

• • • Football. • • •



In the year 1891 this game, which has become so popular throughout the United States, was first introduced at Georgia. Before this time Virginia, North Carolina, Vanderbilt, Suwanee and a few other colleges had become interested and were making rapid strides toward recognition. Up to this year no colleges as far south as our own had taken up the game at all.

In the fall of '91 Dr. Herty and Dr. Petrie, of Athens, both of whom had attended Johns Hopkins University, became interested in football. Thus, at the time mentioned, these two strove to interest the one hundred students. Day after day they could be seen on the campus, seeking with the students to learn the game. At first the two lines could not be made to approach each other nearer than three yards, and many the practice that was stopped in order to consult the rules on certain points.

Soon, however, the men would face each other, and the game became interesting. The first team was composed of Frey, Gramling, Howell, Frank, Herty, A. O. Halsey, R. B. Nalley, Lane, Shackelford, Kimball, and others. In February of '92 the first inter collegiate contest in this part of the South was played in Atlanta, and Auburn was the opponent. Our men went down in defeat and Auburn went home exultant. The score was 10 to 0. This same year, in March, our team defeated Mercer and came home singing songs, and 50 to 0 was the tune.

In the fall of '92 the Trustees placed the ban of disapproval on all athletics, and the new-born zeal of the 'Varsity man was suppressed but not subdued. In the spring of '93 the students celebrated with bonfire and parade the repeal of this edict.

With such men as Butler, Brown, McCutcheon, Nalley, Shackelford, and Halsey ready to play, a team in '93 was a certainty. The team this year was defeated by a team representing the Georgia School of Technology, and by Vanderbilt. Three games were won in the latter part of the season, as wonderful team work had developed.

The next year Auburn was defeated, in Atlanta, by a score of 8 to 10, and the season was a pronounced success. This year Sewanee, heretofore above our class, was played a close game. Geo. P. Butler was captain in both '93 and '94.

The season of '95 saw Sewanee snowed under, and North Carolina played two close games, a thing before undreamed of. Nalley, Stubbs, Kent, Killorin, Morris and F. Price did fine work this season. Too many hard games caused a disastrous ending, and Auburn was victorious by a score of 16 to 6.

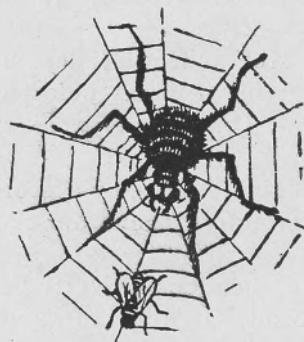
The most successful season in our history, all points considered, was that of '96. Auburn was defeated—12 to 6; North Carolina was sent home in tears by the score of 24 to 16, and Sewanee went down to the tune of 26 to 0. Georgia had risen to first class and Captain Nalley, steady and earnest, received the congratulations of an admiring student body. This year a \$30,000 debt was paid and \$600.00 left in the treasury of the Athletic Association.

With efficient officers and brilliant prospects did last season begin. Scores of men were out every afternoon and the whole student body was enthusiastic. The season gone before had left us a yearning for the Southern championship, and circumstances seemed auspicious. Several practice games were played and won. All looked forward to the great game with Virginia. Thousands assembled in Atlanta and saw the contest begin. The weight from Virginia could not be resisted and our boys, pluckily and game to the last, fought stubbornly every inch. The game was lost, but a greater loss than this was ours, for on the side-lines lay our full-back, wounded. Von Gammon died a hero's death, and the students will ever love him for his honesty and gentle, manly bearing.

After this accident the season was declared at an end and the team disbanded. Manager Mitchell deserves great credit for his careful management under such trying circumstances. Captain Kent worked hard and to him is due much of the assured success of the team.

From the above it is seen that in five years, from 1892 to 1897, our Football team has risen from obscurity to foremost place on the Southern gridiron. It might be interesting to note that during this period the attendance at the University has increased from about two hundred to over three hundred and that a broader intellectuality pervades our collegiate atmosphere.

E. E. P.



* * * **Football Management.** * * *



'97 Management.

MITCHELL, MANAGER.

McCARTHY, COACH.

KENT, CAPTAIN.

'98 Management.

WALDEN, CAPTAIN.

POMEROY, MANAGER,

McCARTHY, COACH.