

## 1: Warrick Lee Barrett (Author of Johnny Bright, Champion)

*Johnny Bright, Champion is the inspiring story of a talented man who battled challenge after challenge he faced until he finally succeeded against all the odds. Johnny Bright grew up in Fort Wayne, Indiana.*

He was truly an amazing athlete in an age of amazing athletes. His contemporaries included the likes of Jackie Robinson who some have compared him to, Henry Aaron, Mickey Mantle and Willie Mays in baseball, as well as Wilt Chamberlain in basketball. On the gridiron, he played with some of the legends of pro football on either side of the border: Yet when he was done few could match him. He preceded the first Heisman Trophy winner to come to Canada, Billy Vessels who also won the very first Schenley award, and stayed long after Vessels had departed. He was, of course, Johnny Bright. At the time of his retirement, he owned nearly every rushing record in pro football. Only two men had scored more touchdowns: Bright finished with 71; 69 of them rushing. No one had rushed for more yards in all of pro football at that time. Of those 15 players, his amazing career average of 5. He had five consecutive 1,plus-yard seasons; another record until the great George Reed had six from. In he had nine plus-yard games, eight of them consecutively. Only four men have had as many in one season since, and only one, Pringle, has had more consecutively. His playoff record for most career touchdowns 19 still stands, although Reed tied it. No one else is even close. He was the first player to score three touchdowns in one playoff game. Only Kwong and Reed have more career rushing attempts or rushing yards. In the Grey Cup, only two players, both receivers, have more career touchdowns. Bright shares the record for most rushing touchdowns with several players. And no one - absolutely no one - has rushed for more yards in a Grey Cup game than Johnny Bright. Yet for all that, many have forgotten this amazing athlete. Few in the U. And here in Canada, few will have heard of, let alone remember the event that would change the course of his life forever. It was that event that eventually led him to Canada, where he remained until his death. Having already experienced first-hand the physical violence that Jackie Robinson, for all his courage, had only been threatened with, and unsure of his safety on the playing fields of his own country, he became the first-ever NFL first-round draft choice to leave for Canada. And instead of becoming one of the best players the NFL has ever seen, he became one of the best players in the history of Canadian football, and a valued and respected member of his community when his playing days were over. Johnny Bright was challenged by poverty, discrimination and poor sportsmanship, including an episode notorious enough to earn a photojournalistic Pulitzer Prize. Still, he combined intelligence and exceptional athletic ability with an enthusiastic dedication to turn obstacles into opportunities for self-improvement. Once he had mastered football, he became an outstanding coach and educator, devoting the rest of his life to children. Although Johnny Bright labored in relative obscurity, he was too great not to be remembered at this time.

### 2: [PDF] Johnny Bright, Champion: A Mentor, Scholar and Educator Full Online - Video Dailymotion

*Johnny Bright, Champion: A Mentor, Scholar and Educator [Warrick Barrett] on [www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com) \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. The Inspirational Story of a Man Who Battled Insurmountable Odds to Succeed A Testament to the Spirit of Pioneers Against Poverty and Discrimination Johnny Bright.*

