

Future Football Greats Crowd All-Prep Team

Pick of Nation's Peaches

From Scholastic Gridiron Ranks



ROSS COYLE, E
Marlow, Okla.



ANGELO MOSCA, T
Waltham, Mass.



GENE SAXON, G
Memphis, Tenn.



JIM SIMS, C
E. St. Louis, Ill.



BOB TAYLOR, G
Paterson, N. J.



BRONKO NAGURSKI, T
Int. Falls, Minn.



DON USRY, E
Cleburne, Tex.

Nagurski, Jr., First-Stringer; Sims, East St. Louis, Captain

Every State, Hawaii, Washington, D. C., Is Represented on Schoolboy Clubs Picked by Writers, Sportscasters

By RAY GILLESPIE

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.

Every state in the Union, as well as Hawaii and the District of Columbia, was represented among the 2,356 nominations for the eighth annual National High School All-America football team. The selections, involving only senior athletes who saw service on prep grids during the 1954 campaign, were the result of balloting by sports writers representing 1,240 daily newspapers, sports announcers from 1,110 radio stations and telecasters from 204 TV outlets.

In addition, approximately 1,000 high school coaches, 200 athletic directors, 150 college coaches and many game officials turned in recommendations, according to Mose Simms, chairman of the Football Committee of the Wigwam Wisemen of America, a benevolent organization of this city's sportsmen and originators of the Prep All-America idea.

"Because of the abundance of fine material," Simms explained, "seven teams, each with an auxiliary back, were chosen. All boys on the seven teams, as well as the 785 youths who gained honorable mention, will be eligible to play in the seventh annual All-Star Prep Game, scheduled for Crump Stadium, Memphis, Tenn., the last week of August, 1955, providing they meet the requirements of the coaches in charge, as well as the selecting committee, and have completed their high school eligibility."

In looking over talent for the 1954 Prep All-America team, Simms traveled some 12,000 miles, saw 228 teams from all sections of the country, either in games or workouts; contacted many college scouts and compared notes on the boys they had under observation.

Though Bronko Nagurski, Jr., son of the famous old Battering Ram of the Chicago Bears and one of the top grid stars of all time, landed a place on the first-string All-America team, Jim Sims of East St. Louis (Ill.) High was named by the committee chairman as the outstanding member and, therefore, its captain.

Undefeated for Three Years

Commented Simms (no kin to Capt. Sims): "Jim wound up a brilliant career with a team that hasn't lost a game in three years. Sims played center in all 32 victories against outstanding teams from Illinois, Missouri and Indiana, and is probably the most sought-after prep athlete by the college scouts."

A linebacker on defense, young Sims measures six-feet-one and weighs 200 pounds.

Young Nagurski, who turned 17 on Christmas Day, is "definitely an excellent college prospect," according to his International Falls (Minn.) High School coach, Frank Larson, himself a former All-America star with the University of Minnesota team of which Coach Bud Wilkinson of Oklahoma University was a member.

"Bronk has a wonderful competitive spirit. In practice or in a game, nothing will satisfy him but perfection," commented Larson.

A 275-pound tackle, Nagurski is considered a chip off the old block, a duplicate of his famous father, the "One Man Gang" of his playing days at Minnesota. Besides playing football, Bronko, Jr., is captain of his school's hockey team, played American Legion ball and was a member of International Falls High's first baseball team last summer.

A cinch to be a star on some college eleven in the not-too-distant future, young Bronko has been receiving literary and musical awards from numerous

Louisiana Youth to Receive Leahy Trophy at '55 Game

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla.—Half-time ceremonies add color to the program at the All-America Prep Football Game played each August in Crump Stadium, Memphis.

One of the features is the presentation of the Frank Leahy Trophy to the outstanding Prep All-America from the previous year's game. Winner of the 1954 honor, who will receive the award at this year's game, was Jimmy Taylor of Baton Rouge, La.

The trophy, which was first put into competition in 1952 by the late Fred Miller, Milwaukee brewer, in honor of his ex-Notre Dame teammate, went to Bobby McCool of Cleveland, Miss., and Buddy Benson, DeGreen, Ark., who tied for the honor. Ronnie Knox, 1953 winner, was flown to the '54 game from his home in California to receive the award.

schools of higher learning. He has not decided where he will matriculate, though friends of the family believe it will be either Minnesota or Notre Dame.

