 3-2 win over Michigan in the mud — yet for 1926 the stadium was being renamed as “Soldier Field” in memory of World War I military personnel, and the Army-Navy game was selected as the formal dedication event.

Soldier Field was a U-shaped arena with a seating capacity of nearly 100,000, with many of the seats at the north end well beyond the gridiron itself. In anticipation of a large ticket demand for the Army-Navy clash, the Chicago Park Board was having temporary bleachers installed to close the open north end of the stadium — with no concern that these seats would be 30-40 yards beyond the goal posts.

After holding out the seats for the two visiting student bodies and numerous dignitaries, there remained 40,000 decent seats which were priced at either \$15 or \$10 each, with the binocular-type seats priced lower. A full house scaled at these prices would produce gate receipts of approximately \$800,000.

To say the least, the demand for tickets was overwhelming, as over 600,000 ticket requests were received for the 100,000 seats available on sale. Placed in charge of the ticket sales was Colonel H.C. Carbaugh — a 65-year old Army veteran who normally served as supervisor of the Civil Service Department for Chicago's South Park Board. Members of the public seeking tickets at times became so aggressive that it was necessary for Carbaugh to have body guards while at work, and police were assigned to protect the entrances to the Park's Administration Building.

Of course, it wouldn't be Chicago without some hint of corruption, and it came to light when U.S. Representative John J. Gorman from Chicago charged that the South Park Board was violating an earlier agreement with the Chicago-area congressmen by only providing them with a hundred tickets each. Gorman added that rumors abounded that each of the park commissioners was receiving 1200 tickets. E. J. Kelly, president of the South Park commissioners, replied that everything possible was being done to distribute the tickets fairly and no attention was being given to the complaints of the congressmen.

Two days before the game Navy's traveling party arrived aboard a special train via the Pennsylvania Railroad Coach Bill Ingram spurned a practice session at Soldier Field, and instead took his Middies to a workout on a secluded grassy island in the Sherman Park lagoon while guards protected all the bridge ways leading over the water. The Army team arrived soon afterward on the Michigan Central line, and Coach Biff Jones then drilled his charges at Soldier Field before the team headed for its accommodations at the South Shore Country Club.

The day before the game the visiting student bodies from the two academies were treated to a luncheon at Marshall Field's giant department store in downtown Chicago, after which the Cadets and midshipmen staged a big parade south on Michigan Avenue as they marched to Soldier Field for the formal dedication ceremony. Meanwhile, there was also a full slate of luncheons and parties planned to entertain the service personnel throughout the weekend.

Helping to fuel the already overheated college football fans of Chicago was the fact that the two teams were among the nation's elite for 1926 — Navy coming in with a record of 9-0-0 and Army at 7-1-0, with only

a narrow 7-0 defeat to Notre Dame marring the Cadets record. The Army team was slightly favored, and its powerhouse included such great players as Chris Cagle, “Lighthorse” Harry Wilson, Chuck Born, Gar Davidson, and Red Murrell; while Navy countered with standouts such as Tom Hamilton, Frank Wickhorst, Tom Eddy, and Whitey Lloyd.

When time for the kickoff finally arrived on November 27, 1926 — amidst concerns over the many counterfeit tickets which had been found in circulation — Soldier Field was jammed with approximately 110,000 fans, with thousands more standing atop every nearby building, water tower, and bridge that afforded any hopes of a glimpse of the action. A New York Times writer surveyed the scene from the rim of Soldier Field and reported that, “Looking off over the top of the stadium, there was nothing to see but people.”

It was later stated that over 18,000 automobiles had been parked around the stadium, while Chicago taxi companies reported that they had made approximately 20,000 separate trips out to the arena. The massive crush of people and cars required the city to assign 1,350 police officers to direct traffic and maintain order. James Bennett of the Chicago Tribune described it as “a multitude that was worthy of the game.”

It was a cold day along the Chicago lakefront, and, except for the sun breaking through on one occasion, the game was played under a gray and heavily clouded sky. Snow banks surrounded the field from an earlier storm that had required 300 men to work the entire night before the game shoveling off the seats of the stadium. Around the rim of the stadium were large American flags which rippled in the wintry breezes off Lake Michigan.

Army kicked off to open the game, and surprisingly, Coach Jones of the Cadets had a half dozen of his first-string players on the sideline. After the teams exchanged punts, the offensive fireworks began. Starting from its 45-yard line, Navy began to mix an array of short passes with its running attack. After several plays moved the ball to Army’s 34, Jim Schuber of Navy faked an end sweep but instead rifled a long pass that Hank Hardwick plucked out of the air at the eight-yard line before being dragged down at the one. Two plays later Howard

Caldwell blasted in for the touchdown, and Tom Hamilton's drop-kick made it 7-0, Navy.

Again, the teams returned to an exchange of possessions although Navy clearly held the upper hand, and writer Walter Eckersall later declared that "the Middies appeared unbeatable in the first quarter." Late in the period Navy began a drive from its 43-yard line and, after a penalty set them back to the 32, Hamilton connected on a pass to Schuber that was good for 23 yards. After a couple more plays, Coach Jones rushed the rest of his Army first string into the game just before the quarter ended with the Middies at the Army 22. Several plays later Schuber blasted in from one yard out for the TD, and Hamilton's PAT made it 14-0.

Later in the second quarter Army finally got its offense on track behind the hard running of Chris Cagle and Harry Wilson. Starting from their 37-yard line after a punt, the Cadets got rolling as Wilson broke off a dazzling change of pace run of 23 yards to the Navy 40.

Two plays later, Cagle swept around right end on a 21-yard gallop, and on the next snap Wilson slashed through the left side of the line and sailed 17 yards to Army's first touchdown. Wilson's placekick made it 14-7.

The next time Army had the ball it was unable to move, and so Red Murrell dropped back to his 20, from where he boomed a towering punt that came down to the Middies' Howard Ransford on the Navy 25. Attempting a running catch, Ransford fumbled the ball and the bouncing pigskin caromed off the foot of Army's Skip Harbold and toward the Navy goal line. Catching up with the ball near the 15, Harbold picked it up and rumbled toward paydirt, and despite falling down at the one, the weary cadet managed to squirm into the end zone for the touchdown. Wilson's PAT made it 14-14, and the wild first half soon came to a close.

After the gigantic throng had been entertained by a mock battle between students of the two schools, the second half got underway as Army started from its 26 after Cagle's 20-yard runback of the kickoff. Several plays later Wilson swept around left end for a gain of 15 yards to the Navy 44, and on the next snap Cagle broke up the middle and

dashed all the way for the touchdown that put Army ahead 21-14 after Wilson's PAT.

Despite the stunning comeback by the Cadets, the Middies returned to the attack. Both of the high-powered offenses fought back and forth until late in the third quarter when Navy started from its 43-yard line after a punt. Slowly the Middies headed up the field as the action moved into the fourth quarter. Hamilton completed two key passes to Alan Shapley on the drive, and Ransford chipped in a critical gain of eight yards for a first down at Army's 15. The 12-play drive was capped off in sensational fashion when Shapley swept around right end on a fourth down and three play for an eight-yard touchdown run. With the entire stadium holding its breath, Hamilton calmly drop-kicked the extra point to tie it at 21-21.

With just over seven minutes left to play, the surrounding gloom and darkness had gathered to the point where it was increasingly difficult for fans and writers in the press box to distinguish the players on the field. Still, Army mounted one last attempt at the win, starting from its 27-yard line after the following kickoff. On the second play of the series Wilson broke through left tackle for a 28-yard dash into Navy territory, and then he and Murrell alternated in pounding the Middies' line. Finally, checked just inside the 20, Wilson dropped back to attempt a place-kick from the 26. The ball was spotted directly in front of the goal posts, but incredibly Wilson's kick sailed just wide.

The final couple minutes were played in "almost total darkness," as the electric lights over the stadium's entrance tunnels and on the Scoreboard twinkled in the gloom. On the last play of the game Hamilton attempted a desperate pass for Navy, but the aerial was intercepted by (and here's where the darkness contributed to the confusion) either Wilson, Cagle, or Chuck Harding — depending on which game account you choose to accept. The runback was finally halted deep in Navy territory, and so the monumental battle ended in a 21-21 tie.

Combined with Notre Dame's shocking 19-0 loss to Carnegie Tech that same day, undefeated Navy's hard-earned tie gave its supporters plenty of ammunition to debate Stanford for the mythical national championship. Yet more significant was the 1926 game's place in football history. Walter Eckersall described it as "one of the greatest

football games ever played,” and it remains so to his day. No single game in college football history has ever so completely combined the color, spectacle, national media coverage, public popularity, and top-flight level of play as the Army-Navy battle of 1926 at Soldier Field. Robert Kelley of the New York Times defined the game’s significance when he wrote that day: “Football had the greatest pageant, its high spot of color, and so did sport in the United States.”

<http://www.la84.org/SportsLibrary/CFHSN/CFHSNv17/CFHSNv17n2e.pdf>

Listed as Best Army Navy Game # 2

The Nov. 27, 1926 meeting between Army and Navy took place in Chicago and marked the day the stadium there was christened "Soldier Field."

The fans in attendance also saw a heckuva game.

The contest opened with a bit of gamesmanship from Cadets' coach Biff Jones.

A graduate of West Point, Jones theorized that if he started his second-teamers, the Midshipmen would get a false sense of security and not know what hit them the starters were inserted.

The plan nearly backfired, as Navy jumped out to a 14-0 lead on touchdown runs by Henry Caldwell and James Schuber.

However, Army clawed back in it, and ultimately took a 21-14 lead following a 44-yard touchdown run by Chris Cagle that concluded the third quarter.

Midshipmen Alan Shapley responded with an 8-yard touchdown run to give the game its final score.

Navy went on to win the national championship.

Go Navy!

1927 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bill Ingram

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1927 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's forty-seventh season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Bill Ingram in his second of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Ned Hannigan was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 6–3 record, shut out two opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 192 to 84.

On October 15, Notre Dame defeated a high-riding Navy squad at Municipal Stadium in Baltimore, MD L (6–19). This was the first of many games between Navy and Notre Dame. The Notre Dame football squad traveled to Baltimore, Md. for its first game against the United States Naval Academy. Little did Knute Rockne or his team know at the time, but that contest marked the beginning of one of the longest and most respectful rivalries in college football. The attendance clocked in at 45,101.

In the major classic game of the era, the Army-Navy Game, Army pulled the game out to beat Navy on November 26, 1927 at the Polo Grounds in New York, NY L (9–14)

1928 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bill Ingram

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1928 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's forty-eighth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Bill Ingram in his third of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Ed Burke was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 5–3–1 record, shut out five opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 121 to 21.

The annual Army–Navy Game was canceled due to disagreement over player eligibility standards. We make note of this as a big deal. Considering the Commanders of both academies were both under the command of the President, whose name was Calvin Coolidge. We all know that if it were a Roosevelt, who loved football, this would not have happened. We know that a solution would have been imposed. But, not playing this game gave an incentive for both teams to end

their petty squabbling and so far to 2018 at least, the games have continued unabated.

1929 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bill Ingram

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1929 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's forty-ninth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Bill Ingram in his fourth of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Ed Burke again was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 6–2–2 record, shut out four opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 233 to 59.

1930 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bill Ingram

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1930 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's fiftieth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Bill Ingram in his fifth and last of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Lyle Koepkewas the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 6–5 record, shut out four opponents, and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 148 to 117.

1931 Navy Midshipmen Coach Rip Miller

Rip Miller was quite a football guy. He began by playing for Notre Dame for coach Knute Rockne. He was one of the "Seven Mules", which all good backfields depend on their linemen. In 1924, they were:

- Joe Bach, tackle
- Chuck Collins, end
- Ed Hunsinger, end
- Noble Kizer, guard
- Rip Miller, tackle
- Adam Walsh, center
- John Weibel, guard

That year was when Knute Rockne directed the Irish to the Rose Bowl and national title. That team was one of the greatest in Notre Dame history, capturing their first national title at the end of a 10-0 season.

The 1924 season had ended for Notre Dame, back home, the team gathered to determine who was responsible for the smashing success - the Four Horsemen or the Seven Mules on the line. A vote was taken: --The Mules 7, Horsemen 4. Rip Miller's vote went with the Mules, of course, because he was the hard-nosed mixer, an aggressive tackle with incredible quickness.

"There were two kinds of people in Canton then," he would chuckle, "the quick and the dead." The quick played football." Miller was as quick with his brains as he was with his feet. He was presented Notre Dame's top scholar-athlete award.

In 1931, Miller was named head coach at Navy and guided the Midshipmen in their first victory ever over the Irish - a 7-0 triumph in 1933. The following season, Miller relinquished the head coaching duties to Tom Hamilton, preferring to stay on as Navy's line coach. In 1948, Miller was named assistant director of athletics, a position he held until he retired July 1, 1974, ending 48 years' service at the Naval Academy.

In 1966, he was in the Football Hall of Fame when he was the OT at Norte Dame from 1922-1924. He was the last surviving member of the Mules.

On October 13, 1995 the Academy's Turf Field was dedicated to the late Rip Miller.

1931 Navy Team

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1931 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's fifty-first season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Rip Miller in his first of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. For the second year, Lyle Koepkewas the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 5-5-1 record, shut out three opponents, but outscored all opponents by a combined score of 95 to 78.

1932 Navy Midshipmen Coach Rip Miller

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1932 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's fifty-second season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Edgar "Rip" Miller in his second of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Jim Reedy was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a record and were outscored by opponents by a combined score of 80 to 67. This was one of Navy's worst years.

1933 Navy Midshipmen Coach Rip Miller

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1933 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's fifty-third season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Edgar "Rip" Miller in his third and last of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Hugh Murray was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 5-4 record and outscored their opponents by a combined score of 90 to 86. Navy had gotten past its poor 1932 record and was back in the winners' column.

1934 Navy Midshipmen Coach Tom Hamilton

US Navy Rear Admiral, College Football Coach. Hamilton graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1927. The Naval Academy football team won the 1926 national championship, with Hamilton as the quarterback being an integral part of the team. The only blemish on the 9-0-1 record was a tie with Army in which Hamilton drop kicked an extra point to tie the game with .30 seconds left.

At the time it was considered the greatest game ever played. In 1929 he was designated a Naval Aviator after completing the training at Pensacola Naval Air Station. Hamilton became Navy's head coach in 1934 and remained until 1936 and then again became coach again in 1946 and 1947. The following year he became the Athletic Director for the Academy. In 1949 he left the Academy to become the athletic director at Pittsburgh for 1948 and 1949.

He became the coach at Pittsburgh for the year 1951 and coached three games in 1954. Hamilton was the Commissioner of the Pac-8 Conference from 1959 to 1971 and was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1965. During World War II Hamilton served on the Enterprise initially as the flight deck officer and later as the Executive Officer and in mid-1944 became the Commanding Officer.

He served ashore much of the war in flight training capacities. In May of 1942 the Navy implemented the most effective and productive program even devised for military aviation, known as "V-Five." The program was the idea of then Commander Hamilton. The goal was to produce combat pilots to wage war in the Atlantic and Pacific theaters. However, it's greatest effect was the most thorough and complete unarmed training the Department of the Navy had ever seen.

Hamilton received the Theodore Roosevelt Award from the NCAA, the Stagg Award from the American Football Coaches Association, and the Gold Medal from the National Football Foundation, the Corbett Award from the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics.

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1934 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's fifty-fourth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Tom Hamilton in his first of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Dick Burns was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled an 8–1 record and outscored their opponents by a combined score of 138 to 70.

Navy had not only gotten past its poor 1932 record but this year, it made itself known again as a college football power.

All home games except the Army-Navy game and those so marked below were played at Thompson Field on the campus of the Naval Academy.

1935 Navy Midshipmen Coach Tom Hamilton

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1935 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's fifty-fifth season of intercollegiate football. They were

coached by Tom Hamilton in his second of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Louis Robertshaw was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 5–4 record and outscored their opponents by a combined score of 136 to 89.



1935 Navy Early Season Football Practice

This was not a championship record; but it was a winning record of which Navy was proud.

Great Navy Player Fred “Buzz” Borries

Fred "Buzz" Borries (December 13, 1911 – January 3, 1969) was an American college football player who played halfback for the Navy Midshipmen football team of the U.S. Naval Academy from 1932 to 1934.

Borries was born in Louisville, Kentucky, and attended Lapeer High School in Louisville.

As a junior halfback for the Navy Midshipmen in 1933, he scored the Midshipmen's sole touchdown to give Navy a 7-0 victory over the Notre Dame Fighting Irish; it was Navy's first victory in the Navy–Notre rivalry series in seven years. In 1934, he helped Navy score its first victory over the Army Black Knights football team since 1921. Against Army, Borries carried the ball 36 times and set up Slade Cutter's field goal for Navy to win 3-0. He was recognized as a consensus first-team All-American following his 1934 senior season

and received the Naval Academy Athletic Association sword during graduation ceremonies.

The sword is presented to the midshipman of the graduating class declared by the Association's Athletic Committee to have personally excelled in athletics during his years of varsity competition.

After graduating the U.S. Naval Academy in 1935, Borries was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Navy. Nine years later, Borries was a commander serving aboard the U.S. Navy Casablanca class escort aircraft carrier the USS Gambier Bay (CVE-73) as the ship's Air Officer during World War II.

As the carrier's Air Officer in charge of Flight Operations, he was able to launch all of the ship's Grumman FM2 "Wildcat" fighters and Grumman TBM "Avenger" torpedo bombers of VC-10 Squadron while the ship was under heavy fire from Japanese navy battleships and cruisers during the Battle off Samar in Leyte Gulf.

After the Gambier Bay was sunk by enemy shellfire, Borries took charge of a group of the ship's life rafts and was credited with saving the lives of 200 of this fellow crew members during their 45 hours adrift in the waters of the Pacific. Borries was later awarded the Bronze Star for his heroic conduct under enemy fire during the battle, his leadership while adrift, and saving the lives of his crew members.

Borries was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1960.

1936 Navy Midshipmen Coach Tom Hamilton

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1936 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's fifty-sixth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Tom Hamilton in his third and last of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Rivers Morrell was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 6–3 record and outscored their opponents by a combined score of 115 to 74. The Navy had a tough team and finished the season ranked 18th in the first year of the AP Poll. Football had well entered the nationals stage.

6-3 admittedly was not a championship record; but it was a winning record and it was a good record and much better than the 5-4 record from 1935, of which Navy was also proud.

Chapter 11 Coaches Hardwick, Larson, Wheelchel, Hagberg, Hamilton, 1937-47

Hardwick Coach # 22
 Larson Coach # 23
 Wheelchel Coach # 24
 Hagberg Coach # 25
 Hamilton Coach # 21 (2nd stint)

Year	Coach	Record	Conf	Record	
1937	Hank Hardwick	4-4-1	Indep	4-4-1	
1938	Hank Hardwick	4-3-2	Indep	4-3-2	
1939	Swede Larson	3-5-1	Indep	3-5-1	
1940	Swede Larson	6-2-1	Indep	6-2-1	
1941	Swede Larson	7-1-1	Indep	7-1-1	
1942	Billick Wheelchel	5-4	Indep	5-4	
1943	Billick Wheelchel	8-1	Indep	8-1	
1944	Oscar Hagberg	6-3	Indep	8-1	
1945	Oscar Hagberg	7-1-1	Indep	7-1-1	
1946	Tom Hamilton	1-8	Indep		
1947	Tom Hamilton	1-7-1	Indep		



1937 Navy Midshipmen Coach Hank Hardwick

Harry Judson "Hank" Hardwick was the 22nd head football coach for the United States Naval Academy Midshipmen located in Annapolis, Maryland and he held that position for two seasons, from 1937 until 1938. His coaching record at United States Naval Academy was 8 wins, 7 losses, and 3 ties.

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1937 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's fifty-seventh season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Hank Hardwick in his first of two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Ray Dubois was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 4–4–1 record and outscored their opponents by a combined score of 150 to 74. a 6–3 record and outscored their opponents by a combined score of 115 to 74.

1938 Navy Midshipmen Coach Hank Hardwick

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1938 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's fifty-eighth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Hank Hardwick in his second and last of two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Lucien Powell was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 4–3–2 record and outscored their opponents by a combined score of 126 to 60

1939 Navy Midshipmen Coach Hank Hardwick

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1939 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's fifty-ninth season of intercollegiate football. Coached by Swede Larson in his first of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Allan Bergner was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 3–5–1 losing record and were outscored by their opponents by a combined score of 107 to 88

1940 Navy Midshipmen Coach Swede Larson

AS PLAYER, COACH AND LEADER, HE WAS MARINES' GIFT TO NAVY 3 December 2000 ---From Arlington Cemetery:

History reserved an extraordinary niche for Emery "Swede" Larson, who enlisted in the Marines, graduated from the Naval Academy, but remained loyal to the cause of the corps ... on the battlefield and football field. Semper Fi.



He was the only Marine to both play and coach at Navy. And he came away a winner every time. Six-for-6 in games won against Army. Turn the pages of the dusty history books. No coach in more than a century of Naval Academy football ever achieved such success.

Larson had been an enlisted man who received an appointment to the Naval Academy because of his academic and athletic achievements. Every graduate who came out of the academy, via the Marine Corps, holds him in special regard. Larson

made it on his own.

Eight days after the Japanese tried to eradicate Pearl Harbor, he coached his last game. Football, fun and frivolity were shelved. In the Navy locker room in Philadelphia, with only a few brief words, he put the outbreak of World War II in personal focus when he said, "This will be the last football game for me for a while. There's a bigger game coming up and I'm going to be in it."

Then it was off to the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, and preparation for a life-or-death scrimmage in war zones that could only be measured by the sacrifices he witnessed, the valor and resolve displayed by the men he was leading.

The following is a brief but powerful letter, giving insight to the man himself, that he wrote aboard ship while heading for invasion action:

At Sea

5/17/1943

Dear Sons:

On leaving home to join the Marines in 1917, Dad gave me the following written advice, which I have always carried with me. I pass it on to you as the best guide possible for your conduct and approach to a full life.

Be cheerful. Be patient. Obey. Be a man. Trust in God and talk often . A message of hope, kind of the prayer of a father intent on seeing that his sons followed the straight and narrow and, when called upon for a decision, would make all the right ones. Larson never let down his team, his family or his country.

The Marines didn't pick any soft-landing spots for Larson. He went to the Aleutian Islands to establish a defensive deterrent. It was, in the language of football, known as protecting the flanks.

Then it was on to other campaigns ... those dots in the jungle known as Tarawa, Kwajalein and the Marshall Islands. Far different venues than leading Navy against Army. In his football career, he had taken one of the poorest of academy teams and given it instant respectability.

Navy came out of its slumber under Larson.

He was first a Marine, then a football coach. "It was kind of understood my father was going to be the Navy coach," says a son, Emery Jr. "Football was an adjunct to his regular duties at Annapolis, where he was in charge of the Marine Corps Special Service Branch, arranging parades and stationing the Marine guards.

"We lived inside Gate 7, and it was a great experience being a boy and knowing Dick Duden, Vito Vitucci, Al Camerson and Gene Flathmann. I watched a lot of practices and enjoyed knowing the assistant coaches: Rip Miller, Keith Molesworth and Oscar Hagberg."

Young Larson went to Annapolis High, then to Lawrenceville Prep and then to Yale, where he played four years of varsity football during seasons interrupted by World War II. He was serving aboard the USS Idaho when he was given the news his father had had a heart attack at

the Atlanta Naval Hospital that became fatal. "Swede" was only 47 and about to be promoted to general.

In his service career, from a raw recruit, the elder Larson mixed football and the military. For two years, he was involved in the Nicaraguan campaign, then was with the Sixth Marines in Shanghai as bullets and bombs flew overhead.

Underneath the canopy of fire, the Marines persisted in playing a football game. Larson had coached the team from the USS Pennsylvania to fleet marine titles in 1935-36, and the Naval Academy wisely realized he was an untapped talent who had never been far away from the game. He was transferred to Annapolis to await another assignment.

It wasn't going to be a joy ride, but Larson responded with surprising results. Navy became a Top 10 team, ready to dominate the Ivy League and give Army three straight beatings from 1939 to 1941. Six successive times Army fell, going back to when Larson played for the academy from 1919 to 1921. When his son was asked to describe his father, man and coach, he replied: "He had a great, commanding presence and an uncanny ability to lead. When he concluded his days at Annapolis, the alumni gave him a blanket with a large 'N' and six stars denoting the six times he had beaten Army as a player and coach.

That never happened before or since." Larson is buried only 100 yards from John F. Kennedy at Arlington National Cemetery. Let his epitaph be written: **He never lost to Army.**

1940 Season: The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1940 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's sixtieth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Swede Larson in his second of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Dick Foster was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 6–2–1 record and outscored their opponents by a combined score of 106 to 46.

All home games except the Army-Navy game and those so marked below were played at Thompson Field on the campus of the Naval Academy.

Great Navy Player Allen Bergner

Rear Adm. Allen Alfred Bergner was born in Kankakee, Ill., on May 29, 1916. He attended Kankakee High School; Onarga Military Academy; Northwestern University; and St. John's College in Annapolis, prior to entering the U. S. Naval Academy in 1936.

As a midshipman, he was captain of the Navy football team in 1939, captain of the Navy wrestling team in 1940 and graduated on June 6, 1940 as an ensign. His first tour of duty was on board USS West Virginia (BB-48) and he was attached to that battleship when it was sunk on Dec. 7, 1941 as a result of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. Later that month, he reported to USS Tambor (SS-198) and in 1943, he joined the staff of commander, Submarine Division 61 as engineer; He next became the executive officer and navigator on board USS Oar (SS-206).



He took command of USS S-47 (SS-148) in December 1944 and in October 1945 he commanded USS Saury (SS-189).

His next tour of duty was under instruction in Naval Engineering at the Postgraduate School in Annapolis, Md. From June 1948 to June 1, 1949, he was an instructor in the department of Marine Engineering at the Naval Academy. He served as executive officer of USS Diodon (SS 349) and in April 1950, he became commanding officer of USS

Pomodone (SS-486). From June 1952 to July 1954, he was an instructor at the Armed Forces Staff College, Norfolk, Va. Adm. Bergner was next assigned as operations officer on the staff of commander, Submarine Squadron Six. In August 1955, he reported as commander, Submarine Division 62.

Between August 1956 and July 1958, he served as prospective commanding officer instructor and assistant officer in charge,

Submarine School, New London, Conn. Completing the course in Naval Warfare at the Naval War College in 1959, he remained there as planning officer in the Command and Staff Department until June, 1961.

He commanded the USS Orion (AS-18) until August, 1962 and then served as assistant chief of staff for readiness to commander, Antisubmarine Warfare Force, U.S. Atlantic Fleet. In June 1964, he assumed command of Submarine Squadron Six and in August, 1965, he reported as director of the liaison and special studies division, office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Navy Department, Washington, D.C.

In November 1967, he became commander of Naval Training Center, San Diego. In October 1969, he assumed command of Service Group Three and for exceptionally meritorious service as commander, Task Force 73 and commander, Service Group Three, from October, 1969 to October, 1970 he was awarded the Legion of Merit.

In November 1970, he became Assistant Chief of Naval Personnel for Education and Training, Navy Department and in August, 1971, he reported as chief of Naval Technical Training, headquartered at Millington, Memphis, Tenn. He remained here until his retirement from military service on July 1, 1972.

1941 Navy Midshipmen Coach Billick Wheelchel

John Esten "Billick" Wheelchel (April 1, 1898 – November 5, 1973) was an officer in the United States Navy with the rank of Vice admiral. He was a big football guy. He was an American-style football player, coach, and college athletics administrator. He served as the head football coach at the United States Naval Academy from 1942 to 1943, compiling a record of 13–5. In 1949, he was the head coach for the National Football League's Washington Redskins, where he compiled a record 3–3–1.

Navy in 1941

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1941 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's sixty-first season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Swede Larson in his third of three seasons as head coach

of the Midshipmen. Bob Froude was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 7–1–1 record, shut out five opponents and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 192 to 34.

