

Army FB 1958 - SI

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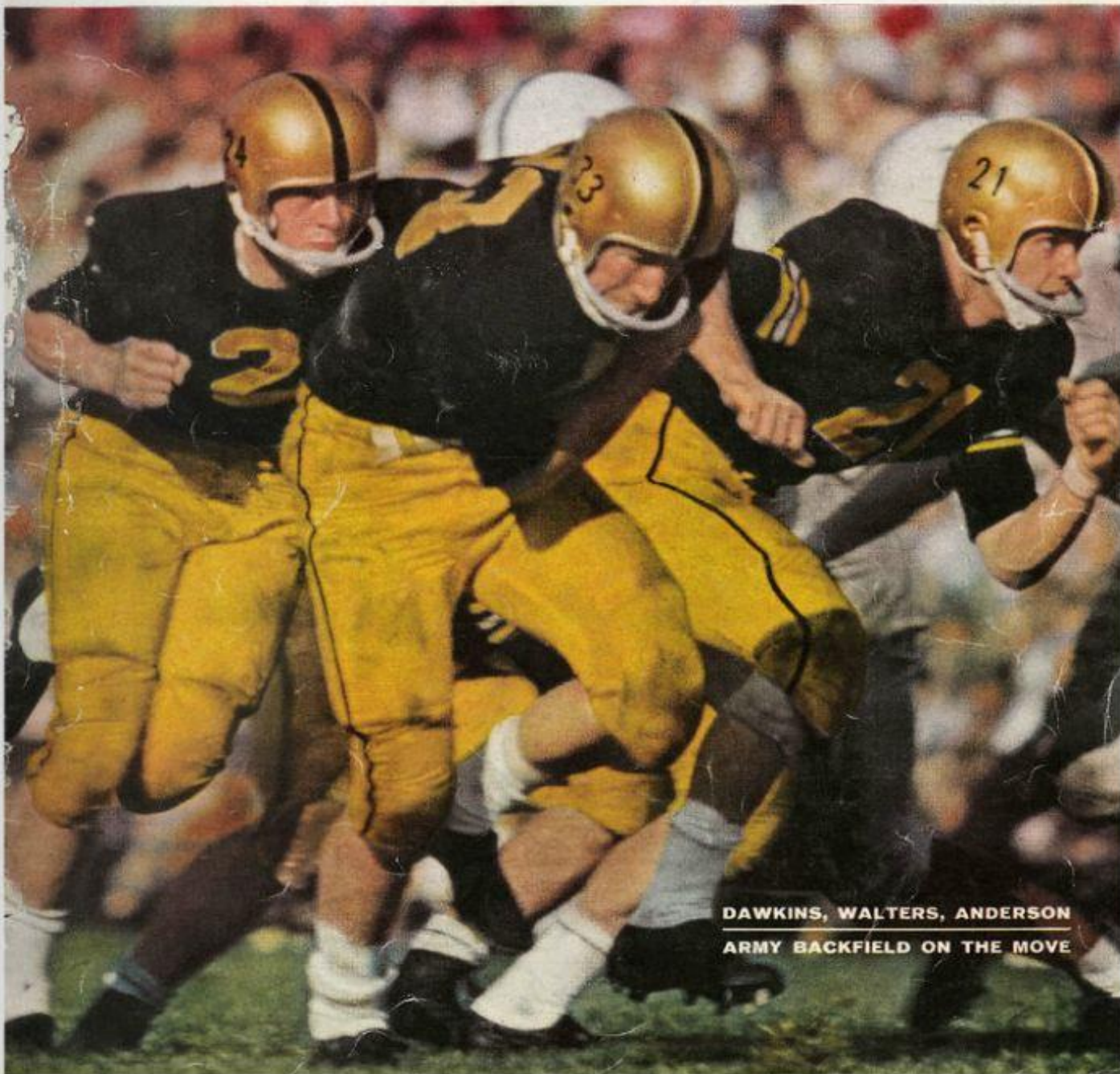
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DAWKINS, WALTERS, ANDERSON
ARMY BACKFIELD ON THE MOVE

MEET LONESOME GEORGE

Red Blaik's new offense, featuring an exiled end, is the season's most intriguing, and successful, innovation

by ROY TERRELL

IN THE FALL at West Point, when the ivy which clammers over the old fort's gray stone walls begins to wither and the leaves drop from the stately elms, the ghosts of Doc Blanchard and Glenn Davis have a way of coming back to push aside those of MacArthur and Eisenhower and the many other great men who have marched and studied and lived inside the hallowed walls. This fall, however, Davis and Blanchard are having a hard time getting in. Standing full in their way are a pair of healthy young men who do not resemble ghosts at all. Their names are Pete Dawkins and Bob Anderson and they are the two best halfbacks any football team has had in a dozen years.

