



HUSKIE HALL OF FAME



Northern Illinois FB Adam Dach (45) / Two-Time Honorable Mention Football News All-America (1990-91)



HUSKIE HALL OF FAME

1951

The Way We Were



Fifty-four autumns ago. The year was 1951. The way we were. President Harry S. Truman. The 38th Parallel. Ed Sullivan's "Toast of the Town." Joseph McCarthy. The H-Bomb. "I Love Lucy." General Douglas MacArthur. "Dragnet." Ike. John Foster Dulles. Chang Kai-shek.

Six years after the Chicago Cubs won the National League pennant. San Francisco senior Ollie Matson led the U.S.A. with 1,566 yards rushing. Vic Janowicz starred at Ohio State. Big Ten champ Illinois beat Stanford in the Rose Bowl, 40-7.

In Oxford, OH, Ara Parseghian took the Miami coaching reins from another future Hall of Famer named W. Woodrow Hayes. In another rural hamlet named DeKalb, the Northern Illinois State Teachers College football squad put together a "humdinger" of a season.

Yes, it was a very good year. Those 1951 Huskies—one of only four undefeated, untied teams in the school's 103-year football history—went 9-0-0, captured the Interstate Intercollegiate Athletic Association title, and outscored the opposition by 223-101.

Mind you, this was not the average College Division team. With the school's first National Football League draft pick, another professional free agent, and the country's total offense leader, it is no wonder that Northern Illinois almost won a

Tangerine Bowl bid.

"NI's Huskies of 1951 were a passing team, first, last, and three



out of four times. As a team, the Huskies threw more and completed more passes for more yards than any other college team in the nation," the 1952 *Norther* yearbook bragged.

The innovative genius behind this team

was Northern Illinois athletics patriarch George "Chick" Evans. His main trigger man—senior quarterback Bob Heimerdinger. Known locally as the "Huskie humdinger," the crew-cut Heimerdinger set coach Evans' pro-type T-formation in motion. The 5-foot -9 signal-caller did it all. First-Team Associated Press Little All-America (with enough votes to make the AP Honorable Mention major-college unit). Team and league Most Valuable Player. One of seven Northern Illinois performers honored as a First-Team All-IIAC choice.

The nation's College Division total offense kingpin (1,775 yards) for the second year in a row. No. 1 in passing yardage (1,710 yards) and touchdown passes (16), and No. 2 in completions (103-of-225), Heimerdinger also ranked ninth in punting (38.3-yard average).

"We felt Chick was many, many years ahead of his time," the Huskie quarterback said. "He liked the throwing game, studied it, watched the pros... we had a T with a flanker or slotback. It was a pro set, except you didn't call it that then."

At 6-2, 192 pounds, rangy end Fran Cahill was Heimerdinger's favorite receiver. A fellow Northern Illinois Hall of Famer, he led the nation in catch yardage (876), TD receptions (11), and ranked fourth in catches (40).

"It seems that everybody else was running the single wing," recalled Cahill, the Huskie Most Valuable Lineman, an All-IIAC pick, and a 19th-round draft choice of the New York Giants. "Our game was throwing.

"Chick would regularly go into Chicago

to see the Bears play. We had (defensive end) Larry Brink playing for the Rams. The Bears would grind it out on the ground and take almost a quarter to score," Cahill added.

"The Rams had Bob Waterfield, Norm Van Brocklin, Tom Fears, Elroy Hirsch and would throw two or three passes and have a touchdown. Chick used to say: 'No wear, no tear.' He thought that (passing) was the easiest way to play.

"I remember one halftime," Cahill continued, "the Eastern Illinois game, I think. We weren't doing that well and Heimer wanted to run the ball. Chick said: 'Okay, run one and then throw three.' That was his approach."

Retired Northern Illinois men's golf coach Jack Pheanis started at fullback in 1951, contributing 254 ground yards and invaluable pass-blocking.

"Chick was one of the first coaches to emphasize the passing game. Heimer had a great year. He was what I'd call 'resourceful.' Heimer was quick getting back and setting up. And he could run."

Jim Lamb played opposite Cahill at end with Billy Graham (395 yards rushing) and Dick Schmidt (306 yards) at halfbacks. Co-captains George Acker and Frank Bieber anchored the offensive line at guards with All-IIAC Tony Biondi and Gil Memmen at tackles, and Wally Beckman at center.

Four other Huskie standouts won All-IIAC recognition on defense—frosch linebacker Leo Schmidt (no relation), tackle Steve Mash, end Julius Brasini, and safety Dan Mojica.

To which Pheanis commented: "The difference in 1951 was the defense. It firmed us up."

Heimerdinger concurred: "With the throwing game, sometimes you would turn the ball over in bad field position. And we did turn the ball over."

Heimerdinger (18) and back-up QB Mojica (3) sure did, combining for a school-



HUSKIE HALL OF FAME

record 21 pass interceptions on offense. At the same time Evans' defense countered with an unprecedented 29 pass thefts of its own—10 by Al Jones and eight by Mojica. Homecoming king Heimerdinger helped the alums celebrate in a 39-13 triumph over Illinois State with a then school-record six TD passes (four to Cahill, including an 83-yarder). In the same contest, Northern Illinois picked off seven ISU aerials—four by Mojica.

Being only human, the Huskies started thinking about going unbeaten. "As the wins grew, the guys got a little superstitious," Cahill said. "Chick's wife Venus always handed out chewing gum. All the guys looked for that.

"I had a pair of plaid boxer shorts that I wore every game. Well, the last game I didn't have them. Gil Memmen had the locker next to mine and he asked: 'Say, you got those shorts, don't ya?' 'Sure,' I said. I couldn't tell him. I didn't know where they were."

Despite the Case of the Missing Shorts, the Evansmen put in a vintage performance in the 1951 regular-season finale at Nebraska-Omaha by winning in the final 35 seconds on soph kicker Pat McKillen's PAT kick after a Believe It or Not comeback.

Gung ho with the news of a possible post-season bowl berth, Northern Illinois scored first, stalled, and then rallied from a 26-6 deficit in the final 16 minutes. TD catches by Cahill (13 yards) and Brasini (54 yards), plus McKillen's foot, closed the gap to 26-20.

Forcing a punt, the Huskies' Len Scaduto returned it to the Omaha 45 yard line.

