

CLASS OF 1961

Dr. Marshall “Little Sleepy” Glenn



Born in Elkins on April 22, 1908, “Little Sleepy” was a three-year regular in football and basketball and won letters in track at West Virginia University (1928-30) before coaching both teams – football from 1937-39 and basketball from 1934-38. His 1937 football team finished with an 8-1-1 record and earned a 7-6 victory over Texas Tech in the Sun Bowl. He scored 678 points in a 62-game college career and was recognized as **one of WVU’s best blocking backs, being invited to participate in the East-West game in 1929.** Glenn saw a decorated high school career at Elkins capped with an All-American selection at the National High School Tournament in Chicago in 1926. During his prep career, Glenn was a four-year star in football, basketball, and track for coach Frank Wimer. He was a basketball all-state selection in 1924 and 1926. At WVU, he served as captain of the football (1929) and basketball teams (1929-30), and was the second-leading scorer in the nation in basketball in 1929. Glenn was 8-6-3 during a two-year stint (1931-32) as football coach at Martinsburg.

CLASS OF 1961

Carl R. Hamill



Born in Aleppo, Pennsylvania, on June 9, 1903, Hamill was a three-sport coach at Weir High School in Weirton (1929-51), where his teams were 169-35-13 in football – including six unbeaten teams – and a 111-10 mark vs. West Virginia opponents. Hamill was 370-127 in basketball and, in 1949, won the first state SSAC football playoff title, and added a one-class baseball crown in 1950 to earn state all-sport high school and college coach of the year. Hamill was a three-sport star at Linsly Military Institute in his hometown of Wheeling and at Bethany College and was a star on the Linsly basketball team which played in National Tournament in Chicago. An active member of many national, state, and community service boards, Hamill served as an inspiration in development of character of many young people. Weir High's fieldhouse is named in his honor. Hamill is a City of Weirton Hall of Fame inductee and Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Legends honoree.

CLASS OF 1960

Victor Everett Brinkman



Born in Wheeling on Sept. 22, 1902, Brinkman coached five Wheeling High teams to **state basketball titles (1936, '38, '40, '43, '50) with an overall record of 356-137** from 1933-55, including unbeaten teams in 1938 and 1950. The Wheeling High football teams he coached from 1933-40 had an overall record of 47-23-11. Prior to his stint in Wheeling, he guided Benwood Union from 1927-33, finishing with a 40-9-4 mark with two undefeated teams and a 49-46 record as basketball coach. As a student-athlete at Wheeling (1919-23), he earned 13 letters at Wheeling High – four each in football, basketball, and baseball, and one in track. Brinkman was an all-state selection in football (1922) and basketball (1923). At West Virginia Wesleyan (1923-27), Brinkman won nine letters – four each in football and basketball and one in baseball. He was inducted into the City of Wheeling Hall of Fame and Ohio Valley Athletic Conference Hall of Fame Legends charter honoree.

CLASS OF 1960

Dr. Clarence W. Spears



Born in Dewitt, Arkansas, on July 24, 1894, Spears had few equals and no superiors as football player and coach. An All-America player at Dartmouth College 1914-15, he coached Dartmouth (1917-20), West Virginia University (1921-24), University of Minnesota (1925-29), University of Oregon (1930-31), University of Wisconsin (1932-35), Toledo University (1936-42), and University of Maryland (1943-44). Spears coached 11 All-Americans, five who had not played football before entering college. He coached West Virginia's first unbeaten team in 1922, and was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1955.

