

HISTORY OF THE CALIFORNIA INTERSCHOLASTIC FEDERATION SOUTHERN SECTION (CIFSS)

42nd historical "tidbit." Dr. John S. Dahlem

<u>GLENN DAVIS - BONITA HIGH SCHOOL</u> THE FIRST HEISMAN TROPHY WINNER FROM THE CIFSS

Glenn Davis, who graduated from Bonita High School in 1943, was the 12th winner of the Heisman Award given to the finest collegiate football player in the nation for 1946. The CIFSS also had John Huarte (1964) Mater Dei High School, Carson Palmer (2002) Santa Margarita High School and Matt Leinart (2004) Mater Dei High School, as Heisman Trophy winners. Glenn Davis won the award as a star halfback for Army and was referred to as "Mr. Outside" along with his famous Heisman Trophy (1945) running mate Doc Blanchard who was called "Mr. Inside."



Bonita High School







TIDBITS ON GLENN DAVIS

- Glenn Woodward Davis was born December 25, 1925, in Claremont, California.
- He was referred to as "Junior" because he was born 90 minutes after his twin brother, Ralph.

- His father Ralph was the bank manager of the First National Bank of Claremont. He also owned 644 lemon trees in 644 orange trees with his wife Irma in La Verne.
- Both the boys were very active and "always on the go." They double dated together, played harmless pranks and were both fine athletes. They hung around the Bonita High School football field as ten year olds.
- They worked summers as fruit pickers, camp counselors in the San Bernardino Mountains and as defense workers at a plant on Olympic Boulevard in Los Angeles
- While at Bonita High School, Glenn Davis played in four sports...football, baseball, basketball and track. He won 13 varsity letters (some say 16 letters because of the exponent system then in effect).
- The "Smudge Pot" award goes to the winning team when Bonita High School plays San Dimas High School in football. During Davis's time at Bonita High School their big rival was Claremont High School.
- Early Bonita High School yell:

"Sock 'em in the collar button – Hit 'em in the jaw. Drag 'em thru the ceme-tery, Rah! Rah! Rah!"

Bonita High School Alma Mater

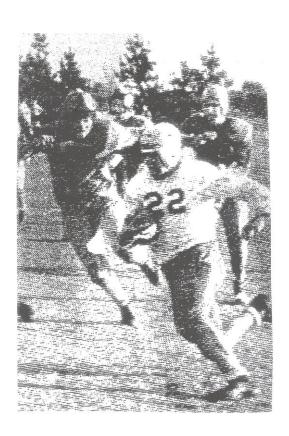
Alma Mater, Hail to Thee! Loyal we shall ever be. Through the years our homage bring And to thy praises sing. For the friend's, steadfast and true, Happy days we spend with you. We, thy sons and daughters, sing Hail! Bonita Hail!



Ewell Blackwel

 Another great Bonita athlete in the 1930's was future major league pitcher Ewell Blackwell, who was the best pitcher of his times for the Cincinnati Reds. Both Ewell and Davis were coached by Orville Thomason, who went on to open Loara High School in Anaheim as Principal in 1962.

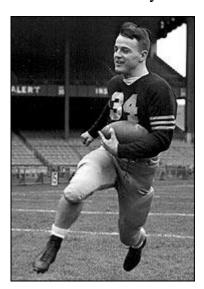
- Davis scored 236 points in football his senior year and led Bonita High School (the Bearcats) to a 39 to 6 win over Newport Harbor High School and the CIFSS Class A title with five touchdown runs. They won their play-off games 47-0, 41-12 and 39-6. In the 41-12 win over South Pasadena, Davis became a Ripley's "Believe it or Not," item. In Bonita's single wing offense he threw a touchdown pass to his brother, Bonita was offside. He threw another TD pass to his brother and they were offside again. On the third play, Davis threw another TD pass. Bonita was flagged for holding. On the fourth play, from 55 yards, out he faked a pass and ran it in for a touchdown. As a result he became known as the "Claremont Comet."
- He was the 1942 CIFSS Player of the Year in football.
- He was All CIFSS in baseball.
- He received the 1943 Knute Rockne Trophy as the best track star in Southern California...he ran the 100 yard dash in 9.7 seconds along with a 20.9 in the 220 yard sprint. He also ran the relays. He placed 2nd in the 100 and 220 CIFSS finals.





