

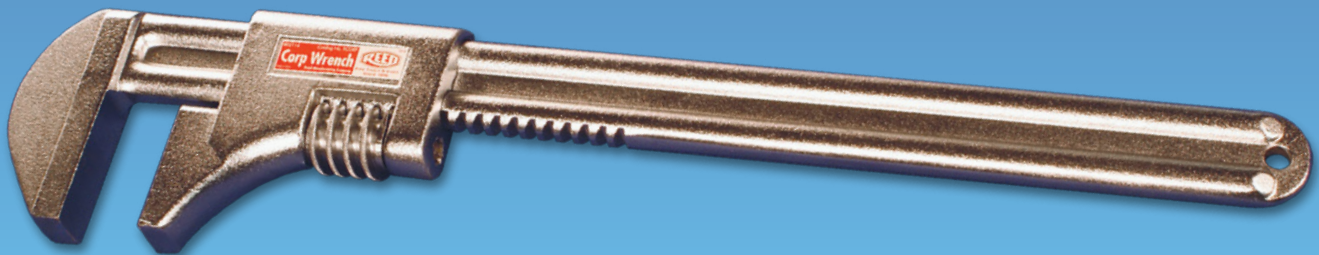
TAKE THE BITE OUT OF BRASS

Distortions created by using a pipe wrench on brass waterworks products, regardless of the manufacturer, have cost contractors and municipalities significant time and money. The amount of time and dollars to replace a leaking valve is several times higher than the original product cost.

A traditional pipe wrench has teeth designed to engage the hard, round surfaces of iron or steel pipe. A pipe wrench can easily damage a relatively soft brass valve with minimal force. Also, typical pipe wrench jaws are 5 to 7 degrees from parallel and designed to tighten when engaged. This condition greatly increases the distortion force applied to brass products because the jaws do not evenly engage parallel wrench flats. Pipe wrenches or loose fitting wrenches can distort the body of a valve, breaking the factory seal and causing the valve to leak.



Using the proper wrench, in accordance with Ford® installation instructions, is the best way to avoid damaging the product and to ensure a reliable installation. The proper tools and correct techniques ensure smoother installations and excellent product performance.



The Ford Meter Box Company, Inc. recommends the RCORP or similar tools because snugly engaged smooth-jawed wrenches do not distort properly installed valves and fittings.





Pumpkins and Mums
Oil on canvas by Marilyn Kruger

OCTOBER 2020

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SEPTEMBER 2020							NOVEMBER 2020							<div><div><div><div></div></div><div>New Moon</div></div><div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div>First Quarter</div></div><div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div>Full Moon</div></div><div><div><div></div><div></div></div><div>Last Quarter</div></div></div>							<div></div>							<div></div>							<div></div>							<div></div>							<div></div>						
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College Football's Famous Rivalries



Much smaller than today's Commander-in-Chief's Trophy, the photo above shows the presentation of the award on October 2, 1929.

Writing about college football currently carries a bit of risk. These “calendar stories” must of necessity be created weeks before publication, and here in early August there is much that is uncertain about this fall’s college gridiron season.

At risk because of the pandemic are many of the sport’s famous rivalries, some of which have been in existence for more than one hundred years. Among the oldest and most renowned of these rivalries are ones between Yale and Harvard, Lafayette and Lehigh, Army and Navy, Cornell and Columbia, and Nebraska and Kansas.

There are dozens of storied rivalries across the nation, and at stake in many of them are trophies, some of which are commonplace objects and others that are somewhat bizarre.

It should come as no surprise that long and sometimes twisted tales lie behind the origin of these trophies. And it should be no surprise that many of the trophies have been targets for good-natured thievery and “kidnapping” among the schools in contention for the prizes.

One of the most unusual trophies is the Platypus Trophy that goes to the winner of the Oregon-Oregon State game. Created in 1959 by an Oregon University art student, the Platypus Trophy resembles a combination of each school’s mascot, a beaver for Oregon State and a duck for Oregon.

The Little Brown Jug, a piece of pottery that cost 30 cents, has been the trophy fought over by Minnesota and Michigan for more than a century. The five-gallon Red Wing Pottery jug became the trophy when the two teams met in 1909. Michigan won, 15 to 6, and the inexpensive water jug became a symbol of this lasting football rivalry.

A common nail keg, the kind once used to ship nails, was for years the prize over which the University of Louisville and the University of Cincinnati fought. The original Keg of Nails went missing many years ago, but the schools quickly came up with a replica. Possession of the trophy represents the winner as being “as tough as nails.” The teams no longer schedule each other, and the trophy has been retired.

The rivalry between Indiana University and Purdue University centers around The Old Oaken Bucket, a trophy introduced to the game in 1925. A common story is that the bucket was found near a well on a farm in southern Indiana, but there are other versions of the origin of this trophy.

Wisconsin and Minnesota battle for Paul Bunyan’s Axe, which was created around the legend of the Northwoods folk hero. The axe is the second trophy to be associated with this long-standing rivalry. The original prize that went to the winner was The Slab of Bacon, a chunk of walnut carved and painted to look like a hunk of bacon.

Of all the trophies up for grabs in games featuring football rivals, The Troll is unique. It holds the reputation of being the ugliest of such prizes. Concordia (Moorhead, Minnesota) and St. Olaf (Northfield, Minnesota) came up with this creation in 1974. It is said that the Norwegian mythological creature was chosen as homage to the Scandinavian heritage of both schools.

What is probably the most distinguished-looking (and likely the most expensive) of all the traveling trophies is the Commander-in-Chief’s Trophy, which is awarded to the winner of the football series among teams of the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Naval Academy and the U.S. Air Force Academy.

The trophy stands 2.5 feet high and weighs a hefty 170 pounds. It is housed each year on the grounds of the winning military school, and among all the trophies contested in college rivalries, it is the one least likely to be stolen.

by Pete Jones