

# Former official relives bowl trivia

THE UNLIKELY melding of flowers and football into matchless New Year's Day pageantry has made the California city of Pasadena familiar to millions of Americans, many of us from the Midwest having been lured there at least once by appearance of a Big Ten team in the Rose Bowl game.

However, there are fascinating background details in the history of this world-famed spectacle that escape attention of the once-in-a-lifetime tourists, or go unnoticed by modern telecasters. Maybe I can enhance your appreciation of what you will see on the tube by mentioning a few.

If you think I am unduly assuming the mantle of authority, let the record show that there was a period in my checkered past when I was very close to all this as editor of the official Tournament of Roses program published by the Pasadena post of the American Legion. That same span also brought election as president of the Southern California Football Writers Association.

On the chance that you are a football addict, perhaps you can win a saloon wager from a sucker some day on whether all Big Ten schools have had teams in the Rose Bowl. Yes, they have — two of them before the contract between the Pacific Coast and Western Conferences was signed in the mid-'40s. Those two were Michigan (49-0 over Stanford on Jan. 1, 1902) and Ohio State, a 28-0 loser to California on New Year's Day, 1921. Neither game was played in the Arroyo Seco site where the stadium now sits, but they are accepted as official bowl lore.

FIRST APPEARANCES since the inter-conference wedding were Illinois over UCLA, 1947; Michigan overwhelming USC in 1948; Northwestern defeating California, 1949; Ohio State over California, 1950; Wisconsin losing to USC in 1953; Michigan State whipping UCLA in 1954; Iowa beating Oregon State, 1957; Minnesota as loser to Washington in 1981; Purdue the victor over USC, 1987; and Indiana falling to USC in 1988.

Another goodie for bar patrons is whether Notre Dame ever has played in the Rose Bowl. You can win by betting the affirmative.

Specifically, Knute Rockne took his unbeaten 1924 team west — the team that boasted the Four Horsemen and Seven Mules — and on New Year's Day



through bifocals  
**Fred DeLano**

1925 scalped Stanford, 27-10, Elmer Layden starring with touchdown runs of 69 and 70 yards.

Save this column in case anyone ever asks you to name the Horsemen and Mules. The backs were Layden, Harry Stuhldreher, Jim Crowley and Don Miller. In the line were Ed Hunsinger and Charles Collins, ends; Joe Bach (later Detroit Lions coach under Gus Dorais) and Rip Miller, tackles; Noble Kiser and John Weibel, guards, and Capt. Adam Walsh, center.

It was on Jan. 1, 1890 that the first Tournament of Roses was held. The idea was that of Dr. Charles Frederick Holder, a noted writer and resident who had witnessed the Carnival of Flowers at Nice, France. He suggested his city do something similar.

The idea was accepted and Pasadena's first rose festival was called the "Battle of Flowers." Several years later "Tournament of Roses" was adopted as more fitting.

EARLY FESTIVALS were sponsored by the Valley Hunt Club, but sports programs as adjuncts to the parades varied from year to year.

Football became a fixture starting in 1916. Then the Rose Bowl stadium was built at city expense at the foot of a majestic mountain range in time for the 1923 dedication game when USC defeated Penn State, 14-3.

Although this is the granddaddy of all bowl games, it has been overshadowed some years by rival post-season attractions and 1987 is supposed to be one of those times when Miami and Penn State duel at Tempe for the mythical national championship.

But when it comes to parades, nothing anywhere matches Pasadena.

Adding to the glamour are dozens of richly garbed equestrians and marching bands from throughout the nation parading before at least a million spectators along a parade route of more than five miles. No other American event says "Happy New Year" more appealingly.

## Farmington readers' forum

Letters must be signed, original copies and include the address and telephone number of the writer. None can be returned. Names will be withheld from publication only for sufficient reason. Letters should be limited to 300 words in most cases. We reserve the right to edit them. Send letters to Readers' Forum, Farmington Observer, 33203 Grand River Ave., Farmington 48024. D6715

## Holiday message lauds volunteers

To the editor:  
Once again, the holiday season fills our hearts with warmth and good will. For those of us who spend the holidays with loved ones, it is a blessed and joyful time of year.

But not everyone enjoys such good fortune. That is why, now perhaps more than during any time of the year, America's volunteers are needed and appreciated throughout the United States.