The 1951 Season

Won 9, Lost 0, Tied 0

NIU 20, Wisconsin-Whitewater 7 (A)

NIU 21, Eastern Illinois 7 (A)-★

NIU 14, Southern Illinois 7 (A)-★

NIU 35, Eastern Michigan 21 (H)-★

NIU 39, Illinois State 13 (H)-★

NIU 21, Nebraska-Peru 0 (H)

NIU 26, Central Michigan 13 (A)-★

NIU 20, Western Illinois 7 (H)-★

NIU 27, Nebraska-Omaha 26 (A)

★--Interstate Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (IIAC) Game

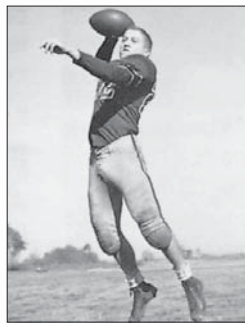
(H)--Home (A)--Away



Three plays later, Heimerdinger faced fourth down and 10 yards to go. Fading back to pass and finding no open receivers, he scrambled up the middle, dodging three tacklers for a 24-yard gain.

"That was the big play. If there was a big play that season, that was it," Cahill said. "I can still remember being downfield trying to get free and watching Heimer duck everybody in the backfield. It seems like it took forever, like one of those slow-motion films."

Two plays and 15 yards later, Evans put two quarterbacks in the backfield. Heimerdinger hit QB-turned-halfback Mojica with a flat pass worth six yards and six points with 0:35 left on the clock. Enter McKillen and a 27-26 win. Corn, Cigar, or Tangerine Bowl, anyone?



Bob Heimerdinger

"Chick told us that we were in a position for a bowl bid," Heimerdinger explained. "We had a chance for the Corn Bowl in Illinois, Bloomington, I think. The IIAC champion against the CCI, Illinois Wesleyan's conference.

"We definitely had a chance, feelers from a bigger bowl. As a team, we voted to pass the lesser one(s) to play in the bigger bowl...we did get a bid (from the Florida-

based Tangerine Bowl which featured Stetson beating Arkansas State, 35-20, that season)."

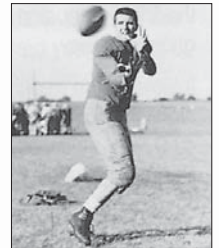
Northern Illinois' governing body, the State Teachers College Board, nixed the bid because acceptance of one would extend the season almost seven weeks (from Nov. 17 until Jan. 1) and could "...even become a detriment to the educational program." Approximately 600 NISTC students and townspeople welcomed the victors Sunday evening at the Chicago & North Western train depot after the Nebraska-Omaha game.

"There was a lot of hullabaloo at the train station, a victory dance, and an all-school function in the auditorium where Chick showed the Omaha game film," Cahill recollected. "Nobody could believe they (Board) were going to rule us out."

At subsequent 10, 25 and 50-year reunions of this Northern Illinois team, the bowl game topic dropped in priority. "There's no question that they all felt happy about the experience and the camaraderie," Cahill said. "There's nothing like winning."

The way we were. The year was 1951.

(Enshrined in 1991)



Fran Cahill



HUSKIE HALL OF FAME

1963

National Champion



Perfect. No. 1. National Champion. A select few college football teams can fill that billing. Northern Illinois University sure did in 1963.

Voted the country's top College Division unit by the Associated Press and the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, the Huskies put together more than the 10-0-0 season and the Interstate Intercollegiate Athletic Conference championship.

The year that made George Bork famous. Coast-to-coast notoriety. Those 10 triumphs—including the 21-14 victory over Southwest Missouri State in the Mineral Water Bowl—probably represent one of the finest campaigns ever in the school's rich gridiron legacy.

Interest in the weekly Northern Illinois scores—highlighted by such numbers as 55-7, 61-0, and 43-0 twice—almost appeared incidental to the Huskie style of play.

Yes, there were some close ones, such as the 27-22 success at Central Michigan for the IAC title or the week before in a come-from-behind 29-22 win over Western Illinois. But the real story, of course, was Howard Fletcher's coaching genius and Bork's passing wizardry. The two became synonymous with the forward pass.

The slender 6-foot-1, 178-pound crew-cut Northern Illinois quarterback pumped the airways full of footballs, mind-boggling stats, and countless records—at least 16 national marks at the end of his senior season. Look at the current school records, Bork still holds 22 Huskie standards in passing and total offense.

America's first collegiate passer to reach 3,000 yards in a single season (3,077 on 244-of-374 completions and 32 touchdowns), Bork managed incredible feats from Fletcher's famed Shotgun, Spread, or Blitz-T formation.

Example: In the IAC championship



George Bork (11), QB

showdown versus Central Michigan, he hit on a record 43-of-68 pass attempts. During the last 93 seconds of the first half, Bork led a 72-yard touchdown march by connecting on 10-of-15 aerials. In 93 seconds.

Example: During these pre-Brigham Young days, he did Jim McMahon-type

things, such as passing for 445 yards against Illinois State, throwing seven touchdown strikes versus Wisconsin-Whitewater, or completing 17 passes to roomie Gary Stearns in the aforementioned CMU game.

Example: Against Western Illinois, No. 11 defied a defense dug in to stop the short pass from his own 34. Trailing 22-16 in the final period, Bork dodged two linemen, launched a high-arching pass down the sideline to Stearns in stride for a 66-yard TD bomb.

"Records are nice," Bork remarked, prior to the 1963 opener, "but not as nice as winning. My biggest thrill would be to play with an unbeaten team."

The dream came true. Fletcher returned 26 lettermen from an 8-2-0 team in 1962 when Bork started his assault on the record books with nine national marks.

Obviously, to be the No. 1 team in the country, Bork had a lot of help from his friends—starting with a great blocking offensive front that included center Bob Evans, guards Roger Smith and Dennis Harrison, and tackles Ken Slimko and Dave Mulderink.

"Football is a savage game," wrote future Pulitzer Prize recipient Tom Fitzpatrick in the *Chicago Tribune Sunday Magazine* that autumn, "but the way Northern played it with Bork as quarterback it seemed more like chess. All brain and very little muscle. Bork took seven careful steps backward on every play before the center passed him the ball then he ran either to the left or right looking for a receiver."

If there existed a formation for the man and vice versa, it would be Bork and Fletcher's Shotgun, his variation of the spread that "Dutch" Meyer used at Texas Christian with Sammy Baugh and Davey O'Brien.

Ends split wide. Halfbacks and fullback set close to the line of scrimmage. Five Huskie receivers zig-zagging downfield on every down.

"We believe," Fletcher philosophized, "in putting the ball in the air and spreading out our opponents." And winning. During his 13-season tenure at Northern Illinois, "Fletch" compiled a 74-48-1 won-lost-tie record before retiring from the game after 1968.



HUSKIE HALL OF FAME

Named District Five Coach of the Year and runner-up for national honors in 1963, Fletcher combined the aerial savvy with the uncanny sixth sense of a riverboat gambler. Another coach named Tom Landry corresponded with Fletcher about the Huskie Shotgun.