We would love your feedback. Feel free to share any thoughts or suggestions. Click on the button below for more information. Football Johnny Bright was one of the greatest offensive players in college football and Canadian Football League history but he is most widely remembered for being a victim of one of the worst racially motivated dirty plays in collegiate sports and the impact that it made on the game. Bright was born on June 11, in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He was the second oldest of five children and was raised by his mother in a working class neighborhood. He had four brothers and they all played sports as youngsters. He twice led his basketball team to final four appearances in the state championship and led the football team to the City title in . He also competed in as many as five events during track and field meets and was able to pole vault 12 feet using a bamboo pole. He was recruited heavily by the Michigan State University football team and initially accepted a scholarship to the school but changed his mind. He had come to Drake heralded more for his track and basketball skills but the University allowed him to try out for the football as well and he would eventually letter in all three. As a sophomore he participated in the pole vault where he had a personal best of 13 feet and in the long jump where he set a personal best of 6 feet, 2 inches. However, he branched out and became a great softball player for the school and also boxed. At the time that Johnny entered college, freshman athletes were ineligible to play during their first year in order to give them time to devote to their studies. Thus, Johnny did not suit up for the Drake football team until . When he did, however, he lit college football on fire. His junior season was even better. He passed for 1, yards and ran for 1, yards. Entering his senior season, Bright was acclaimed across the country as the favorite to win the Heisman trophy, considered the top award for a college football player. He did not disappoint as he led the Bulldogs to a record to start the season. At that point he was leading the nation in rushing with yards and leading the nation in total offense with 1, yards as well as in scoring. Johnny had already played at Lewis Field in Stillwater two years earlier as a sophomore without incident. Two photographers for the Des Moines Register newspaper heard the rumors as well and travelled to the game to capture the action. Because of deadlines, they only planned to stay for the first quarter and set up with the best aerial shot they could find. Each time the blows to his face occurred after he had handed off the ball to his running back and was standing watching the play develop. Miraculously, despite the broken jaw, Bright stayed in the game and hurled a 61 yard scoring pass to his halfback Jim Pilkington. At this point, however, the coaching staff decided to take him out of the game to prevent even further damage. Two of the plays in which Bright was hit. Notice how far away he is from the ball carrier. The sequence of photos would be reprinted in papers across the United States and made the cover of Life magazine. The cameramen were also awarded the Pulitzer Prize as the photos showed the depth of racial discord in the country. Drake soon thereafter withdraw from the conference and fellow conference member Bradley University also withdrew in a show of solidarity. Bradley returned in for non-football sports as did Drake in , however neither team competed in football in the conference again. Years later, Robert B. Kamm, the former Drake University Dean of Men took over as President of Oklahoma State University and found the cover-up of the incident so wide and so strong that he knew he could not even bring it up for discussion. For the rest of his life Wilbanks Smith remained unrepentant for the play and denied that there were racial overtones to the incident. Smith vowed to get revenge and on the opening kickoff hit the same Drake player who was white with a forearm to the face. Johnny Bright showing that his broken jaw is wired shut. He just stood there. We considered that not being a team player. And here come the people with the trolley, with the stretcher to carry him out. I thought that was an insult because he was not supporting his team. Wilbanks Smith continued to defend himself as late as , arguing that the hit was legal by the NCAA rules at the time. He claimed that by holding onto his jersey, he could legally throw a forearm shiver to another player, even a player standing far away from the play without the ball. It made the NCAA take a hard look and clean up some things that were bad. He finished his career

with more than 6, yards in total offense and accounted for points in 25 games. He capped off his college career by playing in the post-season East-West Shrine and Hula Bowl games and he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Education in . Fortunately, the brutal assault suffered in Stillwater did not derail his athletic endeavors. He was drafted in the first round of the National Football League draft by the Philadelphia Eagles. In addition to having a better racial climate, he received a better contract. With theStampeders he played linebacker primarily and after hurting his shoulder was traded to the Edmonton Eskimos in . With the Eskimos he was able play play offense as a fullback and he led the team to the CFL Grey Cup Championship titles in , and . After this he was switched to offense permanently and ran for eight straight yard games and finished the season with 1, yards. He was the first Black to win the award in CFL history. Bright retired from football in at the leading rusher in CFL history with 10, yards having been the league rushing leader four times and sporting a career average of 5. After his playing days were over, Johnny continued teaching in Edmonton having become a Canadian citizen in . He eventually rose to the position of Principal of D. While undergoing knee surgery to correct problems from his football days, Bright suffered a massive heart attack and died on December 14, . He left behind a wife and four children and was buried at Holy Cross Cemetery in Edmonton. In an elementary school was named in his honor in Edmonton. Johnny Bright was honored throughout his life, not only because of his athletic accomplishments, but also because of his service to the community. He was able to move on beyond the ugly incident which bears his name and helped to repair many of the wounds that were left behind. Johnny Bright at Wikipedia â€” http:

### 3: Johnny Bright - Pioneer in College and Professional Football | Great Black Heroes

*Johnny D. Bright (June 11, - December 14, ) was a professional Canadian football player in the Canadian Football League. He played college football at Drake University.*

