

Real All Americans by Sally Jenkins (2007)

1860-80 3.5M settlers headed west. There were many battles, treaties, broken promises, disease & starvation [buffalo destroyed] until the Indians submitted & placed on reservations. Then their land was reduced over & over. The govt would send them little food & rotten meat.

1866 eighty Army men were ambushed by 2000 Indians.

1867 Richard Pratt took his buffalo soldiers to Indian Territory in OK.

1875 Pratt was sent to FL with Indian prisoners. Sarah Mather taught them & he found them work. He wanted reform, not jail time. Harriet Beecher Stowe visited Sarah often.

1879 Pratt founded **Carlisle** [Indian boarding school] at an old Army barracks in PA with 147 children. The govt reqd him to get children of Indian chiefs to attend & somehow, he did. The kids were separated from the families & forced to abandon their old ways & learn white man ways. They were given new names, different food & taught English. Illness was common.

Many died. As hard as he was on them, he loved them. The summers they would work for next to nothing as farm laborers. Some returned home & rejected by both sides.

Football in the 1800s was brutal with many injuries & deaths. Harvard, Princeton & Yale were the big three. All US Presidents between 1901 & 1921 were from the big three.

1889-93 OK land rush stripped most of the Indian land left.

1890 Pratt allowed football if they would not slug & in 4 yrs they would whip the biggest team. They were small & fast. Officials cheated them, but fans loved them. Football started bringing in money to a desperately strained school budget.

1899 "**Pop**" Warner became their football coach. He had new ideas & they loved trick plays. Pop invented: body block, crouching start, blocking sled, modern shoulder pads & more.

1900 there were 1218 students at Carlisle

Early days of football had few rules & Pop took advantage of it. One game a receiver was knocked out of bounds; he ran [hidden] behind the people along the sidelines & came back on the field to catch the ball for a touchdown.

1904 Pratt was forced to retire [yrs before he made an enemy of Ted Roosevelt].

1905 Pres Ted Roosevelt told college football to clean it up or it will be prohibited [21 died & 200 seriously injured in 1904; 18 died & 149 seriously injured in '05]. Forward pass became legal & Carlisle used it well [not well in the rain].

1907 **Jim Thorpe** broke all of the school's track records & caught Pop's attention. He made football look easy. They beat Harvard & Penn, and then the press turned on them.

1909 Thorpe left school & played baseball for awhile [\$15 a week]. Pop lured him back in '11.

1911 Harvard game was a highlight [winning with a 50 yd field goal].

1912 Thorpe asked for \$100 of his own money to go to the Olympics & was denied. He went & became "the greatest athlete in the world". Later he would be stripped of his gold medals since he earned money in baseball. Carlisle won the football game against West Pt [Army].

1915 Pop Warner left Carlisle.

1918 Carlisle was closed & converted into a hospital for wounded soldiers.

All American [College] football players from Carlisle were: Hudson, Seneca, Johnson, Thorpe & Guyon.

1883 – 1913 Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show [a Carlisle grad was his interpreter].

1924 Indians were finally were allowed citizenship [blacks in 1868].

Quotes: "No man accomplishes much in the world, who does not stem the current." (Pratt)

Definitions:

64 – recalcitrant = insubordinate

71 – consumption = tuberculosis

110 – sagacity = shrewd

140 – acquiesced = reluctant acceptance

150 – abject = hopeless

164 – rectitude = integrity

172 – brouhahas = noisy reaction

207 – syphilitic = chronic infectious disease

257 – diatribe = attack

266 – mercurial = volatile

268 – laconic = concise

282 – acerbic = sarcastic

302 – disquisition = essay

357 – acuity = sharpness

389 – taciturnity = reserved in conversation

407 – punitive = corrective

407 – salvo = aggressive attack

410 – temerity = audacity

448 – enervated = exhausted