1942 Navy Midshipmen Coach Billick Whelchel

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1942 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's sixty-second season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Billick Whelchel in his first of two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Alan Cameron was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled 5–4 record, shut out five opponents and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 82 to 58

1943 Navy Midshipmen Coach Billick Whelchel

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1943 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's sixty-third season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Billick Whelchel in his second of two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Albert Channel was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled an 8–1 record, shut out three opponents and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 237 to 80. Navy was ranked #4 in the final AP Poll.

Great Navy Player Ed Sprinkle D-End

Ed Sprinkle was a great defensive end for the Naval academy who after graduation signed up with the professional Chicago Bears where he played great football from 1944-1955.

As a pro, the four-time Pro Bowler was known as the "meanest man in football," Sprinkle terrorized quarterbacks for 12 seasons with the Bears. According to a New York Times obituary, in the 1946 NFL Championship Game, he sidelined three New York Giants -- a quarterback and two running backs -- with two broken noses and a shoulder separation. Bears owner and coach George Halas honored Sprinkle with the jersey No. 7, which Halas had worn as a player.



Sprinkle, and a number of other pros of the era were often accused of "dirty play" and un-sportsman-like conduct. Sprinkle had a readymade excuse. He claimed that his aggressive play was similar to that found all over the NFL throughout the 1950s. He said: "We were meaner in the 1950s because there were fewer positions and we fought harder for them. It was a different era." The former Navy great, prior to his NFL career, won three letters in football and two in basketball and earned All-Border Conference while at Hardin-Simmons University in the early 1940s. He also earned all-Eastern honors in 1943 while attending the United States Naval

Academy. Following his pro career, Sprinkle entered business in the Chicago area. He died on July 28, 2014. The Professional Football Researchers Association named Sprinkle to the PRFA Hall of Very Good Class of 2007.

Army Navy Game #1 Best Game

Army came into this contest 8-0, having outscored opponents by a combined score of 481-28. But, the Cadets also came in with something to prove, having lost to Navy, 13-0, a year earlier.

Making that 1943 result even worse for Army was that the game took place in West Point.

The top-ranked Cadets got their revenge, dominating the No. 2 Midshipmen, 23-7, despite throwing five interceptions and fumbling three times.

Competing two weeks before the Battle of the Bulge and featuring a backfield that included future Heisman Trophy winners Glenn Davis and Doc Blanchard, Army outrushed its rivals, 181-71.

And after the contest, the team received a telegram from Gen. Douglas MacArthur, halfway around the world and full of pride.

"The greatest of all Army teams—STOP—We have stopped the war to celebrate your magnificent success. MacArthur."



1944 Navy Midshipmen Coach Oscar Hagberg

Oscar Emil Hagberg (December 18, 1908 – August 2, 1992) was a fine football player and coach and United States Navy officer. He served as the 25th head football coach at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. He held that position for two seasons, from 1944 until 1945. His coaching record at Navy was 13–4–1.

Hagberg was born December 18, 1908 in Charleroi, Pennsylvania. He played college football as an end and fullback at Navy from 1928 to 1930. Hagberg was the ends coach for the Midshipmen in 1933, 1934, and 1939.[4]

In his naval career he saw service in submarines and commanded two boats during World War II, USS S-16 and USS Albacore.[5]

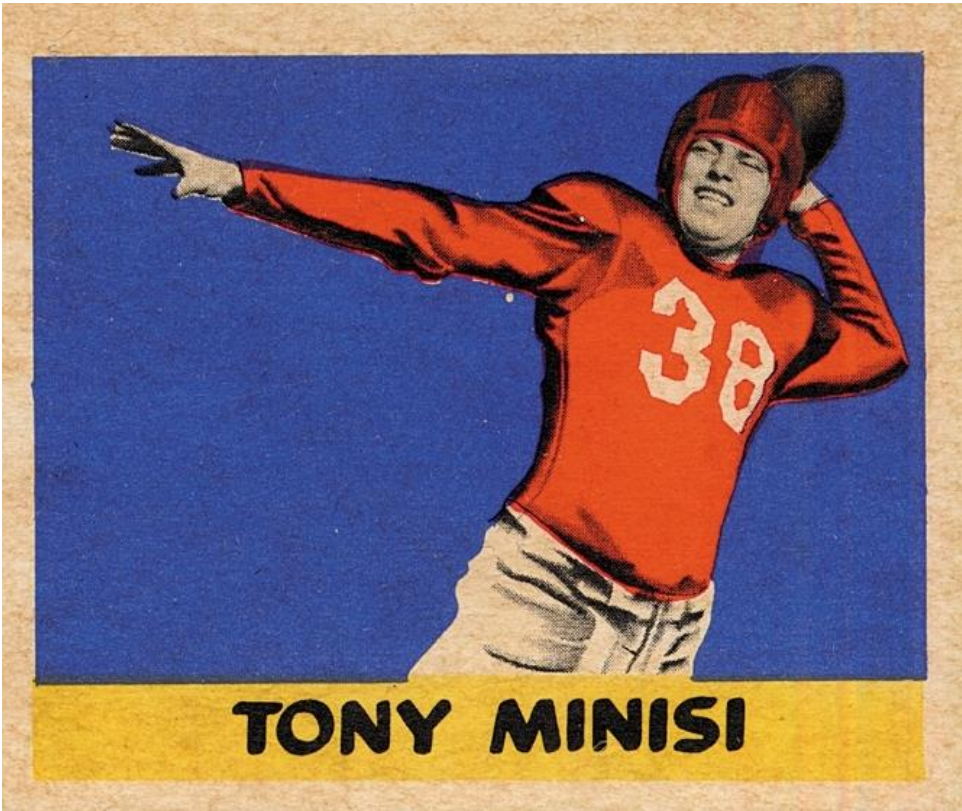
The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1944 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's sixty-fourth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Oscar Hagberg in his first of two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Ben Chase was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 6–3 record, shut out three opponents and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 236 to 88. Navy was again ranked #4 in the final AP Poll.

Army and Navy were both well stocked with talent from the war effort. As history shows, Army's football team reached its pinnacle of success during the Second World War under coach Earl Blaik when Army won three consecutive national championships in 1944, 1945 and 1946, and produced three Heisman trophy winners: Doc Blanchard (1945), Glenn Davis (1946) and Pete Dawkins (1958). It was nothing to be ashamed of for sure in this time to lose to an Army team. Army was the best. And going into the game in 1944, Navy was slotted at second best. Go USA.

Great Navy Player Tony Minisi 1944

Tony Minisi was quite a halfback when the war ended. He spent one year playing halfback for the Midshipman when he transferred from the University of Pennsylvania in 1945 as a sophomore.

The end of World War II meant that the country no longer was in need of his service, so he rejoined the Penn Quakers where he continued a productive career that would earn him a spot in the College Hall of Fame. He was drafted by the New York Giants in the first round but left after his rookie year to study law.



Great Navy Player Robert Jenkins

No picture available

Robert Thomas "Trigger Tom" Jenkins who was born August 16, 1923 and died November 23, 2001 was a football player for the US Naval Academy and a halfback at University of Alabama. While at Navy he was a consensus All-American in 1944

Jenkins lettered in football at the University of Alabama under coach Frank Thomas in 1942. In 1943 he moved on to United States Naval Academy where he lettered in football during the 1943, 1944, and 1945 seasons. In 1944, as a 6-foot 1-inch, 195-pound halfback, he was recognized as a consensus first-team All-American, having received first-team honors from several publications and organizations including the United Press and Collier's Weekly (Grantland Rice).

The three other members of the 1944 consensus All-American backfield were Les Horvath, Doc Blanchard, and Glen Davis, who all won the Heisman Trophy in 1944, 1945, and 1946 respectively. While at Navy the media heaped colorful praise of his playing ability by writing he was a “human dynamo,” “190 lbs. fluid force,” and “the piston-legged personification of power.” A knee injury in 1945 ended his football playing career. Jenkins was selected as the sixth pick in the 17th round (170th overall) by the Washington Redskins in the 1945 National Football League draft.

Great Navy Player Clyde “Smackover” Scott



Although his nickname sounds like it was earned by pounding the ball up the middle, “Smackover” actually referred to Scott’s hometown in Arkansas. He was quite a fullback when love interfered with his Navy football career.

He had been fullback for Navy for two years when the reigning Miss Arkansas paid Annapolis a visit in 1946. The smitten Scott resigned from the Naval Academy to marry the beauty queen and return to their native state. He enrolled at the University of Arkansas where he became a football and track star, going on to win Olympic silver medal

for the 110-meter hurdles. The eighth overall pick in the 1948 NFL draft, he played a combined four seasons with the Philadelphia Eagles and Detroit Lions before a knee injury cut his career short.

1945 Navy Midshipmen Coach Oscar Hagberg

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1945 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's sixty-fifth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Oscar Hagberg in his second of two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Dick Duden was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen, a 7–1–1 record, shut out three opponents and outscored all opponents by a combined score of 220 to 65. Navy was ranked #3 in the final AP Poll.

This year, the Dec 1 Army-Navy Game featured the #1 ranked Army Squad against the # 2 ranked Navy Squad in a game played at Municipal Stadium in Philadelphia PA. Army prevailed L (13–32).

I suspect all of us Navy fans are wondering what would have happened if Army had taken that year and a few others off. The clear and unequivocal Answer is that Navy would have a few more National Championships and a few more Heisman's on its record.

Great Navy Player Bob Kelly



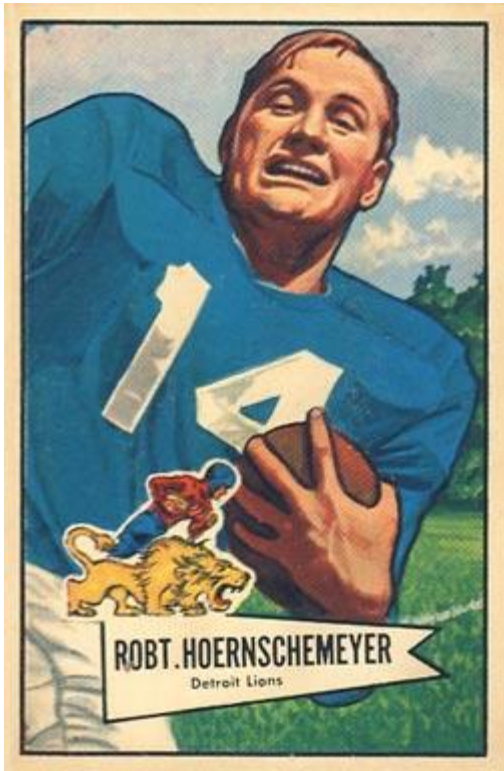
From Notre Dame with love. Bob Kelly was another World War II era transfer, Kelly had been a star halfback at Notre Dame when he arrived in Annapolis in 1945.

At the conclusion of an injury-riddled season, his father used his influence as a member of Congress

to have his resignation from the Navy approved. Drafted by the Green Bay Packers in 1947, he played two seasons with the Los Angeles Dons and one with the Baltimore Colts in the AAFC before the NFL merger.

Great Navy Player Bob Hoernschemeyer

Bob Hoernschemeyer was a great running back (RB) for Navy in the 1945 era. He also made his mark on pro teams after college -- Chicago Rockets (1946-47), Brooklyn Dodgers (1947-48), Chicago Hornets (1949), and the Detroit Lions (1950-55).



Long before the forward pass became such a big part of football, Hoernschemeyer (pronounced Hunch-meyer) made it a big part of at least one game as football lore goes. He began his college career at Indiana and though an RB, he threw six touchdown passes in a 1943 win over Nebraska. Not a bad performance for a guy who later became one of the NFL's top rushers.

In between, he enlisted in the Navy and played for the academy in 1945. After a stint in the All-America Football Conference, he went to two Pro Bowls and won a pair of NFL championships with the Detroit

Lions. He was a great athlete regardless of sport. For example, he was also good enough at baseball to draw a contract offer from the New York Yankees.

And, so as he was called, Robert J. "Hunchy" Hoernschemeyer who played at 5' 11" 192 pounds, was born in Indiana on September 24, 1925, and he died on June 17, 1980, in Detroit, MI

There is no question that he was a key member of the great Detroit Lions teams of the early 1950's. Hunchy first demonstrated his tremendous versatility as a 17-year-old freshman for Bo McMillin's wartime Indiana team by leading the Big Nine in total offense, breaking records previously set by two legends -- Tom Harmon and Otto Graham.

After a stint in the Navy, where he was no slouch, he joined the old All-America Football Conference and played single wing tailback for the Chicago Rockets and Brooklyn Dodgers. An excellent runner and quality passer, he even did some kicking during his stay in the AAFC.

In 1950, the AAFC was absorbed by the NFL. A number of "other league" stars were available to NFL teams. Hoernschemeyer's old college coach, Bo McMillin was putting together the nucleus of the Lions' championship teams of the era. In addition to Hunchy, the roster included Leon Hart, Cloyce Box, and Les Bingaman. The great Lions' backfield had Hoernschemeyer, Bobby Layne, Doak Walker, and Pat Harder. It was a versatile group, with each member excelling at several skills.

Among Hunchy's contributions was his ability to pass from his halfback position. During his six seasons in the Lions' backfield, he connected for ten touchdowns on only 26 pass attempts. As the first effective option passer from the T-formation, he paved the way for Frank Gifford and Paul Hornung.

Hoernschemeyer led Detroit in rushing from 1950 thru 1954, and was particularly noted for his dependability on third down. But "the best third- down back in football" was more than a plugger.

In 1950, he broke off a 96-yard touchdown run against the New York Yanks that still ranks as the third longest in NFL history. The next year, he rambled for 85 yards and a TD against Green Bay. He was quite an athlete.

Great Navy Player Dick Duden

Duden was a tough guy playing both ways for the Naval Academy in the mid 1940's during the war years.

A gentle giant off the field, Duden was noted for his physical play on it as a two-way end. One of best all-around athletes in Naval Academy history, he was captain of the 1945 football team that would have been undefeated had they not faced perhaps the best team ever fielded by Army.



He served four years as a surface warfare officer before being signed by the New York Giants in 1949. Only one season into his NFL career he was recalled to active duty due to the outbreak of hostilities on the Korean peninsula. He returned to Annapolis in 1951 as a member of the coaching staff and remained there until he retired in 1973. Beat Army 1943.

1946 Navy Midshipmen Coach Tom Hamilton

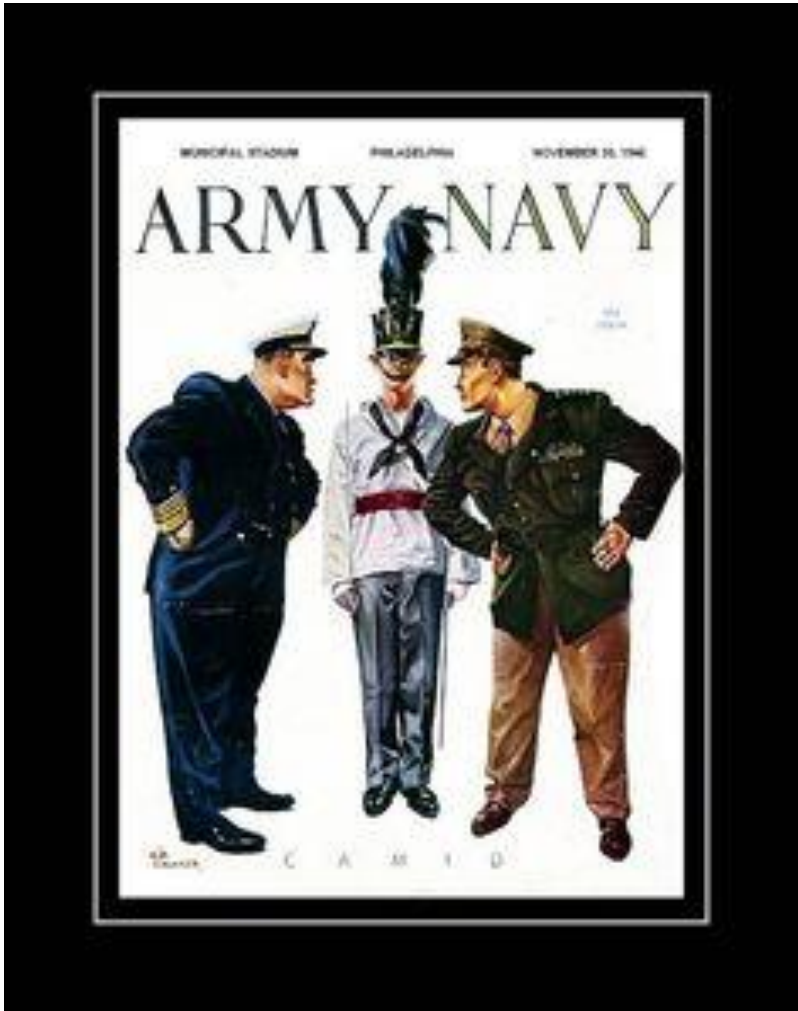
Information about Coach Hamilton is provided in the section highlighting his first stint of duty in 1934 with Navy as its head football coach. This was Hamilton's second time coaching the Navy.

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1946 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's sixty-sixth season of intercollegiate football. They were coached by Tom Hamilton in his first season of his second tour of duty as head coach of the Midshipmen. This tour lasted two years. Dick

Duden was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 1–8 record and were outscored by their opponents by a combined score of 186 to 105.

In the 1946 season closer in the annual Army-Navy Classic Game, at home, Navy was defeated by #1 Army L 18-21 on Nov 30, at Municipal Stadium • Philadelphia (Army–Navy Game). The irony of the Army Navy game is that this was a very poor year for Navy and yet, Hamilton’s squad almost won the game with just a three- point differential to the National Champions.

I must admit that as I researched the great Navy teams of the 1940’s, I was surprised that Tom Hamilton, a great coach from 1936 who came back to coach in 1946 delivered such poor records in 1946 and 1947. I can’t explain it, nor have I found any good explanations. The games were definitely close but bad luck was everywhere for Hamilton in both of these latter seasons.



Clearly, the Navy likes Tom Hamilton as he was a great Admiral, so well they should like him, but one wonders if the ten years that was added to his age in his second run as coach of the Midshipmen had something to do with his poor record. Yet, if we were not looking at wins and losses, we would say he had a fine season. I won't dwell on it. Instead I choose to thank Admiral Hamilton for his great service overall and his service during the war effort when it counted the most.

1947 Navy Midshipmen Coach Tom Hamilton

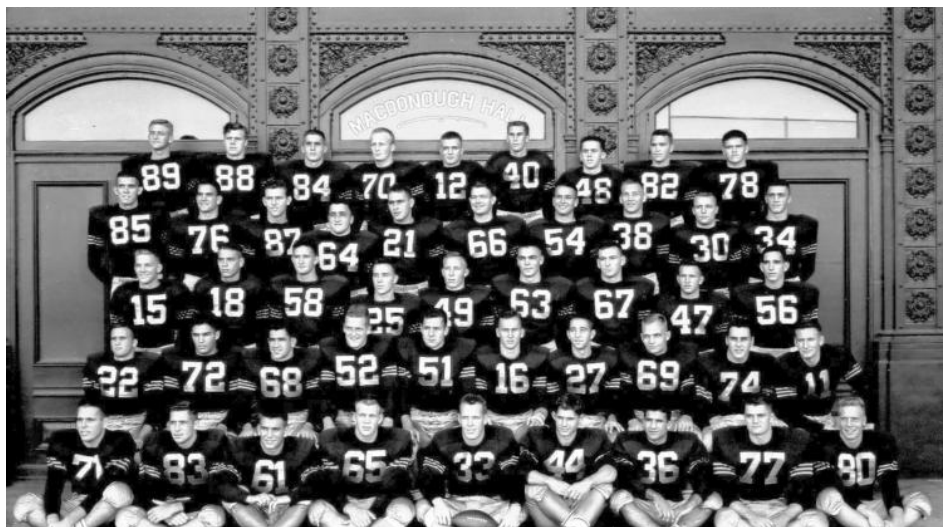
The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1947 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's sixty-seventh season of intercollegiate football. They were

coached by Tom Hamilton in his second and last season of his second tour of duty as head coach of the Midshipmen. This tour lasted two years. Dick Scott was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 1–7–1 record and were outscored by their opponents by a combined score of 165 to 86.

Chapter 12 Coaches George Sauer & Eddie Erdelatz--1948 - 1958

Sauer Coach # 26
Erdelatz Coach # 27

Year	Coach	Record	Conference	Record
1948	George Sauer	0-8-1	Indep	0-8-1
1949	George Sauer	3-5-1	Indep	3-5-1
1950	Eddie Erdelatz	3-6	Indep	3-6
1951	Eddie Erdelatz	2-6-1	Indep	2-6-1
1952	Eddie Erdelatz	6-2-1	Indep	6-2-1
1953	Eddie Erdelatz	4-3-2	Indep	4-3-2
1954	Eddie Erdelatz	8-2	Indep	8-2
1955	Eddie Erdelatz	6-2-1	Indep	6-2-1
1956	Eddie Erdelatz	6-1-2	Indep	6-1-2
1957	Eddie Erdelatz	9-1-1	Indep	9-1-1
1958	Eddie Erdelatz	6-3	Indep	6-3



1955 Navy Sugar Bowl Squad

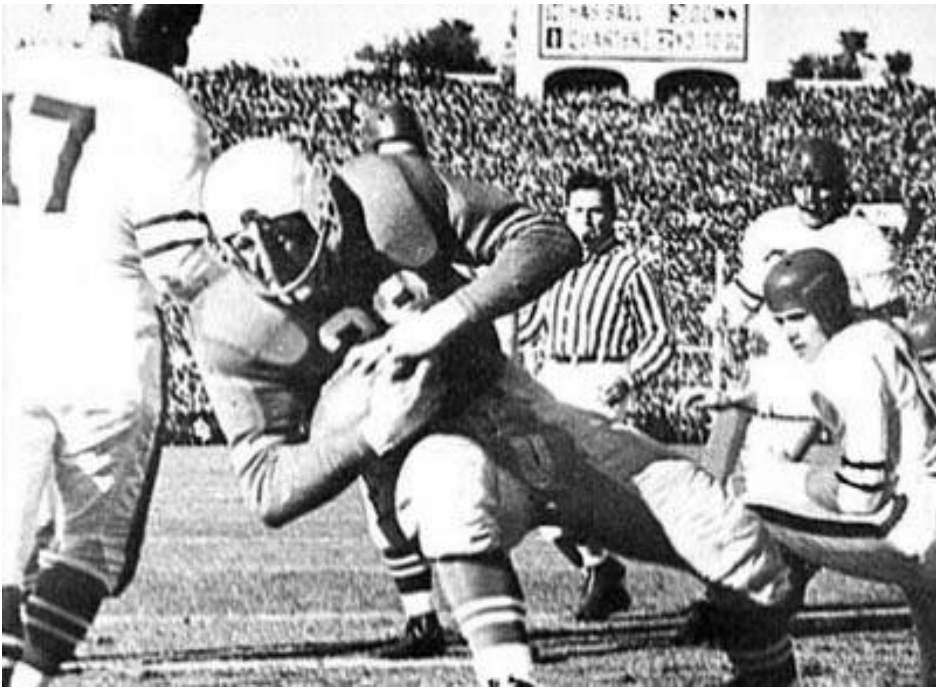
1948 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Sauer

He was quite a coach. George Henry Sauer was born on December 11, 1910 in Stratton, Nebraska. George's parents, Ludwig (Louis) and Katherine Sauer were natives of Noroka, Russia.

George and Louis Sauer descend from Johannes Sauer (born about 1744), Ludwig Sauer (born 1790), Johann Nicolaus Sauer (born 1835) and Conrad Sauer (born 1863).

After high school, Sauer attended the University of Nebraska where he was one of most revered Cornhusker players during the hard hit 1930's. As an all-around excellent player who could run, kick and pass he often left the competition wondering what he would do next. Sauer quickly became an emulated football hero. Ed Schwartzkopf, a future Nebraska University player recalled that at the time:

Coach D.X. Bible glowed when speaking of him: "He was probably my best all-around athlete. He was great at carrying the ball and he was one of the best on defense. He simply rolled up his sleeves and met the ball carrier head on."



Sauer led Nebraska to Big Six championships in the 1931, 1932 and 1933 conference seasons during which Nebraska was undefeated and the fullback was all-conference.

Sauer moved on to the United States Naval Academy (1948-1949) where he became the first civilian coach in over a decade. He resigned from Navy after two of his assistants were treated unfairly.

1948 Navy Team

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1948 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's sixty-eighth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Sauer in his first of two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Pete Williams and Scott Emerson were the team captains. This was the first time Navy had more than one captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 0–8–1 record and were outscored by their opponents by a combined score of 227 to 77. This was Navy's first winless season since 1883. It was the third game of a six-season dark period in which Navy had a tough time winning football games.

1949 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Sauer

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1949 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's sixty-ninth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Sauer in his second and last of two seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Phil Ryan was the team captain. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 3–5–1 record and were outscored by their opponents by a combined score of 238 to 151. Navy won three more games than in 1948 but their winning season drought was not over yet.

In the annual season ending classic Army Navy Game, #4 Army shellacked the Navy L (0-38) on Nov 26 at Municipal Stadium Philadelphia, PA.

1950 Navy Midshipmen Coach Eddie Erdelatz

Erdelatz was a great coach: He was at all levels of football and like most coaches, the pros came last.

Eddie Erdelatz got his first shot as a head coach when he traveled back East to take over a miserable Navy team in 1950. Over a period of

nine seasons, Erdelatz turned a moribund Naval Academy squad into a respectable, winning program that posted victories in the Sugar Bowl (1955) and Cotton Bowl (1958). Things however were not right for Erdelatz towards the end, and he left the Navy team after the '58 season and took a restful year away from football in 1959.

The American Football League formed in 1960, and after their late addition to the league, the Oakland Raiders brought the former Bay Area star, Eddie Erdelatz, out of retirement. He signed on as the first head coach of the Oakland Raiders, and once again, Eddie Erdelatz was back in football.

The 1950 Navy Season with coach Erdelatz

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1950 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's seventieth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Eddie Erdelatz in his first of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Erdelatz would be the first coach to ever last nine seasons with Navy. Tom Bakke was the team captain.

As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 3–6 record and were outscored by their opponents by a combined score of 176 to 122. Navy had their fifth losing season in a row and their winning drought was not yet over.

O Dec 2 vs. #2 Army, the Cadets beat the Midshipmen in the annual Army-Navy Game in Municipal Stadium Philadelphia W (14–2).

1951 Navy Midshipmen Coach Eddie Erdelatz

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1951 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's seventy-first season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Eddie Erdelatz in his second of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. No captain was listed for Navy. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 2-5-1 record. Navy had its sixth losing season in a row and their winning drought would be complete after this year.

This year's December 1 game was played at Municipal Stadium Philadelphia (Army–Navy Game) Navy won v Army W (42–7).

1952 Navy Midshipmen Coach Eddie Erdelatz

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1952 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's seventy-second season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Eddie Erdelatz in his third of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. No captain was listed for Navy. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 6-2-1 record. Navy had its first winning season in seven years. Its losing ways were finished as Erdelatz would have winning seasons for his next seven seasons.

On Nov 29 vs. Army, Navy won in a low-scoring shutout at Municipal Stadium Philadelphia (Army–Navy Game)W (7–0).

1953 Navy Midshipmen Coach Eddie Erdelatz

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1953 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's seventy-third season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Eddie Erdelatz in his fourth of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. No captain was listed for Navy. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 4-3-2 record. Navy had no conference affiliation. They finished the season with a winning record.

In the season finale vs Army, the Navy fought hard but were defeated by #18 Army L (7-20) on Nov 28 at Municipal Stadium • Philadelphia, PA (Army–Navy Game).



Great Navy Player Stephen S. Eisenhower

Eisenhower was born in Sheffield, PA. Steve graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1954, where he was a two-time All-America football player. He was elected to the Academic All-America Hall of Fame and the College Football Hall of Fame.

Steve had a distinguished career in the U.S. Marine Corps, retiring in 1975. He then served as a civilian consultant working with Naval Air until 1996. Steve was survived by his wife of 61 years, Barbara; their two children, Susan (Frederick) Kessell and Gregory (Elizabeth) Eisenhower and two grandchildren.