Davis in action as prep star at Bonita High School

- He was planning on going to USC, but was offered a Congressional appointment to the Army Academy from Congressman Jerry Voorhis. Davis agreed only to go if his brother Ralph was given a berth too... which he was.
- During his plebe year he took the "*Master of the Sword*" physical fitness test at West Point which included the 300 yard run, dodge run, vertical jump, parallel bar dips, softball throw, sit-ups, chin-ups, and the standing broad jump. The average cadet scored 540...Davis's score was 926.4 out of 1,000, an all time high. He later upped that score to 962.5.
- He led the Army team as a fullback to a 7 2- 1 record in 1943, one of their best results in years.

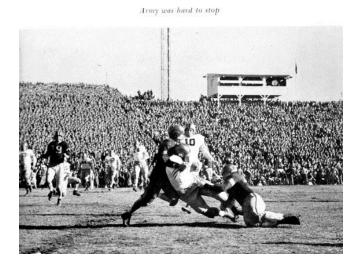


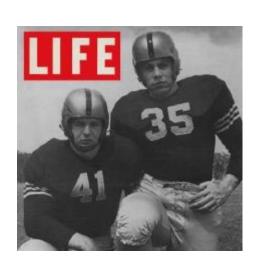






- He had trouble with his math scores at the Academy, was found deficient and was asked to leave West Point at the end of 1943.
- He enrolled at the Webb Prep School in California and completed an intensive four month math course and was readmitted back to the academy for the 1944-45 school year as a plebe.
- He was considered to be the fastest man in college football.
- He was 5-9" and weighed 170 pounds.
- His running style was referred to as "whip like," deer-footed, devastating change of pace, powerful leg drive and a strong stiff arm. He ran like the wind and was poetry in motion
- He lettered in football, track, baseball (center fielder) and basketball at West Point.
- Branch Rickey of the Dodgers commented that Davis could fetch a \$75,000 bonus for a major league baseball signing.

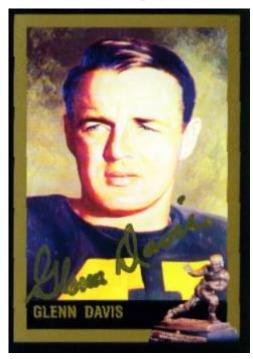




- With the arrival of Doc Blanchard, "Mr. Inside," who weighed over 235 pounds, they became know as the "*Touchdown Twins*."
- In 1944, Davis led the nation with an average of 11.7 yards per carry, scored 120 points and won the Maxwell Trophy, the Walter Camp Trophy and the Helms Foundation Trophy. He was second in the Heisman voting. The Army team finished undefeated, the first time since 1916.
- Legendary Army coach Earl "Red" Blaik praised Davis as "the best player I have seen, anywhere, anytime."
- In 1945 he was runner-up to Blanchard in the Heisman voting.

• In 1946 the Black Knights were again undefeated, but were tied by Notre Dame. Davis won the Heisman Trophy that year.

Heisman Trophy painting of Glenn Davis



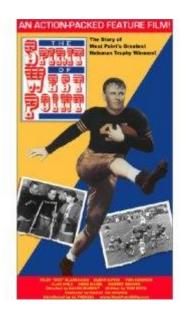
- His best game in 1946 was against Michigan when he played quarterback rushing for 105 yards, completed 7 of 8 passes for 160 yards, caught a 31 yard touchdown pass, intercepted two passes, played the whole game on defense and made the defensive play of the game at the end that closed out Army's victory.
- He averaged 58 minutes per game and one TD every nine times he touched the ball. His 11.7 yards gained per carry in 1944 is still a NCAA record. In 38 games, he scored 59 touchdowns...27 were over 37 yards and the longest was 87 yards.
- He was drafted by the NFL's Detroit Lions, but had to fulfill his military obligation which he did by serving in Korea until 1950.

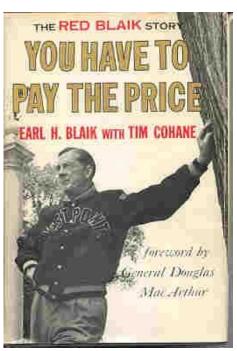






- He played with the Los Angeles Rams from 1950 to 1953 participating in two Championship games; Davis led the Rams in rushing and touchdowns in 1950.
- He had injured his knee (tore cartilage and ligaments in his right knee) while filming the 1946 movie, "The Spirit of West Point," on the UCLA practice field and the injury recurred in 1951. He said that in his last years of professional football he was a better physical player in high school due to his injuries.