"When Northern Illinois has the ball there is little doubt that the play is pass," author Gwilym Brown remarked in *Sports Illustrated*. "Bork calls the plays, but he is instructed by coach Fletcher never to run the ball himself.

"Approximately 80 percent of the Huskies' offense is passing—from anywhere and at any time," Brown added. "This puts a great deal of pressure on Northern Illinois' five blocking linemen, but part of Bork's success stems from this quintet's mobile effectiveness."

A 93-yard completion by Bork as a freshman in 1960 stands today as the third-longest pass play in the Huskie record books. During the National Championship Year, he and lanky end Hugh Rohrschneider combined for 75 and 74-yard Air Northern Illinois deliveries.

The story goes that *Sports Illustrated* staffers spent a week in DeKalb, snapping hundreds of photographs of Bork from every angle and his famous wrist-generated throwing motion.

Bork grasped the football at its tail end with his fingers so that the palm of his right hand did not touch the leather of the ball. He threw "with the wrist-snapping motion of a man firing darts."

A final, deft flip kept the nose of the football up, making it easy for Bork's receivers to catch, Fletcher claimed. The stats from 1963 don't disagree.

Naturally, the Huskies' one-two receivers—Rohrschneider (75 catches for 1,036 yards and 14 TDs in 1963) and Stearns (68 grabs for 931 yards and nine TDs)—ranked the same way nationally. Versatile Jack Dean finished No. 4 in the nation among catchmen.

One of eight individuals from the 1963 eleven to be enshrined in the Northern Illinois Hall of Fame (Fletcher, Bork, Rohrschneider, Stearns, and assistant coaches Bob Brigham, Jack Pheanis, and John Wrenn are the others), Dean played Mr. All-Purpose halfback. Literally. He



Coach Howard Fletcher

rushed for 516 yards, caught 43 balls for 553 yards, and produced 260 more on punt and kickoff returns that season.

By November, the Huskies were household words. Banner headlines proclaimed "Bork Dazzles (fill-in the opponent)" in bold type. That three-page spread "A Big Man in Any League" appeared in *Sports Illustrated* (Nov 11, 1963). More mention in *Time*.

Bork-Rohrschneider game film highlights went national on CBS-TV and the All-America duo's appearance in the North-South Shrine Game at the Orange Bowl made ABC-TV's "Wide World of Sports." A Bork interview beamed nationwide on NBC radio's "Weekend Monitor." He was the subject of a sports cartoon in the *Christian Science Monitor* and full-page feature in the *New York Daily News*.

Ohio State's Matt Snell, Boston College's Jack Concannon, and Wisconsin's Louis Holland played with Bork and Rohrschneider at the North-South Game. The latter made five receptions for 128 yards, including a 69-yarder that set up a TD.

Bork hit 20-of-27 passes for 243 yards and two touchdowns, ran for a third, and won Outstanding Back honors at the Challenge Bowl in Corpus Christi, TX. Rohrschneider, voted Outstanding Lineman, caught 10 passes for 207 yards. Snell scored four times as the National All-Stars crushed the Southwest, 66-14.

Back home, a record 11 Northern Illinois performers received First-Team All-IIAC recognition, starting with 1963 co-captains

Bork and linebacker Mike Henigan. The others included Rohrschneider, Dean, Stearns, Mulderink, Evans, Smith, defensive end Lynn McCann, defensive tackle Dave Herstedt, and middle guard Tom Walz.

Individually, of course, Bork led the way with a carload of honors: Huskie and IIAC Most Valuable Player for the second year in a row, First-Team Little All-America by AP, UPI, NAIA, and the Williamson Rating Service, plus votes on the AP and UPI major-college units.

Rohrschneider also caught Little All-America honors—Second Team by the AP and Third-Team by the NAIA. Both Evans and Stearns won Honorable Mention berths from the NAIA.

The success of this Northern Illinois team sparked plans for a new home on the west side of campus—Huskie Stadium—and an eventual move to the University Division ranks in 1969.

People still connect Bork and Northern Illinois and 1963.

"I never think about the records or anything like that when I'm playing," Bork said years ago. "I pass a lot because that's what the coach thinks is best for us. And you can't fault the results."

You sure couldn't. Perfect. No 1. National Champion. A select few college football teams can fill that billing. Northern Illinois sure did in 1963.

The 1963 Season

Won 10, Lost 0, Tied 0

NIU 55, Wisconsin-Whitewater 7 (H)

NIU 61, Winona State 0 (A)

NIU 21, Northeast Missouri St. 12 (A)

NIU 18, Nebraska-Omaha 7 (H)

NIU 19, Hillsdale 13 (H)

NIU 43, Illinois State 0 (H)-★

NIU 43, Eastern Illinois 0 (A)-★

NIU 29, Western Illinois 22 (H)-★

NIU 27, Central Michigan 22 (A)-★

NIU 21, Southwest Missouri St. 14 (N)-●

★--Interstate Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (IIAC) Game

●--Mineral Water Bowl at Excelsior Springs, MO

(H)--Home (A)--Away (N)--Neutral

(Enshrined in 1986)



HUSKIE HALL OF FAME

1983

Cal Bowl Champion



As time passes, perspectives change. In this case, the view got better, much better. Yes, the last 22 years have been extremely flattering to the 1983 Northern Illinois University football team. In the duration, the storied accomplishments of The Championship Season not only grew in stature, but were magnified as the Huskie football program reached its 104th campaign in 2005.

Oh, what a year. The Championship Season. From Lawrence, KS, to Fresno, CA, Northern Illinois beat the odds. Big-time. You could see the satisfaction written all over Bill Mallory's face the night he returned to the annual Huskie football banquet with the league championship trophy from the Mid-American Conference coaches meeting.

"It was one of the most gratifying seasons," Mallory told the *Chicago Tribune*. MAC champions. Historic first triumph over a Big Eight Conference opponent. The school's first major bowl appearance and victory. A school-record 10 triumphs in 12 games. No. 30 in the final Associated Press "major" poll.

"We were a bunch of overachievers," said quarterback Tim Tyrrell, the spiritual leader of The Championship Season and recipient of the Jefferson (now Vern Smith) Trophy as the league's top player.

Ultimately, this Northern Illinois football team would produce seven National Football League draft choices, 19 professional players overall, eight All-Americans, and five individual inductees into the school's Athletics Hall of Fame.

