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Why Not 2-Platoon All-America?

Board Names Offensive and Defensive Side

Hart, Martin, Sisko Included On Dream Team

By HARRY GRAYSON
NEA Staff Writer

NEW YORK, Nov. 26—The old-fashioned All-American is as outmoded as the 60-minute man.

With the entire concept of football changed, why not alter the All-American procedure?

With the two-platoon system in vogue, there is no basis for comparison, no way of judging the combatants. How, for example, are you going to weigh the worth of a defensive guard against a running guard, or a tackling back against a running back?

So NEA Service's far-flung selectors, comprising coaches, scouts, opposing players, football writers and other competent observers, give you the very first edition of two-platoon All-American Teams, an offensive and defensive side.

The quarterback is omitted from the defensive unit, replaced by an added linebacker. Any one of the guards can drop back or fill in the line, as the ever-changing defensive patterns warrant. The defending halfbacks and safety man are, of course, swift offensive threats, adept in plenty of fancy stepping with intercepted passes and kicks.

Leon Hart at End

Offensive ends are Notre Dame's Leon Hart and Army's Dan Fuldberg. The six-foot four, 245-pound Hart towers over one of the greatest of ND lines. He plays both ends, turns the entire side or a line with his blocks, is a fine target and pass receiver, carries on end-around plays. Fuldberg, a six-foot one-inch, 185-pound junior, is West Point's top end.

Offensive tackles are Oklahoma's Wade Walker and Michigan's Allen Wahl.

Walker, six feet and 203 pounds, is the finest blocking tackle in modern Sooner history, really can turn 'em with vital strong-side blocks from the Split T. Wahl, six feet two and 218, is another of four juniors with the offensive group. Fast and agile, he is rated ahead of more publicized tackles.

Offensive guards are Kentucky's Bob Gain and Minnesota's Leo Nomellini.

Gain, six feet three, 225 pounds, and a junior, is perhaps the principal link in the Wildcats' progression back to big-time football.

Nomellini, six feet two and 255 pounds, was the anchor of the vaunted Minnesota line. Running like a halfback, he has played end, tackle and guard, was the middle man of the Gophers' celebrated defensive five-man line.

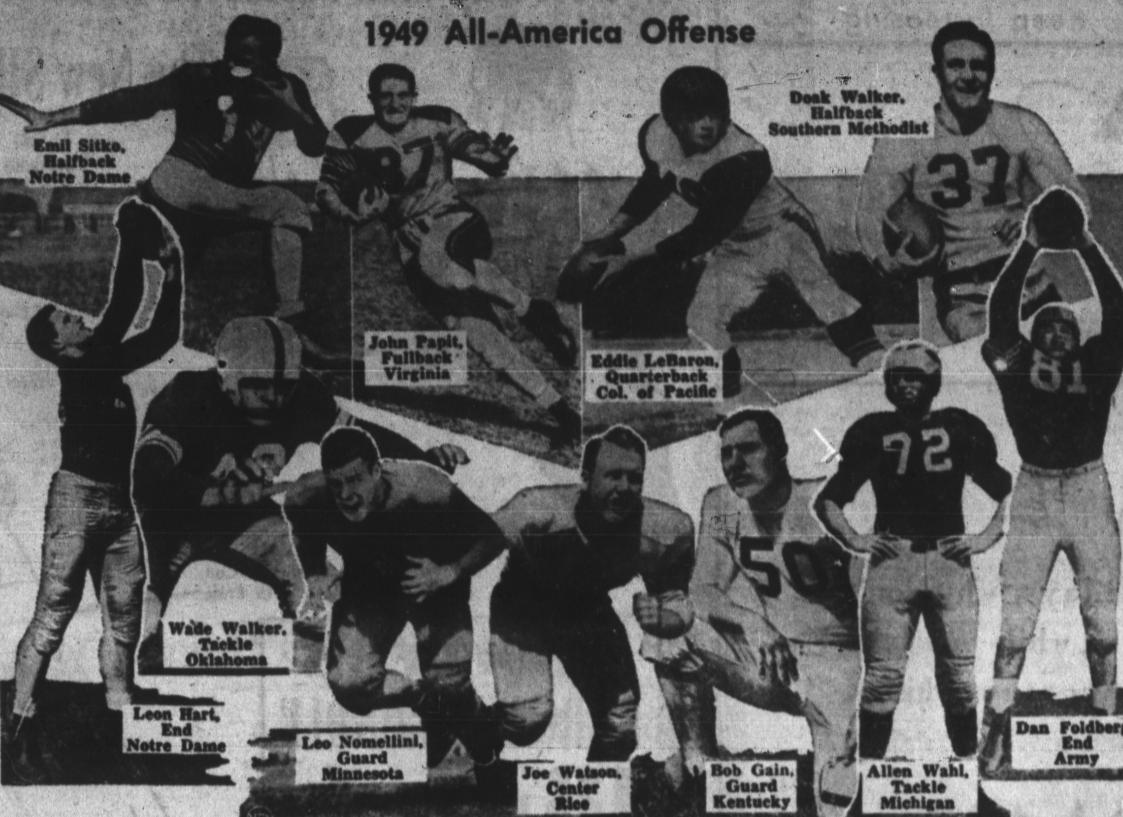
Gain is also a tackle, but the selection board wanted the offensive platoon big and fast.