Donations may be made to USNA Foundation for the Athletic Excellence Fund, 25 Maryland Ave., Annapolis, MD 21401.

1954 Navy Midshipmen Coach Eddie Erdelatz

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1954 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's seventy-fourth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Eddie Erdelatz in his fifth of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. No captain was listed for Navy. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled an 8-2 record. Navy had no conference affiliation. They finished the season ranked # 5 in the nation. Their losing days were well behind them.

Great Navy Player Ron Beagle



Ron Beagle was a 1986 College Football Hall of Fame inductee from the U.S. Naval Academy, who played great football for the Academy in the 1950's. He was 81 years old when he passed away.

Beagle was a tremendous blocker, played defense and caught passes for Navy, starring in a time when end was an all-around, 60-minute position.

The two-time First-Team All-America (1954, 1955) selection led the Midshipmen to a 21-0 victory in the 1955 Sugar Bowl over Ole Miss. Beagle received the 1954 Maxwell Award as the college player of the year after catching 30 passes for 451 yards and four touchdowns.

During Beagle's three varsity seasons, Navy finished in the top 20 in both major wire-service final polls in 1954 and 1955, including a No. 5 finish after their 1955 Sugar Bowl victory. He caught 64 career passes, mostly from George Welsh (a College Football Hall of Famer as a coach), for 849 yards and eight touchdowns.

A 17th-round selection by the Chicago Cardinals in the 1956 NFL Draft, Beagle opted to answer the call of duty instead of playing professional football and served four years in the U.S. Marines. After the Marines, he embarked on a successful career with Butler-Johnson Corp., a wholesale distributor of premium surfacing solutions in Sacramento.

Beagle was born Feb. 7, 1934, in Hartford, Conn. He and 1981 College Football Hall of Fame inductee Roger Staubach played football for the same high school (Purcell in Cincinnati), played college football at Navy, won the Maxwell Trophy, made the All-America team and were inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame.

-- End of player tribute--

1955 Navy Midshipmen Coach Eddie Erdelatz

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1955 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's seventy-fifth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Eddie Erdelatz in his sixth of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. No captain was listed for Navy. They began the season ranked 8th in the pre-season AP Poll As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled an 6-2-1 record. Navy had no

conference affiliation. They finished the season ranked # 18 in the nation.

Great Navy Player Tom Forrestal QB

Eddie Erdelatz thought the world of Navy Hall of Famer Tom Forrestal as a Quarterback. B Thomas Patrick "Tom" Forrestal, Jr., who was born October 23, 1936 is a former football player who grew up in Cleveland, Ohio. He attended St. Ignatius High School there. He then enrolled at the United States Naval Academy and played top-notch college football at the quarterback position for the Navy Midshipmen football team from 1955 to 1957. He was selected by the International News Service as a first-team player on its 1957 College Football All-America Team. No Picture but ship below USS Forrestal.



1956 Navy Midshipmen Coach Eddie Erdelatz

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1956 college football season. It was the Naval

Academy's seventy-sixth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Eddie Erdelatz in his seventh of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. No captain was listed for Navy. They began the season ranked in the pre-season AP Poll As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled an 6-1-2 record. They lost just one game. It was to Tulane. Navy had no conference affiliation. They finished the season ranked # 16 in the nation.

On Nov 3, in a rare victory at home or away, Navy took on and defeated the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame at Memorial Stadium in Baltimore W (33-7) before 57,773. Still smiling from the ND win, the following week on Nov 10, Navy could not get a win as Duke tied the #12 Midshipmen T (7-7) in a game played at Duke Stadium in Durham, North Carolina. On Nov 17, #15 Navy beat Virginia at Memorial Stadium in Baltimore W (34-7). Then in the game of games for the Service Academies, Army tied #13 Navy on Dec 1 at Municipal Stadium in Philadelphia (Army-Navy Game) T (7-7).

1957 Navy Midshipmen Coach Eddie Erdelatz

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1957 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's seventy-seventh season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Eddie Erdelatz in his eighth of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. No captain was listed for Navy. They began the season ranked in the pre-season AP Poll. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 9-1-1 record. They lost just one game and tied one. The Loss was to North Carolina by one TD. Navy had no conference affiliation. They finished the season ranked # 5 in the nation and #1 of all independent schools.

On Nov 30, # 10 Army was defeated by # 8 Navy in Municipal Stadium • Philadelphia, PA (Army-Navy Game) W (14-0). And that was 1957. #9 Navy did so well they played in the Cotton Bowl against #8 Rice on January 1, 1958. The game was played at the Cotton Bowl Field in Dallas, TX and Navy won the game W (20-7) before 75,504

1958 Navy Midshipmen Coach Eddie Erdelatz

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1958 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's seventy-eighth season of intercollegiate football. They were

led by Eddie Erdelatz in his ninth and last of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. They began the season ranked #7 in the pre-season AP Poll. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 6-3 record.

In the (Army–Navy Game) on Nov 29 vs. #5 Army at Municipal Stadium • Philadelphia, PA, the Navy was defeated L (6–22)

Eddie Erdelatz retired from Navy in 1958

The Eddie Erdelatz era (1950–1958) ended after the 1958 season. In 1950, Eddie Erdelatz came back to Navy, where just several years previously he served as an assistant coach from 1945–1947. Erdelatz took over a football program that was dying. The Midshipmen had won just four games over the previous five seasons.

Chapter 13 Coaches Hardin & Elias 1959-1968

Hardin Coach # 28
Elias Coach # 29

Year	Coach	Record	Conference	Record
1959	Wayne Hardin	5-4-1	Indep	5-4-1
1960	Wayne Hardin	9-2	Indep	9-2
1961	Wayne Hardin	7-3	Indep	7-3
1962	Wayne Hardin	5-5	Indep	5-5
1963	Wayne Hardin	9-2	Indep	9-2
1964	Wayne Hardin	3-6-1	Indep	3-6-1
1965	Bill Elias	4-4-2	Indep	4-4-2
1966	Bill Elias	4-6	Indep	4-6
1967	Bill Elias	5-4-1	Indep	5-4-1
1968	Bill Elias	2-8	Indep	2-8



Coach Hardin on the Sidelines Coaching

1959 Navy Midshipmen Coach Wayne Hardin

Wayne Hardin was very much alive when he was delivering victory after victory for years for Navy fans and supporters. Wayne Hardin, a Hall of Fame football coach who built standout programs at the United States Naval Academy and Temple University, leading Navy to victory over Army five times in a row and Temple to its first bowl-game win, died eventually in Abington, Pa. He was 91. He died after having a stroke. his daughter Sheri Hardin said.

During his more than 20 years as a college coach, Hardin developed consistent winners using a multifaceted approach, even when he had stellar quarterbacks.

“What we want to achieve more than anything else is balance,” he told *The New York Times* in 1979.

Bill Belichick, the New England Patriots’ head coach, whose father was an assistant coach under Hardin at Navy, said that Hardin had been “very influential in my development as a coach.” Belichick said that he had also copied many of Hardin’s methods and philosophies.

“I admired his brilliant game plans that he developed for opponents with superior personnel,” Belichick, who has won five Super Bowls as a head coach, told Navy football’s website after Hardin’s death.

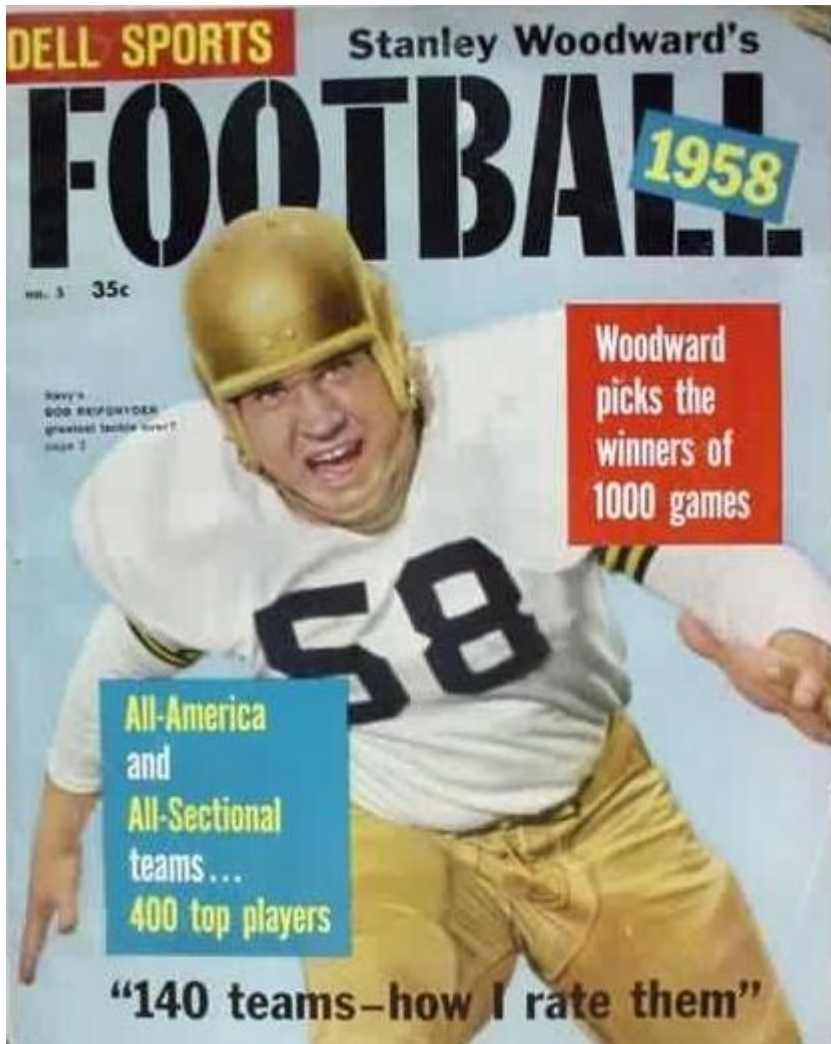
A great coach is simply a great coach and great coaches often can recognize the greatest of coaches long before the general public knows they exist.

Great Navy Players Bob Reifsnyder

Reifsnyder could play anywhere, literally.

In the senior year of a stellar Navy football career during which he was named All-American and won the Maxwell Award for being the best player in the country, defensive end Reifsnyder tore his Achilles tendon and received a medical discharge.

He then became the first Naval Academy graduate to be selected in the NFL draft when he was taken in the fourth round by the Los Angeles Rams in 1959.



The Rams traded him to the New York Giants where he spent the entire season on injured reserve. He joined the Los Angeles Chargers as a free agent but was again traded to a New York team, the Titans. Already slowed by his earlier leg injury, he hung up his cleats for good after he broke his hand midway through his second season with the Titans.

The 1959 Navy Season

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1959 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's seventy-ninth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Wayne Hardin in his first of six seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. They began the season ranked #7 in the pre-season AP Poll. As an independent football entity, the Midshipmen compiled a 5-4-1 record.

Home games that were not moved for capacity reasons, were played at the brand-new Navy–Marine Corps Memorial Stadium instead of Thompson Stadium on the campus of the Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD.

On Nov 28 vs. Army in the classic (Army–Navy Game), Navy pounded the Army W (43-12) at Municipal Stadium in Philadelphia, PA.

About the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy

Since Air Force would now and forever be involved in the Navy football schedule, it is the right time to acknowledge the existence of the Commander in Chief's Trophy. We pause below to explain it.

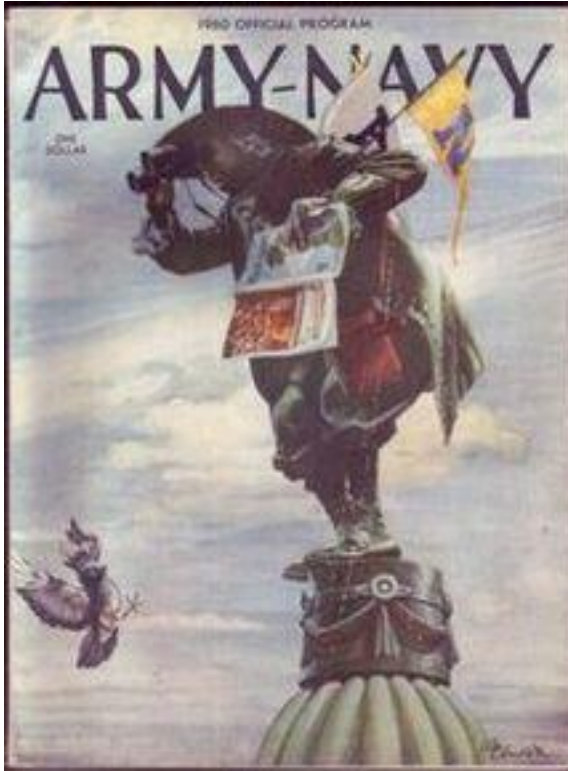
The Commander-in-Chief's Trophy is awarded to each season's winner of the American college football triangular series among the teams of the U.S. Military Academy (Army Black Knights), the U.S. Naval Academy (Navy Midshipmen), and U.S. Air Force Academy (Air Force Falcons).

The Navy–Air Force game is traditionally played on the first Saturday in October, the Army–Air Force game on the first Saturday in November, and the Army–Navy Game on the second Saturday in December. In the event of a tie, the award is shared, but the previous winner retains possession of the trophy. Along with the Florida Cup, the Michigan MAC Trophy, and the Beehive Boot, the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy is one of the few three-way rivalries that awards a trophy to the winner.

Through 2017, the Air Force Falcons hold the most trophy victories at 20 and the Navy Midshipmen have won 15. The Army Black Knights trail with only seven; their last came just a year ago in 2017. The trophy has been shared on four occasions, last in 1993.

The first Navy v Air Force game came in 1960.

1960 Navy Midshipmen Coach Wayne Hardin



The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1960 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's eightieth season of intercollegiate football.

They were led by Wayne Hardin in his second of six seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The offense scored 262 points while the defense allowed 103 points. Led by head coach Wayne Hardin, the Midshipmen finished the season with nine wins (9-2) and an appearance in the Orange Bowl. The

Midshipmen were Lambert Trophy co-champions with undefeated Yale, captained by Mike Pyle. Senior halfback Joe Bellino was awarded the Heisman Trophy and the Maxwell Award.

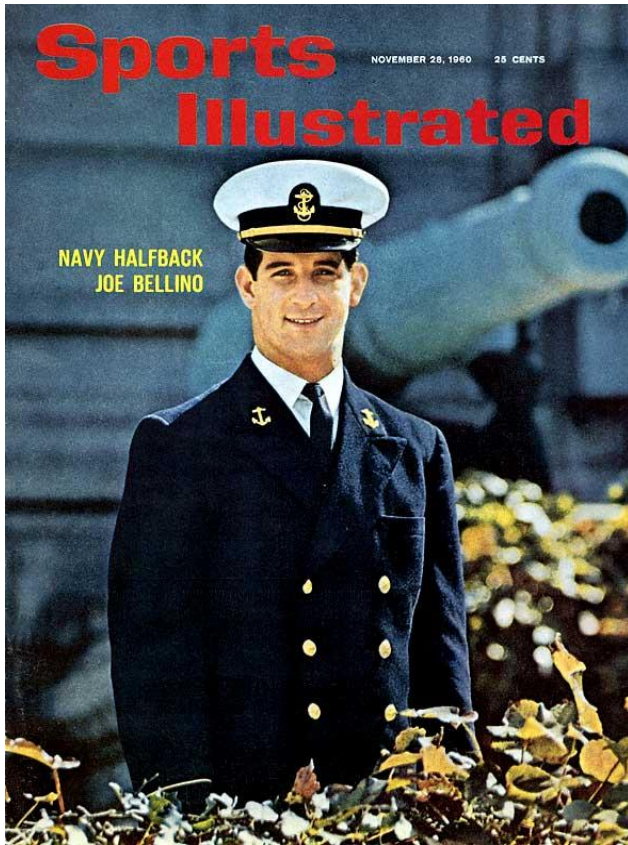
Navy upset third-ranked Washington in Seattle, which vaulted them up eleven places in the rankings, to sixth. They played Air Force for the first time this season, a 35-3 win in mid-October. They finished ranked #4 in AP.

Home games that were not moved for capacity reasons, were played at the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. It is an open-air stadium located off the campus of the United States Naval Academy in

Annapolis, Maryland. In the first game of a long series with Air Force, on Oct 15, Navy beat the Air Force at home W (35–3). In the classic (Army–Navy Game). #7 Navy got the best of Army W (17-12) on November 26 at vs. Army at Municipal Stadium Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

#4 Navy made it to the Orange Bowl and got their first loss in post-season activity against #5 Missouri in their January 2, 1961 contest played in the Orange Bowl Stadium in Miami, Florida L (14-21) before 71,218.

Great Navy Player Joe Bellino



The winner of the 1960 Heisman Trophy and Maxwell Award as a halfback for Navy, Bellino was drafted in the seventeenth round of the 1961 NFL draft by the Washington Redskins and the nineteenth round of the AFL draft by the Boston Patriots. The “Winchester Rifle” spent the next several years on active duty including an eventful stint in Guantanamo Bay during the Cuban Missile crisis, which he discussed with Naval History magazine in a recent

interview.

He managed to play a few games with the semi-pro Providence Steamrollers to stay in shape while stationed in Newport. After Both

the Redskins and Patriots pursued him when he resigned from the Navy in 1965, he decided to join the Patriots because they had offered him a contract while the Redskins had only invited him to training camp.

He spent three years with the Boston club primarily as a kick and punt returner before injuries forced him to leave football for a successful career in the business world and Navy Reserves. 1957, 1959 and 1960.

Joe Bellino has lived the American Dream with three successful careers: athletics, the military and business. His seminal moment was winning the 1960 Heisman Trophy as a U.S. Naval Academy college football star. He served on active duty in the U.S. Navy with tours in Cuba and Vietnam, played pro football for three years with the Boston Patriots, and today is the director of national accounts for one of the world's largest auto auction companies. Along the way, Bellino served 29 years in the U.S. Naval Reserve, retiring as a captain. Bellino among other things, is an American hero.

Here are a few Bellino *questions posed to the all-time Navy Great*.

How has college football changed from when you won the 1960 Heisman Trophy? In college, you were a running back, you caught and threw passes, punted, returned kicks and played defense.

BELLINO responds:

When I played at Navy, we were always in the top 10 in the country, as was Army. That was because the rules then included single-platoon football, and now it's two-platoon football – offense and defense. We only dressed about 33 players in any game; maybe 20 guys were on the field most of the time, so I very seldom left the field. Also, we only needed then about 15 blue-chip [top-rated] athletes at the Naval Academy, and now colleges need about 50 blue-chip athletes to compete.

Q: What are your memories of playing in Army-Navy games, college football's 114-year-old rivalry?

BELLINO: I was fortunate to win two of the three games, in which I played, and the one we lost was to Army's Pete Dawkins in his

Heisman Trophy year [1958], when Army was ranked number one in the country. They were always great games.

A memory was intercepting a pass at the end zone near the end of my senior year's game, when we were ahead 17-12, to solidify the win. John Cox, our publicity director, said after the game, "Hey, Joe, that interception won you the Heisman Trophy."

I smiled and said, "John, that interception prevented me from being the goat of the game," because just prior to that interception, I had fumbled the ball at our own 17- yard line, and Army was going in for a score.

Q: The 2012 Army-Navy game produced the midshipmen's 11th straight win and a heart-breaking loss for the cadets. What are your thoughts on that game?

BELLINO: At times I feel like maybe it's time for Army to win a game. It's really not a good way to end a college sports career, not having defeated the other Service Academy. I know for me, having won my last game against Army, it's something that keeps bouncing back year after year when you meet other graduates of West Point, so it's one-upmanship. All I can say is good for Navy, bad for Army. I was on the field [after the 2012 game] and witnessed the sadness in the Army players' eyes.

Q: After graduating from Annapolis, where were you assigned?

BELLINO: I was on active duty for four years, spending two years on a destroyer out of Norfolk, Va. I was also very active in the [1962] Cuban Missile Crisis, with my ship being down there in one of the fortifications of our Guantanamo Bay facilities.

After two years aboard the destroyer, I went to minesweeping school and became executive officer of a minesweeper that was homeported in Japan, and during the next two years we had three deployments to Vietnam. It was there, when I was bouncing around the South China Sea, that I got a telegram from the Patriots offering me a chance to go to pro football camp.

Q What can you tell us about playing pro football with the Boston Patriots?

BELLINO: That was the summer of '65, and I accepted a contract at Patriot camp, resigned my active commission from the Navy, but stayed in the Reserves.

I played with the Patriots for three years; but unfortunately, the first two years I had a broken ankle. My last year, I was healthy and did very well on punt returns and was also a wide receiver and running back. In my third year, I was picked up by the Cincinnati Bengals in the expansion draft, but at age 30 I was not keen on moving my young family to Cincinnati.

Q; You share Boston and U.S. Navy backgrounds with President John F. Kennedy. What was your relationship with JFK?

BELLINO: My relationship with him started the day I was notified at the Naval Academy that I had won the Heisman Trophy. A sportswriter said, "Joe, you just won the Heisman Trophy to go with the Maxwell, Associated Press, and Chevrolet Player of the Year awards. Is there anything else you would like to accomplish this year?"

I said, "Another guy from Massachusetts did pretty well this year, President-elect Kennedy, so I would like to meet him." The next day, The Washington Post headline was "Bellino wins Heisman Trophy; now wants to meet President-elect Kennedy."

A day later, I got a telegram from JFK saying, "Congratulations, I will send a limousine to the Naval Academy next Saturday, and I want you and all the other boys from Massachusetts to come and have lunch with me at my residence in Georgetown." So we did, and I have a treasured picture from that day.

The next time I met [JFK] was that summer when, as an ensign at the Naval Academy on special duty, they designated me to deliver our class of 1961 yearbook to the president as commander in chief. I went to the White House and presented him our yearbook and spent an hour with him in the Oval Office.

Q Didn't you also have a friendship with Bob Hope, who loved the military?

BELLINO: At the end of my Naval Academy career, Bob had a show called the "Bob Hope Sports Spectacular" where he awarded "The Outstanding College Football Player" and other sports awards. After the rehearsal, he invited me to his home, and there he asked me to call his son to wish him a happy birthday.

That was the beginning of the relationship that lasted years, where I always got invited to his golf tournament and he always called me when he came to Boston. He was my friend, and yes, he was partial to the military.

Q What are the traits that make great leaders?

BELLINO: Preparation, understanding the mission and your job, knowing your people and making sure that they are trained well. Besides JFK, what other great leaders have you encountered?

BELLINO: Bill Belichick, whom I have known since he was 5 years old when his dad, Steve, was my assistant coach at the Naval Academy, falls into that category. By knowing the weaknesses and strengths of his own team – and accentuating the strengths – Bill changes his game plan depending on who he is playing. The key is making people believe their leader will help them win the game by being prepared, having a plan and executing the plan.

Q Are you interested in military history?

BELLINO: Not so much history as the changing technical aspects. The Navy is shrinking in size, so it is not a matter of how many ships and how many men you have in the field; [rather,] it's the equipment they have and the intelligence, which has become such an important part of fighting a battle now, making sure that you know where the enemies are. It is no longer about the most men and the most weapons.

John Ingoldsby conducted this interview. He is a leading writer on the intersection of sports and the military and is president of IIR Sports & Entertainment Inc. (IIRsports.com), a public relations and media firm in Boston.

Originally published in the March 2014 issue of *Armchair General*.

#5 Best Army Navy Game Ever

1960, Bellino Clinches the Heisman

The 1960 game saw Navy senior Joe Bellino clinch the Heisman Trophy by accounting for 192 all-purpose yards (including defense and special teams) in a 17-12 victory by the Midshipmen.

Nicknamed "The Slasher" by legendary sports writer Red Smith, Bellino carried 20 times for 85 yards, catch a pair of passes for 16 yards and return two kickoffs for 46 yards. He also intercepted a pass and took at 45 yards.

That said, Navy nearly lost a heartbreaker, as the Cadets came back from a 17-0 deficit to cut the Midshipmen's lead to five points after a pair of touchdowns by Al Rushatz.

Army had the ball on the Navy 32 with 1:50 remaining in the contest when Bellino intercepted Tom Blanda's pass in the end zone to seal the win—and the Heisman.

1961 Navy Midshipmen Coach Wayne Hardin

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1961 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's eighty-first season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Wayne Hardin in his third of six seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Led by head coach Wayne Hardin, the Midshipmen finished the season with seven wins (7-3).

1962 Navy Midshipmen Coach Wayne Hardin

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1962 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's eighty-second season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Wayne Hardin in his fourth of six seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Led by head coach Wayne Hardin, the Midshipmen finished the season with five wins (5-5).

On Dec 1 in the classic Army-Navy Game Navy defeated Army in Municipal Stadium Philadelphia, PA W (34–14)

1963 Navy Midshipmen Coach Wayne Hardin

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1963 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's eighty-third season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Wayne Hardin in his fifth of six seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 9 wins (9-2).

Three years after Joe Bellino got the Heisman under Coach Hardin, Quarterback Roger Staubach won the Heisman Trophy and the Maxwell Award. He led the Midshipmen to a 3-6-1 regular season record. Without Roger Staubach, Navy fell hard after such a great 1963 Coach Hardin resigned after the season ended.

In the season finale in the Army-Navy Game Classic, on December 7 vs. Army, #2 Navy beat the Army W (21-15) at Municipal Stadium Philadelphia, PA W 21–15. Being the #2 ranked team in the country, Navy played #1 ranked Texas on January 1, 1964. The Longhorns defeated the Midshipmen at Cotton Bowl Stadium Dallas, TX in the (Cotton Bowl Game) Texas won the game L (6–28) before 75,300

Great Navy Players Roger Staubach, QB, Navy

Before joining the Dallas Cowboys, the 1963 Heisman Trophy winner served four years on active duty which included a tour in Vietnam at his request.

The leadership and scrambling ability that “Roger the Dodger” cultivated at the Naval Academy would help him quarterback the Cowboys to four Super Bowls and turn them into a dynasty. An NFL MVP, Super Bowl MVP and six-time Pro Bowl selection, the ultra-competitive Staubach even elicited respect from opposing players and fans. He remains one of the greatest NFL players of all time and a Navy legend. 1961, 1962 and 1963.

Staubach did all his great work for Navy in his junior year when he got the Heisman Trophy. He also did some fine work for his Pro team: the Dallas Cowboys from 1969 to 1979. Even fans of non-Cowboys teams like Roger Staubach because he was a fine man besides a great football player.



There is a skinny as in everything that a pundit can write about. At the college level, Staubach starred at Navy. Heck, he won the Heisman Trophy in 1963.

The Dallas Cowboys took him in the 1964 draft, but as a result of his Navy service obligations and a tour of duty in Vietnam, he could not begin his NFL career until 1969.

He had a great record, 85-29 in the big leagues as a starter, and his NFL resume includes two Super Bowl titles, a Super Bowl MVP,

six Pro Bowls and enshrinement in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. I know that I cannot top that, and I bet you can't either.

Roger Staubach, in full Roger Thomas Staubach, byname Roger the Dodger, was born February 5, 1942 in Cincinnati, Ohio. Yes, of course he was an American collegiate and professional gridiron football quarterback. That's why we are talking about him plus he played for Navy.

He was an important factor in the establishment of the National Football League (NFL) Dallas Cowboys as a dominant team in the 1970s.

Regarding Navy, as the QB great coach Wayne Hardin picked in 1963, to run the Navy offense, Staubach played his college football at the U.S. Naval Academy (1962–65). He was a quarterback and he gained 4,253 yards (3,571 yards by passing) and he scored 18 touchdowns. He was named All-American and he won the Heisman Trophy as a junior as the best collegiate player in 1963.

Though Vietnam was blazing, he served in the U.S. Navy (1965–69) following graduation from the academy.

During Staubach's career with the Cowboys (1969–79), they were in the playoffs every year but one (1974) and played in four Super Bowl games, winning in the 1971 and 1977 seasons.