"Without sounding corny, the best memory was the people associated with the team," said Joe Novak, Mallory's long-time defensive coordinator and current NIU head coach. "The kids had a great work ethic and were enjoyable to be around." Picked sixth in the official pre-season MAC poll, people in DeKalb knew differently from the start. After all, Mallory's Huskies headed into 1983 on the momentum of three straight triumphs over first division teams Ohio (36-0), Miami (OH) (12-7), and

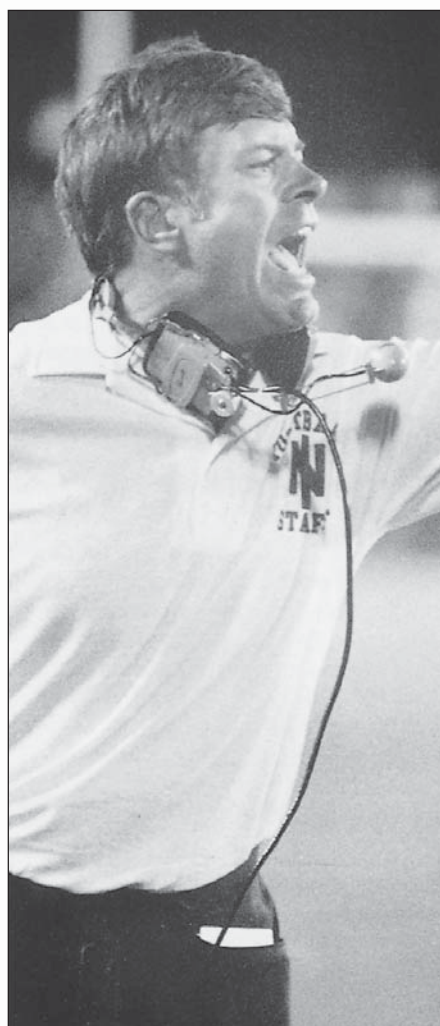
Central Michigan (19-13) at the end of the previous season.

On the surface, Northern Illinois may have finished 5-5-0 The Year Before. By the end of the season, the Huskies developed the soundness, balance, and maturity that were hallmarks of Mallory-coached ballclubs and won four of their last five outings.

"I have a lot of fond memories of Northern Illinois," Mallory said. "When I went there, they wanted to make the commitment to get it going. They were hungry and supported me and the program. It was fun to see the program grow and develop."

Relive The Championship Season.

Go west, young man. In 1983, Northern Illinois University's football team did and met its Manifest Destiny. Acute California Bowl fever raged in DeKalb.



Coach Bill Mallory

Some caught the bug sooner than others. Perhaps during the 37-34 upset victory at Kansas. Maybe sooner, such as during two-a-day practices in August.

"What fired us up was looking at the highlight film from last year's California Bowl in pre-season practice," explained defensive halfback and tri-captain Steve Hirsch after NIU's 41-17 victory over Ohio in the regular-season finale.

November 19 Flashback: Bill Mallory's soon-to-be crowned Mid-Am champions waited for the seconds to disappear from the Huskie Stadium scoreboard clock. All afternoon, the NIU Show Band played "California Dreamin'" enough times to put it back in the Top 40. In the stands, a coed made the national photo wire by holding a large sign that read in her best Huskie poet laureate verse: "Roses are red, violets are blue, Toledo is history, so is O.U. California, here we come."

Victory-starved fans started on the field with 27 seconds left. One enterprising student "hanged five" in the end zone on a surfboard. The final gun triggered a mini-Woodstock. A sea of Northern Illinois red. The Huskie Stadium goalposts went down for a MAC record fifth time. For the second straight Saturday, that AstroTurf surface hosted the largest outdoor party in school history. Cal Bowl-mania.

"The people are into it," understated Tyrrell. "I have to keep pinching myself because I still can't believe it."

California Bowl. For the first time since the Mineral Water Bowl in 1965, a Northern Illinois football team had somewhere to spend the postseason—a December 17 date against the Pacific Coast Athletic Association kingpin Cal State-Fullerton in Fresno.

After semester exams, Northern Illinois was forced indoors to practice due to cold and snow—first trying the Illinois National Guard Armory in nearby Sycamore and then NIU's Chick Evans Field House. "It wasn't a great way to prepare," Mallory said later.

"How can you not be excited about going to California?" asked cornerback Jeff Sanders on a snowy day. "Do you see what it looks like out there?"

December 12 Flashback: The Big Day arrives. An 8:45 a.m. (CST) United Airlines charter leaves O'Hare for the San Joaquin Valley and Cal Bowl III hospitality.

Sunny skies, the ever-present bowl people with green sportscoats, the media,



HUSKIE HALL OF FAME

the Cal Bowl queen and princesses, plus one Very Important Huskie—that being 87-year-old Kennard Seyller, captain of the 1914 Northern Illinois State Normal School football squad that went 7-0-1—greet the official Northern Illinois party. How could the Mallorymen lose with Seyller, dressed in a cardinal sweater and black slacks, proudly waving an NIU pennant at the airport? Cal Bowl-mania.



Lou Wicks

Outside of practice, various luncheon and banquet appearances, and the game itself, one of the most unforgettable happenings had to be the nine-and-a-half hour bus tour of awe-inspiring Yosemite National Park Tuesday (December 13).

"This is where you ought to hold church," noted assistant coach Buck Suhr at the aptly-named Inspiration Point. "It's awesome. It puts everything into proper perspective."

Football Xs and Os took another backseat Thursday (December 15) in an emotion-filled afternoon visit with the young patients at the Valley Children's Hospital. Twenty senior members from both teams were paired with special buddies. The hugs and smiles told the story.

"What a sweetheart," Tyrrell said about his "buddy," 12-year-old Dionne Hill. "She has cancer and is taking chemotherapy. Seeing those kids really sent a chill down my spine."

While the game pitted the champions of

The Championship Season NFL Draft Picks

- 1984—**Scott Bolzan, OT**
New England Patriots (9th Round)
- 1986—**Scott Kellar, DT**
Indianapolis Colts (5th Round)
- 1986—**Curt Pardridge, SE**
San Diego Chargers (6th Round)
- 1986—**Steve O'Malley, DT**
Indianapolis Colts (7th Round)
- 1987—**Doug Bartlett, NG**
Los Angeles Rams (4th Round)
- 1987—**Clarence Vaughn, LB**
Washington Redskins (8th Round)
- 1987—**Todd Peat, OG**
St. Louis Cardinals (11th Round)

the MAC and PCAA, the real winners would be the youngsters of the hospital—the official beneficiary of the game. Reality hit the players hard. No shoulder pads could dull the impact of this experience. The Cal Bowl credo "Battle of Champions ... Fight for Life" literally was the truth.

December 17 Flashback: True to form, "America's Most Exciting Bowl" went down to the last 35 seconds when Sanders preserved Northern

Illinois' 20-13 triumph by chasing Titan quarterback Damon Allen out of bounds on a fourth and one play at the CSF 48.

