

77 Years of Princeton-Rutgers Football

Rutgers and Princeton, Opponents in First Intercollegiate Football Game in 1869, Meet Today for Thirty-eighth Time—Tigers Have Won All but Two Contests

♣ 1869—Rutgers 6, Princeton 4 (at New Brunswick, November 6). And so it all began: according to Parke H. Davis the first intercollegiate football game was played as the result of a challenge by the Rutgers "25." The game was played much like soccer and rules were vague. Princeton agreed to play the Rutgers way and lost to a lighter but better organized team.

Princeton 8, Rutgers 0 (at Princeton, November 13). The following week saw the "25" from Rutgers at Princeton, and this game was played under Princeton rules. Rutgers was not familiar with the "free-kick" system and Princeton had an easy time of it.

♣ 1870—Princeton 6, Rutgers 2 (at Princeton). The records indicate nothing as to how this victory was achieved by the Nassau aggregation captained by A. Van Rensselaer '71.

♣ 1872—Princeton 4, Rutgers 1 (at Princeton). Ten rules of play were adopted at Princeton this year and challenges sent to Columbia, Yale, and Rutgers. Columbia could not play, and the Yale and Princeton faculties prevented the scheduling of a game between their institutions because they were "unwilling that so many men should leave town at once." The Rutgers game, however, was arranged and hotly contested, the match being called finally on account of mud and darkness.

♣ 1874—Princeton 6, Rutgers 0 (at Princeton). Of this match the record book states succinctly "six straight goals for Princeton." . . . Under revised rules the Princeton "20" won the championship this year, beating Columbia by the same score at Rutgers.

♣ 1878—Princeton 5 goals, 10 touchdowns; Rutgers 0 (at Princeton). The victors scored early and often. . . . The teams had now been reduced to 15 men and play was under rugby rules. Princeton this year beat Penn, Stevens, Rutgers, Harvard, and Yale to win the championship.

♣ 1880—Princeton 8 goals, 4 touchdowns; Rutgers 0 (at Princeton). Though equally matched in size, the teams were far apart in other respects. . . . This year, and in all subsequent ones, the teams had eleven men—six rushers and five backs.

♣ 1881—Princeton 3 goals, 5 touchdowns; Rutgers 0 (at Princeton, October 15). Princeton 1 goal, Rutgers 0 (at Princeton, November 10). These games were marked by individual brilliance on both sides, but little team play. Captain P. T. Bryan '82 was one of several scorers.

♣ 1882—Princeton 5 goals, 6 touchdowns; Rutgers 0 (at Princeton, October 14). Princeton 3 goals, 4 touchdowns; Rutgers 0 (at New Brunswick, November 14). Rutgers tackled hard and put up a good opposition against a stronger team, led by Captain E. C. Peace '83. Captain of the Rutgers team was William I. Chamberlain '82.



♣ 1883—Princeton 20, Rutgers 0 (at New Brunswick, October 17). Princeton 61, Rutgers 0 (at Princeton, October 25). The play of these games was marked by the excellent kicking of Princeton's Alex Moffat '84. Rutgers likes to think it could have taken the New Brunswick contest except that the local townspeople ripped down the fences surrounding the playing field, carting away the boards for firewood, and the Rutgers players spent most of their practice sessions nailing and repairing. . . . The system of scoring by points was introduced this year. A goal from a touchdown counted 6, a goal from field 5, a touchdown without goal 2, and a safety by opponents 1. Princeton had for the first time a professional trainer, James Robinson.

♣ 1884—Princeton 23, Rutgers 5 (at New Brunswick, October 4). Princeton 35, Rutgers 0 (at Princeton, October 15). One report of the first game apparently begrudges the losers their score, for it reads: "A Rutgers halfback made a try for goal from the field which went more than a yard to the left of the left goal post, but as the referee did not see the ball but only the demonstrations of the Rutgers team, it was counted as a goal."

♣ 1887—Princeton 30, Rutgers 0 (at New Brunswick). A dull, defensive game by Rutgers and poor refereeing gave the spectators little to cheer. Princeton's scorers were L. E. Price '88, K. L. Ames '90, F. H. Payne '91, and H. W. Cowan '88.

♣ 1888—Princeton 80, Rutgers 0 (at New Brunswick). Princeton 82, Rutgers 0 (at Princeton, October 24). In spite of sloppy play the scoring was heavy, and much of it by Captain H. W. Cowan '88.