CLASS OF 1959

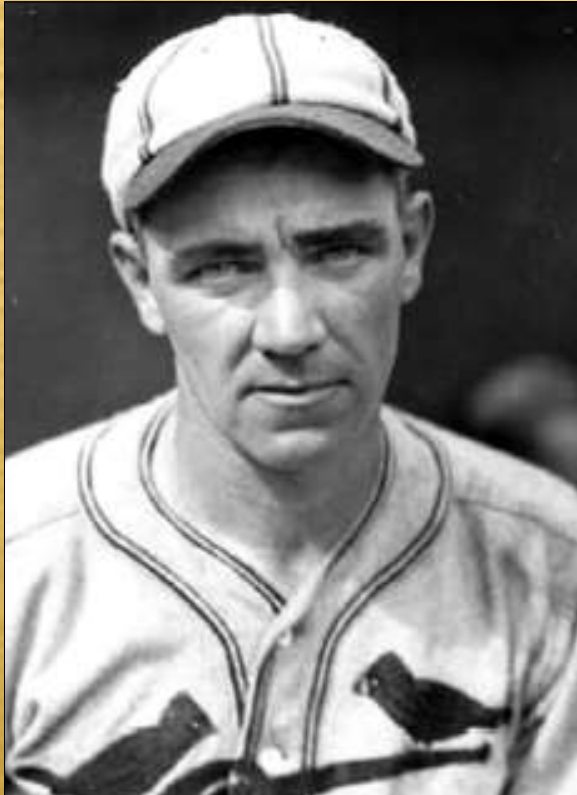
Frank Coin Wimer



Born in Elkins on Feb. 23, 1895, Wimer coached 30 years at Elkins High School with records of 585-184 in basketball, 181-86 in football and 68 victories in 105 track meets. He coached state basketball champs in 1926 and 1935 with four runners-up finished in 18 tournament appearances, as well as coaching a state football champ in 1928. His 1926 basketball team went to the finals of the National Basketball Tournament in Chicago. A member of the first state championship team 1914, Wimer starred in football and basketball at WVU (1917-19) after serving as captain of once-beaten Davis & Elkins team (1917). Wimer is a founder and first commissioner of Big Ten Conference, developing many All-American players and college and high school coaches.

CLASS OF 1958

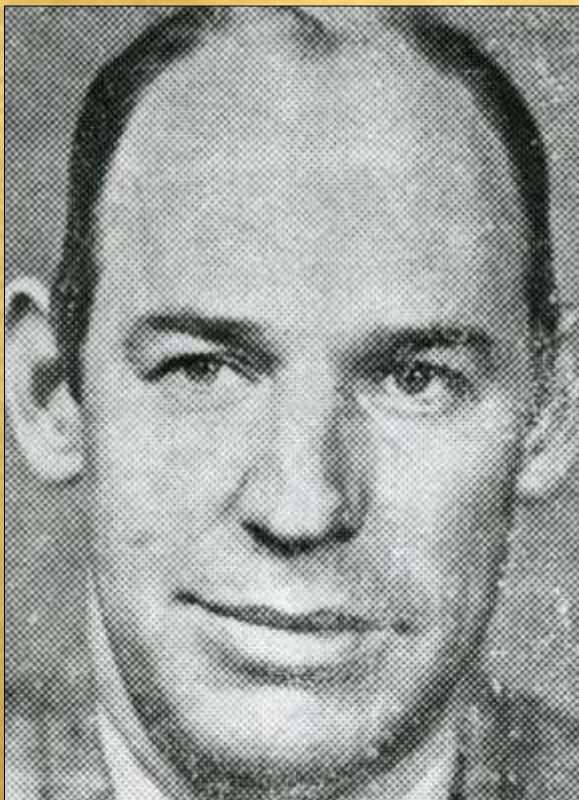
John Fred “Sheriff” Blake



Born in Ansted on Sept. 17, 1899, Blake spent 11 years as a pitcher in the Major Leagues with the Cubs, Pirates, Phillies, Cardinals, and Browns. During his baseball career (1920-41), he appeared in more than 300 games and owned a big league record of 87-102 with a 4.14 earned run average. He was 14-13 for the pennant-winning Cubs in 1929 but had his best season in 1928 with a 17-11 record and 2.46 ERA. Among his teammates with the Cubs was fellow Hall of Fame member Hack Wilson. Blake replaced Dizzy Dean on the St. Louis Cardinal staff in 1937, and managed Huntington in the Mountain State League 1941. Blake attended Greenbrier Military School and West Virginia Wesleyan College. While at Wesleyan in 1919, Blake struck out 63 batters in four games. Upon the conclusion of his professional career, Blake returned to West Virginia, living in Beckley while working for a coal-mining company and continuing to play for many mining teams.

CLASS OF 1957

Lee L. Patton



Born in Carbon, Texas, on April 3, 1904, Patton served as West Virginia University basketball coach for five seasons, compiling a 91-26 record, including a 24-3 mark in 1946, which stands as one of the top records of all time. He coached at Princeton High School for 14 years, developing unbeaten regular season basketball teams in 1934 and 1937, as well as an unbeaten football team in 1943. A graduate of Arizona State in 1927, where he was star athlete, Patton coached at Ash Fork, Ariz., and Iona Prep in New York before coming to Princeton. His basketball record at Princeton included seven state tourney entries and 12 section titles, as well as a state tourney runner-up finish in 1943, and as semifinalist in 1944.