Dawkins is a slashing, determined runner with tremendous speed, a sensational pass receiver and a leader, on the field and off. In fact, West Point has never seen his like as a cadet. He is first captain of the corps, captain of the football team, president of his class. In the most rigorous competitive scholastic system yet devised by man, he ranks seventh in a group of 503. He is an artist, sings in the Cadet Choir, plays half a dozen musical instruments and is the highest-scoring defenseman in eastern collegiate hockey. A big (6 feet 1, 195 pounds), angular young man with blond hair and blue eyes and an impish grin, he has somehow been vested with that rare and innate quality of leadership which shines like a beacon, and the tremendous energy to exploit it to a maximum. If Douglas MacArthur were a cadet at West Point these days, Pete Dawkins would have a good adjutant.

Anderson, a handsome young man with brown hair and green eyes, lacks his teammate's electric personality;

he is quiet and retiring and simply a nice guy. And the last thing he would consider himself is a brain. Yet he is an even better football player than Dawkins. He is bigger (6 feet 2, and 198 pounds), runs with vastly more power and is almost as fast. He is also perhaps a better passer than even the Army quarterbacks and he can block and play defense. Last year, as a sophomore, Anderson broke Glenn Davis' record by rushing 983 yards, scored 14 touchdowns and was named All-America.

This season, as Army opened its season by smashing aside first South Carolina and then Penn State, Dawkins and Anderson ran wild. Dawkins scored six touchdowns, Anderson one. Anderson also threw two touchdown passes, intercepted a handful thrown by the opposition and made tackles all over the field.

Yet neither is the man of the hour at West Point. This honor is reserved for Lonesome George Carpenter, the exiled end.

The first time you see Carpenter—his real name is Bill and he is a big, good-looking blond kid from Springfield, Pa. who wears No. 87—it is hard to be certain that he actually is a member of the football team. It is more as if he had a working agreement with the squad, and his correct position might better be described as right field (*see right*). Yet he is the key man in Red Blaik's exciting new offense and before the season is over they may erect a statue in his honor and place it with those of Washington and Thayer and Kosciuszko and Patton, which encircle The Plain. College football hasn't seen anything quite like Lonesome George since the invention of the forward pass.

continued



Banished from the huddle, this Diogenes among flankers spends his Saturday afternoons far out on the horizon while Anderson and Dawkins and the rest of the Army team march gaily up and down opponents' backs and Colonel Blaik clutches his usually dignified sides in spasms of glee. Usually stationed on the starboard beam (Navy will like the expression, although it may not know what to do with him, either), Carpenter races happily around, throwing blocks at anyone who approaches or speeding downfield to draw defenders away from the true course of a play or occasionally hooking back toward the main body of troops to catch a pass. If the interest of the foe in his antics should flag, Carpenter will gallop off by himself and gather in a long throw for a touchdown. To say that his maneuvers have been successful is to understate the case. In two games, the Cadets have scored 71 points. Most of them came at moments when the visitors were goggle-eyed trying to decide whether they should watch the game or Carpenter.

How he knows what to do or when to do it is a better-kept military secret than what made the Explorer go. Nowhere in Carpenter's record is there any hint of extrasensory perception, nor do long wires trail out of his ears as he trots down the field. But he gets the signals from somewhere, although remaining aloof from his teammates, and they must be coming in loud and clear.

Actually, says Blaik, the signal system is very simple—only he won't tell what it is.

"All athletic teams have signals of some kind or another," the colonel says. "Baseball teams have signs for every pitch and play. Look, there are six other linemen and four backs and Bill can pick up the play from any or all of them. Naturally we will switch it around. Certainly the opponents will try to steal signs. But if they have the audacity to think they have it figured out, and miss just once, there we go for a touchdown."

"I will say this," adds Blaik. "Whether Carpenter is going to block or receive a pass, he has certain basic routes to follow."

The lot of football's first excommunicated end is not entirely a happy one, however. Teammates recoil when he approaches, shouting, "Go away, you have b.o." Or else they ignore



MOST FABULOUS CADET in history is talented Pete Dawkins, posing here before game with two other historic West Pointers, Coach Blaik and Douglas MacArthur.

him entirely, turning their heads to whisper, "Psst, who's he?" This routine might have been hilarious at first but to Carpenter it has long since ceased to be one which is in any danger of stopping the show. Still, it is much better to be famous than hobbling around on crutches with a badly cut foot, which is what happened to him at the first of the 1957 season. And if other solace is needed, Bill Carpenter is one aspiring general who will long be remembered as the man who modernized Army, even if he never makes Pfc. Without him, Colonel Blaik and the Black Knights of the Hudson would still be bumping along in a model T.