Staubach did not regret his Navy career, instead he led the league in passer rating in four seasons (1971, 1973, 1978–79). In his career, Staubach, known as “Captain Comeback,” rallied the Cowboys to victory in 14 games in which, with two minutes to play, they were either tied or losing.

His wholesome image and professional demeanor, together with those of his coach, Tom Landry, were a major part of the Cowboy's characterization as “America's Team” in the 1970s. Dallas was not then the most unliked team in the NFL.

Staubach announced his retirement from football in 1979 and was briefly a sports announcer. He was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1985. He later received the Presidential Medal of Freedom (2018). Much of this story provided by the Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica.

1964 Navy Midshipmen Coach Wayne Hardin

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1964 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's eighty-fourth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Wayne Hardin in his sixth and last of six seasons as head coach

of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 3 wins (3-6-1). It was Coach Hardin's only losing season at Navy.

In the game that counts the most each Navy football year, the Midshipmen lost a close game against Army on November 28 in JFK Stadium Philadelphia (Army–Navy Game) L (8–11).

Wayne Hardin, A Great Navy Coach

Wayne Hardin left Navy after his only bad season perhaps—but he was a winner for sure. Hardin was great at Navy and then he spent 13 seasons as head coach for Temple, leading them to an 80-52-3 record from 1970-82. He became an inductee of the College Football Hall of Fame (2013), and he remains Temple's all-time winningest coach. He was always a fine man and a fine coach.



Before becoming the coach at North Broad, Hardin was an assistant coach at Navy in 1955. He took over as head coach in 1959 and he spent six seasons at the helm, where he had a nice record of 38-22-2. We just finished discussing his Navy Legacy but that is not all he left behind. His Navy teams produced two Heisman Trophy winners while he was at Navy - Joe Bellino in 1960 and Roger Staubach in 1963. What a legacy. There were no other Heisman's at Navy over its well over 100 years.

When Hardin passed away in April 2017, he had many eulogies from many people. There were many who have their own legacy and many who that Wayne Hardin for teaching them how to achieve a legacy. One of those is New England Patriots head coach Bill Belichick. Belichick had a close relationship with Hardin, whose father Steve served as an assistant under Hardin.

"I spent many hours in Coach Hardin's home when he coached at Navy and was extremely close with his family," said Belichick, "I learned so much from watching Coach Hardin coach the Navy teams and I continued to follow his career at Temple and I admired his brilliant game plans that he developed for opponents with superior personnel."

Hardin coached some great players in addition to Staubach and Bellino. Steve Joachim won the 1974 Maxwell Award, and Joe Klecko, Randy Grossman, Kevin Ross and Bill Singletary all played in the NFL. He also led Navy to the 1963 National Championship game against Texas.

1965 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bill Elias

William T. Elias (March 15, 1923 – June 28, 1998) was a fine football coach. He served as the head coach at George Washington University, the University of Virginia, and the United States Naval Academy. Elias compiled a career college football record of 36–48–5.

From 1965 to 1968, he coached at Navy, where he compiled a 15–22–3 record. In 1969 Elias was hired as an assistant coach for the Boston Patriots of the American Football League (AFL).

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1965 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's eighty-fifth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Bill Elias in his first of four seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 4 wins (4-4-2).

On November 27 vs. Army in a game played at JFK Stadium in Philadelphia (Army–Navy Game), the game found no victor as its conclusion was another tie T (7–7).

1966 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bill Elias



The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1966 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's eighty-sixth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Bill Elias in his second of four seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 4 wins (4-6).

Wrapping up the 1966 season on Nov 26 vs. Army in JFK Stadium Philadelphia, PA (Army–Navy Game), Navy was defeated L (7–20)

1967 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bill Elias

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1967 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's eighty-seventh season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Bill Elias in his third of four seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 5 wins (5-4-1).

In the classic Army-Navy Game, Navy defeated army on Dec 2 at JFK Stadium Philadelphia, PA W (19–14).

1968 Navy Midshipmen Coach Bill Elias

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1968 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's eighty-eighth season of intercollegiate football. They were

led by Bill Elias in his fourth and last of four seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with just 2 wins (2-8-0).



Bill Elias, the Coach of the Navy football team with the Captain of the Navy football team, Bill Dow

On Nov 30 in the classic Army v Navy Game, the Cadets beat the Midshipmen at JFK Stadium Philadelphia (Army–Navy Game) in a close game L (14–21)

Chapter 14 Coaches Rick Forzano & George Welsh 1969-1981

Forzano Coach # 30
 Welsh Coach # 31

Year	Coach	Record	Conference	Record
1969	Rick Forzano	1-9	Indep	1-9
1970	Rick Forzano	2-9	Indep	2-9
1971	Rick Forzano	3-8	Indep	3-8
1972	Rick Forzano	4-7	Indep	4-7
1973	George Welsh	4-7	Indep	4-7
1974	George Welsh	4-7	Indep	4-7
1975	George Welsh	7-4	Indep	7-4
1976	George Welsh	4-7	Indep	4-7
1977	George Welsh	5-6	Indep	5-6
1978	George Welsh	9-3	Indep	9-3
1979	George Welsh	7-4	Indep	7-4
1980	George Welsh	8-4	Indep	8-4
1981	George Welsh	7-4-1	Indep	7-4-1



Rick Forzano Navy Head Coach (middle) 1969 with Jeff Krstich & Dan Pike

1969 Navy Midshipmen Coach Rick Forzano

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1969 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's eighty-ninth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Rick Forzano in his first of four seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with just 1-win wins (1-9-0).

On Nov 29 vs. Army at JFK Stadium in Philadelphia (Army–Navy Game), Army beat Navy L (0–27).

1970 Navy Midshipmen Coach Rick Forzano

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1970 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's ninetieth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Rick Forzano in his second of four seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with just 2 wins (2-9). Navy won its first game v Colgate and its last game v Army and lost nine games in-between. Tough season.

1971 Navy Midshipmen Coach Rick Forzano

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1971 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's ninety-first season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Rick Forzano in his third of four seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with just 2 wins (2-9).

To cap off its season, Navy was nosed out by Army in the classic held on Nov 27 in JFK Stadium Philadelphia (Army–Navy Game) L (23–24)

1972 Navy Midshipmen Coach Rick Forzano

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1972 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's ninety-second season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Rick Forzano in his fourth and last of four seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 4

wins (4-7). Navy kept winning more each year for Coach Forzano but none of his four seasons were great. The coach resigned after this season.

Playing for the Commander in Chief's Trophy with a win already in the bank from Oct 21 v Air Force, on Dec 2 at JFK Stadium Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in the Army–Navy Game, the Army won L (15–23). Since Army had beaten Air Force W (17-14), Army won the Commander in Chief's Trophy in 1972, the first year all three teams played each other.

Rick Forzano leaves Navy

On Feb. 1, 1973, Rick Forzano resigned as head football coach at the United States Naval Academy today to become an assistant coach under Don McCafferty with the Detroit Lions.

Forzano, 44 years old, had posted a 10–33 won-lost record in four seasons at Navy. The enduring power of Navy coaches for years was not their overall record but how well they did against Army. Forzano's Middies lost three of four games to Army during his tenure.

1973 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Welsh

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1973 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's ninety-third season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Welsh in his first of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 4 wins (4-7).

On Dec 1, in the big game for the Commander in Chief's trophy, Navy clobbered Army W (51-0) at JFK Stadium Philadelphia, in the Army–Navy Game. With wins v both Service Academies, Navy proudly accepted the Commander in Chief Trophy for 1973.



Great Navy Coach George Welsh on the sidelines coaching

1974 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Welsh

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1974 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's ninety-fourth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Welsh in his second of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 4 wins (4-7).

In the season finale for a share of the Commander in Chief's Trophy, Navy beat Army W (19-0) on Nov 30 at JFK Stadium Philadelphia, Pennsylvania W(19-0) Because of a tie record among the service academies, Navy kept the Commander in Chief's Trophy

1975 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Welsh

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1975 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's ninety-fifth season of intercollegiate football. They were

led by George Welsh in his third of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 7 wins (7-4).

Looking for the big win in the (Commander-in-Chief's Trophy/Army-Navy Game) on November 29, 1975, Navy won it all W (30-6) vs. Army in JFK Stadium • Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and in so doing they won the big Trophy.

Great Navy Player Phil McConkey

Phil McConkey was a great Wide Receiver for the Naval Academy from 1975-1978. After Navy, McConkey was welcomed into pro football and played for the New York Giants (1984-85, 1986-88), Green Bay Packers (1986), Phoenix Cardinals (1989), and the San Diego Chargers (1989).



At Navy, he was a receiver and return specialist for the Midshipmen from 1975-78. McConkey served in the Navy for five years after graduation. Bill Parcells signed him to the New York Giants as a 27-year-old rookie after a tip from Steve Belichick, a longtime Navy assistant coach who also happened to be the father of one of Parcells' assistants at the time.

McConkey had a six-year NFL career highlighted by the Giants' victory in Super Bowl XXI. He caught a TD pass and broke a 25-yard

punt return in the Giants' 39-20 win over the Denver Broncos. McConkey caught 67 passes over his NFL career, but was more effective as a return man, logging more than 3,000 total yards (1,832 on punts, 1,324 on kickoffs).

In his mind, Phil McConkey will always be "that skinny little kid from Buffalo" driven to prove himself to the world.

"The competitiveness never goes away," said McConkey, still 5 feet 10 and 160 pounds. "I grew up with an enormous chip on my shoulder because, at every level, I was told I was too small to play football. I had something to prove so, on every play, I went full throttle."

At Navy, he starred as a wide receiver and kick returner, setting school records and leading the Midshipmen to victory in the 1978 Holiday Bowl. There, he caught a 65-yard touchdown pass against Brigham Young and was named Most Valuable Player. After a five-year hitch as a helicopter pilot transporting nuclear weapons, McConkey returned to football. At 27, he signed with the New York Giants despite those who thought him too small and too old. The odds, he knew, were long.

"I had no chance, but every day I went a zillion miles an hour," he said. "The first day of practice, coach Bill Parcells said, 'Son, you better slow your motor, or you'll burn yourself out.' Hey, I didn't know any other way."

In the 1986 season, McConkey, a role player, helped the Giants reach Super Bowl XXI, where he left his mark. Against Denver, he (1) returned a punt 25 yards to set up a New York field goal, (2) caught a 44-yard pass that led to a touchdown and (3) made a 6-yard touchdown reception off a deflected pass. New York defeated the Broncos, 39-20.

In hindsight, he said, "I was in the right place at the right time — and I seized the moment. These days, I'll break out my [Super Bowl] ring when I speak to groups of kids."

His message?

"If I can do it, you can do it," he tells them. "Society wants to put us all in a box because of our heritage or how we look or talk. Many succumb to those stereotypes and never get a chance to spread their wings. Don't be typecast. I'm an example of what you can do if you want it badly enough, so follow your passions and chase your dreams."

1976 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Welsh

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1976 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's ninety-sixth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Welsh in his fourth of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 4 wins (4-7).

At the end of the season. On November 27, 1976, Navy beat Army in JFK Stadium Philadelphia, PA (Commander-in-Chief's Trophy/Army–Navy Game) W (38–10). Because the service academies had mixed results, Navy kept the trophy.

1977 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Welsh

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1977 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's ninety-seventh season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Welsh in his fifth of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 5 wins (5-6).

In the final game of the season and the most important for Navy, on Nov 26 Army beat Navy L (14-7)

1978 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Welsh

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1978 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's ninety-eighth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Welsh in his sixth of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 9 wins (9-3).

Army was sitting in third place with an 8-0 record plus one tie when the Army Navy game hit its schedule. Navy was not in the rankings, On December 2 in the classic game, a game that does not have to ever resemble the season, Navy picked up all the moxie it needed and shut

out the vaunted Cadets / Black Knights at JFK Stadium Philadelphia, PA W (28-0). Navy therefore won the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy after its wins v Airforce and then Army.

Navy got an invitation to the Holiday Bowl on December 22, 1978 v BYU. The game was played at San Diego Stadium San Diego, CA (Holiday Bowl) and Navy prevailed over the Cougars W 23-16 before 52,500 fans.

1979 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Welsh

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1979 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's ninety-ninth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Welsh in his seventh of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 7 wins (7-4).

On Dec 1, v Army, Navy at John F. Kennedy Stadium in Philadelphia Navy won the (Army-Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) W (31-7)

1980 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Welsh

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1980 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundredth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Welsh in his eighth of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 8 wins (8-4).Navy accepted a bid to the Garden State Bowl.

On November 29, Navy beat Army at Veterans Stadium Philadelphia (Army-Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) W (33-6) With a split decision, the shared victories gave the Trophy to Navy for another year. In the Bowl season, Navy made the Garden State Bowl and on Dec 14, played Houston at Giants Stadium East Rutherford, New Jersey (Garden State Bowl), lost to Houston L (0-35) before 41,417

1981 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Welsh

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1981 college football season. It was the Naval

Academy's One Hundred first season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Welsh in his ninth and last of nine seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 7 wins (7-4-1). Navy accepted a bid to the Liberty Bowl.

In the annual Army-Navy Game Classic, on December 1 v Army in Veterans Stadium Philadelphia for the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy, Navy tied Army T (3-3). Because Navy had beaten Air Force on Oct 10, they were awarded the Trophy

In the Liberty Bowl game on December 30, 1981, against Ohio State in a game played at Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium in Memphis, Tennessee, Ohio State edged out Navy L (28-31) before 43,216

Best Army Navy Game # 8

Army captured the 1971 game, 22-20, after Kurt Heiss made one of the longest field goals in the rivalry's history.

In a contest that mostly was about the Cadets' ground game (they rushed for 373 yards) and Navy's passing game (quarterback Jim Kubiak threw for 361 yards), it came down to a 52-yard kick by Heiss with 6:19 remaining to win.

The game featured six lead changes and more than its share of big plays, mostly by Navy, as tailback Michael Jefferson had a 73-yard touchdown run and Kubiak threw a 56-yard scoring pass to tight end Kevin Hickman.

Still, it wasn't enough to overcome the Cadets that day.

Best Navy Players Andy Ponsiego

With 500 tackles to his credit it was getting so there were not enough fingers to count them all and then some. Navy Line Backer Ponsiego, they say, never planned on being as good as he was. He never dreamed a coach close to both, Gary Tranquill, would judge Ponsiego's football instincts as a collegian slightly superior to millionaire Tom Cousineau's.

Playing for Navy, Ponsiego will have to wait five years for Ponseigo to fulfill his service obligation. Seven years if he stays on course and decides to fly. Not many NFL coaches are thrilled by 29-year-old rookies; not many USFL teams might be around by then. It makes it tough for Navy to field great teams but then again, nobody expects to be so great.

"I would love to play professional ball," he admits. "I think about that a lot. But I'm in a situation now where I can't. There's no turning back. So why think about what you could have done? Just go ahead and live for what you've got now."

Had he stayed healthy, Ponseigo still preferred a college education, financed by football, instead of a baseball bonus out of high school. His parents stressed a college whose education would provide the safest cushion should his football experience also be limited. He signed a letter of intent with Colorado; he attended Navy.

In reality, he never thought he'd be able to play pro football. He came with modest goals: to run under some kicks on special teams the first two years, make the traveling squad, possibly play some from scrimmage. And at least graduate.

His second season, Ponseigo set a Navy record with 152 tackles; his third season, he broke that by 17; senior season, a leg injury kept him out of the Princeton game, but he recovered and made 19 tackles against Notre Dame.

"He's got a sense you can't teach," Tranquill says. "Lots of linebackers see a blur once the play starts. He can sort things out and get where the ball is."

What a player!

Chapter 15 Coaches Tranquill & Uzelac 1982—1989

Gary Tranquill
Elliot Uzelac

Coach # 32
Coach # 33

Year	Coach	Record	Conference	Record
1982	Gary Tranquill	6-5	Indep	6-5
1983	Gary Tranquill	3-8	Indep	3-8
1984	Gary Tranquill	4-6-1	Indep	4-6-1
1985	Gary Tranquill	4-7	Indep	4-7
1986	Gary Tranquill	3-8	Indep	3-8
1987	Elliot Uzelac	2-9	Indep	2-9
1988	Elliot Uzelac	3-8	Indep	3-8
1989	Elliot Uzelac	3-8	Indep	3-8

1982 Navy Midshipmen Coach Gary Tranquill

Tranquill's Contract Not Renewed by Navy

Thank you to the Washington Post
by Dave Sell of The Washington Post.
December 8, 1986



<< Gary Tranquill

Sorry about the non-sequitur. Tranquill would be out five years after we report the games herein.

Barely 24 hours after a seventh consecutive defeat ended a most disappointing 3-8 season, Gary Tranquill was told last night that he would not be asked back as Navy's football coach. Navy Athletic Director J.O. (Bo) Coppedge met for more than an hour yesterday with the Naval

Academy Athletic Association Board of Control, which voted not to renew Tranquill's contract, ending his five-year tour as head football coach.

"We believe Gary Tranquill to be a fine football coach and a super person, but after careful evaluation, we have decided our football program needs new direction," Coppedge said in a statement. "Coach Tranquill has been most loyal to us over the past five years, and we are grateful to him for the high personal standards he brought to this school."

Coppedge said the search for a new coach would begin immediately, but that there was no timetable for selecting a replacement.

The Midshipmen lost seven straight games to end a season that had started with grand hopes. "I don't think I was really surprised," Tranquill said from his home last night.

The Season's games

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1982 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred second season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Gary Tranquill in his first of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen finished the season with 6 wins (6-5). This would be Coach Gary Tranquill's only winning season at Navy.

On Dec 4 Navy defeated Army in Veterans Stadium Philadelphia, PA (in the Army–Navy Game for the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy)W 24–7. Because Navy lost in the close game on Oct 9, Air Force won the Trophy this year.

1983 Navy Midshipmen Coach Gary Tranquill

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1983 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred third of intercollegiate football. They were led by Gary Tranquill in his second of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen began to slip this year and the slide would continue for over ten years. They finished the season with just 3 wins (3-8).

In the season finale cs. Army on Nov in the Rose Bowl Stadium Pasadena, CA (Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy),

Navy pounded the Army W (42–13). The Air Force kept the Commander in Chief's Trophy by beating both Navy and Army this year.

1984 Navy Midshipmen Coach Gary Tranquill

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1984 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred fourth of intercollegiate football. They were led by Gary Tranquill in his third of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen began to slip the prior year and the slide would continue this year for about ten more years. They finished the season with just 4 wins (4-6-1).

Wrapping up the 1984 season, Army beat Navy L (11-28) on Dec 1 at Veterans Stadium Philadelphia, PA (Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy). Army won the trophy this year, beating both Air Force and Navy.

1985 Navy Midshipmen Coach Gary Tranquill

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1985 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred fifth of intercollegiate football. They were led by Gary Tranquill in his fourth of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Eric Fudge was the team captain. The Midshipmen began to slip in 1983 and the slide continued this year. They finished the season again with just 4 wins (4-7).

Navy got back on a win streak in the Army-Navy Classic Game played on December 5 at 2:30 p.m. in Veterans Stadium Philadelphia (Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) as the Midshipmen got the best of the Black Knights (Cadets) W (17–7).

Great Navy Player Napoleon McCallum



McCallum played for Navy in 1982, 1983, and 1985. Highly sought by college recruiters who wanted him as a defensive back, McCallum opted to enroll in the Naval Academy when the coaching staff promised that he would be allowed to play his preferred position of running back.

An offensive force who racked up a then NCAA record of 7,172 all-purpose yards, he was selected in the fourth round of the 1986 draft by the Los Angeles Raiders. The Navy initially arranged for him to be stationed in Southern California so that he could fulfill his service commitment while playing football on own time, but duty eventually called for him to spend three years away from the team.

Rejoining the Raiders in 1990, he would suffer a gruesome career-ending knee injury on national TV during the first week of the 1994 season. 1982, 1983 and 1985.

As noted, but worth repeating, McCallum was an unbelievable talent at Navy in 1985. He set an NCAA record with 7,172 all-purpose yards and also held the Mids' career rushing record of 4,179 yards until Keenan Reynolds, Navy's slick option quarterback, broke it in 2015. McCallum still holds Navy's single-season rushing record of 1,687 yards; he was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 2003.

The affable native of Jefferson City, Missouri, has lived in Henderson since 1996. He is director of community development for Las Vegas Sands Corp., which is heading up the domed stadium effort.

In reflecting on his four football games against Army, Napoleon McCallum rushed for 489 yards, scored two touchdowns and never lost. But that's not what sticks with the former Navy All American.

Now, in his 50's, McCallum said "I was always in pain after Army. I got hit so hard and had to fight for every yard. They stepped up their game, and we did, too. It was just two brawlers throwing punches at each other." He was one of a kind on the field.

1986 Navy Midshipmen Coach Gary Tranquill

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1986 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred sixth of intercollegiate football. They were led by Gary Tranquill in his fifth and last of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen began to slip in 1983 and the slide continued this year. They finished the season with just 3 wins (3-8). Coach Tranquill would be replaced the following season.

Outgoing coach Gary Tranquill's 48-year coaching career began in 1962 as a defensive coach at Wittenberg, where he had played quarterback. As we just walked through his seasons at Navy, we know that he was head coach at Navy from 1982-86. His only NFL position was as quarterbacks coach of the Cleveland Browns from 1991-1993 under Bill Belichick. Tranquill was successful in making young men want to play football and then helping them achieve success.

On December 4 vs. Army, Navy lost this year's Army-Navy Classic at Veterans Stadium Philadelphia, PA (Army-Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) L (7-27).

1987 Navy Midshipmen Coach Elliott Uzelac

Michigan Aide Uzelac Is Named Navy's Football Coach

By Dave Sell

December 16, 1986

Courtesy of Washington Post

This selection contains excerpts from the above article.

Elliot Uzelac today became the 32nd head football coach in the history of the Naval Academy.

"I'm very honored and very excited that it worked out the way it did." he said from his home in Ann Arbor, Mich.

"I have no doubt we can win. It's been done in the past and not that long ago. Army and Air Force proved that they can win. But I'm not a magician and I can't say when it's going to happen, but we're going to win."

Uzelac, 45, had coached Michigan's offensive line for five seasons. For seven years before that, he was head coach at Western Michigan. He was an assistant at Navy in 1971-72. (He pronounces his name You-za-lak.

When Forzano was fired after the 1972 season, Uzelac joined Schembechler's staff for two seasons before taking the head coaching position at Western Michigan in 1975.

"The Naval Academy, in hiring Elliot Uzelac, is getting one of the finest football coaches that I have had working for me," Schembechler said in a statement released by the academy.

"He is a great football man, but more than that he is a quality person. In his wealth of experience, he knows the academy and he undoubtedly will give them a highly successful program."

It did not happen for Navy the way the hype said it should.

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1987 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred seventh of intercollegiate football.

They were led by Elliott Uzelac in his first of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen began to slip in 1983 and the slide continued this year. Uzelac did not improve the situation in his three years. The team finished the season with just 2 wins (2-9). Coach Uzelac had not yet at least brought back a notion of winning to the Navy squad.

In the Army Navy Classic Army beat Navy L (3-17) at Veterans Stadium Philadelphia L (3-17) Air Force won the big trophy again this year.

1988 Navy Midshipmen Coach Elliott Uzelac

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1988 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred eighth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Elliott Uzelac in his second of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen began to slip in 1983 and the slide continued this year. Uzelac did not improve the situation in his three years. The team finished the season with just 3 wins (3-8). Coach Uzelac would not bring the notion of winning regularly to the Navy squad.

On Dec 12 vs. Army in Veterans Stadium Philadelphia, PA, Army beat Navy L (15-20).

1989 Navy Midshipmen Coach Elliott Uzelac

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1989 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred ninth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Elliott Uzelac in his third and last of three seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen began to slip in 1983 and the slide continued this year. Uzelac did not improve the situation in his three years and after this year, it cost him his job. The team finished the season for the second year in a row with just 3 wins (3-8). Coach Uzelac had not brought a winning tradition to the Navy squad though his team did beat Army this year.

At the end of the 1989 season, on Dec 9 against Army in the classic Army-Navy Game, the Midshipmen defeated the Black Knights W (19-17) at Giants Stadium East Rutherford, New Jersey (Army-Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) W 19-17. Air Force won the Commander-in Chief Trophy.

NAVAL ACADEMY DISMISSES FOOTBALL COACH UZELAC

By Anthony Cotton Washington Post
Thank you to the Washington Post
December 12, 1989

This selection contains excerpts from the above article.

The Naval Academy fired football coach Elliot Uzelac yesterday, just two days after ending its 1989 season in the sweetest way possible -- by defeating Army.

The decision to dismiss Uzelac after the third year of a four-year contract came on a unanimous vote by the Academy's athletic board of control. Athletic Director Jack Lengyel said the fourth year of Uzelac's contract will be honored by the Academy, and that Uzelac's assistants -- who also were dismissed -- will be paid through June 1990.

Uzelac's teams lost six games against I-AA teams during his three seasons. Overall, he had an 8-25 record. Lengyel said... "The frustration is that we're a leadership institution, and in the evaluation of the last three years we feel the program hasn't portrayed the leadership commensurate with the standards of the United States Naval Academy."

Best Army Navy Game # 10

Occurring in the same year (1989) that many of the players in this year's contest were born, Navy junior Frank Schenk kicked a 32-yard field goal with 11 seconds to play to give the Midshipmen a 19-17 victory.

The result snapped a run of three straight losses by Navy, allowing the team's seniors to graduate from Annapolis with a win against their most heated rivals.

The joy was short-lived, however, as coach Elliot Uzelac was fired the next day with a year remaining on his contract. He found out about his dismissal the morning of a planned celebration—one that included fellow students cheerfully throwing snowballs at players—but did not tell the team until after the party had concluded.

Uzelac compiled a record of 8-25 in three seasons with the Middies, but no doubt left on a memorable note.

Great Navy Player Rob Holmberg

Rob Holmberg wanted to be a pilot and enrolled at the Naval



Academy in 1989 for a chance to attend aviation school. After playing wide receiver for the Midshipmen for two years it became clear to him that a spate of defense budget cuts meant there would be fewer opportunities for everyone aspiring to be a Navy aviator.

He transferred to Penn State where he was converted into a linebacker. His size and speed came to the attention of the staff of the Los Angeles Raiders who selected him in the seventh round of the 1994 draft. He

stuck with the Raiders organizations for four years before playing stints with the Indianapolis Colts, New York Jets, Minnesota Vikings, New England Patriots, Carolina Panthers and Green Bay Packers.

Chapter 16 Coaches George Chaump & Charlie Weatherbie 1990-2001

Chaump Coach # 34
Weatherbie Coach # 35

Year	Coach	Record	Conference	Record
1990	George Chaump	5-6	Indep	5-6
1991	George Chaump	1-10	Indep	1-10
1992	George Chaump	1-10	Indep	1-10
1993	George Chaump	4-7	Indep	4-7
1994	George Chaump	3-8	Indep	3-8
1995	Charlie Weatherbie	5-6	Indep	5-6
1996	Charlie Weatherbie	9-3	Indep	9-3
1997	Charlie Weatherbie	7-4	Indep	7-4
1998	Charlie Weatherbie	3-8	Indep	3-8
1999	Charlie Weatherbie	5-7	Indep	5-7
2000	Charlie Weatherbie	1-10	Indep	1-10
2001	Charlie Weatherbie	0-10	Indep	0-10



Coach George Chaump with kicker Ryan Bucchianeri

NAVAL ACADEMY DISMISSES CHAUMP AS FOOTBALL COACH

By David Nakamura, Washington Post
Thank you to the Washington Post
December 5, 1994

George Chaump, who in five years as the Naval Academy's football coach failed to produce a winning record, was fired yesterday, less than 24 hours after the Midshipmen ended their season with a loss to Army.

Chaump, 59, compiled a 14-41 record at Navy, including four losses to Army, the past three decided on fourth-quarter field goals. The Midshipmen lost to the Cadets, 22-20, Saturday in Philadelphia and finished with a 3-8 record.

"We feel George is a fine individual and a knowledgeable football coach, and that we made some progress," Athletic Director Jack Lengyel said last night from Annapolis. "But we felt that we needed to move forward, and that one of the ways to do that is a change in leadership."