Wearing his Northern Illinois No. 30 for the final time, fullback Lou Wicks emerged as one of the major heroes—winning Pacific Southwest Airlines' team Most Valuable Player award for a career-best 119 yards in 14 carries. The 5-foot-8, 198-pound fireplug made key blocks on both of tailback Darryl Richardson's touchdown runs.

On the Huskies' fifth play of the game, Wicks bulldozed around the right end for 39 yards to set up a Vince Scott 23-yard field goal and later burst up the middle on a draw for 30 more yards and a Scott 42-yard three-pointer with 12:09 left to play.

"This was the last game of my senior season," said Wicks, "and I don't think you could end it any better. To end it like this is just too much for me to comprehend at this time. It will probably be a week or so before it wears off."

One key play came with 5:25 remaining. On fourth and one on its own 20-yard line, NIU sent Tyrrell on a sneak behind offensive guard Todd Peat. The first down allowed Northern Illinois to milk almost four minutes off the clock. Fullerton's final series started on its own 25 with 1:48 left.

Mallory, in summing up NIU's first bowl success as a major college and the state's first in 20 years, capsuled 1983 as well in the post-game. "We might not be the fanciest team, but most the time we find something that will work," he said.

Northern Illinois hit the headlines: "NIU



bowls 'em over," "NIU a hit in California Bowl," "Wicks whisks NIU to victory," etc., etc. Electronically, the worst possible thing happened to the Mizlou television feed in Chicago.

Back home in sub-zero temperatures, WPWR-TV's transmitter on the top of the John Hancock Building "froze" in the third quarter and the station went off the air. Immediately, WPWR's switchboard lit up like Michigan Avenue during Christmas. "We've gotten thousands of telephone calls," a station spokesman said about the Cal Bowl fans. "We've probably got more people watching today than we've ever had." Cal Bowl-mania.

"We've had California on our minds all year and that's played a big part," remarked strong safety Lee Hicks. "It's a dream come true."

The 1983 Season

Won 10, Lost 2, Tied 0

- NIU 37, Kansas 34 (A)
Wisconsin 37, NIU 9 (A)
NIU 38, Kent State 7 (A)★
NIU 27, Ball State 14 (A)★
NIU 27, Western Michigan 3 (H)★
NIU 34, Eastern Michigan 15 (A)★
NIU 24, Bowling Green State 23 (H)★
NIU 17, Miami (OH) 0 (A)★
Central Michigan 30, NIU 14 (A)★
NIU 26, Toledo 10 (H)★
NIU 41, Ohio 17 (H)★
NIU 20, Cal State-Fullerton 13 (N)●

★--Mid-American Conference Game

●--California Bowl III at Fresno, CA

(H)--Home (A)--Away (N)--Neutral

(Enshrined in 1995)



Vernon Sims



HUSKIE HALL OF FAME

1978 Charter Inductees (Men)

Carl Appell, Track / Cross-Country Coach (1930-64)(Deceased)
Larry Brink, Football (1945-47)
George "Chick" Evans, Athletics Director (1929-68)(Deceased)
Charles "Wix" Garner, Basketball, Baseball, Football, Golf (1916-21)
 (Deceased)
Ken Henry, Golf (1949-52, 1954-55)
Ralph McKinzie, Basketball, Baseball, Coach / Trainer (1940-63)
 (Deceased)
Reino Nori, Basketball, Football, Baseball, Track, Wrestling (1932-36)
 (Deceased)
John "Red" Pace, Basketball, Football, Baseball (1929-33) (Deceased)
Benny Westlake, Basketball (1931-35) (Deceased)

1983 Inductees (Men)

George Bork, Football, Basketball (1960-63)
Jim Bradley, Basketball (1971-73) (Deceased)
Roy Conrad, Wrestling (1957-61)
Elzie Cooper, Football, Basketball, Baseball (1933-36) (Deceased)
Howard Fletcher, Football Coach (1956-68) (Deceased)
Bob Heimerdinger, Football (1948-52)
Tuck Huntzicker, Basketball, Baseball (1925-28) (Deceased)
Johnny B. Johnson, Wrestling, (1970-74)
Mark Kellar, Football (1971-73)
Tego Larsen, Football (1936-39) (Deceased)
John Peterson, Track, Cross-Country (1964-67)
Leonard Skoglund, Baseball, Basketball, Football (1931-35) (Deceased)
Leland Strombom, Football, Basketball, Baseball (1927-30) (Deceased)
Bill Terwilliger, Track, Basketball (1939-41)
Dick Williams, Football, Basketball, Baseball, Track (1944, 1947-49)

1984 Inductees (Men)

Fran Cahill, Football, Baseball (1948-52) (Deceased)
Lewis Flinn, Football, Basketball, Track (1956-59)
Larry Gentry, Basketball, Baseball (1956-60)
Tim Gullikson, Tennis (1969-73) (Deceased)
Tom Gullikson, Tennis (1969-73)
Floyd Hunsberger, Football, Track (1946-49)
John McNamara, Football (1927-31) (Deceased)
John Spilis, Football (1966-68)

1933-34 Men's Basketball Team (Little 19 Champion)

George "Chick" Evans , Head Coach		
John Clark	Russell Johnson , Capt.	Roland Ritzman , Capt.
Elzie Cooper	Rupert Miller	Leonard Skoglund
Robert Frazer	Allan Minnegan	Bruce Smith
Joe Jepsen	Jack Mustapha	John Strever
Les Johnson , Capt.	Reino Nori	Benny Westlake

1985 Inductees (Men)

Wes Concidine, Football, Basketball, Baseball (1925-28) (Deceased)
Jack Dean, Football (1961-64)
Willie Hanson, Basketball, Baseball (1963-67)
Ollie Krahenbuhl, Football, Basketball, Baseball (1937-41)
Pete Mannos, Soccer (1972-75)
Cy Perkins, Track (1941-47)
Hugh Rohrschneider, Football, Basketball (1960-64) (Deceased)
Alex Saudargas, Football, Wrestling (1935-38) (Deceased)
Dale Tessler, Wrestling (1956-60)
John Young, Football, Basketball, Baseball, Track (1935-38) (Deceased)

1986 Charter Inductees (Women)

Mary Bell, Field Hockey, Basketball, Badminton, Volleyball, Swimming,
 Softball Coach (1957-76)
Patty Delp, Basketball, Volleyball (1978-80)
Ruth Fender, Softball, Basketball, Field Hockey, Volleyball, Golf (1962-66)
Jean Pankonin, Badminton, Basketball, Volleyball, Softball, Field Hockey,
 Tennis (1957-61)

