

BOOK REVIEW

The Golden Hurricane. By Robert Rutland.* (Tulsa: Tulsa Quarterback Club, 1953. 105 pp. \$2.50.)

All books recounting football and football greats, especially stories of the sport in Oklahoma, are interesting, and Robert Rutland's chronicle of fifty years of football at the University of Tulsa is no exception. Football came to Indian Territory with the transfer from Missouri to Henry Kendall College, of Norman Leard. The game, born twenty-six years earlier, was still in its formative years, and informality is the word that best characterizes those first games. The Henry Kendall-Bacone game constituted the entire 1895 football fare for Indian Territory.

In 1907 the college moved to Tulsa. This move brought many changes to the institution, but not the least important was that it brought to the college a man whose name will always be inseparable with its football lore, Sam McBirney. Football reappeared on the Campus in 1912; and with McBirney dividing his time between banking and his favorite hobby of coaching football, the school could by 1916 boast of an invincible championship team, one that trounced Bennie Owen's Sooners, 16—0.

In 1921 Kendall College became the University of Tulsa, and soon the team, like its school, had a new name, The Golden Hurricane. A fine stadium, built by public subscription, was dedicated in 1930; and under the coaching of Elmer Henderson, secured in 1924 from U.S.C., the Hurricanes continued to chalk up scores in the big-time. Henderson was succeeded by Vic Hurt in 1936, the same year that Tulsa joined the Missouri Valley Conference. Hurt remained until 1939, and was followed by Chet Benefiel, who in turn was succeeded in 1941 by the renowned Henry Frnka.

Games in the Sun Bowl, Orange Bowl, Sugar Bowl, Gator Bowl and Oil Bowl constitute part of the enviable record of this fine school and its team, all having been faithfully chronicled by Rutland. The volume has its place in any Oklahoma library; readable and interesting, the book also is a ready reference for the football record of the college. An appendix is included, giving the complete scoring record of the team.

—George H. Shirk

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