♣ 1890—Princeton 27, Rutgers 0 (at Princeton). Runs and goals by E. A. Poe '91 featured this contest.

♣ 1891—Princeton 12, Rutgers 0 (at Princeton). A strong Princeton team met a worthy opponent in a good Rutgers combination. Touchdowns were made by P. King '93, goals by J. P. Poe '95. Outstanding for Rutgers in this game were Richard Swann Lull '93, Captain Philip M. Brett '92, and Gabe Ludlow '94. . . . Rutgers had two substitutes . . . and even so fell short by only one yard of tying the score early in the game.

♣ 1892—Princeton 30, Rutgers 0 (at Princeton). For Princeton P. King '93 made five touchdowns and S. Homans '92 obliged with five goals.

♣ 1894—Princeton 48, Rutgers 0 (at Princeton). Eight consecutive goals after touchdown were kicked by T. G. Trenchard '95—see above. It was about this time that Frank K. (Pop) Grant '95 was reported to have muttered while being carried from the field with an injured leg: "I'd die for dear old Rutgers."

♣ 1895—Princeton 21, Rutgers 0 (at Princeton). This

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Princeton eleven was captained by Langdon "Biffy" Lea, father of the right end of the 1935 team. A much more decisive victory it would have been, too, except that the punting of Charles S. Pool '96 and the tackling of Clinton L. Decker '98 pulled Rutgers out of many a tight squeeze.

1896—*Princeton 44, Rutgers 0* (at Princeton). Of the eight touchdowns, two were registered by Neilson Poe '97, now coach of Princeton's scrub team.

1897—*Princeton 53, Rutgers 0* (at Princeton). H. Wheeler '00 starred for Princeton in this decisive victory. Among the other scorers were J. Baird '99, A. R. T. Hillebrand '00, G. Cochran '98, H. R. Reiter '98, and S. G. Craig, P.G. For Rutgers Oliver D. Mann '01, who later became the Scarlet's head coach, was outstanding.

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1911—*Princeton 37, Rutgers 0* (at Princeton). A much more open style of football was shown in this renewal of the old series with Rutgers. Long runs, forward passes, modern tackling and formations showed what strides the game had taken since 1897.

1912—*Princeton 41, Rutgers 6* (at Princeton). The Tigers had a good attack but poor defense, and Johnson made a well earned touchdown for Rutgers after two fast, dodging runs for 35 yards.

1913—*Princeton 14, Rutgers 3* (at Princeton). A strong defensive team from Rutgers, coached by Foster Sanford of Yale, held Princeton to two touchdowns in the opening game of the season. Captain Hobey Baker '14 received a pass over the goal-line for the first score and kicked goal. Frank Glick '16 tallied later on a 60-yard run and Baker made the goal.

1914—*Princeton 12, Rutgers 0* (at Princeton). Coach Sanford's big team with a perfected "legal mass" attack was outmaneuvered by the open, passing game that Princeton had begun to develop. D. W. Tibbott '16 made a field goal in the first quarter, and in the third Robert A. Nash '16 fell on a blocked kick behind the line for a Rutgers safety. Shortly afterwards two good passes from L. H. Boland '16 to H. G. Brown '16 scored the only touchdown. Tibbott kicked the goal.

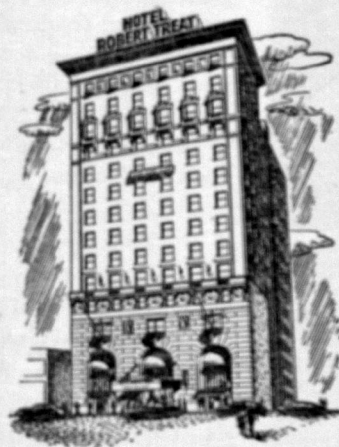
1915—*Princeton 10, Rutgers 0* (at Princeton) One might say that in this game "Speedy" Rush '96, Princeton coach, beat Foster Sanford, his opposite number. Rutgers was thought to have the better team but the old "plug the line" game was not good enough. D. W. Tibbott '16 ran 80 yards for a touchdown in the first few minutes of play, and kicked goal. Soon after, with good interference, he ran 37 yards, and a few plays later drop-kicked a field goal.