CLASS OF 1956

Jesse Cail Burkett



Born in Wheeling on Dec. 4, 1868, Burkett was a batting star in the Major Leagues for 16 years as an outfielder for New York, Cleveland, St. Louis in the National League and St. Louis and Boston in the American League. Burkett shared with fellow Baseball Hall of Fame members Ty Cobb and Rogers Hornsby the record of hitting .400 or better three times – .423 in 1895, .410 in 1896, and .402 in 1898, although a later review of the 1898 statistics dropped his average below .400. Burkett won the batting championship in 1895 and 1896, and, in 1946, was the 37th player – and first West Virginia native – to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame. After going directly from the Ohio Valley sandlots to the Major Leagues, he had a lifetime batting average of .342 with 2,892 hits in 8,380 at bats in 2,063 games, and has been inducted into the City of Wheeling Hall of Fame.

CLASS OF 1956

Albert H. “Big Sleepy” Glenn



Born in Elkins on Feb. 21, 1904, “Big Sleepy” set the national scholastic football scoring record at Elkins High School in 1922 with 351 points on 49 touchdowns and 57-60 PAT. He coached football at Charleston High from 1929-36, finishing with a 70-13-3 record, as well as Bellaire (Ohio) from 1936-38 with 19 wins in 20 games; Berkeley Springs in 1941 with a 5-3 record; and Linsly Military Institute in Wheeling from 1942-46 with a 34-6 record. The coach of the first North winner in the North-South game (1942) also coached the first South team (1934). Glenn won four consecutive state track titles (1933-36) while helping to start the Gazette Relays in 1933. Glenn was all-state in football (1921-23) and basketball (1924), and set state records in the high hurdles and high jump in 1922, while earning four letters for football, three for basketball, and three for track at WVU (1924-29). He was an all-America honorable mention selection in 1925.

CLASS OF 1955

Camden Eli “Cam” Henderson



Born in Joetown on Feb. 5, 1890, Henderson graduated from Glenville Normal School in 1911 before becoming one of the nation's greatest college coaches. He served at Muskingum (1920-23), Davis & Elkins (1923-35), and Marshall College (1935-55), originating the 2-3 zone defense and pioneering the basketball fast break. He coached at Waynesburg (Pa.) Academy, Glenville, and Salem Colleges from 1908-17, and coached at Bristol and Shinnston high schools. Credited with helping Pop Warner originate the double-wing offense in football, Henderson won many football and basketball titles including two in 1946-47 when Marshall won the Mid-West in California and NAIB national title in Kansas City. Henderson developed more high school and college **coaches than any other West Virginian. Marshall's basketball arena is named after Henderson in his honor.**

CLASS OF 1955

Lewis Robert “Hack” Wilson



Born in Ellwood City, Pennsylvania, on April 26, 1900, Wilson is one of baseball's all-time slugging stars during a 12-year Major League career while residing in Martinsburg. He set the Major League record for runs batted in for season (191) in 1930, while setting National League records for season home runs (56), extra bases (215), and most years with 150 or more RBI with two (1929-30). Wilson began his career with Martinsburg in the Blue Ridge League in 1921, and joined the New York Giants in 1923. He was demoted to Toledo in 1925 but was drafted by the Chicago Cubs, where he played six seasons before playing with Brooklyn (1932-33) and the Phillies (1934). Wilson played in the World Series with the Giants in 1924 and Cubs in 1929, batting .471 against the Athletics. Wilson is a 1979 inductee into the Baseball Hall of Fame.