Some observers felt Chaump could have saved his job with a victory over Army on Saturday, but yesterday Lengyel said: "I would hate to speculate on that at this point. The {Navy athletic} committee measured everything."

Chaump was not available to comment last night.

Lengyel said he will begin his search for a replacement today, but he would not discuss specific names. Virginia offensive coordinator Tom O'Brien, a Naval Academy graduate and former Midshipmen assistant, was one of the finalists for the Navy job in 1990 and seems to be a likely candidate. Other possibilities are Boston College defensive coordinator Steve Szabo, who played at Navy from 1961 to 1964, and current Navy assistant Doug Williams, the former Washington Redskins quarterback.

...

"Obviously I have a short list I always keep," Lengyel said, "and I'll start the process Monday morning of making a lot of calls and putting together a bigger list of prospective candidates."

"At this point, we're looking for the best man possible."

At Navy, Chaump went 5-6 in 1990, 1-10 in 1991, 1-10 in 1992 and 4-7 in 1993. His 3-8 mark this season included a 7-0 victory over Division I-AA Lafayette.

...

Lengyel said Chaump was instrumental in pushing for improvements for the football team.

"If you look at what is coming in terms of new facilities, weight rooms and stuff like that, George fought hard for those changes," Lengyel said.

"Now they're coming to fruition, and it's too bad he wouldn't be able to take part. But timing is everything. He just ran out of time."

1990 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Chaump

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1990 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred tenth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Chaump in his first of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The Midshipmen had begun to slip in 1983 and the slide continued year after year. Chaump unfortunately in his first year was not the cure for the slide. The team finished the season this year just a bit better than their predecessor teams with 5 wins (5-6). Coach Chaump had not yet brought a winning tradition back to the Navy squad though there was a lot of hope.

In the season finale v Army in the classic Army Navy Game, on Dec 8 in Veterans Stadium Philadelphia, PA, the navy lost the action L (20-30).

In George Chaump's Last Year at Navy

It was George Chaump's Last year at Navy and let the record show that he was a fine coach. His record was not as good as his skills and capabilities, and his big heart, but he was a fine man and that topped it all. Look again at the picture in the beginning of this chapter, which I repeat above. It came from Sports Illustrated.

George Chaump had a young first-year kicker that he did not want to test with a kick that the pros would find hard to make. The Kicker knew from his childhood that he would make a big one for Navy someday. The day finally came when the young man was to fulfill his dreams.

In this book, we are very serious and show little of the emotional side of the game. We present a lot of facts and figures and by now over 100 years into Navy football, you have grown accustomed to fact after fact after fact.

I read this account and it is well written and delightfully written and it will keep you on the edge of your seat . The picture at the beginning of this chapter, of George Chaump gives you an idea of the emotion that is ultimately in this story. So, in this book, I present snippets of the story to you as it adds to the whole story of one hundred thirty-nine years of Navy football. Enjoy!

AUGUST 29, 1994

A TIME OF TRIAL

FOR NAVY KICKER RYAN BUCCHIANERI, LAST FALL WAS A SEASON OF TESTING ON THE FIELD AND OF TRAGEDY OFF IT—A TIME THAT HELPED TURN A TALENTED BOY INTO AN EXEMPLARY YOUNG MAN

BY WILLIAM NACK

Five-thirty, the sunlight fills my room. First thing I dunk is, I'm at the United States Naval Academy. It's still sinking in. I'm still amazed and pleased that I'm a midshipman. I roll over and look out the window and see the sunrise over the water. I see the clouds, their outline in dark red or different shades of purple, and I see the seagulls come right up to the window. Every day it's different. At nighttime there's the orange sunset and the blue water and the sailing boats at dusk. That's my favorite time of day: the earth, the setting sun, the clouds—and when I'm kicking, I see the silhouette of the goalposts against the sky, and the black ball....

—Ryan Bucchianeri

In all the years he had played and replayed this moment in his mind—from spring and summer nights to restless autumn afternoons, from his Pennsylvania boyhood to his first months at the U.S. Naval Academy—Ryan Bucchianeri had always made the kick, the one he had to nail to beat Army. Not once, in all his youthful reveries, had he ever missed. Ever hooked it left, floated it right. Ever failed. Ever imagined anything but the kick that sailed end over end through the uprights, the boot that lifted the Middies over the Cadets and raised the boy onto the swarming shoulders of his teammates.

"Literally thousands of times I'd been in that situation in my dreams and made the kick against Army," Bucchianeri says. "I always made it. I had been visualizing it for years. For years!"

And now there he was, at age 18, only six months out of high school, looking like some downy-cheeked waif who had wandered out of a Dickens novel into Giants Stadium in New Jersey. It was almost 10 past three on the afternoon of Dec. 4, 1993, and for Ryan Joseph Bucchianeri—placekicker, poet, pianist, plebe—the Army-Navy game was just one play away from being his to decide. Army was leading 16-14, but the Midshipmen had driven 79 yards in 12 plays in the game's final 4½ minutes, from their own 20-yard line to Army's one, and now it was third-and-goal with 12 seconds left to play, and Bucchianeri (pronounced Boo-chee-ah-nary) was reciting his mantra on the sidelines: "I'm going in to kick the game-winner.... Get me in position!"

It was very strange, the way it was all happening. "You start thinking about fate," Bucchianeri says. "Was this meant to be?"

George Chaump grimaced at the thought. That the most important game of the year should turn on so young a toe was a fate the Navy coach wanted much to avoid. Bucchianeri had kicked erratically most of the season—he had never really recovered from the physical rigors of Plebe Summer, the Naval Academy's seven-week boot camp in the blazing heat of July and August—and Chaump feared exposing the struggling freshman to all the pressures that bore hard on the moment.

Besides the game itself, there was the coveted Commander-in-Chief's Trophy, which goes to the service academy that beats the other two in football. Navy had already defeated Air Force 28-24 on Oct. 9, and all the Middies needed now was a victory over West Point to take home the trophy for the first time in 12 years. And beyond the trophy was the powerful, dramatic subtext that ran between the lines of the football field that gray afternoon at the Meadowlands.

...

And so it was third-and-goal in Giants Stadium, down on Army's one, and Chaump did not want the outcome of so emotional a drama to ride on a plebe with an uncertain toe. "I didn't want his confidence shattered." Chaump says. Nevertheless, the coach hedged. The ball was on the right hash mark, creating the most difficult angle for a right-legged kicker such as Bucchianeri, and so Chaump ordered a running play to the left, hoping to leave the ball in the middle of the held if the runner failed to score.

"Make sure it's dead center!" Chaump hollered at Kubiak. "Give him every chance to make it!"

Kubiak went to the huddle. "We're taking this in!" the quarterback hollered above the din of the crowd. Kubiak called 15-Cut, a handoff to fullback Brad Stramanak off Kubiak's left side. At the snap Stramanak took the handoff and started left. Suddenly, seeing a giant hole yawning on the right, he cut back and bolted for it. Alas, at the instant he seemed about to score, the damnable fates intervened. From the far right side of Army's line, linebacker Pat Work had slanted for the middle and dived forward. Now, reaching out, he caught Stramanak's foot with his left hand. The fullback tripped and fell a foot inside the one.

It was fourth down, with :06 left to play, and the ball was back on the right hash.

"Booch!"

It was Chaump calling. The young man materialized at the coach's shoulder, his waxen face glistening in the rain, his eyes blinking into the TV cameras from the hollow of a helmet that appeared a size

too large. The coach grabbed him tightly by the arm. "Get in there and relax!" Chaump said.

"Just kick it like you do any other kick," said wideout Matt Scornavacchi.

"Come on, Ryan!" hollered Red Romo, the team trainer. "Put it in there and I'll give you an extra steak next week."

...

On the sideline, as the timeout dwindled, senior wide receiver Jimmy Screen turned to tailback Jason Van Matre, a classmate, and said, "He'll make it. It's just like Schenk and Griz in '89."

Behind them, off by himself, Kubiak knelt on the artificial turf and beseeched the originator of grass: "Dear God, we deserve this. Let this go through."

Bucchianeri rubbed his mourning band, making sure it was secure, and headed onto the field, right to the cusp of that most cherished of his fantasies. He repeated, like a litany, the first commandment of placekicking, of which his father, Richard, had reminded him only the night before: "Keep your head down and follow through the ball." Ryan's holder, Tony Solliday, approached him on the field. "I want you to know, whether you make this or not, that you're a great kicker," Solliday said. Given the acute angle to the goalposts and his tendency to hook the ball from the right hash, Bucchianeri made an adjustment. "I aimed slightly right of the nearest goalpost," he says, "thinking it would hook between the two." He took three steps back and 1½ over and bent forward.

Just before the catch of the snap, Bucchianeri stepped forward, locking his knee as he swung his leg like a golf club, driving the outside of his toe into the ball. "It felt like a good hit," he says now, "but something felt a little different. I looked up...."

...

When Bucchianeri arrived at the Naval Academy on June 30, 1993, he might have been mistaken for the protagonist of some lost Frank Capra movie: Mr. Bucchianeri Goes to Annapolis. Practically the first thing he did when he arrived at the Yard was to ask his dad to

pull over next to the football practice fields. Ryan dug into the trunk and pulled out his right kicking shoe, whose cleats were caked with mud from the Ringgold High field. He said, "I want to put part of Monongahela around here. I want a little bit of something from where I grew up down here with me." So he walked onto the practice field while picking the dirt off the cleats, scattering it about like magic seed.

He had never wanted anything more than to be where he was that day. The summer after seventh grade, enraptured by the U.S. space program, Ryan talked his parents into sending him, at a cost of \$525, to a five-day program at the U.S. Space Academy in Huntsville, Ala. After being named Outstanding Trainee in a class of 120, Ryan returned to Monongahela determined to do a real moon walk one day. He saw in the Naval Academy his path toward being an astronaut. "I know it's a long shot, but this is the place to be to get there," he says. "But I would be happy on a submarine, too. I just want to be an officer and serve my country." Scores of colleges made passes at him—Pittsburgh and Penn State courted him at home—but none had a silent prayer. "The Navy didn't recruit him," says Rosemary [his mom]. "He recruited them."

...

Notre Dame turned out to be a vastly bigger deal. Navy's regular kicker, David Gwinn, had been having kicking troubles of his own, so Chaump told Bucchianeri to get ready for the Irish, then ranked No. 2, on Oct. 30. Bucchianeri was kicking better than he had all year. "I'm not kidding," Chaump said. "Keep up the good work. We'll see what happens."

It happened sooner, and far more dramatically, than Bucchianeri had dared imagine. With 2:22 gone in the first quarter and no score, Chaump called on Bucchianeri to try a 38-yarder. Head down, by the numbers, Bucchianeri swept through the ball. He knew instantly. "One of the greatest feelings of my life," he says. "Seeing that ball, almost in slow motion, turning end over end toward the uprights, on its unchangeable path! I hit it perfect. I just stood there and watched it. All of a sudden you hear bah-BOOM—that's the Navy cannons going off—and then you see a plume of blue smoke come across the ball. That's dramatic! You turn around and the

Midshipmen are there cheering, and you look up on the scoreboard and it's 3-0, Navy over Notre Dame, and you were a part of that."

Navy collapsed in the second half and lost 58-27, but Bucchianeri kicked one more field goal, a 34-yarder, and three extra points, for nine points in all—and no misses. Even so, this would pale to transparency five weeks later if the great blue plume were to cross the flight of the ball against Army at Giants Stadium.

The kick floated to the right, missing by 18 inches, and Bucchianeri saw the referee wave his arms to the side. "No!" said the kicker.

He turned his back to the goalposts and fell to one knee. Solliday reached out for him. Bucchianeri dropped his head, closed his eyes and raised his left hand to his face mask, his right to Solliday's shoulder. "I can't believe it," he muttered. "This isn't happening...."

Bucchianeri was starting for his locker room when the Army placekicker, Rocco Wicks, put his arm around him. "Don't worry about it," Wicks told him, one toe to another. "One kick doesn't lose a game. Keep your head up."

Bucchianeri walked into the locker room looking utterly lost. "He was in shock," says Kubiak. "He was white as a ghost, and his eyes were wide open." To Kubiak he said: "I don't know what just happened out there. I think I'm in the stages of shock. I think I'm in denial...."

Someone leaned over and told Bucchianeri that the "gentlemen of the press" were waiting for him.

"Should I go?" he asked.

"If you don't feel like going, don't go," co-captain Van Matre said.

Bucchianeri thought a moment, then turned and left the room. "I knew I had to face the media," he says now. "Be responsible for your actions." Facing the microphones and the lights, he could not have been more ingenuous, more appealing. Asked, first off, how he felt, he paused, blinking. "I did the best I could," he finally said. "That's how I feel."

When someone gently lobbed him an excuse, wondering about the rainy conditions, about the snap and the hold, Bucchianeri let it sail past. "It doesn't matter," he said quietly. "I missed the kick, sir." And so, on and on, it went. Bucchianeri thus became, in failure, a kind of national hero—the kid who missed the kick, blamed only himself and addressed his inquisitors as sir. In an age of sport in which winners own the world and losers are lepers, at a time when talk is trash and the buck is passed, he strummed an old and cherished chord at the hour of his keenest disappointment.

No one felt worse for him than those who knew him at Annapolis. Senior Lisa Winslow attended an NHL hockey game at the Meadowlands that night. Afterward she called her mother, Betty, in Bowling Green, Ohio. Betty had seen the game and asked about the plebe who missed the kick. "He's in my squad," Lisa said. "I want to talk to him and make sure he understands that it was not his fault. If the team had done better, it wouldn't have hinged on his kick. It's just a game. I really want to make sure I'm there for him when he gets back."

The Navy caravan of buses did not leave the Meadowlands until the next morning. The memorial service for Grizzard was scheduled to be held at three o'clock, and the caravan set out for Annapolis at 10. For Bucchianeri, still stunned by the turn of events, it would be a long ride south. It would be a far longer journey for superintendent Lynch, who had received distressing news from his executive assistant at 8 a.m. in his Meadowlands hotel room. At about 6 a.m., in the rainy, windswept darkness, three midshipmen had been killed and a fourth seriously injured when the roof of the Ford Bronco in which they were riding back from New Jersey was sheared off by a rotted willow tree that had just fallen across a road about a mile from the Naval Academy.

The caravan from the Meadowlands arrived at the Academy gate at 2:30 p.m., and the chapel filled for Grizzard's memorial service. During the service, without naming the victims, Lynch announced what had happened that morning outside the gate.

Who had died? all hands wondered.

Bucchianeri left the chapel and hiked in the cold rain across Tecumseh Court, then up the steps and into Memorial Hall, a vast, ornate room on whose far wall hangs the historic flag from the USS Lawrence. The flag bears the legend DON'T GIVE UP THE SHIP. Outside, beyond the Yard, people seemed to be dying everywhere. Bucchianeri stared at the motto as though leaning on it for support. "It was perfectly silent," he says. "I wanted to be alone to dismiss the kick once and for all. I dismissed it: O.K., it's over. Move on with your life!"

He did an about-face and left. Outside, on Tecumseh Court, he started back to his room. He noticed that the sun had broken through. "I looked up, and a huge rainbow had formed over Bancroft Hall, with a couple of seagulls flying across the sky," he says. "I almost cried. I thought, It's over. I can get on with my life."

Back in Mother B, he climbed the steps to his company deck and strode down the hall. A disquieting stillness hung in the air. "I knew something was wrong," he says. He joined some midshipmen in one of the rooms, where they sat talking for an hour, and then two plebes walked in to give them the news. Brian Clark, Bucchianeri's squad leader, was in serious condition at University Hospital in Baltimore. He had been driving the Bronco when it crashed into the tree. The three dead midshipmen were all women, all friends of Bucchianeri's: Lisa Winslow, Autumn Pevzner and Robin Pegram. They had left the hockey game together, visited a fellow midshipman in his hotel room, then set off for Annapolis at about 1:30 a.m. Alcohol was not involved. The tree toppled onto the road either just before the Bronco approached it or the instant the car got there.

...

"This was new for me," he says, "the most adversity I'd ever faced personally."

In the days after he returned from the Meadowlands, he received hundreds of letters, including scores through the E-mail on his computer. The expressions of kindness and solace overwhelmed him. "I didn't expect to get mail," he says. "I really didn't expect to get anything."

The letters, predictably, addressed the missed kick, the public agony amid his private sorrow. They came from all places and all kinds of people—from a man who addressed the envelope "To the Young Man at the Naval Academy whose place-kick missed going through the goal by inches" and from such senior military officers as Adm. Frank B. Kelso II, then the chief of naval operations, who subsequently stepped down in the wake of the Tail-hook scandal. "When I was captain of the Naval Academy golf team many years ago," Kelso wrote to Bucchianeri, "I missed a putt on the 18th green to lose our match with Army, and I feel I haven't done too badly."

The central theme of these letters, which were often long and always generous, was the suffering and handling of adversity. "Everything from striking out in the last inning of a Pony League baseball game to captains and admirals losing men in war," Bucchianeri says. "They shared some very personal things with me. A lot of people said I taught them a lesson—that we can fail, that we can mess up sometimes, and it's O.K."

Bucchianeri was left, of course, to write his own endings to the days that followed. One night during the week after the Army-Navy game, when one memorial service seemed to blur into another, he fled the sadness of the faces and the walls to be alone again. He went to the auditorium in Mitscher Hall, turned off all the lights and sat down at the piano in the dark. "I was thinking about everything," he says. "How fragile life is at times...the kick wide...Lisa Winslow dancing in the halls...how larger-than-life Alton Grizzard was...."

He made the keys sound like wind, and he made them sound like rain.

--- The end ---

Sometimes not everything in life goes perfectly well. For those who would like to read the entire Sports Illustrated piece on the kick that did not make it, may choose to take this link:

<https://www.si.com/vault/1994/08/29/131858/a-time-of-trial-for-navy-kicker-ryan-bucchianeri-last-fall-was-a-season-of-testing-on-the->

field-and-of-tragedy-off-it----a-time-that-helped-turn-a-talented-boy-into-an-exemplary-young-man

Great Navy Players David C. Berghult

David C. Berghult was a tight end for Navy from 1988 through 1990. He kept getting better and eventually made the Navy Athletic Hall of Fame. In 1988 for example he caught one pass for 25 yards. Then, in 1989, it was 12 passes for 200 yards. In his last year, Berghult snagged 7 throws for 359 yards. He was a mainstay on the offense with a total of 40 catches and 584 yards at the Naval Academy.

Berghult was fast and so every now and then he returned punts. He got the call one time and he gained 7 yards on the return.

-- End of player tribute--

1991 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Chaump

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1991 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred eleventh season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Chaump in his second of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. The team captains were B. J. Mason and Byron Ogden.

The Midshipmen had begun to slip in 1983 and the slide continued year after year. Chaump unfortunately, even in his second year was not the cure for the slide. The team finished the season with a record worse than in many years with 1 win (1-10). In fact, it was the program's fewest wins in a season since the winless 1948 squad. The Navy was clearly not proud of this record.

Coach Chaump was heading in the wrong direction though his methods may have been the best. It did not look like in his tenure the winning tradition would be brought back to the Navy squad though there still was a lot of hope.

On December 7 vs. Army in Veterans Stadium Philadelphia, PA (Army-Navy game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy), Navy emerged victorious W (24–3).

Great Navy Player Jim Kubiak

Jim Kubiak joined the Naval Academy in 1990 and graduated in 1995, after a stellar career at Navy in which he broke 22 passing records.

In 1996, Kubiak signed to play with the Carolina Panthers, but the Navy refused his request for an early release and the Panthers cut him in 1997. In 1998, he signed a contract with the Colts, and again asked the Navy to release him from active duty so that he could try out for the team. The Navy agreed, but then Kubiak was cut from the team last November.

In December, the Navy asked Kubiak to return to active duty. He had been serving aboard the U.S.S. Eisenhower aircraft carrier, based in Norfolk, Va. Kubiak refused to return to duty, arguing that his release was not contingent upon his making the team.

In January, Kubiak sued the Navy in federal court in Buffalo, N.Y., his hometown, seeking to prevent being forced back to active duty. A judge temporarily granted Kubiak's request, stating that returning to duty would "irreparably damage" his football career.

Kubiak's settlement will likely come as good news to 1998 academy graduate Chris McCoy, another Navy quarterback who signed a contract with the Green Bay Packers last year and had planned to ask for an early release after he had served two years in the Navy.

During had a successful pro career in which he played for the Carolina Panthers, Indianapolis Colts, Barcelona Dragons, New York Jets, Buffalo Destroyers, Dallas Desperados, Detroit Fury, Georgia Force.

Great Navy Player Todd Peterson



Peterson kicked for Navy for two years before concluding that the Naval Academy was not the best environment for him. He transferred to the University of Georgia where he excelled in academics and on the field, leading the SEC in field goal percentage. Drafted by the New York Giants in 1993, he became a journeyman kicker playing for the

Arizona Cardinals, Seattle Seahawks, Kansas City Chiefs, Pittsburgh Steelers, San Francisco 49ers and Atlanta Falcons. Beat Army 1989.

Great Navy Player Kyle Eckel



This all-American fullback was named the MVP of the Army Navy game in consecutive years. He rushed for 1,147 yards and 11 touchdowns as a senior, notably rushing 26 times for a career-high 179 yards and one touchdown against Army en-route to being named the Philadelphia Sportswriters Most Valuable Player of the Army-Navy game for the second consecutive year.

Unfortunately, Eckel gained a reputation for lacking discipline which contributed to him being booted from the Navy for undisclosed reasons only a year and half after his 2005 graduation.

He was forced to repay more than \$96,000 in tuition costs. He spent a couple of years on the practice squads of the New England Patriots and Miami Dolphins before finally cracking the Patriots' lineup player in 2007.

He spent most of his career as a special teams player, making stops in Philadelphia and Denver. He was with the New Orleans Saints for their Super Bowl XLIV victory. Beat Army 2002, 2003 and 2004.

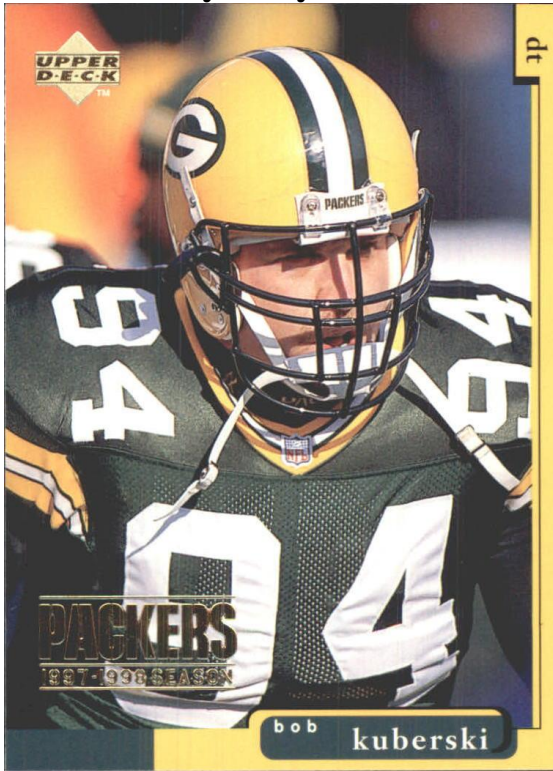
--End of player tribute --

1992 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Chaump

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1992 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred twelfth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Chaump in his third of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen.

Finishing off a very poor year, on Dec 5, Navy was nosed out by Army at Veterans Stadium • Philadelphia, PA (Army-Navy game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) L (24–25). Could not have been any closer without being a tie.

Great Navy Player Bob Kuberski



A huge, agile and quick defensive lineman, Kuberski was drafted by the Green Bay Packers in the seventh round of the 1993 draft. After his request to delay his military obligation was denied, he spent two years out of football until he received an honorable discharge by working out a deal to financially compensate the Naval Academy for the cost of tuition. He played four years for the Packers and was a member of the team that won Super Bowl XXXI. He finished his career in 1999 playing for

the New England Patriots. Beat Army 1989 and 1991.

1993 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Chaump

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1993 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred thirteenth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Chaump in his fourth of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen.

The Midshipmen had begun to slip in 1983 and the slide continued year after year. Chaump unfortunately, even in his fourth year had not become the cure for the slide. The team finished the season a bit better than the prior two (*one-win*) seasons with 4 wins (4-7). The Navy was hoping for more from Coach Chaump.

Great Navy Player Max Lane



A three-year starter 1989-1991, at offensive tackle for the Midshipmen, Lane left the Naval Academy under a dark cloud in his senior year when he was caught in a cheating scandal. Drafted by the New England Patriots in the sixth round of the 1994 draft, he was able to immediately join the team because he had been released from his obligations to the Navy. He enjoyed a solid seven-year career that included starting in Super Bowl XXXI.

1994 Navy Midshipmen Coach George Chaump

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1994 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred fourteenth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by George Chaump in his fifth and last of five seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen.

The Midshipmen had begun to slip in 1983 and the slide continued year after year. Chaump unfortunately, even in his fifth year had not become the cure for the slide. The team finished the season a bit worse than the prior year with 3 wins (3-8). This would be Coach Chaump's last season at the helm.

On Dec 3 vs. Army in Veterans Stadium Philadelphia, PA (Army-Navy game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy), the Black Knights edged out the Midshipmen L (20-22). Air Force took the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy for the fifth time in a row.

1995 Navy Midshipmen Coach Charlie Weatherbie

Charlie Weatherbie turned around the Navy Football Program in his time at the helm. He is a fine coach and Navy was going nowhere fast before Weatherbie became the difference maker. You will see as after excerpts from a piece provided as courtesy by a school where he also coached, the seasons in which he coached and his fine record at Navy.

Weatherbie, who took over struggling football programs at Utah State and the Naval Academy and guided both to bowl victories, was introduced Wednesday at ULM as its 13th head football coach at Louisiana-Monroe. The announcement came at a press conference at the Anna Gray Noe Alumni Center on the ULM campus.

"I said at the outset of this search that we wanted to work quickly, but more importantly we wanted to make the right decision on our next head football coach," ULM Director of Athletics Bruce Hanks said in introducing Weatherbie to the overflow crowd of supporters, University and athletic department personnel. "I don't know that we always moved as quickly as everyone would have liked, but I am confident that this Search Committee got the right man for the right time to run our football program."

At Navy, Weatherbie had...success. He took the Midshipmen, who had suffered through 12 consecutive losing seasons prior to his arrival, to a 9-3 record and the championship of the 1996 Aloha Bowl in his second season. The nine wins were the most by a Navy team in 18 years and no Navy team has won more games since 1905. He also became just the third coach in school history to win a bowl game.

In 1997, Weatherbie led Navy to a 7-4 mark, the first time since the 1981-82 seasons that the Mids had compiled back-to-back winning seasons. The 16 wins over two years tied for the third most in school history. He was named ECAC Coach of the Year and was the head defensive coach at the Kelly Tire Blue/Gray Classic. Weatherbie's first team in Annapolis, Md., went 5-6 in 1995, after Navy had won just nine games the previous four seasons combined. Overall, he was 30-45 at Navy and is 45-64 in nine-plus seasons as a head coach on the NCAA Division I-A level.

...

The 1995 Navy Season

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1995 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred fifteenth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Charlie Weatherbie in his first of seven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Weatherbie had some fine seasons but overall, Navy had not regained its stature as a national powerhouse at the end of Weatherbie's tenure.

As discussed previously, the Midshipmen had begun to slip in 1983 and the slide continued year after year. As you will see, Weatherbie showed some signs of brilliance and even brought in a record one year of 9-3. Weatherbie unfortunately missed the mark with five of his seven seasons categorized as *losing* (less than .500). This year's team finished the season with the best record since George Chaump's 1990 season with 5 wins (5-6).

On Dec 2 vs. Army in Veterans Stadium Philadelphia (Army-Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy), Army nosed out Navy L (13-14) in a classic close game.

Great Navy Player Gervy Alota

Gervy Alota is recognized as one of Navy's best. In 2009 he was named to the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial All-Stadium Team as a defensive back. In 1997, he was interviewed by Alan Goldstein of the Sun Staff for a column just before the all-important Army-Navy Game.