FLORIDA FLORA AND FAUNA

Last winter Blaik took a vacation, something he had overlooked for 10 years, and after losing the Navy game for the fourth time in seven seasons, he undoubtedly needed it. But as others about him observed the wondrous flora and fauna of the Florida beaches, the good colonel's concentration was disrupted by thoughts of football. Instead of visions of bikini-clad cupcakes passing in review, Blaik could see only the

bumps and bruises of his poor little warriors back at the Point. Somehow, he decided, must be done.

"We just didn't have the personnel," he says, "to match most of our opponents, including Navy. For four games last year we were all right. Then the pounding began to show. It wasn't entirely that the defenses were catching up to our T. That was part of it, all right, but if you will check the statistics you will see that we still managed to do rather well. The trouble was that in order to overcome the defenses, we were paying a terrific price. Six or seven men were playing 55 and 60 minutes of every game, and you simply can't play football that way any more. We expended a year's supply of football energy in the first four games."

"We had to get away, at least partially, from impact football, and the solution was to dislocate the defense to a degree. We had to open up the attack to get rid of those eight- and 11-man lines. We had to do something about those corner men; it was virtually impossible to get around them any more. We needed better blocking angles. So I began to think. . . ."

The idea which finally emerged

was basically what Blaik unveiled against startled South Carolina two Saturdays ago. At the risk of banishment from the Football Writers' Association, it might be explained simply as a wing T with an unbalanced line. This much, of course, was hardly new, except to Army, which has dutifully slugged its way overland for years in the old tight T. But Blaik also introduced halfbacks who threw the football around like dislocated quarterbacks—and he came up with Lonesome George.

"Football," he says, explaining the reasoning behind 1958's most delightful innovation, "is an awful lot like warfare. You put some troops out there and the enemy has to cover them. You outflank him and you've got him licked. So Carpenter was the real key. He's a big boy, 6 feet 2, I think, and about 205 pounds. He was a back in high school and a basketball player and a track man. Runs the dashes and hurdles. Anyway, he can move and he has good hands. An excellent receiver. All of this makes it rather difficult for one defensive man to cover him. I won't say that it can't be done, but the young man who tries is going to have a very busy afternoon. I think most teams will have to detail two men to the job—which is what we were after. This spreads the defense."

When Blaik first presented the idea to his staff, the reaction was hardly sensational. "I'm afraid," the colonel says, "that they lacked my enthusiasm."

Today, everyone is enthusiastic about Lonesome George. Not only the coaching staff but the cadet brigade and the faculty and fans and fellow coaches are cramming tight little Michie Stadium to see more. And Blaik, who is in his 25th year as a head football coach and has earned just about every honor the profession can bring, has to admit that he hasn't had so much fun in years.

"It does seem to be attracting attention," the colonel says. "Warren Giese at South Carolina told me that after our game, he received over 100 calls from coaches—the report is probably exaggerated—who wanted to see films and diagrams to find out how it works. They tell me a team someplace is already using it."

Last Saturday Duke did use it, or at least Bill Murray's own personal variation, and Duke won its first game of the season, beating Illinois

continued

15-13. In another week or two the whole country is liable to climb on the boat.

"Mind you," Blaik says, "I'm still just as apprehensive about it as I was the week before our first game. Nothing ever started off so perfectly. Yet I know that it isn't perfect. Someone with equal or better manpower will come along, and then..."

Next Saturday, Army plays Notre Dame.

There is more to this Army team than Carpenter and Dawkins and Anderson, of course. A junior quarterback from Miami, Joe Caldwell, has developed into a really fine passer who also runs the old Army drive series with a great deal of skill. And the stunting, looping defensive line, led by Carpenter and an ornery 210-pound guard named Bob Novogratz, absolutely chilled the South Carolina and Penn State running games.

It is not a smooth, machinelike Army team. It makes mistakes, it draws penalties in wholesale lots, it fumbles. But when it clicks, it is one of the most lethally exciting teams college football has seen. Running and passing, the Cadets have made 1,030 yards in two games. Whether Notre Dame will be able to stop them or not, Saturday's affair at South Bend is going to be a lot of fun. And so will all the others the Cadets play this year. Especially now that they have Lonesome George.

PREVIEW

ANNUAL APPOINTMENT

Army's wide-open offense matches Navy's, as for the last time the two monopolize claims to the service title

by **TEX MAULE**

WHEN THE Army and Navy meet in the annual climax of the autumn football spectacle in Philadelphia November 29, the game will, for the first time in a decade, match teams that are not only similar in abilities but in philosophy. The similarity has come about because of a sweeping revision in Army tactics: Colonel Earl Blaik, long an exponent of impact football, has changed to hit-and-run tactics. Navy, under Eddie Erdelatz, has, as usual, brought a pro-type offense to this game.

