The All-America Blockers

By Bernie McCarty

PART THREE

Part Three of this exclusive series listing the All-America Blocking Teams selected by Wirt Gammon of the Chattanooga Times begins with the 1961 season. Parts One and Two covered the period 1937-1960, and indicated the impressive nationwide "board" of advisors Gammon assembled to aid him in naming his unique honor teams.

This writer's correspondence with Gammon ended in 1975, and up to that time Gammon was unable to locate his choices for 1963.

In announcing the 1965 team, Gammon wrote, "This entry is the first in which board members crossed their own borders in many cases to pick men. Two picked a man from-another section as No. 1. The board consists of Rube Samuelson, Pasadena Star-Times; Jim Murray, Los Angeles Times; Walter Robertson, Dallas Morning News; Arthur Daley, New York Times; and Dick Cullom, Minneapolis Tribune. Jacobs Blocking trophy leaders in the south were given special consideration."

1961
E-John Mackey, Syracuse
E-Charles Bryant, Ohio State
T-Art Gregory, Duke
T-Mike Bundra, USC
G-Stan Sczurek, Purdue (c)
G-Billy Neighbors, Alabama
C-Ron Hull, UCLA
B-Pat Trammell, Alabama
B-Ray Poage, Texas
B-Jack Collins, Texas
B-Dave Mulholland, Minnesota

1962
E-John Campbell, Minnesota
E-Dave Robinson, Penn State
T-Scott Appleton, Texas
T-Art Gregory, Duke
G-Robert Soleau, William & Mary
C-Rick Redman, Washington
C-Wayne Lee, Oklahoma
B-Paul Underhill, Missouri
B-Butch Wilson, Alabama
B-George Saimes, Michigan State
B-Danny Brabham, Arkansas

1964.
E-Jerry Lamb, Arkansas
E-Allen Brown, Mississippi
T-John Meyer, Notre Dame
T-Bill Zadel, Army
G-Rich Keoper, Oregon State
G-Bill Fisk, USC
C-Malcolm Walker, Rice
B-Carl Ward, Michigan
B-Booker Washington, Oregon State
B-Sonny Utz, Virginia Tech
B-Tucker Frederickson, Auburn

1965
E-Sam Champi, Army
E-Tony Jeter, Nebraska
T-Tom Mack, Michigan
T-Chuck Arrobio, USC
T-Steve Banducci, UCLA
G-Lynn Thornhill, SMU
C-John McNabb, Duke
C-Ron Vrlicak, Washington State
B-Hal Wantland, Tennessee
B-Billy Masters, LSU
B-Bobby Nix, Arkansas
B-Larry Eilmes, Washington State

1966
E-Larry LaPointe, Miami (Fla.)
E-Wayne Cook, Alabama
T-Cecil Dowdy, Alabama
T-Ron Yary, USC
C-John Kasay, Georgia
G-Tom Regner, Notre Dame
G-Gary Bugenhagen, Syracuse
G-Jerry West, Michigan State
C-Jim Breland, Georgia Tech
B-Larry Conjar, Notre Dame
B-Dave Fisher, Michigan
B-Larry Csonka, Syracuse
B-Graham McKeel, Florida

1967
E-Steve Zabel, Oklahoma
E-Gary Steele, Army
T-John Boynton, Tennessee
T-Bob Kalsu, Oklahoma
T-John Williams, Minnesota
T-Larry Slagle, UCLA
G-Phil Tucker, Texas Tech
G-Gary Cassells, Indiana
G-Mike Scarpace, USC
G-Harry Olzewski, Clemson
C-Bob Johnson, Tennessee
B-Tom Williams, Wyoming
B-Larry Csonka, Syracuse
B-Dan Scott, USC
B-Jay Calabrese, Duke
B-Lester Lehman, Rice

1968
E-Chuck Dicus, Arkansas
E-Bob Klein, USC
T-Mike Montler, Colorado (c)
T-Dave Foley, Ohio State
G-Jim Anderson, Missouri
G-Jim Barnes, Arkansas
C-Dale Evans, Kansas
B-Dan Scott, USC (alt. c)
B-Brad Johnson, Georgia
B-Ted Koy, Texas
B-Bob Campbell, Penn state

1969
E-Randy Peschel, Texas
E-Ray Parsons, Minnesota
T-Bob McKay, Texas
T-Sid Smith, USC
T-Ralph Sonntag, Maryland
G-Charles Zapiec, Penn state
G-Chip Kell, Tennessee
C-Warren Koegel, Penn state
C-John Sande, Stanford
B-Ed Ray, LSU
B-Ted Koy, Texas (c)
B-Don Abbey, Penn State
B-Jim Otis, Ohio State

1970
E-Elmo Wright, Houston; Ed Newman, Duke; Jerry List, Nebraska
T-Don Dierdorf, Michigan; Bobby Wuensch, Texas; Craig Robinson, Houston, Marv Montgomery, USC; Bob Newton, Nebraska (c)
G-Rob Holuba, Penn State; Larry DiNardo, Notre Dame; Chip Kell, Tennessee; Mike Demarie, LSU; Bill Bobbora, Wake Forest
C-Tom DeLeone, Ohio State; John Sande, Stanford
B-Dan Schneiss, Nebraska; Jim Bertelsen, Texas; Steve Worster, Texas; Steve Harkey, Georgia Tech; Geof Hamlin, North Carolina

In attempting to correct errors regarding the spelling of names of players in the lists Gammon sent this writer, an error was missed in Part Two concerning the school of a player. Fullback Ralph Pucci, 1950, performed for USC, not UCLA.

