33rd historical “tidbit.”

**SPEEDBALL**

Speedball was developed at the University of Michigan in 1921 by Elmer D. Mitchell. The sport became a very popular outdoor game in Southern California and was a small school substitute for football before six-man football was invented. It was more popular than soccer because the hands could be used and resembled Gaelic football.
1—Kick-off.  2—Team-kicking attack.  3—A fly ball. A ball kicked into the air may be played with the hands until it again touches the ground.  4—Studying the ball to team-mate for catch.

Courtesy Visual Text Sales Co., Los Angeles.
ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT

Speedball is a modification of soccer that combines some basketball passing skills and the drop kick and pass scoring from football. The game was developed at the University of Michigan in 1921 by Elmer D. Mitchell as part of the men’s intramural program. Its purpose was to provide a game that could be played and enjoyed by players of average athletic ability.

The game was immediately successful, and by 1926 Mitchell had the rules standardized and copyrighted. Gradually more and more schools began to play speedball, and today it is widely enjoyed all over the country, especially as a class and intramural sport. It is also played in Canada, Mexico, the Philippines and China.
History of Speedball

The game of speedball was developed by E.D. Mitchell at the University of Michigan in the early 1920's because of the need for a vigorous team game that could be played outdoors in the fall and that combined many of the elements found in other rather well-known sports. Many of the students in the mid-west had been introduced to basketball in public schools and they did not like soccer because of the restrictions regarding the use of hands on the ball. Touch football, while a popular game, had certain limitations in that many players on the team did not get to handle the ball regularly. Speedball eliminated many of these objections by providing a game that permitted all the players to participate in all aspects of the game. The game has developed rapidly and is now a widely played sport in physical education and intramural programs throughout the country.

Basic Rules

Fields vary in size from 80 to 100 yards in length. In front of each goal post and extending across the field is a penalty area. Fouls committed in this area by the defense are penalized more severely than fouls committed outside the area. The ball is put into play by a free kick at the center of the field and all members of the kicking team must be behind the ball when it is kicked. The ball must travel forward the length of its circumference before it may be recovered by the offense. Defensive players must remain behind the restraining line, ten yards back, until the ball is kicked.

When a team causes the ball to go out of bounds on the sidelines, the opponents may put the ball into play by a pass. If the ball goes over the end lines without a score resulting, the opponents may put the ball in play by a pass or a kick.

Scoring

There are 3 ways of scoring in speedball:

- **Field Goal:** Ground ball kicked under the cross bar and between the uprights. Scores 3 points.
- **Drop Kick:** Over the cross bar from outside the penalty area. Scores 2 points.
- **Touchdown:** Ball passed from the field of play to a teammate behind the goal line. Scores 1 point.

Playing Privileges

- **Ground Ball.** A ground ball is one that is stationary, rolling or bouncing. While a ground ball, it cannot be played with the hands or any part of the arms, but must be kicked or bounced off the body.
- **Aerial or fly ball.** The ball may be caught, or otherwise played with the hands, whenever it is clearly a "fly ball", or one that has been raised into the air directly from a kick by one or both feet. A fly ball that has been caught may be held, passed, punted, drop-kicked or played as an overhead dribble.
- **Dribbling the ball.** A player may dribble the ball with his/her feet at will. A player may use one overhead dribble in advancing the ball without the aid of his/her teammates ~ he/she may throw the ball in any direction and run and catch it before it strikes the ground.
- **Goaltender.** The same rules of ground, aerial/fly and dribbling the ball apply to the goaltender as the other players. There is no limit to the number of goaltenders a team has.
VALUES OF SPEEDBALL

Speedball retains many of the desirable values of soccer and eliminates the features that are most difficult for the average player, from the standpoint of skill and condition, to perform. It seems to be natural for players to want to use their hands on aerial balls; this game allows for the expression of this tendency and in turn provides for more accurate and controlled passing than when the feet alone are used.

Unskilled soccer players are often afraid to head high balls; hence permitting use of the hands in speedball practically eliminates the need for this skill.
TROY PIGSKIN PORTRAITS

This is the fifth of a series of personality sketches about Trojan and Bruin grid heroes who meet Thanksgiving Day in the Coliseum.—Editor's note.

NO. 3—COYE DUNN

Coye Elvis Dunn, better known to his University of Southern California football teammates as Punchy, was born March 7, 1916, on the plains of Eastern Colorado, thirty-five miles away from the nearest town and ten miles from the nearest neighbor.

When Coye was a lad unable to go to school, it was a real adventure. The school was a lonely frame building out on the plains: thirty-five miles away from the nearest town, and Coye and his brother George, who was three years older, would start out on horseback at 4 o'clock in the morning and get there in time for the opening bell at 8. The teacher was a big fat fellow who stuttered, and Coye still claims that the hardship of that daily trip was worth it to see the old boy in action.

When Coye was 12 his parents decided to lease their cattle ranch and move to San Diego so that Coye and George and their two younger sisters, Maxine and Frieda, could have better schooling opportunities. Coye attended Emerson grammar school in San Diego and then Memorial Junior High School.

Entering San Diego High School in September, 1932, Coye went out for football and alternated at right guard with Bob Sanders, now also a member of the Trojan squad. The next two years he played left half, which under Hobbs Adams, then San Diego High coach, and now Trojan coach, was a blocking back position.

HEALY BALL HAWK

Coye rarely gets the chance to carry the ball but he has needed a couple of touchdowns. One was an 80-yard run after a pass interception in a game between San Diego and Phoenix high schools. The other was in the recently Southern California-Stanford game when he intercepted a pass and battled the way thirty-five yards to the goal line.

Coye's hobby is hunting and riding, naturally after his early life in the wide open spaces. He likes to break horses and hopes to return to ranching one of these days. Like all true cowboys, he's a musician. He played violin in a Junior symphony orchestra in San Diego.

JUST MARRIED

The most important item in Coye's life is saved for the last. On last August 30 he eloped to Yuma with Phyllis Liestman of Beverly Hills. The only bragging he does is about his ability to wash a wicked dish.

If you want statistics, he's 20 years of age, he's five feet, ten and one-half inches in height and weighs 104 pounds.
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35. BOXING, Bobb John— "Boxing and Its Rules.

36. SOCCER AND SPEERBALL FOR GIRLS, Florence L. Hanpich—Two lively games for girls, explained in simple terms. Rules, playing equipment, prices, etc. Only book on speedball ever published. Great illustration and photos, etc.