1986 Inductees (Men)

George Acker, Football, Basketball, Tennis (1948-52)
John Farney, Football, Track (1940-43) (Deceased)
Bill Graham, Football, Baseball (1951-55) (Deceased)
Karl Hein, Football, Wrestling, Track (1933-36)
Harry Henigan, Football, Basketball, Baseball (1943-52) (Deceased)
Matt Hicks, Basketball (1974-77)
Jack Merlet, Baseball (1963-66)
Jack Mustapha, Football, Basketball (1929-34) (Deceased)
Bob Price, Football, Basketball, Baseball (1937-41) (Deceased)
Mike Spinello, Golf (1957-60)
Jerry Zielinski, Basketball (1968-72)

1963 Football Team

(Undeclared National College Division Champion)

Howard Fletcher, Head Coach

Jerry Andres	John Haar	Jim Modglin
George Bork , Capt.	Dennis Harrison	Dave Mulderink
Tom Bloom , Mgr.	Michael Henigan , Capt.	Robert Owens
Dave Broderick	Terry Henigan	William Pelkey
Richard Calkins	David Herstedt	Hugh Rohrschneider
David Casey	David Hildebrandt	Jack Secord
Ron Christian	Ed Janoski	Ken Slimko
David Cudden	Herb Jennings	Roger Smith
Tom Dahlfors , Mgr.	Robert Johnson	Roger Stark
Jack Dean	Robert Kapheim , Mgr.	Gary Stearns
Robert Evans	Robert Kerby	Arny Vesely
Jeff Fort	Jerry Kerner	Tom Walz
Jack Frost	Lynn McCann	Charles Wood



Northern Illinois 1963 Hall of Fame Football Team

Front Row (from left): Christian, Secord, Jennings, Herstedt, Hildebrandt, Dean, Pelkey, Janoski, Evans, Vesely, Frost. Middle Row: Fort, Calkins, Andres, D. Broderick, Harrison, Smith, Kerby, Modglin, M. Henigan, Stearns, Bork, Walz. Back Row: Rohrschneider, Mulderink, Casey, Johnson, Wood, Stark, Owens, MacDonald, J. Broderick, Kerner, Haar, Slimko, McCann.



HUSKIE HALL OF FAME

1987 Inductees (Women)

Gayle Luehr, Field Hockey, Basketball (1973-77)

1981-82 Badminton Team

(AIAW National and State Champion)

Paul DeLoca, Head Coach

Joanna Benton	Jean Hoch	Colette Pappas
Barb Brucato	Lori MaKarrall	Pam Peard
Clare Choo	Angela Meyer	Janet Wentworth
Mary Dempsey	Barb Morrison	Carole Wiertz
Jeni Gorman	Pam Morse	Barb Wright

1987 Inductees (Men)

Tom Beck, Football (1958-62)

Ed Behan, Football, Track (1938-42) (Deceased)

Randy Clark, Football (1976-79)

Chet Davis, Football, Basketball, Track (1935-39) (Deceased)

Bob Duffield, Football (1940-46) (Deceased)

Bob Fowlie, Football, Baseball (1947-50)

Fritz Peterson, Baseball (1959-63)

Dave Petzke, Football (1977-79)

Bob Soltis, Football, Baseball (1957-61)

Tom Wittum, Football, Baseball (1968-72)

1971-72 Men's Basketball Team

(Midwestern Conference Champion)

Tom Jorgensen, Head Coach

Jim Bradley	Dan McDowell	Walt Perrin
Don Hamel	Tom McKiernan , Capt.	Morrey Scott
Billy Harris	John Niemeyer , Mgr.	Larry Turner
Cleveland Ivey , Capt.	Gordon Nuber	Floyd Williams
Larry Jackson	Bob Patterson	Jerry Zielinski

1988 Inductees

Mike Burke, Gymnastics (1975-79)

Clarence "Boots" Cannon, Football, Basketball, Baseball (1916-21) (Deceased)

George Evans, Jr., Basketball, Baseball (1958-63)

Don Fortunato, Football (1946-49)

Toimi Jarvi, Football, Basketball, Baseball (1938-42) (Deceased)

John Lalonde, Football (1968-71)

Bill Minnihan, Football (1946-50)

Jack Pheanis, Football, Golf Coach (1950-53, 1957-2002)

Jim Smith, Basketball (1967-69)

Mick Soli, Golf (1972-76)

Janet Wentworth, Badminton (1979-82)

Doreen Zierer, Basketball (1979-82)

1989 Inductees

Robert Brigham, Football, Athletics Director (1947-49, 1955-87)

Tim Dillon, Basketball (1980-84)

Dawnita Doty, Gymnastics (1980-84)

Al Eck, Football, Track (1958-60) (Deceased)

Doug Kieso, Gymnastics (1980-84)

Al Kranz, Athletics Trainer (1946-51, 1963, 1966-74)

Jennifer Van Alstyne, Swimming (1980-84)

1990 Inductees

Clare Choo, Badminton (1981-82)

Don Flavin, Wrestling, Wrestling Coach (1946-50, 1968-86) (Deceased)

Allen Rayhorn, Basketball (1978-82)

Lisa Starosta, Basketball (1980-81, 1982-85)

Don Wegrzyn, Golf (1956-60)

Bobby Wood, Basketball (1945-49)

1991 Inductees

Darlene Davis, Gymnastics (1982-86)

Paul Dawkins, Basketball (1975-79)

Tom Kennedy, Gymnastics (1979-83)

Bud Nangle, Sports Information Director (1947-49, 1967-84)

Gary Stearns, Football (1960-63)

1951 Football Team

(Undefeated IIAC Champion)

George "Chick" Evans, Head Coach

George Acker , Capt.	Bob Heimerdinger	John O'Brien , Mgr.
Ed Bauer	Ron Hicks	Lawrence Pesetski
Walt Beckman	Len Jacobson	Matt Pesut
Frank Bieber , Capt.	Al Jones	Jack Pheanis
Tony Biondi	Jim Lamb	Len Scaduto
Dan Bloom	Steve Mash	Dick Schmidt
Julius Brasini	Gil Memmen	Leo Schmidt
Fran Cahill	Dan Mojica	Tom Schramm
Rocco Fiordelisi	Vincent Musso	Bob Schulze
Billy Graham	Pat McKillen	John Smith
Don Hackel	Jim McKinzie	Walt Struckman
Andy Halle	Duane Nelson	



Northern Illinois 1951 Hall of Fame Football Team

Front Row (from left): Lamb, Cahill, Jacobson, Acker, Heimerdinger, Bieber, D. Schmidt, Scaduto, Beckman, Brasini, Memmen. Second Row: Musso, Pheanis, L. Schmidt, Graham, McKillen, Bauer, Biondi, Jones, Mojica, Mash. Third Row: Lyman, Smith, Flanagan, Pesetski, Purcell, Haberman, Hackel, Halle, Hicks, Nelson. Fourth Row: Dunlap, Struckman, Nohava, Stoda, Kaiser, Galloway, Pesut, Zahner, Swanson, Schulze. Fifth Row: McKinzie, Kahler, Evans, Sohne, Guinn.