As the director of ACTION, the federal domestic volunteer agency, I know how much the touch of love and joy means to each person who comes in contact with our volunteers. Men and women over 60 in our Older American Volunteer Programs have a lifetime of experience to share.

The 5,320 senior companions who offer daily attention to the frail elderly, the 19,000 foster grandparents who give guidance and affection to children with special needs, the 385,000 retired senior volunteer program (RSVP) volunteers who fulfill every conceivable need through community organizations and agencies — these older Americans know that during the holiday season, the extra hug, the attentive ear — every tender gesture gives comfort and hope to those in need.

In addition to our older American volunteers, 2,413 VISTA volunteers battle problems of alcohol and drug abuse, illiteracy, unemployment, hunger and homelessness.

However, ACTION volunteers are not alone in their commitment. The example of neighbor-helping-neighbor is contagious. Last year, 87 million Americans were involved in charity and social services and \$78 billion of personal income was donated to charities. The value of time volunteered is estimated at \$100 billion.

AS we address the complex social issues of this decade and the next, we cannot rely on government alone. We must build teamwork among federal, state and local governments, the private sector and individual citizens. Only the will, as a nation, gain the volunteer strength needed to make a substantial difference — a difference felt by every person in need throughout America.

In honoring this year's recipients of the President's Volunteer Action Awards, President Reagan said, "The spirit of volunteerism is deeply ingrained in us as a nation. Indeed, when asked by pollsters, most Americans state their belief that no matter how big government gets and no matter how many services it provides, it can never take the place of volunteers. In other words, the American people understand that there are no substitutes for gifts of service given from the heart."

Indeed, 1987 will be a year of major national volunteer initiatives. United Way of America will celebrate a century of service with a drive to generate greater numbers of community volunteers.

Similarly, Independent Sector, a national coalition of nonprofit organizations, is launching a program called "Measurable Growth," an effort to double charitable contributions by 1991 and increase volunteer work by 60 percent.

VOLUNTEER, the National Center, also is making intense efforts to strengthen involvement of citizens as volunteers to solve local problems. By backing these campaigns in their neighborhoods, citizens truly can extend the holiday spirit throughout the year.

In your community at hospitals, schools, nursing homes, museums, juvenile detention centers — wherever there are volunteers, we see the vitality of the American spirit in action the spirit that has been our national trademark throughout our history. I ask all Americans to extend their holiday giving by supporting volunteers in their communities throughout the year.

Doana Alvarado  
Director of ACTION

Why this approach? Could it be that their empires would cease to grow? With this mentality how will the cycle of children raising children ever be broken?

Currently there are 800,000 families processed and waiting with open arms to give these babies a complete loving home.

Hilda Pierecchi,  
Livonia

## Cheerleading — why not a sport?

To the editor:  
A recent controversy has cropped up whether or not cheerleading is an athletic sport. The Michigan High School Athletic Association does not recognize cheerleading as a sport, but is putting restrictions on them for the sake of safety.

I agree cheerleading can result in injury just as any other sport can, if it's not done properly. It should be allowed, for those who are qualified and who are given proper instruction.

I was extremely disappointed when I found out that we (cheerleaders) couldn't mount. We have been given permission to mount, but only with mats, which are more dangerous and are prone to cause injuries. Why? If you put mats down, they are not sturdy enough as if you were to stand flat on a surface.

Cheerleaders are athletes, too. We practice just as hard as any sport. It takes a great amount of athletic ability, to do stunts, mounts, pyramids, tumbling and acrobatics.

Taking mounts away from cheerleading is just like taking a puck away from hockey or a bat away from baseball. There are more injuries in these two sports than there are in cheerleading.

It's about time cheerleading be recognized as a sport and an athletic event. If colleges award athletic scholarships for cheerleading, then obviously cheerleading is recognized as a sport.

Michelle Rosenblom,  
Varsity cheerleader  
West Bloomfield High School

## Adoption option should be offered

To the editor:  
My compliments to Tim Richard for his "Adoption Option" column on Nov. 27 suggesting adoption as a realistic alternative for unwed mothers.

This alternative, according to research and confirmed in your article, is rarely suggested and for the most part discouraged by counselors and the Department of Social Services.

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