Watson at Center

Rice's six-foot two-inch, 225-pound Joe Watson is the offensive center, considered the most formidable in the memory of the Southwest Conference's oldest inhabitant.

College of the Pacific's five-foot eight-inch, 165-pound Eddie LeBaron is the offensive quarterback. A top professional prospect despite his lack of size, his extraordinary ball-handling even fooled experienced officials.

Offensive halfbacks are Southern Methodist's Doak Walker and Notre Dame's Emil Sisko. Golden



1949 All-America Offense

Doak Walker, Halfback, Southern Methodist

John Papit, Fullback, Virginia

Eddie LeBaron, Quarterback, Col. of Pacific

Wade Walker, Tackle, Oklahoma

Lee Nomellini, Guard, Minnesota

Joe Watson, Center, Rice

Bob Gain, Guard, Kentucky

Allen Wahl, Tackle, Michigan

Dan Fuldberg, End, Army

Boy Walker does things from the old double wing that originated Pop Warner never dreamed of. Six-yard Sisko probably is the most vicious straight-away runner in college football.

Virginia's John Papit is the offensive fullback. The six-foot 190-pounder is rated superior to Bill Dudley, the present Detroit Lion who was an All-American with the Cavaliers.

Defensive Team

NEA's board brings you a defensive alignment of proven ability, athletes who have also exhibited their offensive skill. Most of them are 60-minute men when necessary, and all are seniors.

Defensive ends are six foot two inch, 193 pound Kenny Powell of North Carolina and Stanford's six foot three inch, 205-pound Ken

Rose. Powell shifts to left end on defense to catch the opposition's strong stuff. Notre Dame's superior blockers couldn't cut him down. Rose, labeled by Marchie Schwartz as the best blocking end he has seen, doubled as a stickout punter.

Defensive tackles are Notre Dame's Jim Martin and Michigan State's Ed Bagdon. Martin, six feet two and 204, moved in from end, and his experience there gives him added mobility to cope with unusual situations. Normally a guard and the fastest lineman in major college football, the five foot 10, 207 pound Bagdon lends more striking power to the defense.

Defensive guards are Pittsburgh's Bernie Barkouskie and Oklahoma's Stanley West. The five foot nine inch, 200-pound Barkouski had to block a punt to beat Pennsylvania to crash the headlines, but he has outplayed every opponent tossed against him in four years. West, six feet two and 240, is the most powerful man playing football in the great southwest.

Tonnemaker Named

Center Clayton Tonnemaker of Minnesota and guard Forrest Klein of California, are the linebackers. The six-foot three, 240-pound Tonnemaker matched fast-moving backs step for step. Klein, six feet and 205, is the most highly regarded backer-up on the Pacific Coast.

Defensive halfbacks are Princeton's George Sella and Texas' Randall Clay, Sella, five 10 and 17-pound halfback George Thomas.

From there to the goal line, only one man was in his way—Tulane's star fullback Eddie Price, playing safety. Price outran Price.

LSU's second touch down on a 5-yard run over left tackle by Sophomore Halfback Lee Hedges in the third period.

He took the ball on his own 35 yard line. Again, the fast-hitting LSU line moved out the Tulane tackles and Hedges sprinted the edge of the field to the goal.

Strength Goes Out

Except for those scoring runs, LSU had not been able to gain extensively against Tulane's man.

Price had been able to move against LSU's. But some of the strength appeared to ooze out of the Tulane defense after the second score.

So LSU was able to drive to its third touchdown. State started a drive on its own 45 and in 10 line plays moved the ball to the Tulane one. Then Halfback Billy Baggett circled left end for the score.

1949 All-America Defense



Randall Clay, Halfback, Texas

George Thomas, Safety, Oklahoma

George Sella, Halfback, Princeton

Clayton Tonnemaker, Line Backer, Minnesota

Forrest Klein, Line Backer, California

Kenny Powell, End, North Carolina

Stanley West, Guard, Oklahoma

Bernie Barkouskie, Guard, Pittsburgh

Jim Martin, Tackle, Notre Dame

Ken Rose, End, Stanford

Ed Bagdon, Tackle, Michigan State

Golden, Marshall Sign For Opening Mat Event

Paul Golden and Tom Marshall, a newcomer from Dallas, Tex., have been matched for first-text action on Tuesday night's Army-Navy mat.

The bout completes an all-heavyweight line-up, with a feature clash between the 336-pound "Zebra Kid" and Dave Levin top.

Sharing the spotlight will be the second appearance here of the "Human Bull," who is 642-pound Martin Levy. He'll collide with Jack O'Brien.

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