1992 Inductees

Ray Guzak, Wrestling (1958-61)

Frank Lewandoski, Football (1976-79)

Jim McKinzie, Football, Basketball, Baseball (1950-53)

Tim Tyrrell, Football (1982-84)

Lori Wetzel, Golf (1982-85, 1986-87)

1978 Field Hockey Team

(Unbeaten, 11-Win Season)

Cathy Bolger, Head Coach

Rose Adamczyk	Mary Gunvalson	Judy Ronaldson
Kim Cook	Beth Haste	Gail Salley
Rosemarie Creamean	Donna Martin	Sue Simon
Char DeFrancesco	Laura Moore	Beth Tomasello
Denise Doering	Maura Pannier	Wanda Van Pelt
Terry Draffkorn	Kitty Pierfelice	Holly Williams
Lori Fuglestad	Nancy Pigoni	Kathy Wolfe
Mandy Gries	Janet Rodawold	

(Continued)



HUSKIE HALL OF FAME

1993 Inductees

Laura Cooper, Field Hockey, Volleyball, Basketball, Softball (1964-68)
Diane Hillard, Volleyball, Basketball, Track (1978-82)
Larry Johnson, Wrestling (1971-74)
Scott Kellar, Football (1982-85)
Chuck Kittleson, Golf (1954-58)
Sam Smith, Football, Baseball (1938-41, 1946)

1994 Inductees

Roy "Flip" Allen, Football, Basketball, Track (1935-39) (Deceased)
Wes Caine, Wrestling (1966-69)
Jill Justin, Softball (1985-89)
Allen Ross, Football (1977-80)
Larry Wyllie, Baseball, Basketball (1957-59)

1995 Inductees

Greg Dick, Golf (1977-80)
John McDougal, Basketball Coach (1976-86)
John Olson, Basketball (1953-57)
Carol Owens, Basketball (1985-90)

1983 Football Team

(MAC, California Bowl III Champion)

Bill Mallory, Head Coach

Carl Aikens
Doug Bartlett
Gene Belz
Todd Bex
Dave Bierman
Scott Bolzan, Capt.
Rich Burns
Gary Chapman
Rick Considine
Brendan Dolan
Dan Feely
Tim Griffin
Dave Heide
Bill Heinrich, Mgr.
Phil Herra
Lee Hicks
Steve Hirsch, Capt.

Scott Kellar
Joel Kinkade
Joe Law
Tom Leonard
Pat McAvoy
Ricky Mitchell
Jim Mukite, Capt.
Rastee Oce
Steve O'Malley
Jon Orech
Curt Pardridge
Todd Peat
Steve Quinlan
Rick Reubin
Darryl Richardson
Art Rogers, Mgr.
Jeff Sanders

Gary Schlinger
Vince Scott
Reggie Sims
Vernon Sims
Sheldon Sobol
Greg Spicher
Darren Stahulak
Darryl Taylor
Jeff Tharp
Jim Tudor, Mgr.
Tim Tyrrell
Todd Van Keppel
Clarence Vaughn
Rob Wicinski
Lou Wicks

1996 Inductees

Kenny Battle, Basketball (1984-86)
Roger Dutton, Basketball, Baseball (1963-66)
Todd Peat, Football (1983-86)
Beth Schrader, Softball (1985-89)
Mary Terwilliger, Track (1931-36) (Deceased)

1997 Inductees

Pete Botthof, Gymnastics (1970-74)
Joel Cochran, Track (1965-68)
Hubie Dunn, Men's Gymnastics Coach (1962-72)
Lisa Foss, Basketball (1986-91)

1976 Men's Golf Team

(MAC Champion, 24th in NCAA Championships)

Jack Pheanis, Head Coach

Jeff Lawler
Mick Soli, Capt.

Dave Love
Mike Stolz

John Snuckel
Scott Webster

1998 Inductees

Lori Fuglestad, Field Hockey, Softball (1977-79)
Nicole Jeray, Golf (1988-92)
Tom Jorgensen, Men's Basketball Coach (1966-73)
Mel Schmidt, Wrestling, Football (1961-65)
Jake Stap, Baseball, Basketball (1949-52)
Francis Stroup, Huskie Fight Song (1961), Men's Swimming Coach (1960-68)

1999 Inductees

Erika Fischer, Swimming (1962-64)
Breck Grigas, Gymnastics (1977-80)
Bill Mallory, Football Coach (1980-83)
Eric Roy, Soccer (1967-69)
Ed Ware, Basketball (1948-51)

2000 Inductees

Rick Bilder, Track (1969-73) (Deceased)
Neal MacDonald, Wrestling, Football (1963-65)
Kirk Mango, Gymnastics (1975-79)
Bill Tessendorf, Athletics Trainer (1967-71)
George Tyms, Track (1968-72)

2001 Inductees

Billy Harris, Basketball (1969-73)
Colleen Preston, Field Hockey (1984-88)
Stacey Robinson, Football (1988-90)
Jim Suttie, Golf (1966-70)
Mark Tiffany, Wrestling (1974-77)

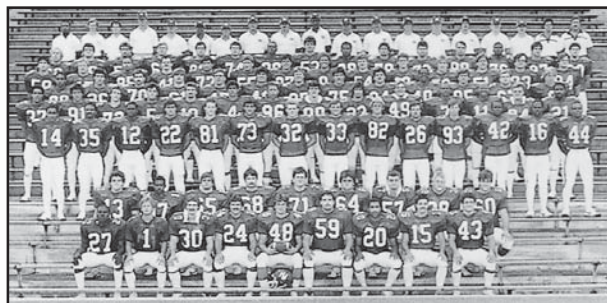
1958 Men's Cross Country Team

(NCAA College Division Champion)