CLASS OF 1954

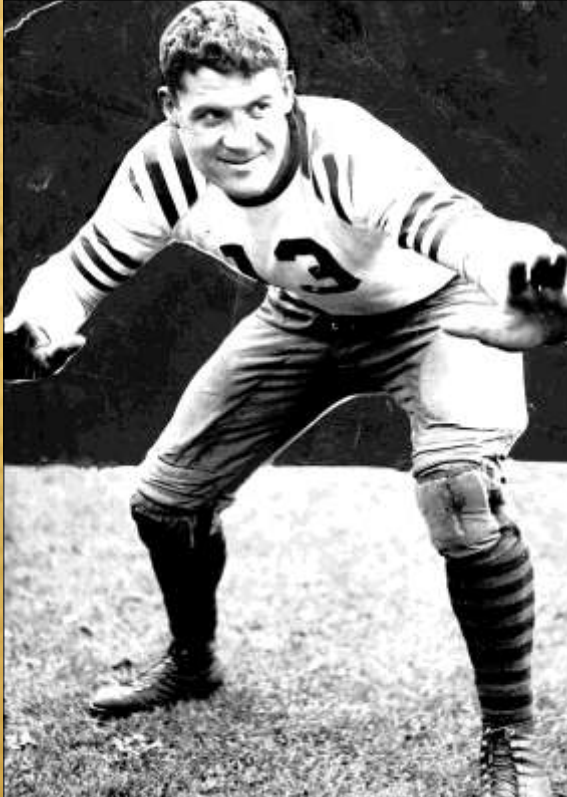
Roy McKinley “Legs” Hawley



Born in Bluefield on Feb. 12, 1901, Hawley was director of athletics at West Virginia University (1938-1954) and Marshall College (1926-35). He also was Bluefield's first All-American basketball player (1919), and was a basketball and baseball star at WVU from 1922-25. Under his guidance as WVU athletic director, the Mountaineers started on their way to big time in football and basketball, which included a spot in the 1942 **National Invitation Tournament, in which WVU ended Long Island University's 42-game winning streak** in the first round en route to the NIT title. After serving as WVU alumni secretary (1935-38), Hawley helped organize the first Victory Awards Dinner in 1945.

CLASS OF 1954

Joseph Lee “Big Joe” Stydahar



Born in Kaylor, Pennsylvania, on March 17, 1912, Stydahar is a member of Grantland Rice's All-Time All-Pro and All-College football teams as one of 11 college stars chosen from a half century of football. He was a basketball star for three seasons and a star tackle at West Virginia University until graduation in 1936. Stydahar played for the Chicago Bears until 1946 and was named on four consecutive All-Pro teams before becoming the Los Angeles Rams line coach in 1947 and head coach in 1950, leading Rams to a divisional championship in 1950 and to a world title in 1951. Stydahar also coached the Chicago Cardinals (1953-54). A graduate of Shinnston High School in 1931 after winning all-state honors in football and basketball, Stydahar was inducted into the College and Pro Football halls of fame. The state High School Lineman of Year award was named in his honor beginning in 2015.

CLASS OF 1953

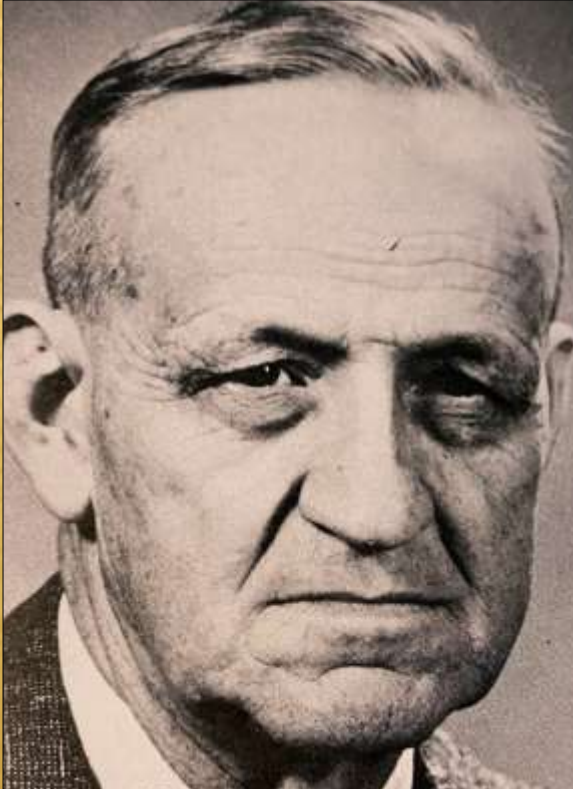
Cecil Byron “Cebe” Ross



Born in Selbyville on Nov. 22, 1901, Ross is one of West Virginia Wesleyan's all-time great athletes (1919-23), later coaching the Bobcats to national prominence from 1925-42 and 1947-53. In 1942, he led Morris Harvey to a 6-0 victory over Marshall. Starred in all sports at Buckhannon High School (1915-19) and spent most of his athletic career in that city. Ross won a state title in 1924, the second of two seasons in which he coached the Buccaneers. Ross served three years in the U.S. Navy during World War II, during which he was among the directors of athletics at a pre-flight school in Chapel Hill, N.C. Ross coached at Morris Harvey College from 1943-47 but returned to Wesleyan, where he served as athletic director. Mainly responsible for success of West Virginia Conference Tournament held for many years in Buckhannon, he also directed the West Virginia High School Basketball Tournament at Wesleyan.