Goldstein began by writing that: "More than just a game Army-Navy: Despite boyhood dreams of being a Midshipman, Gervy Alota didn't fully realize the magnitude of the annual game until he was a part of it. And Saturday is his last chance to beat Army."

Gervy Alota sat with a reporter in an otherwise empty press box at Giants Stadium last week, looking down on the field where Army and Navy would be staging the 98th renewal of their football rivalry Saturday afternoon.



Lt. Cmdr. Gervy Alota talks about playing football for Naval Academy and his unusual pre-game ritual.

"That's where I was sitting in 1993 with all the other football players from Navy prep school who were going to the academy," said the senior co-captain and free safety, pointing to a section in the end zone to the right of the goal posts.

"We were looking right into the eyes of Ryan Bucchianeri when he lined up on the 18-yard line in the last seconds for what we all figured would be the winning field goal.

"Of course, Booch shanked it to the right. That's when we first realized how much this game with Army meant and we all cried," Alota recalled. "Later, we kidded ourselves that maybe if we'd been sitting right behind the posts, and yelled, 'Booch, over here!' he might have kicked it straight."

Alota has become far more involved emotionally as the only Midshipman to start the past three Army-Navy games. And Saturday represents his last opportunity to walk off the field a winner before graduation.

"I became a starter halfway through my freshman year," said Alota, a native of San Diego who leads the team in tackles (101). "When I got

to play at Notre Dame Stadium, I thought that was the ultimate until I played against Army for the first time.

"Being young, I approached it as just an ordinary game. But after talking with my peers, it hit me what this game was all about. The emotion and the atmosphere of having the two brigades on hand is unparalleled."

Again in 1994, the game was decided by a swing of the leg, only this time it was a career-best, 52-yard field goal by Kurt Heiss that gave Army a 22-20 victory.

After his first Army game, a tearful Alota was physically and emotionally drained while the Mids lined up to sing their alma mater.

"I was feeling real weak, but someone put an arm around me. I looked up, and it was [Army coach] Bob Sutton. He sung the 'Navy Blue & Gold' with us. Then he took me aside and said, 'Son, you have a lot of football ahead of you. Keep fighting!'

"It's like our linebacker coach, Tommy Raye, tells us, 'You look in the mirror, and that's who you're playing.' We both go through the same things and play for the same reason. We play for our love of football and for our love of country."

But even that inspirational message did not help erase the frustration of two more bitter losses to Army for Alota, an emerging team leader.

As a sophomore, he saw Army drive 99 yards for the winning touchdown after Navy failed to score on fourth down from the Cadets' 1 with about eight minutes left. Last year, Navy failed to hold an 18-point lead in a 28-24 defeat.

"We let it slip through our hands," Alota said. "We were up 21-3, but just didn't have the killer instinct to finish them off. We still had a chance to win in the fourth quarter, but [wide-out] LeBron Butts dropped a couple of passes in the end zone."

It was because of Butts that Alota found his way to Annapolis as an undersized (he's now 190 pounds) and all-but-overlooked defensive back.

"LeBron and I were teammates at Morse High," he said. "He was a great high school player, and Navy recruited him hard. LeBron knew I

wanted to go to the academy because my father was a career enlisted man in the Navy and I wanted to be on ships just like him."

One day, at practice, Alota, then all of 145 pounds, noticed Navy recruiter Mike Drake watching him, but not looking particularly interested.

"I introduced myself, and he said, 'Oh, you're Gervy Alota,' and by his voice, I could tell he didn't expect me to be that small."

But Drake came back for a second look, and Alota convinced the recruiter he was worth packaging with Butts for scholarship offers to Naval Academy Prep School in Newport, R.I.

Alota said: "Honestly, my ambition in prep school was just to become good enough to play on special teams so my parents could see me play in one Army-Navy game."

Making his parents feel proud has been Alota's mission since they all but pushed him into playing football as a youngster growing up in a tough section of San Diego, an area where kids often found trouble.

When he was 6, his father drove him to a neighborhood football field. " 'Son,' " my father said, 'go out and practice. If you don't like it, don't play. But if you like it, stick with it, and it will pay off for you in the end, I promise you.'

"I played in the Pop Warner league, and I loved it right away."

As he grew older, his family ties grew even closer. His father gave up an overseas promotion to stay in the San Diego area with his wife and children. When his mother suffered kidney failure and needed a donor, all three of her children -- Albert, 18; Gervy, 17; and daughter, Merizen, 16 -- volunteered. But Albert was selected.

"He did it for me," Gervy said. "He was a real good athlete, but he knew how badly I wanted to go to the Naval Academy. He also had aspirations to go to college, but he put me ahead of him."

That is why Gervy is dedicating this last Army game to his parents and Albert, who will graduate from San Diego State this June.

"This year, Army is our bowl game. This is the last time for me to put on the pads," Alota said. "I've pretty much accomplished everything I've wanted as a collegiate athlete. I never dreamed of starting as a freshman or playing at Notre Dame.

"But from the time you're a plebe, you start yelling, 'Beat Army! Beat Army!' And I've yet to get a star on my letter sweater or heard the bells ring in Annapolis. This is the game I want to remember the rest of my life."

-- End of player tribute --

1996 Navy Midshipmen Coach Charlie Weatherbie



Charlie Weatherbie 1996 Aloha Bowl Victory

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1996 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred sixteenth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Charlie Weatherbie in his second of seven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. This year's team finished the season

with the best record since George Welsh's 1978 season with 9 wins (9-6).

Wrapping up the regular season on Dec 7 vs. Army in Veterans Stadium Philadelphia (Army-Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy), the Cadets beat the Midshipmen L (24-28).

On Dec 25, in a Christmas Day Aloha Bowl meeting against California, Navy prevailed in Aloha Stadium Honolulu, HI (Aloha Bowl) W (42-38) in a close game before 30,411

1997 Navy Midshipmen Coach Charlie Weatherbie

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1997 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred seventeenth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Charlie Weatherbie in his third of seven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. This year's team finished the season with a winning record with 7 wins (7-4).

In the annual Army-Navy Classic Game on December 6 vs. Army in Giants Stadium, East Rutherford, NJ (Army-Navy game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy), the Midshipmen pounded the Cadets (Black Knights) W (39-7)

Great Navy Player Mike Wahle

Mike Wahle was a rare breed as an offensive guard. He was the best OG at Navy for sure. He also played big time for the Green Bay Packers (1998-2004), the Carolina Panthers (2005-07) and the Seattle Seahawks (2008).

Wahle loved sports and thus he became a three-sport athlete in high school. When he came to the Naval Academy, he was to be a wide receiver. However, several years later, he had grown into a standout offensive lineman, but he was asked to resign his commission before his senior season at Navy.

The complete skinny on Wahle was that when he came to the Naval Academy, he was a "skinny" 210-pound wide receiver but by his



senior year he had become a 307-pound offensive lineman, so it was not a big surprise when he tested positive for steroids. He was dropped from the team like a hot potato and asked to resign from the Naval Academy.

Freed from commitment to military service, he was nabbed in the second round of the 1998 NFL supplemental draft by the Green Bay Packers. He spent 8 productive years in Green Bay

before signing with the Carolina Panthers where he earned a trip to the Pro Bowl in 2005. In 2008 he signed a five-year contract with Seattle only to suffer an injury in his first season with the Seahawks that effectively ended his career.

To summarize, the Green Bay Packers selected him in the supplemental draft with a second-round selection, and he went on to a 10-year NFL career. The Navy's misfortune was Green Bay's fortune. He started 138 games and earned a Pro Bowl nod with the Carolina Panthers in 2005.

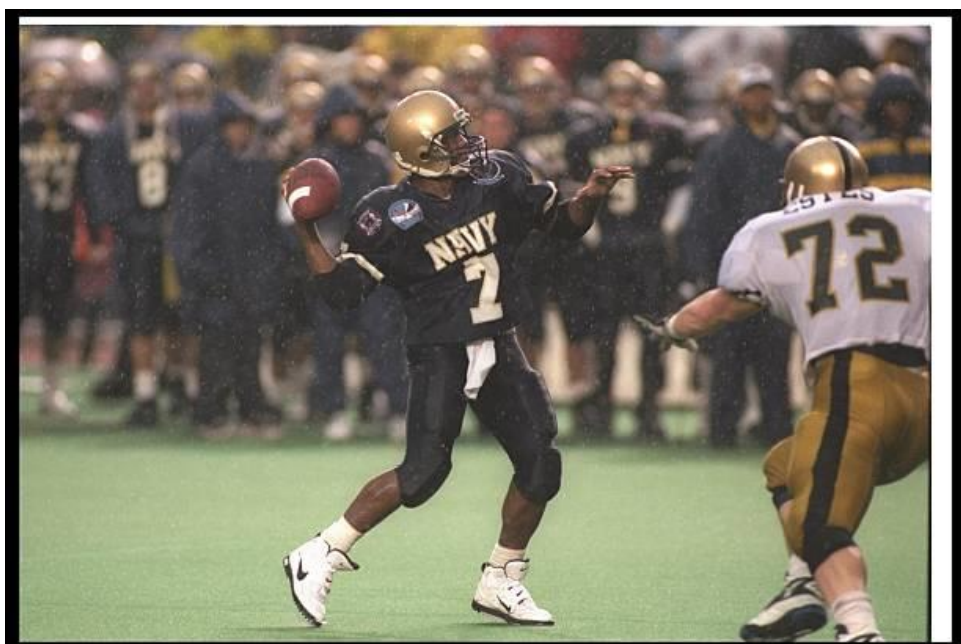
1998 Navy Midshipmen Coach Charlie Weatherbie

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1998 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred eighteenth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Charlie Weatherbie in his third of seven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. This year's team finished the season with a losing record with 3 wins (3-8).

In the season ending Army-Navy Classic Game, on Dec 5 vs. Army in Veterans Stadium Philadelphia (Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy), Army defeated Navy L (30–34) in a close match.

Great Navy Player Chris McCoy

In his Navy career from 1995 to 1997 Chris McCoy was a phenomenal QB for Navy. He completed 682 passes for 3401 yards over three years.



McCoy never minded the kidding he took about his tiny hometown of Morris, Ga. (pop. 850). "There's a post office and a general store with two gas pumps, and that's it," he says, grinning. The nearest movie theater? "Sixty miles away." McCoy's directions to his family's home: Take the dirt road out of Morris, make a right, make a left, pass a big tree, take another left and drive through a two-foot-deep creek--and then you're getting close. "We used to tease Chris that they didn't get Monday-night football out there until Thursday," says Jim McFather, who was an assistant coach at Randolph-Clay High when McCoy played there.

McCoy indeed came out of nowhere on Sept. 9, 1995, when as a sophomore quarterback making his first start for Navy, he gained a Middies-record 398 yards in total offense against SMU, including 273 yards rushing. Since then, his ability to run Navy's option attack has been no secret. He finished the '95 season with 803 yards rushing and ran for 1,228 in '96. This year McCoy, a 5'10" 190-pounder, became only the ninth collegian to surpass 1,000 yards rushing (1,165) and passing (1,129) in the same season.

Entering the season's Army-Navy game, McCoy owns Middies career marks for total offense (5,608) and rushing touchdowns (40). Under his direction, Navy (6-4) at the time, has had back-to-back winning seasons for the first time since 1981 and '82.

Surprisingly, McCoy almost didn't make it out of Georgia. In the spring of 1993 Randolph-Clay principal Jackie Hammond sent tapes of McCoy's best games to an assistant coach at Navy he had contacted on a whim. After weeks went by without word from the Middies, McCoy was ready to sign with Division II Albany (Ga.) State, the only school that had recruited him. In fact, Chris; his mother, Rosie; and Hammond were meeting with an Albany State coach in preparation for Chris's signing with the Golden Rams when a secretary hurried in with a message: "Mr. Hammond, there's a coach from Navy on the line for you."

1999 Navy Midshipmen Coach Charlie Weatherbie

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1999 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred nineteenth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Charlie Weatherbie in his fifth of seven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. This year's team finished the season with a losing record with 5 wins (5-7).

. On December 4vs. Army in Veterans Stadium Philadelphia (Army-Navy game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy)n Navy beat Army W (19-9). Air Force again won the trophy.

Great Navy Player Terrence Anderson

By Rick Scherr Special to the Washington Post 1999



Growing up in the shadow of big-time college football, Terrence Anderson had the unique opportunity to learn from some of the sport's best. He was named after former NFL defensive back Terry Kinard – the first player his father recruited as an assistant coach at Clemson – and his babysitters included Barry Sanders and Thurman Thomas, players his father recruited while working for Oklahoma State. Not surprisingly, the Navy senior center has a substance-over-style approach to playing. Offensive Line

"Most offensive linemen are tough guys. I tell them all the time, I'm not a tough guy," said Anderson, who also sings tenor in the Naval Academy gospel choir. "I smile a little too much and maybe care about my grooming standards a little too much. I see a lot of true tough guys who use that as a motivation to play, and that's good – especially here. But my motivation is more in a simple pride that I'm not going to let any one person beat me."

That approach has helped him make a stunningly quick transition from seldom-used backup linebacker to one of the nation's top centers. (He was rated the nation's eighth-best center in the Sporting News' season preview magazine.)

Last season – his first at center – he averaged 15 knockdown blocks per game and did not allow a sack. He also did his best work against the best opponents, grading out at 95 percent against Notre Dame and recording 25 knockdown blocks against unbeaten Tulane.

"He can be as good as he wants to be because he's got the one thing that a lot of them lack, and that's consistency," Navy offensive line coach Gene McKeehan said. "You kind of expect him to play well every game, and he does."

Leading by example is nothing new to Anderson, however. While they were growing up, he and his brother, Derrick, shared their home with

emotionally troubled boys from dysfunctional families whom their father – a church pastor as well as a football coach – took in for anywhere from six months to two years as part of his ministry.

"The goal was to try and impact a change," Willie Anderson said. "Terrence and his brother were always role models for [the boys he took in]. They worked closely with them and made a difference." But Willie Anderson, an all-Atlantic Coast Conference nose guard and team co-captain at Clemson in 1974, has groomed his son to be a leader since shortly after he was conceived. While pursuing his master's degree, the elder Anderson studied the idea that education begins in the womb. So he read and talked to his still-unborn son, frequently telling him one day he would become the first black president.

The night Terrence was born, his father read him an entire Mother Goose book.

When it came to football, though, Willie Anderson resisted the urge to coach his kids. Now the defensive coordinator at Langston (Okla.) University, he said, if anything, his son may be too serious. An economics major who also is taking pre-med courses, Terrence Anderson said he eventually would like to become a physician. He also is considering trying out for Navy's wrestling team (he finished sixth in his weight class in Oklahoma as a high school senior).

"I like having an opponent – it's either me or him that wins," Anderson said. "One of us knows he won, the other knows he lost."

At 5 feet 11 and 285 pounds, he often weighs 20 or 30 pounds less than the players he must block. Overcoming that obstacle, he said, is just a matter of putting into practice lessons he learned long ago.

"Most of the guys I play against are bigger and stronger than I am, but it's just a matter of technique," he said. "A lot of guys don't play with good technique, and that can save you if you're not as strong or talented as they are."

2000 Navy Midshipmen Coach Charlie Weatherbie

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2000 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred twentieth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Charlie Weatherbie in his sixth of seven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. This year's team finished the season with a losing record with 1 win (1-10).

On Dec 2, Navy won its only game of the season in the Army-Navy classic at PSINet Stadium Baltimore, MD (Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) W (30–28).

2001 Navy Midshipmen Coach Charlie Weatherbie

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2001 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred twenty-first season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Charlie Weatherbie in his seventh and last of seven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Weatherbie was replaced by defensive coordinator Rick Lantz for the last three games of the season This year's team finished the season with a losing record with 0 wins (0-10).

Navy Home games that were not moved for capacity reasons, were played at the Navy–Marine Corps Memorial Stadium. It is an open-air stadium located off the campus of the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

The 2001 Navy Football Team began its season on September 2, with a L (6-17) loss at home from Temple before 28,335. This opener, and all home openers, was played at the Navy–Marine Corps Memorial Stadium Annapolis, Maryland off the campus of the Naval Academy in Annapolis MD.

Since all games were losses this year, the following chart depicts the results of the games of the season.

Date	Opponent	Home/Away	Score	Att.
Aug30	Temple	H Franklin Field	26-45	26,191
Sept 8	Georg Tech	Home	7-70	30,602
Sept 15	Northwestrn	Canceled due to Sept 11		
Sept 22	Boston College	Home	21-38	30,064
Oct 6	Air Force	A FedExField	18-24	36,251
Oct 13	Rice	Home	13-21	29,106
Oct 20	Rutgers	Away Rut Stad	17-23	29,101
Oct 27	Toledo	Away Gls Bowl	20-21	36,852
Nov 10	Tulane	Home	28-42	31,456
Nov 17	Notre Dame	ND Stadium	16-34	80,795
Dec 1	Army	Vets Stadium	17-26	65,352

Best Army Navy Game # 9

In a matchup featuring two teams headed for bowls, Army defeated Navy, 28-24, following a late defensive stand.

Headed for the Poulan Weedeater Independence Bowl, the Cadets stopped the Jeep Eagle Aloha Bowl-bound Midshipmen eight times inside the 10, highlighting the final four minutes of the tight contest. After falling behind 21-3 in the second quarter (21-13 at the half), the game turned for Army early in the third quarter on an 81-yard touchdown run by Bobby Williams. However, the two-point conversion attempt failed, and kept Navy ahead, 21-19.

After the Midshipmen missed a 42-yard field goal try on its next series, the Cadets took a 25-21 lead on a 3-yard touchdown run by Demetrius Perry.

Navy's Tom Vanderhorst atoned for his previous miss by nailing a 31-yard field goal late in the third quarter to cut the deficit to a point. Army responded with a 21-yard field goal by J. Parker to give the game its final margin.

The Midshipmen drove inside the Cadets' 10 twice in the latter stages of the fourth quarter but were stopped each time.

Chapter 17 Coaches Lantz & Johnson

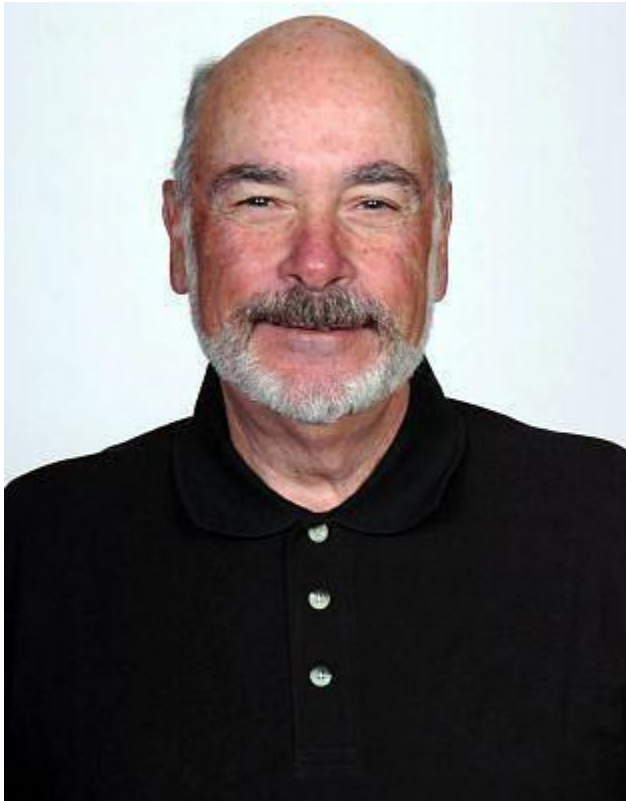
2001 – 2007

Lantz Coach # 36
Johnson Coach # 37

Year	Coach	Record	Conference	Record
2001	Rick Lantz	0-0	Indep	0-0
2002	Paul Johnson	2-10	Indep	2-10
2003	Paul Johnson	8-5	Indep	8-5
2004	Paul Johnson	10-2	Indep	10-2
2005	Paul Johnson	8-4	Indep	8-4
2006	Paul Johnson	9-4	Indep	9-4
2007	Paul Johnson	8-5	Indep	8-5

** Johnson left before 2007 Bowl game

2001 Navy Midshipmen Coach Rick Lantz interim / Charlie Weatherbie



<< Rick Lantz

Lantz was enjoying life as the defensive coordinator for Navy in Charlie Weatherbie's last season at the helm. Weatherbie had begun his tenure at Navy with two very successful seasons and then something happened, and he had a tough time finding a win. In his seventh season, after a 1-10 season in 2000, Charlie was not hitting the win column at all. With three games left in that

season, Navy had enough and let Charlie Weatherbie have a free pass for the remaining three games.

Rick Lantz, who may or may not have been a good DC for Navy agreed to take the team as head coach and as you saw in Chapter 16, as a Weatherbie sub, he could not muster up a win in the three games left. Thus Navy was left with a winless season, 0-10. Lantz disappeared after that as Navy invested in a fine coach, Paul Johnson who did quite well before he left after the 2006 season.

Paul Johnson takes the helm at Navy



It takes a long time to change the character of a team. Paul Johnson made things better for Navy in his second year. After Rick Lantz' interim stint, Navy hired Georgia Southern's Coach Paul Johnson, a former Navy assistant, to be its next football coach.

At the time of his hiring, Johnson was in his fifth season coaching at Georgia Southern, which had just advanced to the NCAA Division I-AA semifinals with a 38-24 victory over Appalachian State.

Prior to his stint at Georgia Southern, where he had a 62-9 record, Johnson was the offensive coordinator at Navy. He had been considered one of the leading candidates to become Navy's coach since former coach Charlie Weatherbie was fired and Rick Lantz came in as interim coach. As you will see, Johnson turned Navy around and unlike Weatherbie's brief turnaround, this one would last.

2002 Navy Midshipmen Coach Paul Johnson

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2002 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred twenty-second season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Paul Johnson in his first of six seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. This year's team finished the season with a losing record with 2 wins (2-10). This would be Johnson's only losing season at Navy. For his next five years, he made great improvements to the Navy program and its record.

In the season wrap-up game, on Dec 7 vs. Army in Giants Stadium East Rutherford, New Jersey (Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy), Navy put all of its eggs together and smothered the Army W (58–12).

2003 Navy Midshipmen Coach Paul Johnson

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2003 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred twenty-third season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Paul Johnson in his second of six seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. This year's team finished the season with the first winning record in years with 8 wins (8-5).

This would be Johnson's first of five winning seasons. He brought back the prestige of the old Navy program pre-1983. Unlike other coaches after 1983 that had a winning season or two, Johnson got four in a row and Navy was the better for his efforts.

In the final regular season game, Navy beat Army on Dec 6 in Lincoln Financial Field Philadelphia (Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) W (34–6)

Having made a bowl game for the first time in years. Navy played hard on Dec 30 Texas Tech in Reliant Stadium Houston (Houston Bowl) but they did not have enough to beat Houston L (14–38) before 51,068

2004 Navy Midshipmen Coach Paul Johnson

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2004 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred twenty-fourth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Paul Johnson in his third of six seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. This year's team finished the season with another winning record with 10 wins (10-2).

This was the first time since the 1963 college football season that Navy would win nine or more games in a season. Wins over Army and the Air Force Falcons secured Navy's second consecutive Commander-in-Chief's Trophy. Navy also snagged a berth in the 2004 Emerald Bowl when the Pacific-10 Conference did not have enough teams to fill its bowl obligations.

The other connection this year was that the Mountain West Conference (MWC), and the Midshipmen ended up playing the New Mexico Lobos. Navy won the game with a score of 34–19, finishing with a 14-minute, 26-play drive that set the record for the longest drive in a college football game. That great win gave the Midshipmen a final record of 10–2. This was unbelievable. Paul Johnson was a magician for sure. It was the first time since the 1905 season that the Midshipmen finished with ten or more wins. Go Navy!

In the classic Army Navy Game, Navy triumphed on Dec 4 vs. Army at Lincoln Financial Field Philadelphia winning both the Army–Navy Game and the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy (Air Force Victory on Sept 30) W (42–13).

Navy was invited to play in the Emerald Bowl and accepted. The game was played on December 30 vs. New Mexico. #24 Navy played a great game in SBC Park San Francisco (Emerald Bowl), in a game televised across the country on ESPN2 W (34–19) before 30,563.

2005 Navy Midshipmen Coach Paul Johnson

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2005 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred twenty-fifth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Paul Johnson in his fourth of six seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. This year's team finished the season with another winning record with 8 wins (8-4).

On Dec 3 at 2:30 p.m. the Army-Navy game was played vs. Army in Lincoln Financial Field Philadelphia (Army-Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy). Navy won the game W (42-23) before 69,322 and received the trophy.

In the Poinsettia Bowl on Dec 22 at 8:30 p.m. Navy pounded Colorado State in a shootout at Qualcomm Stadium San Diego (Poinsettia Bowl) with a nice W (51-30) before 36,842

2006 Navy Midshipmen Coach Paul Johnson

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2006 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred twenty-sixth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Paul Johnson in his fifth of six seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. This year's team finished the season with another winning record with 9 wins (9-4).

On Dec 2, vs. Army in Lincoln Financial Field, Philadelphia, PA (Army-Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy), Navy grabbed all the marbles W (26-14) before 69,943

In the Meineke Car Care Bowl on December 30 at 1:00 p.m. #23 Boston College beat Navy at Bank of America Stadium Charlotte, NC (Meineke Car Care Bowl) L 24-25 before 52,303.

Great Navy Player Jeromy Miles



After a strong season at defense back during his plebe year in 2006, Miles decided that he was better suited for a career in professional football rather than life in the Navy. He transferred from to Naval Academy to the University of Massachusetts where he played well enough to be named All-American as a senior. He was signed by the Cincinnati Bengals as a free agent in 2010 and then moved on to the Baltimore Ravens in 2013. He signed with the Giants in 2015 but was cut at the start of the season.

2007 Navy Midshipmen Coach Paul Johnson

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2007 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred twenty-seventh season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Paul Johnson in his sixth and last of six seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. This year's team finished the season with another winning record with 8 wins (8-5).

Before the season had ended. Paul Johnson, who did a fine job with Navy in his six years, and completely turned around the program, accepted the head coaching position at Georgia Tech. (See article at the end of this chapter.) In fact, it was prior to the team's final game of

the season. Offensive line coach Ken Niumatalolo was first promoted to interim head coach and then named as the team's permanent head coach. For their own reasons, Navy and Johnson decided he would not coach his last bowl game. I could not find a reason in the accounts of the time. 1

After beginning this season with a 4–4 record through the first eight games, including a loss to Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) foe Delaware, the Midshipmen broke what I will call the Notre Dame barrier. The barrier was a 43-year losing streak in the Navy–Notre Dame football rivalry. But, that all changed with Paul Johnson in the 2007 Navy vs. Notre Dame football game. Navy kept at it while Paul Johnson was on the sidelines and Ken Niumatalolo led the team to a triple overtime victory.

In the annual Army-Navy Game, on Dec 1 at 12:00 p.m. Navy pounded Army at M&T Bank Stadium Baltimore (Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) W (38–3) before 71,610

Having accepted another invitation to the Poinsettia Bowl, Navy lost another in a close match on Dec 20 at 7:00 p.m. vs. Utah at Qualcomm Stadium • San Diego, California (Poinsettia Bowl) L (32–35) before 39,129.

Johnson Leaves Navy for Ga. Tech

washingtonpost.com > Sports > Colleges > Navy

Paul Johnson's outstanding tenure at Navy was marked by the return of the program to major success and national prominence. (Rob Carr - AP Photo)

This article is right on the mark. It is written by Christian Swezey He is a Washington Post Staff Writer , Saturday, December 8, 2007. *This article, courtesy of the Post, continues on the next page*

Navy football Coach Paul Johnson will leave the academy to take over the program at Georgia Tech, ending his six-year tenure that included unprecedented success.

"It's a very tough decision to leave Navy, it's a very special place," Johnson said. "But I felt like it was a great opportunity at Georgia Tech at this point in my career... If I was going to do this, this was the time."