Pringle was born in Los Angeles, California. He attended John F. Kennedy High School. He also led the nation that year in all-purpose yardage with a school-record 2,000 yards. Pringle played well enough to be selected 10th overall by the Atlanta Falcons in the NFL draft. However, he would never play a down in the National Football League, spending most of the NFL season on the practice roster although he dressed for the final three games. In three games, Pringle received 22 carries for 100 yards, posting a respectable rushing average in limited action. However, like fellow import running back Robert Hardy, the Eskimos were not high on Pringle and released him. In Sacramento, Pringle became an everyday player, although not a frequent option in the ground game that was led by former NFL running back Mike Oliphant. Still he racked up 1,000 yards and four touchdowns in his only season with the Gold Miners, before being traded in the offseason to the team where he would make his most lasting mark, the then-Baltimore Football Club, later to become the Baltimore Stallions. Baltimore years[ edit ] Going into his third CFL season, Pringle had run the ball 82 times for less than five hundred yards: Despite his lack of carries, however, Pringle became the starting back in Baltimore two games into the season replacing Sheldon Caney. Pringle immediately responded to the opportunity. The year-old went loose in Baltimore, running for a record 1,000 yards and thirteen touchdowns, narrowly missing becoming the first CFL running back to reach the elusive 2,000 yards rushing milestone. He did however set a CFL record with 2,000 yards from scrimmage. It is widely heralded as one of the best CFL games ever. Compared to his remarkable season, 1990 was a slight dropoff for Pringle, but still a remarkable season by any standard. His rushing totals declined to a "mere" 1,000 yards, and while his yards-per-carry fell by. To top it off, Pringle was a playoff workhorse, as he ran for 1,000 yards and four touchdowns in three games. On the strong, powerful legs of Pringle, the Baltimore Stallions made their second straight appearance in the Grey Cup. This time, the Stallions would not be denied, taking the famous "Wind Bowl" over the Calgary Stampeders. After his two seasons in Baltimore, Pringle began to attract more attention from the National Football League. The Denver Broncos signed Pringle to a free agent contract for the NFL season, but he was a late cut from training camp. Montreal Alouettes[ edit ] With no other NFL teams expressing interest in his abilities, Pringle returned to the CFL, following the relocated Baltimore franchise and joining the newly christened Montreal Alouettes late in the season. Pringle played only eight games but rushed for 1,000 yards and five touchdowns. His 1,000 yard season was his worst in a full season as a starter, but it was still an extremely strong season. But for the season, the Als moved permanently to the smaller Percival Molson Stadium, where they regularly drew sell-out crowds. They came to watch the Alouettes, especially Pringle, and he would not disappoint. Pringle ran for only nine touchdowns but nobody in the league much cared: Pringle became the first, and so far only, man in CFL history to run for over 2,000 yards. He also tied his CFL record with 2,000 yards from scrimmage. At 31 years old, Pringle had hit his prime with a bang, and though he would never approach 2,000 yards again, he continued to be an elite back for several years. In 1992, Pringle ran for 1,000 yards, over fewer than in his record-shattering 1990. Moreover, playoff failure continued to dog the Alouettes. Pringle had run for 1,000 yards in his last four playoff games over two seasons, but a disappointing East Division final exit to the eventual champion Hamilton Tiger-Cats had Alouettes fans confused and angry. Pringle also had a touchdown in the Grey Cup game. By the end of the season, Pringle was 34 years old, an advanced age for a power running back. He was beginning to show wear and tear, as he ran for "only" 1,000 yards in that season while fighting nagging injuries all year. In 1993, the Alouettes would win the 90th Grey Cup over the Edmonton Eskimos, but Pringle would not be a big part of the game. Pringle was injured much of the year and feuded publicly with head coach Don Matthews, who believed Pringle was washed up and used running back Lawrence Phillips as his starter even when Pringle was healthy. Pringle, incensed at the treatment, left the Alouettes bitterly at the end of the season, signing with the team he had broken in with: Pringle ran for 1,000 yards, his best total since 1990, and helped the Eskimos reach, and win, the 91st Grey Cup. Despite his age, most analysts believed Pringle breaking these records was not a matter of if, but

when. Pringle ran for 1, yards, fourth in the CFL but a career low in a full, starting season. The season ended on some bitterness for Pringle, however. In the last game of the season, the Eskimos were close to the goal line in a tight game. However, head coach Danny Maciocia called a quarterback sneak that resulted in a score, meaning that Pringle finished the season tied with Reed. Pringle was publicly upset with his head coach, and the controversy may have affected the Eskimos in their playoff loss to the Saskatchewan Roughriders. After the season, Pringle announced his retirement from professional football. He finished with 16, career rushing yards and 20, total yards from scrimmage, both CFL records. He also finished tied with George Reed with career touchdowns. On June 22, , Pringle signed a contract with the Montreal Alouettes and then officially filed his retirement papers, so that he could retire as an Alouette. Career regular season rushing statistics[ edit ] CFL Statistics.

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### 8: johnny bright | eBay

*Warrick Barrett is the author of The Fate Of My Father ( avg rating, 2 ratings, 0 reviews) and Johnny Bright, Champion ( avg rating, 0 ratings, 0.*

### 9: Mike Pringle (Canadian football) - Wikipedia

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