At the other tackle position, Angelo Mosca of Waltham (Mass.) High, a 17-year-old honor student, started every game his team played for three years and was never sidelined with an injury. A terrific line-blocker, Mosca is described by his coach, Joe Zeno, as "the best schoolboy lineman I've ever seen." Generally regarded as New England's greatest prep player of the year, Angelo, who aspires to join the Irish of Notre Dame, is the only player ever selected for three straight years on the Boston Herald's All-Star team.

Fine Crop of Guards

While the crop of guards was good. Gene Saxon of C. B. C. Memphis, and Bob Taylor, Eastside High, Paterson, N. J., outclassed the field at their positions. Saxon is described as "one of the best guards chosen since the first All-America Prep Team" was named in 1947.

For Taylor, his nomination to the All-America first team came as the culmination of a series of selections to All-State, All-Conference, All-District and All-County teams by publications in the Newark-New York City area.

Bob landed a place on the All-State eleven selected by both the Newark Sunday News and the Newark Star-Ledger and was awarded a guard position on the All-Metropolitan team chosen by the New York World-Telegram and Sun. The Morning Call placed him on its All-Passaic Valley Conference eleven as well as its All-Passaic County team. The New York



BUDDY DAVIS, B
Manchester, Va.



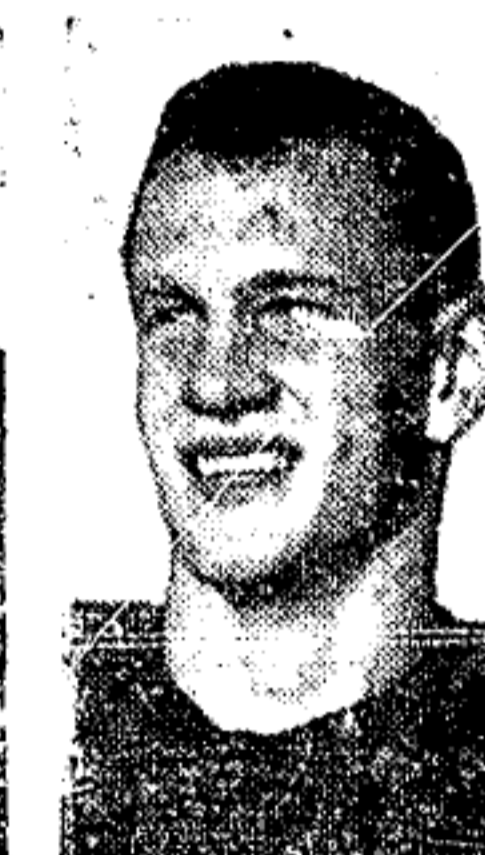
WALLY CARLSON, B
Lakewood, N. Y.



LES SIMERVILLE, B
Atlanta, Ga.



DICK BASS, B
Vallejo, Calif.



KING DIXON, B
Laurens, S. C.

Daily News named Taylor on its All-North New Jersey team.

At the ends, Don Usry of Cleburne (Texas) High and Ross Coyle of Marlow (Okla.) High were outstanding. In fact, as Chairman Simms put it: "These boys had to be good to drop Doug Shively of Lexington, Ky., son of the athletic director of the University of Kentucky, to the second team."

A good punter, Coyle alternated at tailback late last season and became one of his team's most consistent scorers. His coach, Sevil Pickett, a veteran of 22 years in the field, calls him "the best football player I've ever coached."

Usry, one of the greatest prep players in central Texas, is a straight A student, an outstanding track man and a baseball pitcher who may go places. Placed on all of the all-district teams, Don was a top selection on the Fort Worth Star-Telegram super all-state team. Baylor, Southern Methodist and Texas Christian have become interested in the young man's future schooling after he graduates in June.

Caught Five Touchdown Passes

Usry snagged five touchdown passes during the past season, as well as 21 other toises, for a total of 401 yards.