CLASS OF 1953

Harry Adams Stansbury



Born in Trap Hill on Dec. 9, 1891, Stansbury is credited with starting the West Virginia State High School Basketball Tournament. The athletic director at West Virginia University from 1917-1938, Stansbury oversaw the construction of Mountaineer Field and the WVU Fieldhouse. In addition, boxing and wrestling were established at the school during his tenure. Stansbury promoted the first tournament playoff in 1914 between Elkins and Wheeling and originated and directed the first state tournament in **1915. He also established the state's first track and field meet in 1918. A star quarterback in football and a pitcher in baseball at W.Va. Wesleyan from 1911-15, Stansbury graduated with a B.A. from Wesleyan in 1915, served as director of athletics at Wesleyan (1915-16), and served on the all-state football board while at WVU.**

CLASS OF 1950

Clifford Franklin “Gip” Battles



Born in Akron, Ohio, on May 1, 1910, Battles was one of the all-time great athletes at West Virginia Wesleyan College (1928-31) and later standout professional football player with Boston and Washington. Voted into the National College Football Hall of Fame in 1955, Battles won letters in football, basketball, baseball, track, and tennis at Wesleyan after his 1927 graduation from Akron Kenmore High School. He led Wesleyan to some of its greatest football triumphs, scoring 94 of team's 153 points from 1930-31. He scored seven touchdowns against Salem in 1931. Battles set the professional record for total yardage in one game with 215 on 16 carries against New York Giants in 1933. He helped Washington win the 1937 NFL title, teaming with Sammy Baugh to beat the Chicago Bears, 28-21, in the championship game. That season, Battles led the NFL in rushing with 874 yards.

CLASS OF 1950

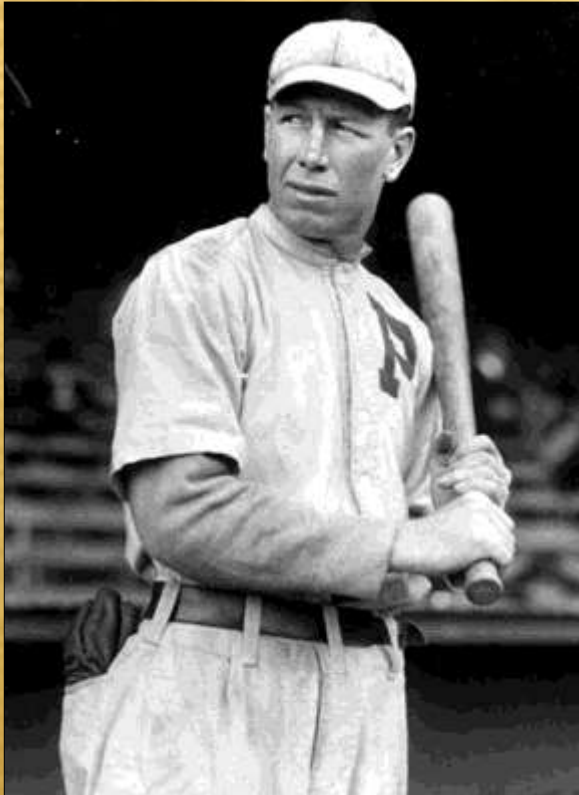
Rocco J. Gorman



Born in Cleveland, in 1888, Gorman is considered by many as the “Father of Track” in West Virginia. He coached Charleston High School in part of three decades (1913-30), and was a statewide builder of high school athletics. A framer of the West Virginia High School Athletic Association, Gorman was a W.Va. Coaches Association member and served on many All-State selection boards, as well as county and city recreation boards. Gorman was a tireless promoter of track, convincing Charleston merchants to purchase medals for individual winners and to display the medals and cup in their businesses to drum up interest. Gorman had a hand in designing Laidley Field and other Kanawha County athletic fields, and organized the first state track meet in 1914. That same year, his Charleston High football team finished undefeated, giving up just 12 points all season. He owned a career record of 118-31-4 in 16 seasons, including an 8-0-1 mark in 1920 when his team defeated Marlinton 98-0 and Weston 94-0 when it out-scored opponents 379-0. As head basketball coach, his teams won state titles in 1915, 1919, and 1924.