- He was voted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1961.
- Coach Blaik said he was, "bashful as a girl on her first date, even though he was an All-American."
- Even if Davis was bashful, he dated actress Ann Blyth and Elizabeth Taylor. He was married briefly to actress Terry Moore and to Ellen Harriet Lancaster Slack for 43 years until her death.







• His last wife was Yvonne, who interestingly enough was married to another Heisman Trophy winner Alan Ameche, the great University of Wisconsin and Baltimore Colts running back.

Yvonne Ameche Davis



Davis award

Winners of The Times' high school football player-of-the-year award, named after 1946 Heisman Trophy winner Glenn Davis from Army, who died in 2005. He starred at La Verne Bonita, leading the Bearcats to a 39-6 victory over Newport Harbor in the 1942 Southern Section final by scoring five touchdowns:

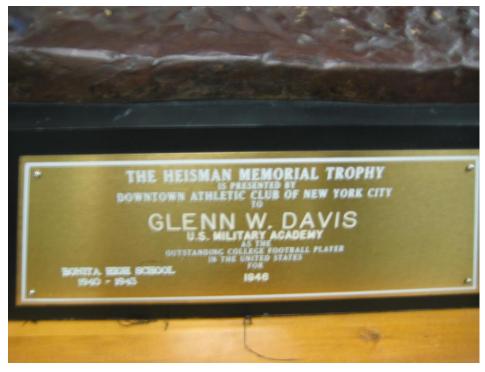


- He worked for the "Los Angles Times" as their Special Events Director for over 30 years.
- He retired to La Quinta, California and loved to play golf.
- He gave his beloved Heisman Trophy to Bonita High School and asked that no publicity surround the presentation. On the day he left the Heisman Trophy on the Principal's desk he walked by a trophy case and saw a small nondescript trophy inscribed with "Downtown Business Community" that they used to give to the athletes...he asked to take it home for the memories of his beloved school.



Glenn Davis's Heisman Trophy in the main office at Bonita High School





Note the fact that Glenn Davis had Bonita High School 1940-1943 put on the plaque



Historical display case in the Bonita High School Library

• The football stadium at Bonita High School was named after him in 1986.





- The location where Davis attended high school now belongs to Damien High School in La Verne. The current Bonita High School campus was built years after he graduated.
- He died on March 9, 2005. He was 80 years old.
- He is buried at West Point near his football coach Earl Blaik.







The Davis Twins (Ralph & Glenn)
Where Junior went, Brother went too.

Bonita's Line Power Giver Whitehead, Davis Chance To Romp Over Enemy

Pomona Valley gridiron fans who have been waiting to see Bonita high school's great football team in action will have that opportunity tomorrow afternoon when the Bearcats' hold the schedule spotlight all alone in their Tri-County league game against Citrus high school, beginning at 3:30 o'clock.

Preparations for the contest are on a big scale, and the size of the crowd hasn't been predicted, but it should be the biggest that ever jammed Bonita's gates. There'll be standing room only for most fans.

La Verne and San Dimas have good reason to be proud of Coach John Price's eleven-the greatest ever produced at Bonita. Boasting a strong line and a streamlined backfield, Bonita rings up touchdowns like a taxi dance registers the nickels. But whether they can do this against Citrus' fast team, rated among the best in the league, is something else again—and that something is what makes tomorrow's clash a "gigantic."

If Bonita gets by this game, the championship is to be decided against Colton next week. Bonita is a big favorite to win in either event. The Tri-County league victor plays South Pasadena for the minor division C.I.F. crown, and that's another "big" one for the lucky team.

Coach Price announced his starting lineup tomorrow will be Ralph Davis and David Price at ends, Ish Andrande and Don Calloway at tackles, Jim Williams and Ralph Williams at guards, either Dick Mayhew or Stanford Michael at center, with Glenn Davis at quarterback, Don St. Clair and Roland Shamblin at, halfbacks and Duane Whitehead at fullback. Citrus

Bonita

DOILLE		
25 R. Davis	LE	Wilhite 38
32 Andrade	LT	Maxcy 7
7.J. Williams	LG	McPhetridge 24
12 Mayhew	C	Hanes 13
33 R. Williams	RG	Green 23
31 Calloway	RT	Shepard 34
3 Price	RE	Ellington 39 Knieling 33
	Q	Knieling 33
10 St. Clair	LH	Garl 11
13 Shamblin	BH	Willis 22
5 Whitehead	E	Garl 11 Willis 22 Brownell 30
RONI	TAF	ROSTER
(2) Dates (4)	Boh	Humphrey, (5)
(a) Fince, (x)	C	eighton, (7) J.
Whitehead, (0)	C-13	inon (0) Poird
Williams, (8)	Salu	ivar, (9) Baird,
(10). Royster,	(11)	Jones, (12) May-
hew, (13) Sha	mblir	, (14) Ramirez,
/4PL TT 19 /4BL		1 /40/ 77

