

WRIGHT IS ELECTED BEAR CAPTAIN

BILL ALDERMAN SECOND CHOICE OF TEAMMATES

Two Star Athletes Chosen to Guide 1929 Gridiron Aggregation

PLAYERS GIVEN BANQUET

By Sam M. Kendrick

Arthur "Yank" Wright, one of Mercer's outstanding athletes, was elected captain of the 1929 football team at a banquet given at the Dempsey hotel last Friday night in honor of the team. Wilton Alderman was given the honor of alternate captain. Both players are backfield men, the giant "Art" Wright being a former running mate of the famed "Phoney" Smith at the position of halfback, and Alderman, fullback, a player who has received wide recognition for his punting ability.

Besides his renown as a football player, Wright is creating a sensation in basketball circles this season at the position of running guard. The two leaders form a brilliant pair on the gridiron and are expected to place Mercer in the spotlight in S. I. A. A. clashes of the coming football season. Wright and Alderman succeed "Butch" Hammack, last year's grid captain, and "Buck" Loser, alternate captain of the preceding season.

Twenty-one members of last year's football team were honored at the banquet, along with members of the Mercer athletic board of control which is composed of Prof. C. B. Wray, chairman of the board, G. L. Carver, W. T. Smalley, Coach J. D. Blair, Dr. E. T. Holmes, Herbert Smart, and Dr. Spright Dowell, president of Mercer.

Wrights Speaks

Dr. E. T. Holmes, who acted as toastmaster, after the election of football leaders for next fall, called on the new captain for a speech. Evidently "Art" was not expecting such, and he apparently wished he could at that moment have been on the gridiron instead of at a sumptuous banquet. He rose slowly, and blushing like a young school girl, made a noble effort at speech-making. He expressed his appreciation for honor which had been bestowed upon him, assured his teammates that he would fight hard during the next season, and asked that all football men work hard to uphold the honor of Mercer. He closed by pledging his support to the new coach, Lake Russell.

Buck Loser was called upon next by Dr. Holmes. Knowing the art of handling words and figures for his three years experience as quarterback on the Bear football team, Buck arose and told his teammates and the others present how he regretted the fact that with the termination of last year's football season his career as a Mercer player was ended.

After Loser's speech, several other members of the team were called on for talks. Among these were Ed Faust, Lamar Plunkett, Clarence Stovall, and Harvey Stipe. They all expressed their beliefs that Mercer would have a good team next year, their appreciation for the banquet, and those who will not return next season regretted that their careers in the football world at Mercer were over.

Dean W. T. Smalley, a member of the athletic board, was the next speaker. He pledged his wholehearted support to the Mercer athletic program.

Major J. D. Blair, at present acting athletic director of Mercer, in his talk, spoke approvingly of the new coach and said that Mr. Russell was heart and soul behind the Mercer team, and that Mercer possesses as good material for a football team as any other school in the S. I. A. A.

Letter from Coach Blair

A letter sent by the newly elected coach, Lake Russell, who was unable



Arthur (Yank) Wright

FRESHMEN TEAM TAKES ROAD TRIP

Baby Bears Play Three Games During Week-end; Douglas Tonight

The freshmen basketball team was to have played Brewton-Parker in Vidalia last night, and will meet Douglas A. and M. in Douglas tonight and Middle Georgia college in Cochran tomorrow night.

The freshmen have already defeated the Brewton-Parker team this season. Little is known of the strength of the Douglas quint, but the Cochran collegians are expected to furnish stiff opposition for the cubs.

After their return to Macon the next game for the frosh will probably be with the Vienna Wonder Five. The following players made the South Georgia trip: McGinty, Marshall, Braselton, Wilkes, Ekeridge, Hollingsworth, Coursey, Kilpatrick, Mosley and Carson.

to attend the banquet, was next read by Dean C. B. Wray. The coach's letter conveyed his regrets that he could not attend the banquet, further stating that he would work hard to help develop a winning team and that he was anxious to meet his charges for next football season.

Following a short talk by Herbert Smart, Macon business man and loyal supporter of Mercer athletics, and Dr. Spright Dowell, Mercer's president, activities were brought to a close by Dr. E. T. Holmes, of Macon, the toastmaster of ceremonies, with a short address.