Johnson met with Navy Athletic Director Chet Gladchuk on Wednesday to discuss serious interest from Georgia Tech, Southern Methodist and Duke. Late Wednesday afternoon, Gladchuk said Johnson was "doing some serious thinking" about his future. Around 10:30 yesterday morning, Gladchuk said a decision was imminent. At about the same time, an e-mail was sent from Ryan Hamilton, the team's military liaison, to the players. It informed them that a team meeting was being held at 11:45 a.m. at Ricketts Hall.

"I knew as soon as I opened it" that Johnson was leaving, senior wide receiver O.J. Washington said.

Washington said the meeting became emotional.

"A couple guys cried," he said. "Coach Johnson got choked up. . . . He's a good guy. He loved us, and we loved him, too. We wish him the best. There're no hard feelings. It's a business; we understand that. It's just unfortunate."

Johnson's teams went 45-29, including 43-19 over the past five seasons -- and 11-1 against Army and Air Force. Navy also is headed to a bowl game for the fifth straight season.

...

Johnson's tenure was marked by the return of the program to prominence. When he was named Navy's head coach in December 2001, fans were given T-shirts that read, "Navy Football: Expect to Win." It seemed an odd sentiment, given that the Midshipmen were 1-20 the previous two seasons combined and had not had a winning season since 1997.

Following a 2-10 mark in his first year, Navy began a run of five straight winning seasons, five straight bowl games and five straight victories over both Army and Air Force.

"We so appreciate Paul and what he meant to the academy and the fleet and everyone who serves in the Navy and Marines," Gladchuk

said. "People are disappointed today that he decided to move on. But there is a tremendous sense of appreciation for what he accomplished. . . . Now is the time to move forward. The program is in such a better place now than it was five years ago. The next person who takes this job will have great facilities and the support to continue to win."

In many ways, this was a landmark year for Johnson. His offense is leading the nation in rushing for the third straight year; the Midshipmen defeated Notre Dame, 46-44, to end a 43-year losing streak in the series; and they played in one of the highest-scoring games in NCAA history, a 74-62 victory over North Texas on Nov. 10.

"He did a great job at Navy," junior fullback Eric Kettani said. "He beat Army and Air Force and Notre Dame. What else can you do? At the meeting he said his goal in life is to win a national championship. You can't blame him for that."

Chapter 18 Navy Joins the AAC

Independent schools (those not playing in a conference), such as Army, Navy, Notre Dame and others have often topped with the idea of joining a conference and being like the others. Most have succumbed over the years and so there are few independents left. Some like Army have tasted the water and then exited. Others like Navy convinced themselves that joining a conference was the best course of action. So, while Ken Niumatalolo was at the helm, Navy negotiated and joined the Big East but before they played a game, the big Est became the American Athletic Conference or as it likes to be known, the AAC—not to be mistaken for the ACC.

And, so, the American Athletic Conference is an outgrowth of the Big East. The Big East Conference was a collegiate athletics conference that consisted of as many as 16 universities in the eastern half of the United States from 1979 to 2013. Seven teams broke away and kept the name Big East while the remaining six football-playing members, three of whom had only joined the Big East in 2005 when an earlier exodus had started, merged with four schools from other conferences. This mélange become known as the American Athletic Conference (The American), which is the Big East's legal successor.

So the big merger *and more* eventually sorted out as *12 member universities and six associate member universities*. They now compete together in NCAA Division I in the FBS.

The member universities are

- University of Central Florida
- University of Cincinnati
- University of Connecticut
- East Carolina University
- University of Houston
- University of Memphis
- University of South Florida
- Southern Methodist University
- Temple University
- Tulane University
- University of Tulsa
- Wichita State University

The Associate members are

- University of Florida
- United States Naval Academy (Navy)
- Old Dominion University
- California State University, Sacramento
- San Diego State University
- Vanderbilt University

Navy Athletic Director, Chet Gladchuk, has been quite successful in his many years in Annapolis. He believed that the move was necessary for three reasons: scheduling, bowls and television. Gladchuk was concerned that it was getting harder for Navy to put together a 12-game schedule because fewer teams were eager to play the Mids, a perennially good team. He was also worried that with conferences having so many tie-ins, a good Navy team could get left out of a bowl.

And, finally, being part of the Big East's TV package would guarantee more exposure. Navy began its move to the AAC when it was the Big East.

Nobody knows how this will eventually work out but in 2018, it has had a hit on Navy's record or so many pundits believe. It all made sense when it was put together—except it may be as teams in the conference get tougher, the good sense may not last as a good deal.

Coach Niumatalolo was there for all the negotiations but he is the coach, not the AD. The coach has an honest opinion of his team and where they come from. Even when Navy's good, it's beatable. The coach often reminds his players, "We're the Naval Academy. We can't take any opponent for granted." The coach reminded them of that after their season-opening 2018 loss to Hawaii.

With or without a conference that means teams always will schedule Navy—it's a good name on your schedule, it's a national school, and it doesn't come to town with a dozen NFL prospects.

The second-tier bowls love Navy, and there are about a million of them to choose from. They feel the same way about Army, which is an independent again — and will never be left out of a bowl when it is eligible.

TV? It is almost impossible not to get on TV nowadays. Army has the same deal with CBS's cable network to televise its home games that Navy does. So, one can ask if a conference was absolutely necessary.

Until 2018, for almost two seasons, it looked as if Navy had made the right move and all fears were unfounded. In 2015, with the football schools from the Big East forming the AAC, the Mids, led by generational quarterback Keenan Reynolds, went 11-2, including 7-1 in AAC play, with the only loss on the road to a Houston team that went on to beat Florida State in a New Year's Six bowl game.

A year later, Navy stunned Houston and Notre Dame and went on to win the AAC West title, with Will Worth stepping in to play brilliantly when Tago Smith, Reynolds's successor, went down with a torn anterior cruciate ligament in the opener.

The good news was that the Midshipmen had a chance to play for the AAC title with a possible trip to the Cotton Bowl — a New Year's Six bowl—on the line if they could beat Temple and then Army a week later.

The bad news was that, instead of the traditional three-week break before the Army game, the Mids had to play Temple the Saturday before the game. Not only did they lose (badly), but Worth and slotback Toneo Gulley, the offensive captain, both suffered a broken foot on the same play.

A fluke? Absolutely, but it couldn't have happened if Navy had the day off. A week later, Army rallied to beat the Mids, 21-17, ending Navy's 14-game winning streak against the Black Knights. So, if nothing else it seems that in 2018, it affected Karma if that means anything.

A year ago, the Mids started 5-0. But after an emotionally draining 48-45 win over Air Force, their next six games were: at Memphis, UCF (which finished 13-0), at Temple, SMU, at Notre Dame and at Houston. They finished the season 7-6, just the second time in 15 years they failed to win at least eight games. Had something changed? It will take a lot of work to be that good again next season. This season after a lot of close losses, is already in the books except for Army which will be played after this book is on the streets and in your hands.

Next year, in addition to the tougher competition, Navy has eight opponents it must face every season as opposed to three in the independent days. This includes the other five teams in the AAC West, plus, as in the past, Air Force, Notre Dame and Army. The last three have been on Navy's schedule forever and will be there forever more. The other five have been on it annually for only four years. The more teams see an option offense, the better their chances to stop it. So, playing the same team every year as must happen in a conference, may be more than bad karma.

In their three previous conference games against SMU, for example. Navy had scored 55, 75 and 43 points. This year (2018), it scored 23 in regulation, two of those on a blocked extra point that was returned all the way. Coincidence? Perhaps. Karma? Perhaps. "I've grown accustomed to your face?" Perhaps.

Niumatalolo is not about to use anything as an excuse for a poor record this year but we are just saying... Excuses are not part of this coach's vocabulary.

Remember all the Navy good fortune began after Weatherbie's tenure when Paul Johnson stepped on campus. How does this sound as a fact: One of Johnson's secrets to Navy's recent success was the 4-4-4 scheduling concept that he insisted Gladchuk adapt? Johnson saw four games that should always be wins; four games that should be competitive; and four games that would be difficult. Once Navy got good, it became more like 4-6-2. That's how the Middies won between eight and 10 games most years. Now what?

The jury is still out, but that "karma" thing still is out there. The Middies are 9-11 since that conference-title game loss to Temple, including 5-6 against AAC opponents after starting 14-2. Those who don't believe in karma see the recent past as just a brief downward trend. That is a good thought for sure. Of course those games against Texas State, Georgia Southern, San Jose State and South Alabama don't look like such a bad idea anymore. We'll see. I have a lot of confidence in Coach Niumatalolo. He is the kind of coach who will make his own karma as needed. Navy is pleased to have him at the helm.

Chapter 19 Coach Ken Niumatalolo 2007-2018

Niumatalolo Coach # 38

Year	Coach	Record	Conference	Record
2007	Ken Niumatalolo	8–5	Indep	8-5
2008	Ken Niumatalolo	8–5	Indep	8-5
2009	Ken Niumatalolo	10–4	Indep	10-4
2010	Ken Niumatalolo	9–4	Indep	9-4
2011	Ken Niumatalolo	5–7	Indep	5-7
2012	Ken Niumatalolo	8–5	Indep	8-5
2013	Ken Niumatalolo	9–4	Indep	9-4
2014	Ken Niumatalolo	8–5	Indep	8-5
2015	Ken Niumatalolo	11–2	AAC	7-1
2016	Ken Niumatalolo	9–5	AAC	7-1
2017	Ken Niumatalolo	7–6	AAC	4-4
2018	Ken Niumatalolo	3–9	AAC	2-6

2008 Navy Midshipmen Coach Ken Niumatalolo

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2008 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred twenty-eighth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Ken Niumatalolo in his first of eleven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Niumatalolo is the current Navy coach. This year's team finished the season with another winning record with 8 wins (8-5).

Niumatalolo had been promoted from the offensive line coach before the season, after his predecessor, Paul Johnson, accepted the head coaching position at Georgia Tech.

On December 6 at 12:00 p.m. Army at Lincoln Financial Field Philadelphia, PA (Army-Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) Navy prevailed again W (34–0) before 69,144.

In the Eagle Bank Bowl, the first bowl game earned under Ken Niumatalolo, Navy was defeated on December 20, at 11:00 a.m. by

Wake Forest at RFK Stadium Washington, D.C. (EagleBank Bowl) L (19–29) before 28,777.

2009 Navy Midshipmen Coach Ken Niumatalolo

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2009 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred twenty-ninth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Ken Niumatalolo in his second of eleven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Niumatalolo is the current Navy coach. This year's team finished the season with another winning record with 10 wins (10-4). Coach Niumatalolo fit in the Paul Johnson scheme perfectly like as if Johnson was not missed. That's because both men are great coaches. But you knew that.

There was more good news in 2009. On November 7, for example, athletic director Chet Gladchuk announced that the Naval Academy had accepted an invitation to play in the Texas Bowl on Thursday, December 31 at Reliant Stadium in Houston, Texas against the Big 12's Missouri Tigers. This season was the first time that Navy had ever been invited to bowl games in seven straight seasons. Navy won the 2009 Texas Bowl 35–13 and as noted previously, finished with a great record of 10–4. Coach Niumatalolo appeared to be very comfortable in his role of leading the Midshipmen on to greatness.

On Nov 7, in the second of three outings with the Fighting Irish, Navy outfought Notre Dame at #21 Notre Dame Stadium Notre Dame, IN W (23–21) before 80,795. Navy had entered a new era in greatness. After the long trip to Hawaii on Nov28. Hawaii defeated Navy by a TD on Nov 28 at 10:30 p.m. in Aloha Stadium, Honolulu, HI L (17–24) 40,643.

Though with just a few great plays in addition to the others, Navy could have won, the tough men from the Naval Academy got a bit of a break from their routine on a familiar Pacific Island. On Dec 12 at 2:30 p.m. vs. Army in Lincoln Financial Field Philadelphia, PA (Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy), Navy was pleased to beat Army again and also pleased to take away the Trophy W (17–3) before 69,541

Inching their way towards a New Year's Day game, Navy played in the Texas Bowl on December 31, 3:30 p.m., against an always tough Missouri squad at Reliant Stadium Houston, TX (Texas Bowl). Navy was tough and unrelenting, and the Midshipmen were forced to carry away the victory with pleasure W (35–13) before 69,441.

2010 Navy Midshipmen Coach Ken Niumatalolo

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2010 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred thirtieth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Ken Niumatalolo in his third of eleven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Niumatalolo is the current Navy coach. This year's team finished the season with another winning record with 9 wins (9-4). Coach Niumatalolo was carving out his own great record at Navy after the Paul Johnson years.

After Navy got a few weeks rest at the end of the regular season, Army was at Navy's doorstep again on Dec 11 at Lincoln Financial Field Philadelphia (Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy). Navy again found the strength to overcome the Army in this classic inspirational game. W (31–17) before 69,223.

Navy got to the Poinsettia Bowl again on December 23 at 8:00 p.m. playing San Diego State at Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego (Poinsettia Bowl). San Diego State whipped the Midshipmen L (14–35) before 48,049.

2011 Navy Midshipmen Coach Ken Niumatalolo

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2011 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred thirty-first season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Ken Niumatalolo in his fourth of eleven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Niumatalolo is the current Navy coach. This year's team finished the season with Niumatalolo's first losing record with 5 wins (5-7). Coach Niumatalolo was carving out his own great record at Navy and this was just a bump in the road type year.

In the season wrap-up in the classic Army-Navy game, on December 10, the Midshipmen beat the Cadets (Black Knights) at FedExField Landover, Maryland (This was the 112th Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) W (27–21) before 80,789.

Great Navy Player Joe Cardona



When the New England Patriots used their fifth-round pick in 2015 to select long snapper Cardona, he became the first Midshipmen to be drafted since tight end Kevin Hickman was chosen by the Detroit Lions in 1995. He was granted special permission to delay his commitment to the Navy, so he could play for the Patriots his rookie season but how long he will be allowed to remain with the team is unknown. Beat Army 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014.

2012 Navy Midshipmen Coach Ken Niumatalolo

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2012 college football season. It was the Naval

Academy's One Hundred thirty-second season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Ken Niumatalolo in his fifth of eleven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Niumatalolo is the current Navy coach. This year's team finished the season with a winning record with 8 wins (8-5).

In the annual regular season ending Army-Navy Classic on December 8 at 3:00 p.m., Navy beat the Army at Lincoln Financial Field Philadelphia (Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) W (17–13) before 69,607.

In post season Navy was invited to the Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl on Dec 29 at 4:00 p.m. They were pounded by Arizona State at AT&T Park San Francisco, California L (28–62) before 34,172

2013 Navy Midshipmen Coach Ken Niumatalolo

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2013 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred thirty-third season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Ken Niumatalolo in his sixth of eleven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Niumatalolo is the current Navy coach. This year's team finished the season with a winning record of 9 wins (9-5).

In the season crescendo, Navy beat Army in the annual Army-Navy Classic played on December at 3:00 p.m. in Lincoln Financial Field Philadelphia (114th Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) W (34–7) before 65,612.

In the Bell Helicopter Armed Services Bowl on December 30 at 11:45 a.m., Navy beat Middle Tennessee at the Amon G. Carter Stadium Fort Worth, Texas W (24–6) 39,246

Great Navy Player Keenan Reynolds

Keenan Reynolds who did his time in the Naval Academy got promoted twice in 2018. It made big news. After Navy, he rose from a fringe free agent thinking about playing in Canada to catching passes

from Russell Wilson in the first days of Seattle Seahawks training camp. He's in the right place at the right time, part of the Seattle's suddenly depleted receiver unit. Some might say more importantly, Reynolds recently became Lieutenant Junior Grade Reynolds. The wide receiver and a kick returner is now a cryptologic warfare officer in United States Navy. "J.G. Just got promoted," Reynolds said with a grin after the fifth practice of training camp at team headquarters.



Asked whether he has brought up the fact that Wilson, his quarterback, and every other Seahawk teammate should be calling him "sir" if not saluting him, Reynolds laughed. Somewhat nervously laughed, too, as if someone passing by him into the locker room might hear about his seemingly secret, second life. "Nah," he said. "I don't even talk about it."

The former four-year quarterback for the Naval Academy who set NCAA top-division records with 88 touchdowns and 4,559 yards rushing by a QB — now a 23-year-old who is trying to win a Seahawks roster spot as a receiver and on special teams and make his NFL regular-season debut — has rank. Reynolds' got rank like no other player in the NFL.

He is the last graduate of a service academy to directly enter the NFL instead of active duty in the military upon graduation. Reynolds was the last approved case of a short-lived waiver from the Department of Defense. It allowed elite-athlete graduates of a service academy the

chance to defer active-duty time and go into the Ready Reserve immediately to pursue pro-football careers.

The recent history of service-academy graduates playing in the NFL has been a mix of new opportunities, Super Bowls-and doors slammed shut.

Back as Navy's QB, Reynolds beat the Navy archrival Army football team in each of the four years that he was Navy's quarterback to early 2016. Yes, he did it in each of the four years that he served as Navy's quarterback to early 2016. That is a big deal for any Navy man.

The Navy loves him still. Months before Reynolds graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy Navy football retired his jersey number 19. He joined Roger Staubach, Joe Bellino and Napoleon McCallum as the only USNA football players the Midshipmen have so honored.

In 2016m the Ravens drafted Reynolds in the sixth round. He spent most of the '16 season on the team's practice squad. The Ravens promoted him the 53-man active roster for the last game of his rookie season but left him inactive on game day. The Ravens released him last Sept. 1 among its final preseason cuts. He is not done to say the least.

Does Reynolds have second thoughts on not joining his Annapolis classmates, plus almost all academy graduates before and every one of them since, in serving on active duty right now?

"I'm not sure if 'second thoughts' is the proper way to put it," Reynolds said.

"It's definitely a humbling thing to know that my class was the last class (that could apply for the waiver)I definitely feel for those guys that came before me. But I know that they are still thinking about pursuing (their professional-sports dreams) after they complete their first two years of active service.

"And the important thing to remember is, I am still doing what's required of me in the reserves. I am still doing my drills and my requirements.

“I’ve got eight years in the reserves. I am two years in. So, basically, I owe a certain number of drills (training) a year, and a certain number of active-duty days.”

“Theoretically, if all were to break loose, I could be back in the action,” Reynolds said, meaning war and a call-up to active duty, away from his NFL dreams.

For now, he's trying to get in league action. Any league action. He's yet to play in an NFL regular-season game.

When the Seahawks got their look, during a minicamp, coach Pete Carroll said Reynolds “lit it up” in practice. Reynolds thinks his experience starring at and graduating from Navy—the discipline, the responsibility, the maturation and the prioritizing of tasks that a service academy demands—may come in handy in his fight for Seahawks job.

It is not easy becoming an NFL player, Reynolds will tell you. Yet, Navy gives a man the tenacity to go give it his best to make it happen. It is on again off again. Reynolds’ Navy spirit keeps him going.

He was promoted to the active roster on September 12, 2018. Reynolds made his NFL debut on September 17, 2018 in the Seahawks 24-17 loss against the Chicago Bears. He was waived on October 13, 2018 and was re-signed to the practice squad. He was promoted to the active roster on November 24, 2018.

2014 Navy Midshipmen Coach Ken Niumatalolo

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2014 college football season. It was the Naval Academy’s One Hundred thirty-fourth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Ken Niumatalolo in his seventh of eleven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Niumatalolo is the current Navy coach. This year’s team finished the season with a winning record of 8 wins (8-5).

In the season’s game of games Navy won the Army-Navy Game on Dec 13 at M&T Bank Stadium Baltimore (115th Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy) W (17–10) before

In the Poinsettia Bowl on December 23, 2014, at 9:30 PM before 70,935, Navy nosed out San Diego State in Qualcomm Stadium San Diego W (17–16) before 33,077

2015 Navy Midshipmen Coach Ken Niumatalolo

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2015 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred thirty-fifth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Ken Niumatalolo in his eighth of eleven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Niumatalolo is the current Navy coach. This year's team finished the season with a winning record of 11 wins (11-2). They were #18 in the college football rankings.

Navy played this year as a member of the Western Division of the American Athletic Conference and were first year members of the conference. In their entire football history, this was the first season that Navy did not compete as an Independent. This was a great season as noted with the Midshipmen finishing 11–2. They were 7–1 in American Athletic play and they finished in a tie for the Western Division title with Houston.

Unfortunately because they had a head to head loss to Houston, they did not represent the Western Division in the American Championship. They were, however, invited to the Military Bowl where they defeated Pittsburgh.

On Dec 12 at 3:00 p.m. vs. Army in Lincoln Financial Field Philadelphia (in the 116th Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy), Navy won the big game W (21–17) before 69,722.

In the Military Bowl on December 28 2:30 p.m., #21 Navy beat Pittsburgh at the Navy–Marine Corps Memorial Stadium • Annapolis, Maryland W (44–28) before 36,352.

2016 Navy Midshipmen Coach Ken Niumatalolo

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2016 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred thirty-sixth season of intercollegiate football.

They were led by Ken Niumatalolo in his ninth of eleven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Niumatalolo is the current Navy coach. This year's team finished the season with a winning record of 9 wins (9-5).

Navy continued as a member of the West Division of the American Athletic Conference—their second year as a member of the conference. They finished this season well at 9–5, 7–1 in American Athletic play. This brought them the championship of the West Division. They represented the West Division in The American Athletic Championship Game where they lost the game to Temple. They were also invited to the Armed Forces Bowl where they lost to Louisiana Tech.

In the annual classic on Dec 10 at 3:00 p.m. vs. Army at M&T Bank Stadium Baltimore (117th Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy), #25 Navy lost to Army L (17–21) before 71,600.

In the Armed Services Bowl, Navy had similar misfortune as they were beaten on December 23 at 4:30 p.m. by Louisiana Tech at Amon G. Carter Stadium Fort Worth, L (45–48) before 40,542

2017 Navy Midshipmen Coach Ken Niumatalolo

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2017 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred thirty-seventh season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Ken Niumatalolo in his tenth of eleven seasons as head coach of the Midshipmen. Niumatalolo is the current Navy coach. This year's team finished the season with a winning record of 7 wins (7-6).

Navy continued as a member of the West Division of the American Athletic Conference—their second year as a member of the conference. They finished this season well at 7-6, 4-4 in American Athletic play. This was good enough for third place in the West Division. They were invited to the Military Bowl where they defeated Virginia 49-7.

On Dec 9 in the annual Army-Navy Game, Navy lost a nail biter by one point on Dec 9 at 3:00 p.m vs. Army in Lincoln Financial Field

Philadelphia, PA (It was the 118th Army–Navy Game/Commander-in-Chief's Trophy) L 13–14 before 68,625.

Navy accepted the invitation to the Military Bowl and made up for the Army loss in the field against Virginia. On December 28 at 1:30 PM, Navy began its pounding of the Wahoos and they did not stop until they had won at their home field, Navy–Marine Corps Memorial Stadium • Annapolis, MD (Military Bowl) W (49–7) before 35,921

2018 Navy Midshipmen Coach Ken Niumatalolo

The Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 2018 college football season. It was the Naval Academy's One Hundred thirty-eighth season of intercollegiate football. They were led by Ken Niumatalolo in his eleventh of eleven seasons (point in time) as head coach of the Midshipmen. Niumatalolo is the current Navy coach. This year's team finished the season with a losing record of not available at print time.

Navy continued as a member of the West Division of the American Athletic Conference—their third year as a member of the conference. They finished this season poorly in American Athletic play. This was not good enough to place in the West Division. Final record not available at print time

On December 8 at 3:00 p.m vs. Army at Lincoln Financial Field Philadelphia, PA (Commander-in-Chief's Trophy). Army Navy Game was not played at the time of printing. Thank you for reading this book. God bless you and Merry Christmas. The 2016 Army-Navy game continues on the next page

Army beats Navy 21-17 to end 14-year losing streak in series

Published December 10, 2016 Associated Press



Army running back Andy Davidson (40) celebrates his touchdown with teammates in the first half of the Army-Navy NCAA college football game in Baltimore, Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016. (AP Photo/Patrick Semansky) (Copyright 2016 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.)

Army ended a 14-year run of frustration against Navy, using an overpowering running game and opportunistic defense to carve out a long overdue 21-17 victory Saturday.

With future commander in chief Donald Trump looking on, the Black Knights blew a 14-point lead before quarterback Ahmad Bradshaw scored on a 9-yard run with 6:42 left to give Army the win it had been waiting for since 2001.

The Black Knights' 14-game losing streak was the longest by either academy in a series that began in 1890. Army (7-5) now trails 60-50-7 in one of the nation's historic rivalries.

Navy (9-4) was coming off a physical 34-10 loss to Temple in the American Athletic Conference title game and had only one week to prepare for Army with a new quarterback, sophomore Zach Abey, who was making his first college start. Abey took over Will Worth, who broke his foot against Temple.

Abey ran for two touchdowns but passed for only 89 yards and was intercepted twice. Navy had four turnovers, three in the first half.

By halftime, Army led 14-0 and owned a 14-1 advantage in first downs.

After watching from the Navy side of the field before halftime, Trump visited the TV booth on the Army side in the third quarter. The interview with the president-elect coincided with a big shift in momentum.

Andy Davidson lost a fumble on the Black Knights' first possession of the second half and the Midshipmen recovered at the Army 32. A screen pass for 16 yards set up a 1-yard touchdown run by Abey to get Navy to 14-7.

Minutes later, the Midshipmen got a field goal after a replay overturned a lost fumble by Abey at the Army 11.

A 41-yard touchdown run by Abey gave Navy the lead with 12:42 remaining. But Army wasn't done.

The Black Knights put together a 12-play, 80-yard drive that lasted nearly seven minutes and ended with Bradshaw's TD with 6:42 remaining.

Bradshaw went 2 for 4 for 35 yards and an interception in Army's first win in Baltimore since 1944.

Davidson ran for 87 yards and two first-half scores, and Kell Walker carried 16 times for 94 yards That was that!

Chapter 20 The Navy, Notre Dame Football Rivalry



Army vs. Notre Dame – Early Game

A rivalry through the ages

The Navy–Notre Dame football matchup is an American college football rivalry that goes back to just after when teams were struggling just to get opponents. The rivalry stages the Navy Midshipmen Of the United States Naval Academy and the Notre Dame Fighting Irish football team of the University of Notre Dame. Both teams had been playing for over forty years at the time they played each other for the first time in 1927. At that time, both teams were among the top college football programs in the United States.

There was a time when Army and Navy were consistently atop the college football landscape. There were very few losing seasons. Both were winning national titles and producing Heisman winners and All-Americans. There are very few programs in the country that have more history than these two.

Somewhere down the line, it seems like some of that glory has been lost, and these two once-historic schools have been placed are let's say, "not quite on the front burner." Thankfully for all of us who love the military engaging in college sports, both have passed through their darkest years and both are doing better than the forty years or so years that passed since their heydays.

For example the Navy Midshipmen have had two great coaches in a row with Paul Johnson and Ken Niumatalolo, reaching a bowl game in nine of the past 10 years and Army played in a bowl just back in 2010. It may be true that these two schools no longer have the same feel they did back when our grandfathers would watch them play, but they still excite a crowd and they are both getting better and better.

In this book, you have found that we picked about ten of the top Army-Navy-Games and we reported on them within the season in which they occurred. Since this is a book about Navy and Notre Dame is Navy's other famous competitor, and since the meetings are annual, your author chose to create a final chapter that describes the ins and outs of the Navy v Notre Dame rivalry from its beginning in 1927 when Navy and Notre Dame began to compete regularly.

The first Navy–Notre Dame game was played in 2017 and like most of the games in the series, the nationally prominent Irish has most often been victorious. Both Navy and Notre Dame have lots of rivals. The Midshipmen of course will never have one as big as Army, and their series with Air Force has become a blood feud. Notre Dame itself has enjoyed rivalries of varying degree with USC, Michigan, Miami, Stanford, Pitt, Penn State, and others. Having said that, none can deny that the rivalry between the Middies and the Fighting Irish has endured as one of each team's most serious.

There is a week in every football season in which the pundits announce that the schools will meet Saturday for the XXnd season in a row, as the Irish try to run their series record to xx-xx-x. Some even count the vacated wins. It's the longest continuous rivalry in the country between teams from different regions of the country.