Quarterback King Dixon of Laurens, S. C., is ranked as the greatest player in both South and North Carolina and was the winner of the Lee Kirby Memorial Award as the outstanding high school senior football player in the two states. An A student, he was chosen captain on 30 of the 33 ballots cast prior to the recent Shrine Bowl, in which he was the outstanding star. He scored 133 points for Laurens last season, will all but one of his touchdowns coming on runs of ten yards or better.

Besides being outstanding on the gridiron, King has lettered four years in basketball, baseball and track. He holds the state 100-yard dash record and has been offered scholarships by many colleges, though at this time he prefers to continue his studies—and football—at the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, Md.

Lester Simerville of Northside High School, Atlanta, Ga., is a sixty-minute perfection player who has won All-State honors for three years and All-Southern recognition for two. Lester, who is the state's 200-yard champion, has gained more than 1,000 yards per season for the past three campaigns and has scored more than 100 points per season in each of the past two.

Both Furman Bisher of the Atlanta Constitution and Harold Albert of the Atlanta Journal call Simerville "the best back in Georgia for the past five years," while Sports Editor Jack Kelly of WGST, whose station carried all of the 39 prep games played in Atlanta, reports: "Our football crew at WGST is unanimous in the selection of Simerville as Georgia's contribution to the All-America Prep Team."

Dick Bass, the "Toast of the Coast," played a leading role as his powerful Vallejo (Calif.) Apaches mauled for after for and rolled up big scores. He scored four touchdowns as his eleven beat the Napa Indians, 54 to 0; added five TDs. in a 74 to 12 win over Salinas High's Cowboys, and galloped down

Prospective All-Americans

FIRST TEAM

Position	Player	Age	H'g't	W'g't	Hometown
Center	JIM SIMS	18	6-1	203	East St. Louis, Illinois
Guard	GENE SAXON	18	6	201	Memphis, Tennessee
Guard	BOB TAYLOR	18	6-1	200	Paterson, New Jersey
Tackle	BRONKO NAGURSKI, JR.	17	6-3	215	International Falls, Minn.
Tackle	ANGELO MOSCA	17	6-4	235	Waltham, Mass.
End	DON USRY	17	6-2	200	Cleburne, Texas
End	ROSS COYLE	18	6-3	198	Marlow, Oklahoma
Back	KING DIXON	17	5-11	171	Laurens, South Carolina
Back	LESTER SIMERVILLE	18	6	178	Atlanta, Georgia
Back	DICK BASS	18	6	185	Vallejo, California
Back	BUDDY DAVIS	19	6-1	200	Manchester, Virginia
Back	WALLY CARLSON	17	6-2	195	Lakewood, New York

SECOND TEAM

Pos.	Name	Hometown
C	Gene Graves	Jacksonville, Fla.
G	Joseph Bosco	Sharon, Pa.
G	Jim Healy	Washington, D. C.
T	John Kompara	Canton, O.
T	Ronnie Leach	New Albany, Ind.
E	Larry Stewart	Galesburg, Ill.
E	Doug Shively	Lexington, Ky.
B	Vince Matthews	Houston, Tex.
B	Tommy Lorino	Bessemer, Ala.
B	Steve Waddock	Jackson, Miss.
B	Willis Fjerstad	Red Wing, Minn.
B	Johnny Johnson	Coos Bay, Ore.

THIRD TEAM

Pos.	Name	Hometown
C	Max Fugler	Ferriday, La.
G	Stan Renning	Great Falls, Mont.
G	Charles Hoover	Reidsville, N. C.
T	Charles Horton	Waco, Tex.
T	Ernie Dajak	Saginaw, Mich.
E	Jim Ewing	Beloit, Wis.
E	Al Jamison	Toledo, O.
B	Randy Duncan	Des Moines, Ia.
B	Don Stone	Fayetteville, Ark.
B	Ted Campagna	Fargo, N. D.
B	Galen Young	Dodge City, Kan.
B	Ron Jordon	Annapolis, Md.