"Manpower has always been a problem for us," Blaik said the other day. "I still think that impact football is the soundest. But, in past years, we found that our team began to go downhill after the middle of the season, due to the attrition of injuries and to plain exhaustion. Too, we were playing against what amounted to 11-man fronts and we simply don't have the personnel to do that."

Blaik's manpower problem came about because of an inherent difference in Army and Navy recruiting problems. The Army athletic department has only 25 to 30 appointments a year available for football players while Navy has nearly 100. This is all pretty complicated but it has something to do with the fact that the corps strength at West Point is 2,500, at Annapolis 3,600. At any rate, Navy had 73 football appointees this year, Army 27.

Blaik's change in attack strategy has been a wholehearted one. The Army offense, which once used the pass very sparingly as a device to keep the defense reasonably honest,

now splits fairly evenly between pass and run. The device which has attracted most widespread attention, of course, is Lonesome George, the end who visits the huddle only rarely to renew friendships.

"The lonesome end serves two purposes for us," Blaik explains. "First, he is spread much wider than a normal-spread end. That means that the defense must commit itself on its coverage in the secondary immediate-

ly. This simplifies our quarterback's job, since he can tell at a glance how the secondary defense is set up. Second, the lonesome end is in position on the line when the team comes out and we can call quick plays without waiting for him to trot out to position. And he saves some energy, too."

Army now runs from a spread on every play, with the lonesome end always on the strong side of an unbalanced line. Blaik has used a man in motion often, too, to spread the defense even more. Equipped with probably the two best halfbacks in the country in Bob Anderson and Pete Dawkins, plus an exceptionally good passer in Joe Caldwell and great receivers in Bill Carpenter, the lonesome

NAVY CAPTAIN is Dick Dagampat, a short, tough halfback who served two and a half years in Marine Corps before entering the academy. He hails from Los Angeles.



end, Don Usry, the short-side end, and Anderson and Dawkins, Blaik has tailored an offense to suit his talent. He has done it well enough to rank second in the nation in offense.

The Army defense is a new one, too. Last year, with two big tackles, Blaik's line did very little stunting. This year the line is relatively small but exceptionally mobile. Blaik has sold this defense on stunting and avoiding blocks, rather than on power. The line slants and loops and the philosophy now is to ignore the occasional 20-yard gain by an opponent who catches the line slanting or looping in the wrong direction on the theory that in the next series of plays the same tactics may result in throwing opposing ball carriers for a five-yard loss and taking possession. Some Army defenses are planned to take advantage of the considerable talents of Bob Novogratz, a 6-foot-2, 210-pound linebacker. Novogratz has tremendous speed, a wide range to either side and an instinctive ability to diagnose a play. He has averaged around 20 tackles per game for Army and twice has won the Chuckles Axemurder Award for defensive excellence. This award is a Willard Mullin cartoon of a fictitious character named Chuckles Axemurder, chosen on the All-Time All-America sportswriters pick as a gag at Army training camp each year. The award is made each week to the player who has contributed most to the Army defense.

The Army first unit then is a completely equipped team on both offense and defense. Blaik's problem is that he has no entire second unit and must substitute piecemeal.

Eddie Erdelatz, who served as line coach for the San Francisco 49ers before coming to the Naval Academy in 1950, has always used the spread offenses of the pros. The Navy has an edge in air attack, based on the throwing of one of the East's best marksmen, Quarterback Joe Tranchini. Tranchini, of necessity, has thrown mostly to his halfbacks this season; Navy has had a run of injury at end which is pointed up by the fact that the starting left end for Navy in this game will be a midshipman named Tom Albershart, who began the season as a fourth-string fullback. Erdelatz has been hampered by injuries all year; if Navy were not so much deeper in personnel than Army, the team would have been completely wrecked instead of having a 6-2 record. Erdelatz faced a major rebuild-



ARMY CAPTAIN is Pete Dawkins, a magnificent halfback who is also the president of his class and a member of the Cadet Choir. Dawkins comes from Royal Oak, Mich.

ing program when the season began, and this difficulty was compounded by the loss of no less than nine members of his first three units by injury, including Bob Reifsnyder, a 232-pound senior tackle Erdelatz calls the best in the country.

A firm believer in platooning his men, Erdelatz stuck with a young, ambitious but erratic second unit throughout the season, putting them into games regularly despite their mistakes. "They don't learn to play without playing," he says. "This unit finally came of age in the Maryland game."