1971
E-Riley Odoms, Houston; Bob Masten, Colorado; Homer May, Texas A&M; Joe Petty, Arizona State; Al Chandler, Oklahoma
T-John Vellas USC; Jerry Sisemore, Texas; Carl Johnson, Nebraska; Jim Krapf, Alabama; Danny Speigner, Auburn; Dean Unruh, Oklahoma; Lionel Antoine, So. Illinois; Charles Stuart, LSU; Bill Singletary, Temple
G-Dick Rupert, Nebraska (c); Royce smith, Georgia; Reggie McKensie, Michigan; John Hannah, Alabama; Bobby Childs, Kansas; Frank Pomarico, Notre Dame, Bill Kralicek, Colorado; Robert Penchion, Alcorn A&M; Soloman Freeion, Grambling; Mike Demarie, LSU; Steve Busch, Washington State; Ken Jones, Oklahoma
C-Tom Brahaney, Oklahoma; Mike Tomco, Arizona State; Tom DeLeone, Ohio State; Dave Dalby, UCLA; Doug Dumler, Nebraska
B-Bill Olds, Nebraska; John Musso, Alabama; Ed Marinaro, Cornell; Geof Hamlin, North Carolina; Jim Bertelsen, Texas; Glenn Doughty, Michigan

1972
E-Charles Young, USC; James Thaxton, Tennessee State
T-Jerry Sisemore, Texas; Paul Seymour, Michigan
G-Ron Rusnak, North Carolina; John Hannah, Alabama
C-Tom Brahaney, Oklahoma
B-Sam Cunningham, USC; Lynn Swann, USC; Rob Healy, Georgia Tech; Roosevelt Leaks, Texas; Greg Pruitt, Oklahoma; George Palmer, Oklahoma State

1973
E-Dave Casper, Notre Dame; Paul Seals, Michigan
T-John Hicks, Ohio State; Buddy Brown, Alabama
G-Frank Pomarico, Notre Dame (c); Bill Yoest, North Carolina State; Mark Markovich, Penn State
C-Bill Wyman, Texas
B-Randy Billingsley, Alabama; Tim Welch, Oklahoma; Brian Baschnagel, Ohio State; Ed Shuttlesworth, Michigan; Clint Haslerig, Michigan

1974
E-Dan Natale, Penn State; Barry Burton, Vanderbilt; Oscar Roan, SMU; Gene Bleymaier, UCLA
T-Jerry Arnold, Oklahoma; Steve King, Michigan; Steve Sylvester, Notre Dame; Dennis Harrah, Miami; Bob Simmons, Texas; Warren Bryant, Kentucky; Kurt Schumacher, Ohio State; Dennis Lick, Wisconsin
G-Terry Webb, Oklahoma; John Roush, Oklahoma; Bill Bain, USC; Tom Rafferty, Penn State; Andy Dearman, VMI; Ken Huff, North Carolina; Ken Peeples, Clemson
C-Sylvester Croom, Alabama (c); Rik Bonness, Nebraska (c); Mark Brenneman, Notre Dame (c); Dennis Franks, Michigan (c); Aubrey Schulz, Baylor: Steve Myers, Ohio State; Lee Gross, Auburn; Geoff Reece, Washington State
B-Grant Burgett, Oklahoma; Joe Washington, Oklahoma; Mike Gates, Auburn; Tom Donchez, Penn State; Earl Campbell, Texas; Steve Beaird, Baylor; Randy Johnson, Georgia; Bubba Bean, Texas A&M; Dick Oliver, North Carolina

1975 - E-Ken MacAfee, Notre Dame; Don Hasselbeck, Colorado. T-Warren Bryant, Kentucky; Bob Simmons, Texas (c). G-Ted Smith, Ohio state; Randy Johnson, Georgia; George Fadok, Arizona State. C-Bill Bryan, Duke; Jim Czirr, Michigan. B-Eddie Ayers, UCLA; Brian Baschnagel, Ohio State; Ike Forte, Arkansas; Joe Washington, Oklahoma.

A note from Bernie: I was disappointed letters post-1975 to the Chattanooga Times, including one this year, have not been answered. I'll leave it to future researchers to determine if Gammon continued to name teams after 1975. The All-America Blocking Teams are important historically, even if the later teams were squad size. Many of the game's greatest blockers received recognition only from Wirt Gammon.