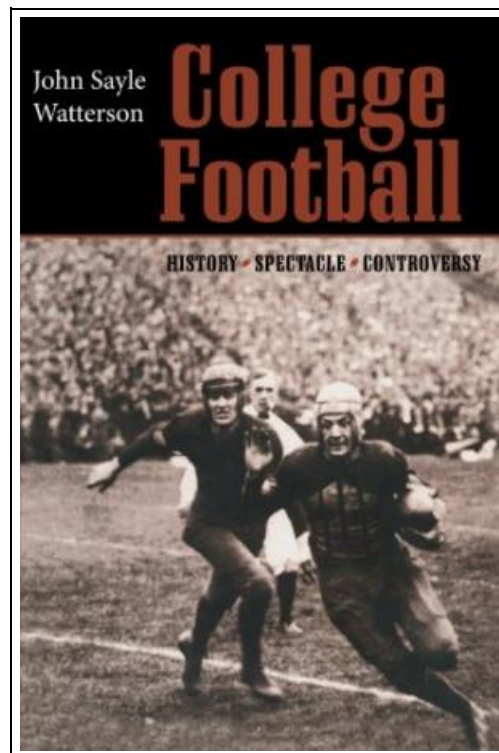


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Johns Hopkins University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 528 pages. Dimensions: 9.0in. x 6.0in. x 1.4in. In March 1892 Stanford and California had played the first college football game on the Pacific Coast in San Francisco. . . The pregame activities included a noisy parade down streets bedecked with school colors. Tickets sold so fast that the Stanford student manager, future president Herbert Hoover, and his California counterpart, could not keep count of the gold and silver coins. When they finally totaled up the proceeds, they found that the revenues amounted to 30, 000a fair haul for a game that had to be temporarily postponed because no one had thought to bring a ball! from College Football: History, Spectacle, Controversy, Chapter Three In this comprehensive history of Americas popular pastime, John Sayle Watterson shows how college football in more than one hundred years has evolved from a simple game played by college students into a lucrative, semiprofessional enterprise. With a historians grasp of the context and a novelists eye for the telling detail, Watterson presents a compelling portrait rich in anecdotes, colorful personalities, and troubling patterns. He tells how the infamous Yale-Princeton fiasco of 1881, in which Yale forced a 0-0 tie in a championship game by retaining possession of the ball for the entire game, eventually led to the first-down rule that would begin to transform Americanized rugby into American football. He describes the kicks and punches, gouged eyes, broken collarbones, and flagrant rule violations that nearly led to the sports demise (including such excesses as a Yale player who wore a uniform soaked in blood from a slaughterhouse). And he explains the reforms of 1910, which gave official approval to a radical new tactic traditionalists were sure would doom the game as they knew it the forward pass. As college football...

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