Navy has one of the nation's best passing attacks, and although the Navy running attack can't match Army's the running is adequate. In physical size, the teams are evenly matched. The Army first unit is probably superior to Navy's, but Army has no depth to match Navy's second unit. Both teams use imaginative of-

fenses designed to go all the way from anywhere on the field; both defenses stunt and avoid blocks rather than holding the line by pure strength.

The winner? If the two teams could only use one unit apiece, it would be Army. Under the present circumstances, the Army chance depends on how long its first unit can go at top speed against two rather evenly matched Navy units. But no matter which team wins, this game will be the last to decide a service championship. Not that this series will end; far from it. But, in the years to come, a young, immensely vital new school moves into the picture, making the service championship a triangular affair. The United States Air Force Academy, which has come out of the fledgling stage into maturity this season, will have a say in service titles in years to come.

TURN PAGE FOR SCOUTING REPORTS

ARMY

The Cadets have been the standout team in the East all fall, and only a tie with Pitt slightly mars their record. Their backfield is tremendously fast but no more dangerous than their passing



1958 RECORD

45	SOUTH CAROLINA	8
26	PENN STATE	0
14	NOTRE DAME	2
35	VIRGINIA	6
14	PITTSBURGH	14
68	COLGATE	6
14	RICE	7
26	VILLANOVA	0

ROSTER

11 Adams, HB	56 Oswandel, C
12 Caldwell, QB	60 Lytle, G
18 Blanda, QB	61 Novogratz, G
21 Anderson, HB	62 Tillar, G
22 Minor, HB	64 Vanderbush, G
24 Dawkins, HB	77 Hilliard, T
33 Walters, FB	79 Bagdonas, T
37 Bonko, FB	82 Everbach, E
43 Zilskas, HB	83 Waters, E
44 Kennedy, HB	86 Morrison, E
48 Waldrop, HB	87 Carpenter, E
51 Rowe, C	89 Usry, E

MEN TO WATCH

JOE CALDWELL
12 QUARTERBACK
6 FT., 160 LBS.
MIAMI



Has developed rapidly this season and is now a fine signal caller. Extremely accurate with passes of 15 to 20 yards. Is improving on his long tosses—as the Rice Owls found out. Although quick, he is too light for heavy duty as a ball carrier.

BOB ANDERSON
21 LEFT HALFBACK
6 FT. 2 IN., 198 LBS.
COCOA, FLA.



A dependable, bulldozing rusher who is usually called on to make the first down. Hard to stop through the line and tough to catch when he is in the open. He is a capable passer and receiver. Throws well on option plays run to the right side.

BOB NOVOGRATZ
61 LEFT GUARD
6 FT. 2 IN., 210 LBS.
NORTHAMPTON, PA.



Combines his size with good speed and is a savage tackler who ranks among the top guards in college football. Has exceptionally fast lateral movement. He is the only returning lineman who started against Midshipmen in last year's classic.

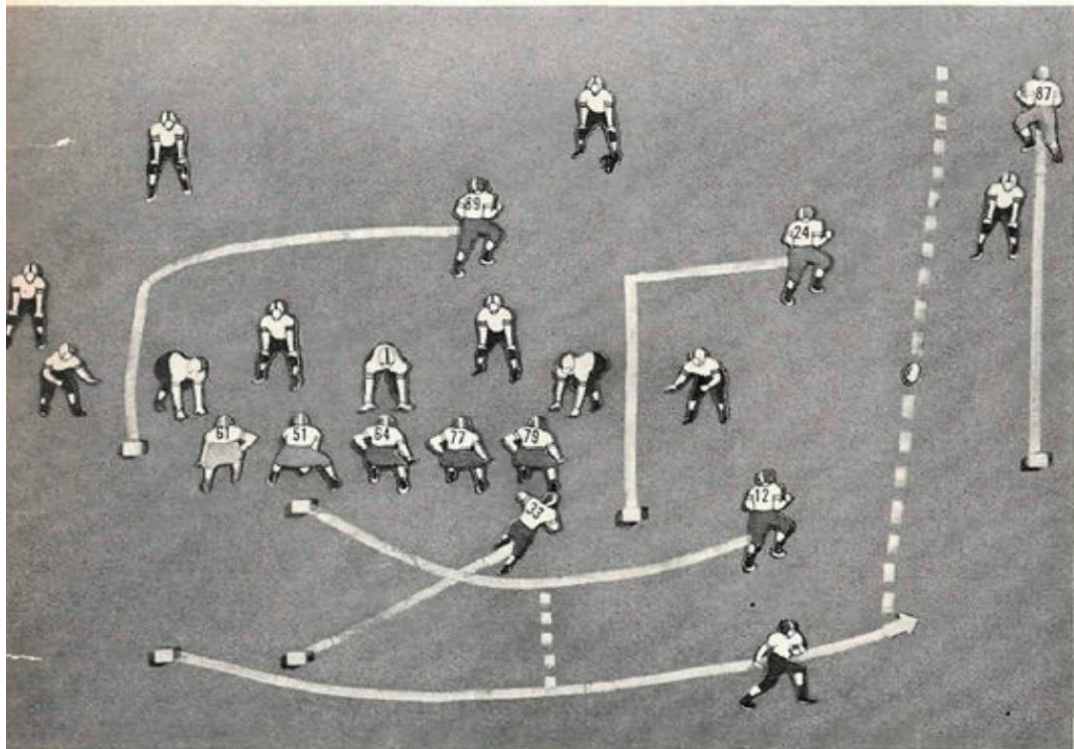
BILL CARPENTER
87 RIGHT END
6 FT. 2 IN., 205 LBS.
SPRINGFIELD, PA.