FOURTH TEAM

Pos.	Name	Hometown
C	Larry Johnson	Casper, Wyo.
G	John Harper	Phoenix, Ariz.
G	Charles Imagati	Denver, Colo.
T	Harper Culley	New Castle, Del.
T	Lloyd Taylor	Caldwell, Ida.
E	Dennis Farrar	Salt Lake City, U.
E	Rich Wilinski	Follansbee, W. Va.
B	Robert Brower	Brewer, Me.
B	Roger Khounek	Lincoln, Neb.
B	Luther Carr	Tacoma, Wash.
B	Ray'd Thrope	Southampton, Conn.
B	Don Johnson	Burlington, Vt.

FIFTH TEAM

Pos.	Name	Hometown
C	Earl Bowick	Honolulu, Hawaii
G	Wayne Lee	Durango, Colo.
G	Howdy Wells	Reno, Nev.
T	Ray Crews	Santa Fe, N. M.
T	Emil Cwach	Yankton, S. D.
E	Frank Geremia	Sacramento, Calif.
E	Bob Prescott	Sioux City, Ia.
B	Gene Mikeloni	Dubois, Pa.
B	David Vestal	Athens, Tenn.
B	Sonny Quisenberry	Radford, Va.
B	John Herstein	Chillicothe, O.
B	Bobby Cravens	Williamson, Ky.

SIXTH TEAM

Pos.	Name	Hometown
C	Kenneth Roberts	Anniston, Ala.
G	Jim Brackins	Redland, Calif.
G	Dix Compton	Youkon, Okla.
T	Marv Montgomery	Bartlett, Tenn.
T	John Daniel	Charleston, Mo.
E	Don Overlock	Lowell, Mass.
E	Tom Jozwiak	Detroit, Mich.
B	Billy Stacy	Winona, Miss.
B	Bobby Bates	El Dorado, Ark.
B	Doug Vezeay	Rossville, Ga.
B	Don Hafer	Schuykill Haven, Pa.
B	Robert Murphy	Woonsocket, R. I.

SEVENTH TEAM

Pos.	Name	Hometown
C	Vernon Foss	St. Joseph, Mo.
G	Ed Michaels	Elmira, N. Y.
G	John Thomas	Abilene, Tex.
T	Frank McMahon	Charleston, S. C.
T	Don Lawrence	Cleveland, O.
E	M. Simmons	New Brunswick, N. J.
E	Harry Case	McComb, Miss.
B	Mike Dugan	Omaha, Neb.
B	Richard Gay	Shreveport, La.
B	Fred Russell	Evansville, Ind.
B	John Staab	Hays, Kan.
B	Bobby Jackson	Mobile, Ala.

with four more against McClymonds of Oakland.

Coach Fred Moffet of Berkeley High had this to say of the 'speedy Negro comet': "He's the best prep running back I've seen in 16 years in California." Dick's own coach, Bob Patterson, describes him this way: "He's explosive. Once he gets going, he's hard to tackle and harder to knock down. He's a terrific master of change of speed."

Also a star in basketball and baseball, Bass hit .350 last season in prep diamond competition and played with the U. S. Prep All-Stars in the Hearst Tourney in New York. Dick leans toward the University of California as his college.

So outstanding was Buddy Davis, the All-America Prep Team's fullback, that his alma mater, Manchester High School of Richmond, Va., retired his No. 10 jersey, marking the first time in the history of the school that any of its athletes was so honored.

His team's sole returning letterman,

Buddy opened the 1954 season auspiciously by scoring all of Manchester's 37 points in its first two games. Altogether, he gained 1,000 yards from scrimmage, which gave him a three-year total of 3,100. He maintained a seven-yard-per-carry average during the past season and scored a total of 88 points.

Wallace Carlson, selected as the auxiliary back, played outstanding football on the Southwestern Central eleven of Lakewood, N. Y., that won 15 of its 18 games. A tremendous asset on inside plays off the Split-T, the 190-pound youngster was a deadly linebacker.

His best game was against bitter-rival Fredonia, in which he celebrated his farewell on the prep gridiron by scoring 14 points.

His coach, Joe Rushin, believes Wally is a cinch to become a collegiate star. Colgate Coach Hal Lahar undoubtedly shares that opinion, for he made a banquet appearance at Southwestern for the main purpose of encouraging Carlson's enrollment at Colgate.