CLASS OF 1950

Alfred Earle “Greasy” Neale



Born in Parkersburg on Nov. 5, 1891, Neale is one of West Virginia Wesleyan's all-time great athletes. Upon graduating in 1913, Neale became one of the nation's most outstanding football coaches. He played professional baseball with the Cincinnati Reds (1916-21) and led the team in batting in the 1919 World Series. Neale won NFL titles in 1948 and 1949 and won five division titles while coaching the Philadelphia Eagles from 1940-51. He also coached at Muskingum College (1915), W.Va. Wesleyan (1916-17), Marietta College (1919-20), Washington & Jefferson (1921-22), Virginia (1923-28), West Virginia (1931-33), and Yale (1934-40). Neale holds the rare distinction of having played in the World Series and coached professional football and Rose Bowl college teams – his W&J team played California to a scoreless tie in 1922. Neale's resume includes playing for, and coaching, the Ironton (Ohio) Tanks, one of professional football's first teams.

CLASS OF 1950

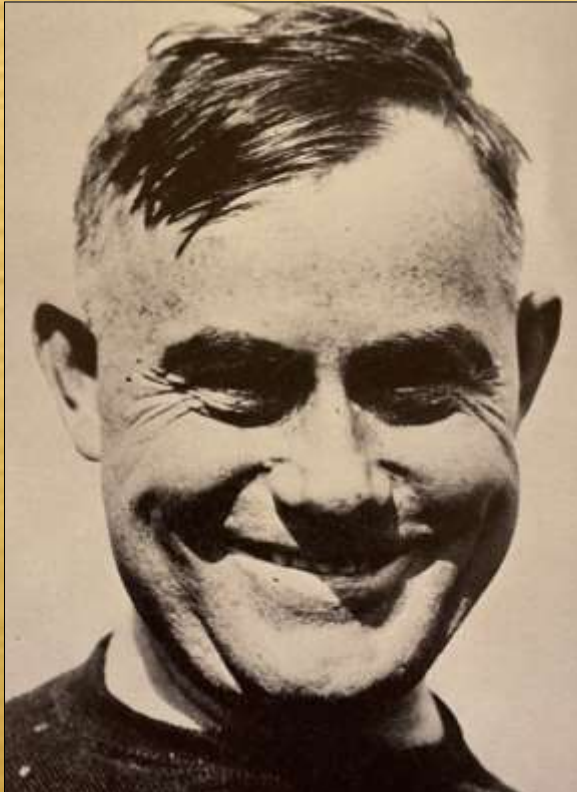
Ira Errett “Rat” Rodgers



Born in Bethany on May 26, 1895, West Virginia's first Walter Camp All-American football player was the team captain and led the nation in scoring with 147 points, including 49 in one game, from his fullback position. Rodgers, who served as captain for WVU football, basketball, and baseball teams, in the same year, threw 11 touchdown passes, a WVU record that stood until 1949. Elected to the National College Football Hall of Fame in 1957, he also was a shortstop in baseball and won state the Amateur Golf Championship in 1929. Following his playing days, Rodgers served two terms as WVU football coach (1925-30, 1943-45), and coached the golf and baseball teams. Rodgers was the first WVU football player to have his jersey number retired.

CLASS OF 1950

Fielding H. Yost



Born in Fairview on April 30, 1871, Yost graduated from West Virginia University in 1897 after playing football. He was elected to the National College Football Hall of Fame after serving as coach and athletic director at the University of Michigan from 1901-39. In his first five seasons, the Wolverines had a record of 55-1-1 and outscored their opponents 2,821-42. Nicknamed "Hurry Up," because of the offensive acumen of **his teams, Yost's famous "Point-A-Minute" teams from 1901-05** scored 2,841 points while allowing 42. In the first Rose Bowl game in 1902, his Wolverines beat Stanford 49-0. **A builder of the great Michigan athletic plant, Yost's teams won six national championships (1901-04, '18, '23) and he had an overall record of 180-37-11. Yost's 1905 team won its first 12 games by a combined score of 495-0 but the Wolverines lost by a score of 2-0 to Amos Alonzo Stagg's Chicago Maroons, ending Michigan's 56-game unbeaten streak.**