Carl Appell, Head Coach

Chuck Dykstra
Dick Kloepfer
Gary Knabe
Ray Ott

Dave Stern
Gary Strawbridge
Dick Townsend
Brian Wheatland



Northern Illinois 1983 Hall of Fame Football Team

Front Row (from left): Sanders, Scott, Wicks, Burns, McAdams, Orech, Hirsch, Leonard, Mukite. Second Row: Tyrrell, Aikens, Herra, Tharp, Bolzan, Stahulak, Bex, Sobol, Dolan. Third Row: Wilburn, Richardson, Mitchell, Gerin, Kraft, Lesak, Kinkade, Spicher, Pardridge, LaCerra, Monnett, Croom, Session, Law. Fourth Row: Oliver, Kmiec, Josten, Eckstein, Considine, Genatempo, Ballard, McKenna, Tremblay, Young, Oce, Taylor, Griffin, Hicks. Fifth Row: Harris, Sapienza, Ziolkowski, Sugrua, Bauman, Kleinz, Heide, Wessman, Belz, Vaughn, Infante, Zielinski, Iwema. Sixth Row: Wicinski, Schlinger, V. Sims, McAvoy, Karamanos, Gust, Keogh, Van Keppel, McCarthy, D. Graham, Pennington, Feely, Quinlan, Anderson. Seventh Row: Christensen, Sprecher, Lembke, Bierman, Murray, Clemans, French, Watkins, R. Sims, Huffman, O'Malley, Kellar, Peat, Snodgrass, Bartlett. Eighth Row: Rogers, Tudor, Heinrich, Friel, Potysman, Bridges, Suhr, Durchik, Stripling, Kincannon, Mallory, Novak, Morris, Petzke, Daisher, R. Graham, Roushar, Harbottle, Vaupel.



HUSKIE HALL OF FAME

2002 Inductees

Larry Clark, Football (1970-72)
Chuck Ehrlich, Men's Gymnastics Coach (1973-90)
Gordon Nuber, Basketball (1969-73)
Vince Scott, Football (1980-83)
Allan Zelechowski, Soccer (1968-70)

1988 Softball Team

(NCAA Regional Champion, 7th place at NCAA College World Series)

Dee Abrahamson, Head Coach

Sue Alexander	Lisa Gilfoy	Maria Leake
Kathy Bulow	Jennie Hughes	Laura Peterson
Susie Conway	Heidi Hutchison	Jeanne Richeal
Kim Crotinger	Jill Justin	Beth Schrader
Shari Edwards	Sue Kause	Julie Sexton
Pat Faletti	Lynn Lacy	Amy Veld

2003 Inductees

Jane Albright, Women's Basketball Coach (1984-94)
Sam Bedrosian, Baseball, Basketball (1950-54)
LeShon Johnson, Football (1992-93)
Mike Korcek, Sports Information (1969-70, 1973-84),
 Sports Information Director (1984-present)
Donnell Thomas, Basketball (1987-91)
Donald Whiteside, Basketball (1987-91)

2004 Inductees

T.C. Dantzler, Wrestling, Football (1989-93)
E.C. Hill, Basketball (1991-94)
Julie Sexton, Softball (1988-91)
Ernie Wickstrom, Football (1949-50)
John Wrenn, Assistant Football Coach, Head Wrestling Coach,
 Head Men's Tennis Coach (1960-76)

2005 Inductees

Adam Dach, Football (1987-91)
Kevin Ekberg, Gymnastics (1981-84)
Joe Plaskas, Football, Baseball (1956-61)
Niki VanHoorweghe, Softball (1992-96)

1989-90 Women's Basketball Team

(NCAA Tournament, North Star Conference Champion)

Jane Albright, Head Coach

Tiana Burkholder	Dee Dee Jeske	Tracy Mondek
Denise Dove	Herman Lee, Mgr.	Carol Owens
Lisa Foss	Denise Lipnisky	Kris Weis
Julie Gainer	Toby Meeks	Angie White, Mgr.
Tammy Hinchee		

COSIDA HALL OF FAMER BUD NANGLE

Former Northern Illinois University sports information director Bud Nangle was enshrined into the College Sports Information Directors of America Hall of Fame during the organization's annual workshop at Atlanta in 1993.

Regarded as the patriarch of the Huskie Office of Sports Information, Nangle spent 19 years in two tenures as the athletics publicist at Northern Illinois—first as an undergrad (1947-49) and later returning to his alma mater during its formative years as a Division I institution (1967-84).

For Nangle, now 86, retired, and living in Vista, CA, the CoSIDA honor marked the third of five Halls of Fame in



Bud Nangle

which he has been inducted. In 1975, he was installed into the media wing of the Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame and in 1991 made the NIU Hall of Fame.

Nangle was the recipient of the Scoop Hudgins Lifetime Sports Information Directors Award in 1998 and the Jim Murray Outstanding Sports Writer Award in 2001. Both awards were bestowed by the All-America Football Foundation. He was enshrined into *The Northern Star* Hall of Fame as a "friend of The Star" in 2002 and the Palatine High School Athletics Hall of Fame in 2003.

The "legendary" Nangle did, indeed, pioneer many aspects of sports information at Northern Illinois. Not only did he serve as the school's first SID, Bud produced the school's first football media guide in 1948. He won the school's first CoSIDA national award (best major-college football schedule poster) in 1970 and expanded

the NIU Office of Sports Information to include women's athletics in 1978-79. Nangle was also instrumental in establishing the NIU Athletics Hall of Fame in 1978.

In 1974, Nangle authored the CoSIDA Code of Ethics, which is the standard for the profession to this day.

A consummate journalist, Nangle worked at the *DeKalb Daily Chronicle* as sports editor (1948-50), at the *Chicago Daily News* as a prep sports and major-league baseball beat man (1950-57), plus at the *Toledo Blade* and *Toledo Times* as executive sports editor (1957-67).

Nangle played basketball (1940-41) and baseball (1941) at Northern Illinois prior to enlisting in the U.S. Navy during World War II (1942-46). A 1949 NIU graduate, he also lettered in basketball, track, and softball at Palatine High School in the late 1930s.

COSIDA HALL OF FAMER TED EMERY

One of the pioneers in the profession, the late Ted Emery was inducted into the CoSIDA Hall of Fame as a charter member in 1969.

The Peekskill, NY, native served as the Northern Illinois University sports information director for four years (1963-67). Emery had the good fortune to arrive in DeKalb when the Huskie football team went 10-0-0 and captured the College Division National Championship with Little All-America quarterback George Bork and NIU Athletics Hall of Fame head coach

Howard Fletcher.

During his career, Emery worked as an assistant sports information director at Michigan State University (1952-55), the SID at Dartmouth College (1955-60), the public relations director for the New York Titans



Ted Emery

(now New York Jets) of the American Football League (1960-62), and PR man for the Gator Bowl Association in Jacksonville, FL. He was also affiliated with the Pittsburgh Civic Arena and the National March of Dimes Foundation.

A U.S. Air Force veteran during World War II, Emery received a bachelor of arts degree from Alma College in 1950. He died in Higbee, MO, in May, 1999, at the age of 75.