The Cadets' famed Lonesome George—the end who seldom enters the huddle. His height, sure hands and surprising speed have helped make him one of the finest wingmen in the nation. His main value in flanking wide is to spread the defense.

PLAY TO WATCH

Run-pass option shown here has Left Halfback Bob Anderson taking pitchout from Quarterback Joe Caldwell (12). Fullback Harry Walters (33) and Caldwell give Anderson protection as he looks for receivers. Wingback (right halfback) Pete Dawkins (24) goes short, cuts right. End Bill Carpenter (87) goes long, giving Anderson two targets. Left End Don Usry (89) swings right to give defense an added problem and Anderson another possible open man. If all receivers are covered, Anderson keeps the ball and circles the end, with Caldwell leading the interference. Against Pitt this play once left Anderson plenty of running room on the Panthers' seven-yard line. However, he spotted Usry untended by the goal post. He passed, Usry caught, Army scored.





NAVY

The Midshipmen are not as big and tough as Army, but Coach Eddie Erdelatz' team boasts one of the nation's best passing attacks. Navy has lost only twice despite many serious injuries

MEN TO WATCH



JOE TRANCHINI
QUARTERBACK **16**
6 FT. 187 LBS.
CLAIRTON, PA.

A truly fine quarterback in the Welch-Forrestal tradition and the best passer in the East. He can throw both long and short, and roll-outs are his specialty. Is a clever play selector. Only a fair runner on the option. Adequate defensive halfback.



RAY WELLBORN
FULLBACK **33**
6 FT. 1 IN., 187 LBS.
HOUSTON

It is best to tackle him high, for although he is light for a fullback he has excellent leg action. Has good speed and is a shifty runner. An explosive ball carrier. He is also regarded as a good blocker and a better-than-average pass receiver.



GEORGE FRITZINGER
LEFT GUARD **63**
5 FT. 10 IN., 202 LBS.
WILKES-BARRE, PA.

An outstanding all-round competitor. Remarkable at diagnosing plays from linebacker spot. Exceptionally hard to fake out. Plays an intelligent game both offense and defense. Fast, rugged, pulls out well to lead on screens and runs.



TOM ALBERSHART
LEFT END **80**
6 FT., 191 LBS.
FT. THOMAS, KY.

A converted fullback who has advanced quickly. Injuries to regulars helped him gain starting assignment. Despite lack of experience he could become one of the game's key players if Navy's extensive passing attack begins to click.