For many, there is no rationale for the rivalry. It does not make immediate sense upon a cursory examination. Notre Dame has a huge and much higher perch in the sport's hierarchy and it certainly has

dominated the series. The home fields are a 10-hour drive apart. However, there is more than meets the eye. But the schools have a deep shared history.

When the series began in 1927, the Irish won the game 19-6 in Baltimore. Both Navy and Army were power houses during World War I as Army played its first ND game in 1913. World War II brought the ND Navy series even more staying power.

1913 is generally regarded as the game that established the national reputation of the Fighting Irish. Army already was viewed as one of the toughest competitors in the nation. In that game, Notre Dame revolutionized the notion of the forward pass as a major offensive weapon as the Irish pulled off a crowd stunning 35–13 victory.

In World War II, Notre Dame lost a lot of its students to the war effort. It was still an all-male school, and its enrollment declined dramatically. Fortunately for Notre Dame, the Navy picked South Bend as the site for a V-12 Navy College Training Program. The V-12 was not a super powerful vegetable juice for sailors. In essence it was ROTC for Midshipmen. It sent a bunch of students and hundreds of thousands of dollars to the campus.

The program was designed to supplement the force of commissioned officers in the United States Navy during World War II. Between July 1, 1943, and June 30, 1946, more than 125,000 participants were enrolled in 131 colleges and universities in the United States. Notre Dame needed that money to survive. It got its share of enrollments and it had plenty of room to accommodate the Navy. Notre Dame has had a soft spot for Navy from when it needed a hand and Navy was there.

“All I can say is without the Navy during the war, this institution would have gotten down to a few hundred students,” former Notre Dame president Theodore Hesburgh said in 2004. “Instead of that, we were almost twice our normal size during the war, and we were able to contribute something to the Navy.”

Due to the small capacity of Navy’s original Worden Field or its later use of Thompson Field and even the current Navy Stadium—the 34,000-seat strong *Navy–Marine Corps Memorial Stadium* in Annapolis,

Maryland off the campus of the Naval Academy in Annapolis MD, the Navy football team, did not have a big enough stadium to hold the crowds. in any official stadium. So, Navy would find a suitable big venue someplace, somewhere to host its Notre Dame games. Army liked to use Yankee Stadium, but Navy seemed to always be moving their game around. Please read the following paragraph:

The Navy in its early days used Baltimore's old Memorial Stadium and then the current M&T Bank Stadium, or FedExField in Landover, Maryland, or at Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey. From 1960 to 1970, Navy moved the games into Pennsylvania as the Midshipmen hosted the game at John F. Kennedy Stadium in Philadelphia, and then hosted the 1972, 1974 and 1993 games at Philadelphia's Veterans Stadium.

Because ND likes to move its games at times, Navy has played the game has also been played twice in Dublin, Ireland—in 1996 at Croke Park and 2012 at Aviva Stadium. Occasionally, there is even a game played at old Cleveland Stadium. The 2016 game was held at EverBank Field in Jacksonville, Florida. This year's, (2018) home game was played at Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego, California (the first time the teams have played each other west of the Eastern Time Zone). For those looking ahead to a future venue, the 2020 game will be at Aviva Stadium in Dublin, Ireland. I sure hope to be there as long as they promise not to run out of Guinness.

Coaches Charles Dudley & Jesse Harper

If it were not for a famous service academy, Notre Dame would not have reached national prominence in football so early. In 1913, while Notre Dame was trying to convince its Administration to fund collegiate football at ND, Army was well established having begun its program in 1890 eleven years after Navy. Moreover, Army had just brought in a coach who was going to bring Army some great success.

Charles Dudley Daly was Army's head football coach from 1913-1916 and he had another stint from 1919-1922. He was successful both times. His Army teams were tough on opponents. Notre Dame in particular respected Army's power. Daly had a great 58-13-3 record.

His 1914, 1916, 1922 teams were undefeated. All teams were winners. Daly never had a losing season in eight years.

At the same time as Dudley was preparing for more undefeated seasons, Jesse Clare Harper, a fine coach, became head coach of ND in 1913 and remained so until he retired in 1917. Harper had a five-year head coaching career with a great record of 34-5-1 with a 7-0 undefeated record in 1913. Two of the stars on Harper's 1913 team were Knute Rockne, who played End, and Gus Dorais, QB. Dorais would pitch them and Rockne would catch them. Both made all American.

Prior to Harper, Notre Dame would take games with High Schools and athletic clubs and just about any team that would play them. During his tenure, the Irish began playing only intercollegiate games. This period also marked the beginning of the rivalry with Army and the continuation of rivalries with Michigan State. In an effort to gain respect for a regionally successful but small-time Midwestern football program, Harper scheduled games in his first season with national powerhouses Texas, Penn State, and Army.

Of course Army and Navy had been playing football forever or so it seems. The Cadets and midshipmen played the first Army-Navy football game Nov. 29, 1890 on "The Plain" at West Point. "The Plain" was like a huge sandlot field used for military drills. Navy had been playing organized football since 1879 and the Middies defeated the newly established Army team, 24-0.i

By most standards, Notre Dame never should have been able to get the game with Army. As the story goes, two major factors combined to make the 1913 meeting with Army possible. Army had been stiffed by Yale. They were deemed not good enough to compete with Yale by Yale, a major Eastern superpower football team. Yale broke off its series with Army that had been played for 20 consecutive years from 1893 through 1912. Army therefore had a "hole" in its schedule. Jesse Harper, a clever man and a great coach for ND, knew it was his job to fill that hole with a team named Notre Dame. He did.

The Army Series against Notre Dame would itself make a great book and probably a better movie. But, this is a book about Navy. By the way, I also wrote a book titled, Great Moments in Army Football.

Navy was the first service academy to play football and the first to beat Army.



Coach Jesse Harper & ND Player Knute Rockne

Whereas Army helped Notre Dame gain notoriety in the big 1913 game, Navy helped Notre Dame support its institution during World War II when ND may not have made it otherwise. That's why Navy and not Army has a regular series with the Fighting Irish.

Looking through history we all have seen FDR talking about Navy and the Pearl Harbor Day of Infamy. We know that America declared war and the nation had to put college plans aside, so it could fight the clear and imminent dangers from Hitler, Mussolini and Japan. During this time as noted, colleges, as important as they are when survival is a given, became an afterthought. Without students, who heard the call of war, this all-male institution at the time, would not be receiving tuition checks.

Many colleges went out of business. Notre Dame could not call on the Catholic Church to support the institution and so it was not exempt from the strain. The South Bend institution was facing the wartime economic crisis without state funding, without any of the guarantees of America's great land grant colleges and without the decades of

accumulated endowments of the Ivy League colleges. The facts suggest that Notre Dame was on the brink of extinction.

Navy came to the rescue. The US Navy, was already very comfortable in the Midwest at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, but they needed more officers for the war effort. So, they designated Notre Dame as a training center and paid enough for usage of the Notre Dame facilities to keep the University afloat. The good Holy Cross Fathers most certainly breathed a sigh of relief.

By the way, in 1946, right after the war, a small group of these Holy Cross Fathers left the ND campus and traveled to Wilkes-Barre PA, where I grew up. I was born in 1948. They founded King's College using a building that was once a Coal Company HQ. They did not just show up. The Congregation of Holy Cross accepted the invitation of Bishop William J. Hafey of Scranton to begin an independent four-year college for men in Wilkes-Barre. In 1969, I had the distinct pleasure of graduating from Kings College. And, so, we might say that this book was made possible by the Notre Dame Navy rivalry.

There is more to the ND Navy connection as Frank Leahy, the legendary coach of ND Football left his position as Notre Dame Head Football Coach to enlist, voila, in the Navy. Whether Leahy who some called a "silver tongued rogue" had anything to do with initiating or increasing the level of Navy support is unknown. One thing was sure, Notre Dame would not be just another casualty of the war. Consistent with its Christian values, Notre Dame was and remained, and yet even today remains, grateful for the Navy's support and solace in the midst of woe. Ironically, in Leahy's absence serving in the Navy, Army had its best years against the Fighting Irish

Notre Dame has given Navy an entirely appropriate open invitation to play the Irish every year. While a paper trail exists, the word of Notre Dame is its bond and Navy will play the Irish every year until Annapolis chooses not to continue the tradition.

Another great tradition began in 2005. Each team stands near the other's fans for the post-game singing of the alma mater, win or lose. Notre Dame provides this major recognition for no other opponent.

As with the other series with the academies, Notre Dame has dominated with a 76-13-1 series advantage through the 2017 game.

Joe Bellino & Roger Staubach & 40 YR Drought

Notre Dame's biggest losses against Navy came between 1956 and 1963. Navy had two Heisman winners at the time and a great coach Wayne Hardin. Heisman winners Joe Bellino and Roger Staubach led the Midshipmen to victory five times over the Fighting Irish during this period, by an average of more than 14 points per game. Then came the drought. Since their 2007 upset win, Navy has won four of the last eleven games.

In 1963, Navy was a National Power, contending with Pitt for Eastern supremacy, the then prized Lambert Trophy and a chance at the National title. Their quarterback is famous today as much for being one of the greatest Dallas Cowboys. He was a Midwestern kid named Roger Staubach from Purcell Marian High School in Cincinnati. He was simply magnificent as he led Navy to a 35-13 romp over the beleaguered Hugh Devore's Irish. Roger Staubach went on that year to win the Heisman Trophy.

Notre Dame did not stop getting the best. In fact, soon they had Ara Parseghian and they began a 44-year winning streak against the Naval Academy. Navy often put up a fight but only 6 of the 44 games were won by Notre Dame by a margin of 10 or fewer points. Lou Holtz offered the comment of comments on the series. "The University of Navy scares me to death."

There was a trail of Never-Losers that began with Ara. Parseghian who never lost to Navy. Dan Devine never lost to Navy. Gerry Faust never lost to Navy. Lou Holtz never lost to Navy. Bob Davie never lost to Navy. Tyrone Willingham never lost to Navy. But the 44-year win streak ended with a 46-44 Navy upset over the Irish in South Bend in 2007. To prove both that it was not a fluke and that coaching matters, ol' schematic advantage (Charlie Weiss) managed to lose to Navy, in South Bend, again in 2009.

Strength of schedule is one thing. But strength of soul and honor is more important at Notre Dame. Notre Dame will be playing Navy for decades to come. God bless America.

Chapter 21 History of the Army-Navy Game by Mandy Howard etc.



Army-Navy Game Is a Great Tradition

On a cold November afternoon in 1890, two branches of the U.S. armed forces turned to face one another on the field of battle. The *New York Sun* warned of freezing temperatures that Nov. 24 and reported in a blurb on page 2: “About 180 New Yorkers will go up to West Point at 11 o'clock this morning on a special train. The game will be called at 2 o'clock and will be followed by a hop.” A century and a quarter later, the college football rivalry between the Army Black Knights of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., and the Navy Midshipmen of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., has become one of the greatest of all time.

Thank you Mandy Howard:

<http://www.moaa.org/Content/Publications-and-Media/Features-and-Columns/MOAA-Features/History-of-the-Army-Navy-Football-Game.aspx>



Sometimes called the Gray Phantom of West Point, Glenn Davis (41) picks up yardage in Army Navy Game

An impressive history

In 1961, a Plebe named Roger Staubach sat in the stands at the Army-Navy game. “There were 100,000 people there, and [President] John Kennedy was there,” Staubach recalls. “I was thinking, what’s going to happen next year? I don’t think I can play in this thing. It’s too big of a deal.”

But in 1962, Staubach thrilled audiences nationwide. “My first Army-Navy game and when I played Super Bowl VI against the Dolphins [were] by far the most nervous I’ve ever been,” he says.

“We beat Army that year, and that was as big a thrill as I’ve ever had winning a football game, when we beat Army in 1962.”

After that, the stage was set for the 1963 epic battle between Staubach, who had just won the Heisman Trophy, and Army star quarterback Rollie Stichweh.

That game, however, unexpectedly was postponed, following the tragic assassination of Kennedy, who hadn't missed an Army-Navy game during his presidency.

After a week's postponement, first lady Jacqueline Kennedy asked that the game still be played. So Dec. 7, 1963, the nation turned its eyes to Municipal Stadium in Philadelphia (later renamed John F. Kennedy Stadium). "We played the game on behalf of the Kennedy family," Staubach says.

The 1963 matchup also was the first-time college football fans witnessed instant replay. The instant replay machine was equipped with videotapes that had episodes of *I Love Lucy* on them, so if the tapes did not record correctly, there was a distinct possibility the biggest game in the country would be interrupted by a Lucy rerun. CBS Sports Director Tony Verna said in a CBS News interview, "If you foul with the Army-Navy game and mess that up, that was the end of your career." They tempted fate only once, replaying a Stichweh touchdown, which prompted commentator Lindsey Nelson to advise viewers, "Ladies and gentlemen, Army has not scored again."

Unmatched rivalry and tradition

The 1963 game and the rivalry between the two academies have been the subject of numerous articles, documentaries, and books. In 1995, both academies allowed unfettered access to bestselling sports author John Feinstein, who chronicled the college football year for the book *A Civil War: Army vs. Navy*.

The book takes an inside look at the locker rooms, classes, and minds of the young men who have chosen a path that combines intense football and selfless service and opens the door to understanding the unique difficulties that come with playing Division I football at a service academy today. The book proves that though this game is unshakably woven into college football history, the passion and desperate drive to win are what continue to make this rivalry great.

"There's nothing like Army-Navy," Feinstein says, "not just because of the tradition but because of who plays the game."

Lee Fitting, senior coordinating producer with *ESPN College GameDay*, which visited the Army-Navy game for the first time in 2014, agrees. “I’d argue that it may be the greatest rivalry out there,” he says. “A lot of these other rivalries, it’s only football, football, football, and that’s the end goal. That’s not the end goal for the cadets and midshipmen. There’s a bigger picture and a bigger perspective, and when you bottle that all together, it’s unbelievable.”

West Point graduate and Duke University basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski says, “The very nature of collegiate sport is to get our student-athletes to put into practice what they learn in the classroom: loyalty, teamwork, trust, competitiveness, all of these important values. You watch the [Army-Navy] game, and you realize they are going to take it even further. They are going to take it to a real battlefield to protect America and to protect our freedoms.”

The desire to win might be greater than in any other rivalry, argues the Naval Academy’s first Heisman Trophy winner, Joe Bellino, who won the award in 1960. “They are not only playing for themselves or for their schools but for the millions of veterans who are watching the game.”

With such great rivalry comes great tradition, and the Army-Navy game does not disappoint.

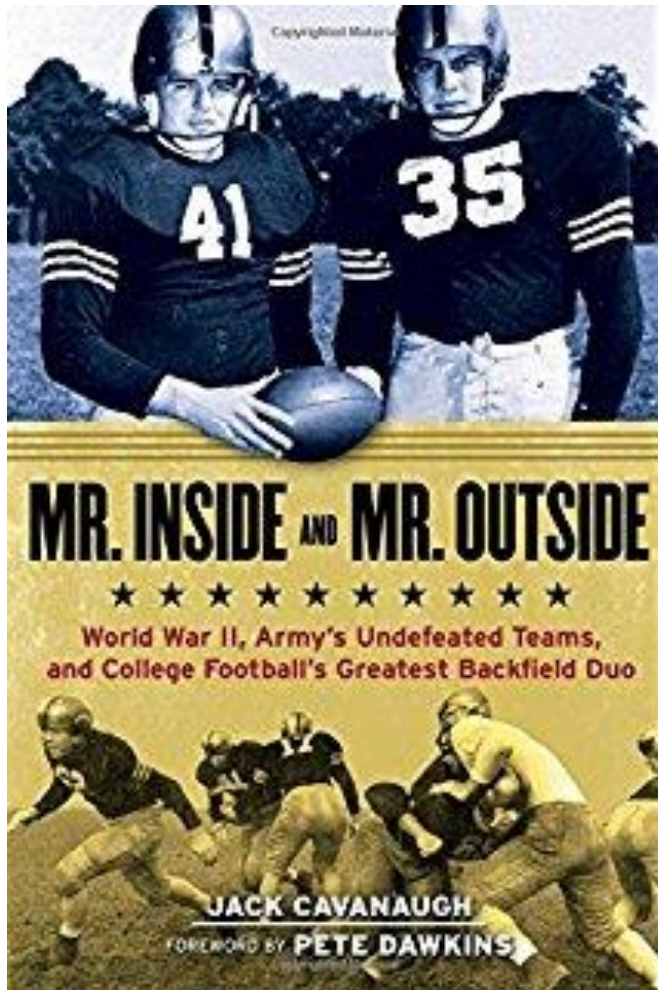
Krzyzewski remembers marching onto the field as a cadet: “We all want that feeling of being part of something bigger than you,” he says. “You’re out there on the field and you think, *Wow, I’m a lucky guy*. You get chills.”

Staubach’s favorite tradition comes at the end of the game, when the two teams stand together and sing both academy alma maters.

“When the game is over, despite this fierce competitiveness that we have, this history, this rivalry, we become one. Midshipmen going over to the Army side, and Army going over to the Navy side. I just think that is really special. I still get emotional,” Staubach says.

Bellino agrees the singing of the alma maters still brings tears to his eyes but shares, with a grin, a lesser-known tradition.

“If you could find a plebe cadet that'd bet you, you'd bet his West Point bathrobe that you'd win the game,” Bellino says.



Glenn Davis & Doc Blanchard Never Lost an Army-Navy Game

n

The idea of this surprises Army Maj. Jim Nemeck, a former officer representative for the Army football team: “I never heard of plebes betting their bathrobes, at least not in the company I was responsible for. They love their bathrobes. Douglas MacArthur famously wore his in three wars!”

“It gets better,” promises Bellino. “If you're lucky enough to win a robe, and you are a varsity athlete, you have the option of putting your

varsity letter 'N' on your West Point bathrobe. If you beat Army as an athlete, you receive a star to add to it. It's one of the most beautiful things I own,” says Bellino of his West Point bathrobe, covered in six varsity letter N's (three for baseball and three for football) and five stars.

On the 2014 *College GameDay* telecast, ESPN analyst Lee Corso famously showed off the bathrobe he won while he was a Navy assistant.

Add to all of that the feeling of being at the game itself, which, by all accounts, is something you have to experience to understand. “You have to be in the stadium and feel the emotion when the teams come on the field and feel the emotion when they play the national anthem and 8,000 hands snap to attention and understand that every one of the cadets in that stadium and every one of the midshipmen in that stadium have volunteered to die for our country if need be,” Feinstein says.

Closing the gap

Prior to the 2016 game, Navy was boasting a 14-game streak, the longest in this rivalry's history. Then Army emerged with a victory and another in 2017.

Bellino said sooner or later, Army is going to break Navy's winning streak. “But,” he continues, “Navy's going to be tough for a number of years, believe me.”

In the realm of college football, region to region, fans will claim their rivalry is the greatest. But Army-Navy belongs to the entire nation. The players are future U.S. military officers.

“What replaces Army-Navy?” Krzyzewski asks. “There's nothing,” The only question left to ask is: “Go Army, beat Navy, or go Navy, beat Army?”

--- End of Mandy Howard's Fine Piece with pictures added---

Other Books by Brian W. Kelly: (amazon.com, and Kindle)

[Great Coaches in Navy Football: From Coach 1 to Coach #39 Ken Niumatalolo](#)
[Great Moments in Navy Football: From day 1 to coach Ken Niumatalolo!](#)
[No Tree! No Toys! No Toot Toot!](#) Heartwarming story. Christmas disappeared while 19 month old was napping
[How to End DACA, Sanctuary Cities, & Resident Illegal Aliens](#) . best solution to wipe shadows in America.
[Government Must Stop Ripping Off Seniors' Social Security!](#): Hey buddy, seniors can no longer spare a dime?
[Special Report: Solving America's Student Debt Crisis!](#): The only real solution to the \$1.52 Trillion debt
[How to End DACA, Sanctuary Cities, & Resident Illegal Aliens](#) . best solution to wipe shadows in America.
[The Winning Political Platform for America](#) Unique winning approach to solve the big problems in America.
[Lou Barletta v Bob Casey for US Senate](#) Barletta's unique approach to solving the big problems in America.
[John Chrin v Matt Cartwright for Congress](#) Chrin has a unique approach to solving big problems in America.
[The Cure for Hate !!!](#) Can the cure be any worse than this disease that is crippling America?
[Andrew Cuomo's Time to Go? "He Was Never that Great!"](#): Cuomo says America never that great
[White People Are Bad! Bad! Bad!](#) Whoever thought a popular slogan in 2018 would be *It's OK to be White!*
[The Fake News Media Is Also Corrupt !!!](#): Fake press / media today is not worthy to be 4th Estate.
[God Gave US Donald Trump?](#) Trump was sent from God as the people's answer
[Millennials Say America Was "Never That Great"](#): Too many pleased days of political chumps not over!
[White People Are Bad! Bad! Bad!](#) In 2018, too many people find race as a non-equalizer.
[It's Time for The John Doe Party...](#) Don't you think? By By Elephants.
[Great Players in Florida Gators Football... Tim Tebow and a ton of other great players](#)
[Great Coaches in Florida Gators Football...](#) The best coaches in Gator history.
[The Constitution by Hamilton, Jefferson, Madison, et al.](#) The Real Constitution
[The Constitution Companion.](#) Will help you learn and understand the Constitution
[Great Coaches in Clemson Football](#) The best Clemson Coaches right to Dabo Swinney
[Great Players in Clemson Football](#) The best Clemson players in history
[Winning Back America.](#) America's been stolen and can be won back completely
[The Founding of America...](#) Great book to pick up a lot of great facts
[Defeating America's Career Politicians.](#) The scoundrels need to go.
[Midnight Mass by Jack Lammers...](#) You remember what it was like Great story
[The Bike by Jack Lammers...](#) Great heartwarming Story by Jack
[Wipe Out All Student Loan Debt--Now!](#) Watch the economy go boom!
[No Free Lunch Pay Back Welfare!](#) Why not pay it back?
[Deport All Millennials Now!!!](#) Why they deserve to be deported and/or saved
[DELETE the EPA, Please!](#) The worst decisions to hurt America
[Taxation Without Representation 4th Edition](#) Should we throw the TEA overboard again?
[Four Great Political Essays by Thomas Dawson](#)
[Top Ten Political Books for 2018...](#) Cliffnotes Version of 10 Political Books
[Top Six Patriotic Books for 2018...](#) Cliffnotes version of 6 Patriotic Boosk
[Why Trump Got Elected!..](#) It's great to hear about a great milestone in America!
[The Day the Free Press Died.](#) Corrupt Press Lives on!
[Solved \(Immigration\)](#) The best solutions for 2018
[Solved II \(Obamacare, Social Security, Student Debt\)](#) Check it out; They're solved.
[Great Moments in Pittsburgh Steelers Football...](#) Six Super Bowls and more.
[Great Players in Pittsburgh Steelers Football](#) ,,Chuck Noll, Bill Cowher, Mike Tomlin, etc.
[Great Coaches in New England Patriots Football,,,](#) Bill Belichick the one and only plus others
[Great Players in New England Patriots Football...](#) Tom Brady, Drew Bledsoe et al.
[Great Coaches in Philadelphia Eagles Football..](#) Andy Reid, Doug Pederson & Lots more
[Great Players in Philadelphia Eagles Football](#) Great players such as Sonny Jurgenson
[Great Coaches in Syracuse Football](#) All the greats including Ben Schwartzwalder
[Great Players in Syracuse Football.](#) Highlights best players such as Jim Brown & Donovan McNabb
[Millennials are People Too !!!](#) Give US millennials help to live American Dream
[Brian Kelly for the United States Senate from PA:](#) Fresh Face for US Senate
[The Candidate's Bible.](#) Don't pray for your campaign without this bible
[Rush Limbaugh's Platform for Americans...](#) Rush will love it
[Sean Hannity's Platform for Americans...](#) Sean will love it
[Donald Trump's New Platform for Americans.](#) Make Trump unbeatable in 2020
[Tariffs Are Good for America!](#) One of the best tools a president can have
[Great Coaches in Pittsburgh Steelers Football](#) Sixteen of the best coaches ever to coach in pro football.
[Great Moments in New England Patriots Football](#) Great football moments from Boston to New England
[Great Moments in Philadelphia Eagles Football.](#) The best from the Eagles from the beginning of football.
[Great Moments in Syracuse Football](#) The great moments, coaches & players in Syracuse Football
[Boost Social Security Now!](#) Hey Buddy Can You Spare a Dime?
[The Birth of American Football.](#) From the first college game in 1869 to the last Super Bowl
[Obamacare: A One-Line Repeal](#) Congress must get this done.

[A Wilkes-Barre Christmas Story A wonderful town makes Christmas all the better](#)
[A Boy, A Bike, A Train, and a Christmas Miracle](#) A Christmas story that will melt your heart
[Pay-to-Go](#) America-First Immigration Fix
[Legalizing Illegal Aliens Via Resident Visas](#) Americans-first plan saves \$Trillions. Learn how!
[60 Million Illegal Aliens in America!!!](#) A simple, America-first solution.
[The Bill of Rights By Founder James Madison Refresh](#) your knowledge of the specific rights for all
[Great Players in Army Football](#) Great Army Football played by great players..
[Great Coaches in Army Football](#) Army's coaches are all great.
[Great Moments in Army Football](#) Army Football at its best.
[Great Moments in Florida Gators Football](#) Gators Football from the start. This is the book.
[Great Moments in Clemson Football](#) CU Football at its best. This is the book.
[Great Moments in Florida Gators Football](#) Gators Football from the start. This is the book.
[The Constitution Companion](#), A Guide to Reading and Comprehending the Constitution
[The Constitution by Hamilton, Jefferson, & Madison](#) – Big type and in English
[PATERNO: The Dark Days After Win # 409](#). Sky began to fall within days of win # 409.
[JoePa 409 Victories: Say No More!](#) Winningest Division I-A football coach ever
[American College Football: The Beginning](#) From before day one football was played.
[Great Coaches in Alabama Football](#) Challenging the coaches of every other program!
[Great Coaches in Penn State Football](#) the Best Coaches in PSU's football program
[Great Players in Penn State Football](#) The best players in PSU's football program
[Great Players in Notre Dame Football](#) The best players in ND's football program
[Great Coaches in Notre Dame Football](#) The best coaches in any football program
[Great Players in Alabama Football](#) from Quarterbacks to offensive Linemen Greats!
[Great Moments in Alabama Football](#) AU Football from the start. This is the book.
[Great Moments in Penn State Football](#) PSU Football, start--games, coaches, players,
[Great Moments in Notre Dame Football](#) ND Football, start, games, coaches, players
[Cross Country with the Parents](#) A great trip from East Coast to West with the kids
[Seniors, Social Security & the Minimum Wage](#). Things seniors need to know.
[How to Write Your First Book and Publish It with CreateSpace](#). You too can be an author.
[The US Immigration Fix--It's all in here](#). Finally, an answer.
[I had a Dream IBM Could be #1 Again](#) The title is self-explanatory
[WineDiets.Com Presents The Wine Diet](#) Learn how to lose weight while having fun.
[Wilkes-Barre, PA: Return to Glory](#) Wilkes-Barre City's return to glory
[Geoffrey Parsons' Epoch... The Land of Fair Play](#) Better than the original.
[The Bill of Rights 4 Dummies!](#) This is the best book to learn about your rights.
[Sol Bloom's Epoch ...Story of the Constitution](#) The best book to learn the Constitution
[America 4 Dummies!](#) All Americans should read to learn about this great country.
[The Electoral College 4 Dummies!](#) How does it really work?
[The All-Everything Machine](#). Story about IBM's finest computer server.
[ThankYou IBM!](#) This book explains how IBM was beaten in the computer marketplace by neophytes

[Amazon.com/author/brianwkelly](https://www.amazon.com/author/brianwkelly)
Brian W. Kelly has written 187 books.
Thank you for buying this one.
Others can be found at [amazon.com/author/brianwkelly](https://www.amazon.com/author/brianwkelly)