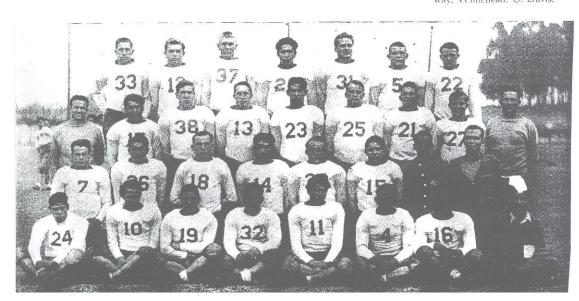
Bonita Grabs Class A Title

Bearcats Route Tars, 39 to 6, as Glenn Davis Ends Great Preo Career

DAVIS AGAIN



Front row. I. to r.: Gonzales, Royster, Michael, Diaz. Jones, Bob Humphrey, Morales, Lopez. Second row: J. Williams, Lentz, Harwood, Ramirez, Bill Hum-phrey, Hall, Funk. Oberle. Third row: Bell, Saldivar, Martin. Shamblin. Flores, R. Davis, Price. St. Clair. Price. Fourth row: R. Williams, Mayhew. Harmson. Andrade, Callaway, Whitchead. G. Davis.



Glenn Davis Stars as Bonita Triumphs

All-C.I.F. Grid Team

Pos. Player Team	Class	He	eight	Wt.
E-Ted Bare, Chino	. Sr.	6ft.	lin.	181
E-Charles Hooks, Keppel		5ft.	9in.	155
T-Robert Boone, Alhambra		6ft.	1in.	200
T-Robert Dowell, L.B. Wilson		5ft.	11in.	195
G-Oliver Coury, Redondo		5ft.	11in.	180
G-Gordon Schroeder, L.B. Jordan		5ft.	9in.	185
C-John McLaughlin, Santa Monica .		6ft.		180
B-Glenn Davis, Bonita	. Sr.	5ft.	10in.	174
B-Bud McGinnis, Leuzinger	. Sr.	5ft.	11in.	160
B-Harold Sheflin, Newport Harbor .	. Sr.	6ft.	1in.	210
B-John Mires, Cathedral (L.A.)	. Sr.	5ft.	11in.	175
BB-Norman Veeh, Tustin	. Sr.	5ft.	10in.	180
SECOND TEAM	THIRI	TE.	AM	
Ralph Davis, Bonita E James	Callan	an, L	oyola (L.A.)
Don McCullough, El Monte E) Dert	allup	nover (SDI
Manual Muniz, Newport Harb. T James	Christ	ianso	n. Full	erton
Bob Gracely, Wilson G Char	rles Ha	laken:	son, Co	rona
Hale Paxton, Redlands G	Carl F	(ruge	r, Coro	nado
Marvin Warschaw, Monrovia . C Lawr	ence St	evens	s, Alhai	mbra
Duane Whitehead, Bonita B John Alan Dale, So. Pasadena B	Ros	Rile	v. Red	ondo
Joe Duncan, Santa Monica B	. Fred	Kar	ns, Por	nona
Dick Doherty Lovola (L.A.) R Nel	son Ma	nuel	San I)iego

ALL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BOARD OF BASEBALL

1943 AWARD

This is to certify that the following players have been chosen for the

ALL-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL C. I. F. BASEBALL TEAM

FIRST TEAM - 1943 SEASON

DOLLING DOLLING		
RONNIE ROMERO	REDLANDS	OUTFIELD
JACK KIRKLAND	INGLEWOOD	OUTFIELD
GLEN DAVIS	BONITA	OUTFIELD
BUD HILL	WHITTIER	FIRST BASE
WAYNE PEVEHOUSE	POMONA	SECOND BASE
DICK COLE	WILSON (Long Beach)	SHORTSTOP
LYNN STONE	LONG BEACH	THIRD BASE
DON LE GRAND	SAN DIEGO	CATCHER
DICK BISHOP	INGLEWOOD	PITCHER
JOE PAYNE	COVINA	PITCHER

ALL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BOARD OF BASEBALL

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Los Angeles Daily News

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Los Angeles Examiner

Hollywood Citizen-News

William & (Bill) Hunt

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