1958 RECORD

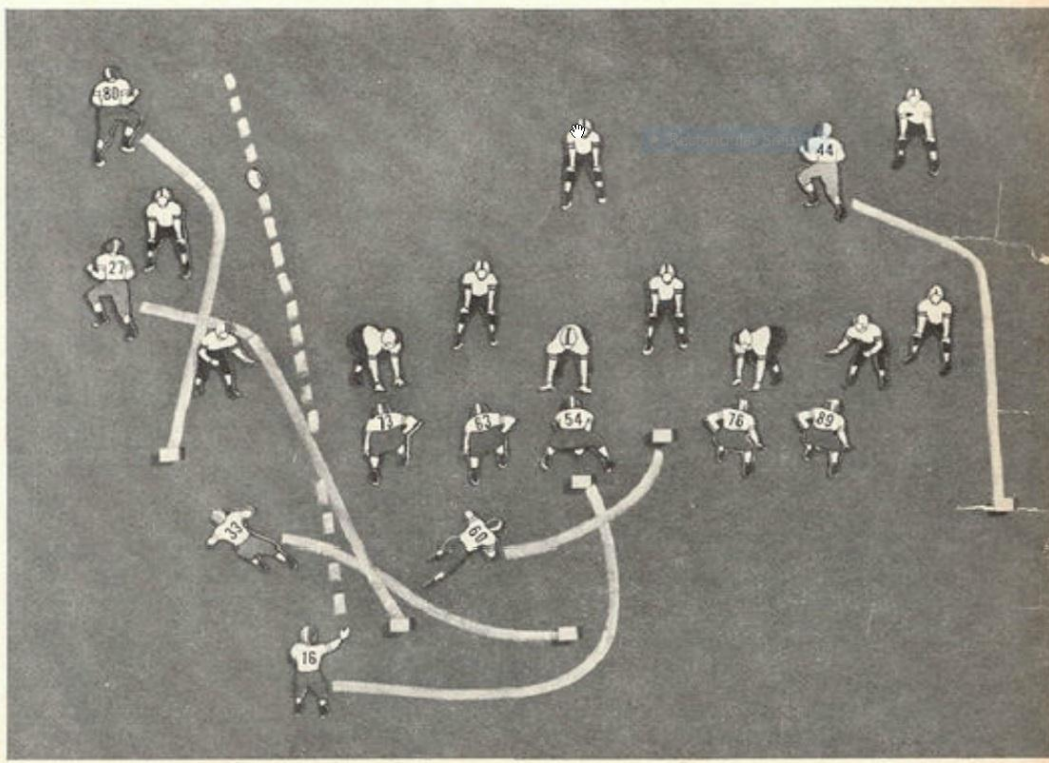
14	WM. & MARY	0
28	BOSTON U.	14
20	MICHIGAN	14
6	TULANE	14
50	PENN	8
20	NOTRE DAME	40
40	MARYLAND	14
28	GEORGE WASHINGTON	8

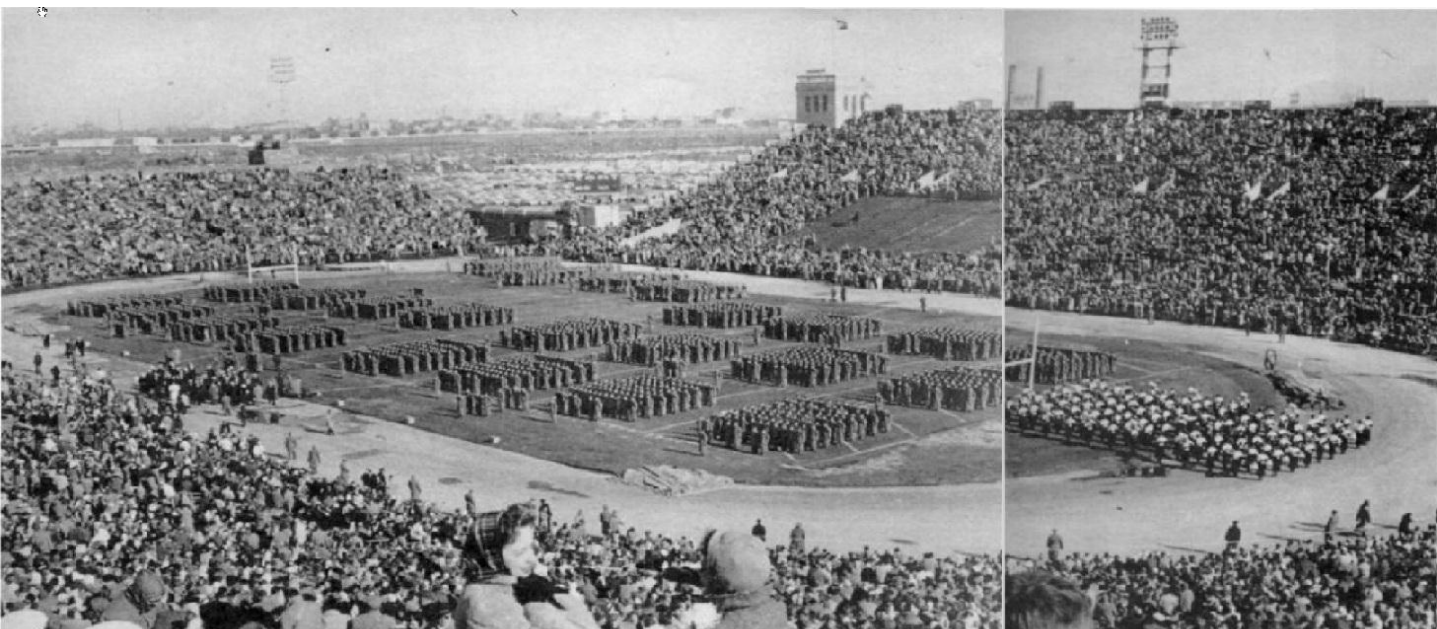
ROSTER

11 Maxfield, QB	54 Dunn, C
16 Tranchini, QB	60 Chomicz, G
24 Zembrzowski, HB	63 Fritzinger, G
27 Bellino, HB	67 Falconer, G
30 TenBrook, FB	71 Boyer, T
33 Wellborn, FB	73 Thomas, T
38 Matalavage, FB	76 Erchul, T
40 Correll, HB	80 Albershart, E
44 Dagampat, HB	84 Kanuch, E
47 Pariseau, HB	85 Shirreffs, E
49 Brandquist, HB	87 Mankowich, E
51 Moncilovich, C	89 Bozek, E