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1933—*Princeton 26, Rutgers 6* (at Princeton). Rutgers was moved down this year by Princeton's championship team, but they scored a touchdown—something no other team succeeded in doing against Nassau's '33 eleven.* Homer Spofford '36 and his classmates, the Brothers Kaufman, starred for the Tigers.

1935—*Princeton 29, Rutgers 6* (at Princeton). The game gave promise for long of being a Rutgers victory, the score remaining 6 to 2 in favor of the visitors from New Brunswick with the fourth quarter well under way. The day's first score came early in the opening quarter, and was

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an automatic safety for Nassau which resulted from the blocking of a punt by A. F. Ritter '37. The next tally did not occur until after the intermission, Rutgers gaining an opening when an Orange and Black lateral fizzled and then tallying on a cleverly executed Moe Grossman-to-Cuno Bender forward pass. The fourth period touchdown which put Princeton back into the lead was registered by E. K. Sandbach '37; he was followed over the goal-line once by P. R. Pauk '36 and twice by J. N. Irwin, II, '37. For points after touchdown, Sandbach place-kicked successfully on two occasions, skirted end on another.

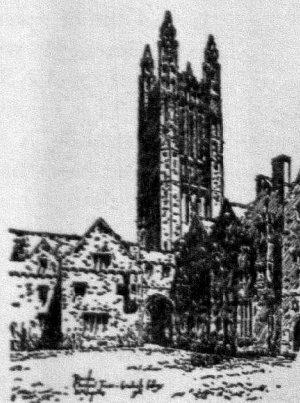
1936—*Princeton 20, Rutgers 0* (at Princeton). Stopped time and again by a determined Rutgers defense, the Tigers nevertheless did succeed in scoring in each of the four periods. In the opening quarter W. B. Lynch '39 stood on the 36-yard line and booted an amazing 46-yard drop-kick. In the next session Princeton recovered a rain-provoked fumble and marched 31 yards, T. R. Mountain '39 scoring. After the intermission E. K. Sandbach '37 place-kicked a field goal from the 16-yard line, and in the final moments of the game J. B. Salsich '38 intercepted a desperation pass by the visitors and scored. Both points after scores were kicked by Sandbach.

1937—*Princeton 6, Rutgers 0* (at Princeton). In an inspired game a scrappy Rutgers team held Princeton to the lowest score it has enjoyed against the Scarlet since 1874. Under leaden skies the game began auspiciously for Rutgers when Bill Tranavitch '40 carried the kick-off 30 yards to the 37. On the next play Art Perry '38 broke loose for 35 yards, but pushed to its own 28, the Tiger stiffened. An exchange of several punts at last gave Princeton the ball on its own 43 and Hinchman passed to Wells who ran 7 yards to the Rutgers 35 before being slashed down by Perry. Four plays later Hinchman angled across the right side of the field for 16 yards to the 1-foot mark. Taylor scored.

1938—*Rutgers 20, Princeton 18* (at New Brunswick). A fourth down touchdown pass from Art Gottlieb to John "Moon" Mullen in the last quarter gave the Scarlet its first victory over Princeton since the initial game in 1869. During this contest, played on the day the new stadium was being dedicated in New Brunswick, the Scarlet came from behind twice to win. Bill Tranavitch's plunge and the subsequent conversion gave Rutgers a 7-6 edge in the first period. Princeton scores by Jack Daniel, Dick Purnell and Stan Pearson nullified this advantage by halftime but Herman Grief's plunge over the final stripe and Gottlieb's pass to Mullen gave Rutgers the final victory.

1940—*Princeton 28, Rutgers 13* (at Princeton). An unbeaten, untied, unscored on Rutgers team fell victim to the passing arm of Dave Allerdice and the running of Bob Peters during this contest. Allerdice passed to Bob Jackson and Howie Stanley for two of the Tiger tallies, Peters added another on a 62-yard gallop and Les Rice scooped up a Scarlet punt blocked by Charley Robinson for the fourth.

1945—*Princeton 14, Rutgers 6* (at Princeton). A pass from Frank Burns to Arthur Mann gave the Scarlet a 6-0 advantage early in the game but three plays after the next kickoff John Weber went 67 yards to score for Princeton and Ernie Ransome's conversion put the Tigers in front. Ransome followed this with a second touchdown and conversion to bring the final score to 14-6.



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