PLAY TO WATCH

This roll-out pass play is a Navy standby and attempts to outmaneuver defensive right halfback. As Quarterback Joe Tranchini (16) drops into pocket formed by Fullback Ray Wellborn (33) and Right Guard Don Chomicz (60), flanked Left End Tom Albershart (80) goes deep. Left Halfback Joe Bellino (27) goes short, cutting left. Strategy here is to get defense to commit itself to one man, leaving the other open for a pass. The big plays for the Middies this season have come via the air, due to Tranchini's remarkable passing. No team can better testify to Tranchini's talents than Michigan, which seemed set for a victory celebration until Joe's passes hit at all ranges. He climaxed team's comeback with 37-yard pass play for a spectacular winning touchdown.





ARMY CADET CORPS PARADES ON PHILADELPHIA BATTLEFIELD BEFORE MARCHING TO THE STANDS. DESPITE THE CHILL WEATHER

ARMY, ACCORDING TO PLAN

THE Army-Navy game, autumn's annual test of the hardiness of the American college football fan, ran through its 59th production on Saturday and will now take its place in history as another shivering success. More than 100,000 fast-congealing souls, the biggest college football crowd of 1958, became inmates of Philadelphia's Municipal Stadium for more than four hours, arriving long before noon in 34° temperature and whistling winds and departing only after the sun had begun to droop in the direction of Altoona, Pa.

Army was favored and Army won, 22-6, although the Cadets were behind at the start and had to hump a bit to catch up. It was the first unde-

feated season for Army since 1949 and a nice silver anniversary present for Red Blaik, who has been a head coach now for 25 seasons. Strangely enough, however, Blaik won by eschewing his newfangled wide-open offense in favor of an old Blaik stragem of years gone by: give the ball to an All-America halfback and let him run into right tackle.

The halfback was Bob Anderson who has been more or less forgotten this season while Pete Dawkins, his more explosive teammate, scored the touchdowns. But on Saturday Dawkins decoyed while Anderson ran through the line for 89 yards and two touchdowns and that was the game.

Joe Caldwell, the Cadet quarter-

back, did a fine job of mixing up his attack, throwing for 145 yards in 10 completions, half of them to Army's gregarious end, Don Usry. Usry put the game on ice—this was really not very funny at Philadelphia on Saturday—by intercepting a Navy pass and galloping 38 yards to score. Bob Novogratz, a big and ornery guard, did a magnificent job of leading the Cadet line.

But it was Anderson's day, and now Blaik won't have to go back down to Florida this winter, weary and worn after a loss to Navy, and think up a new offense as he did a year ago. He can use either one of the two he already has. Both seem to work.

—ROY TERRELL



FIVE NAVY DEFENDERS try to intercept or overhauled Army's Dawkins, who nonetheless made 29 yards down sidelines before being stopped.



ARMY'S BACK OF THE DAY, Bob Anderson, who made a specialty of cutting through tackle all afternoon, goes over for second touchdown.



REFLECTED PASS from Navy's Joe Tranchini (16) is given volball-like tip into the air by Army Tackle Maurice Hilliard (77),



redirecting it from anxious arms of Navy's Ray Wellborn to those of Army's Don Usry, who ran 38 yards for final clinching score.

PETE DAWKINS of Royal Oak, Mich., star half-back for Army, won Maxwell football trophy as nation's "No. 1 college player of the year," the third West Pointer to win award in its 22-year history.



LINEMAN OF THE WEEK: Guard Bob Novogratz, a big, terrorizing linebacker, slammed down Navy backs, pounced on fumbles, led Army to a 22-6 triumph.



PETE DAWKINS

There are those who will tell you that Pete Dawkins of Army was not the best all-round college football player of 1958—and perhaps they are right. But for sheer excitement, for the remarkable ability to score with explosive suddenness from any point on the field, none could match this big, blond, 20-year-old halfback from Royal Oak, Mich. Weighing 195



pounds and blessed with a sprinter's speed, he was a great pass receiver and a determined, slashing runner. He won football games. But Pete Dawkins was even more than this; he was also a leader. Captain of the best Army team in years, brigade commander of all cadets at West Point, president of his class, honor student, talented musician, he possessed all the qualities that go to make a star athlete—and a sportsman. He earned the right to be called college football's player of the year.