Before the banquet ended, it was announced that seventeen men would be awarded letters at a later date. Recipients of these letters were Buck Loser, Butch Hammack, Amos Godby, Harry Lane, Skinny Gear, Ross Adams, Art Wright, Joe Matt, Joe Merritt, Bill Alderman, Harvey Stipe, Frank Branch, Brewer Corbin, Luther Ray, Lynwood Mallard, Lamar Plunkett, and student manager George Barnes. Jack Freeman, Frank McWilliams, Clarence Stovall, Ed Faust, Whit Tedder, and Hamilton Middlebrooks were other members of the squad who were present.

BEARS TO MEET AUBURN TIGERS IN SERIES HERE

Plainsmen Cagers Play Mercer Quintet Monday and Tuesday Nights

TEAM NOW ON ROAD TRIP

The Mercer basketball team will return Sunday night after a five-day road trip through Tennessee, and will open a two game series with the Auburn Tigers at the Riverside arena, Monday night.

Coach Oscar Long, accompanied by Mallard, Campbell, Corbin, Stovall, Wright, Carpenter, Bridgea, Devaughn, Matt, and McWilliams left for Atlanta Tuesday afternoon where they met the Oglethorpe Stormy Petrels Tuesday night. Wednesday night they played the Dalton A. C. five in Dalton, and Thursday night encountered their second S. I. A. A. foe of the trip, the Chattanooga Moccasins, in Chattanooga.

Tonight Mercer will meet the Vanderbilt Commodores in Nashville. Although the game will be close, Mercer is doped to win. Coach Long and his tutelages will stop off at Murfreesboro, Tenn., tomorrow night to play Tennessee Teachers college in the final game of the trip.

Monday night Mercer will meet Auburn at the Riverside arena in the first of a two game series. According to the record of the Plainsmen, the Bears should be the victors in both contests.

The Blue Devils of Duke university defeated Mercer Monday night, 47-43, in the first college game that the Bears have lost this season. The close score indicates that it might have been the best game of the season, and it was.



Lake F. Russell

—Courtesy Macon Telegraph

This is to introduce to the Mercer students Coach Lake F. Russell, who has recently signed a contract as head football coach and athletic director of the university, to succeed Bernice Moore, who is now coaching at L. S. U.

Although young in years, being only 30, Coach Russell is old in coaching experience. For the past seven years he has been director of athletics and coach of three major sports at Carson and Newman college, Jeffersonville, Tenn. Under his tutelage, the basketball team there has established the enviable record of 96 victories out of 112 games played. His football and baseball teams also have been successful.

Coach Russell is expected to pay an early visit to Macon and Mercer, at which time he will become acquainted with the men who will compose his football team of next fall.

PLAYERS BEGIN DAILY TRAINING EARLY IN WEEK

Twenty-five Men Report to Coach Blair at Alumni Field

RUSSELL IS COMING SOON

Spring football training began in earnest Monday afternoon at alumni field when 25 candidates reported to Coach Blair to begin preliminary warming up exercises. The squad will be increased to 35 men by the first of next week.

Major J. D. Blair, assistant coach, is in charge of the squad, and is sending his charges through light workouts each afternoon from 3:30 to 4:30 o'clock at alumni field. Lake Russell, recently elected head coach, will be here for one week near the end of the spring practice to look over the men who will compose the varsity next fall.

The men from last year's squad who are working out daily are: Alderman, Adams, Branch, Freeman, Gear, Godby, Plunkett, Waller, Matthews and Lane. In addition, the following from last year's freshman team have reported: Hollingsworth, Vaughn, Davis, Simmons, Price, Potts, Wilkes, and Lamson.

Includes Class Players

The squad also includes a number of men picked from the class teams by Coach Blair. Among these are Suddarth, Kirkland, Sewall, Jones, Lancaster, Bowen, and Paulk. Coach Blair will select additional men from the class teams to fill out the squad.

Captain-elect "Yank" Wright, Mallard, Matt, Corbin, and Stovall, of the varsity basketball team, and McGinty, of the freshman team, will be unable to report until the close of the basketball season.

With the letter men from last year, some promising material from the freshman team, and possible finds from the class teams, Coach Blair hopes to give Mercer a winning football team next fall. Ten games have been scheduled for the coming season, six on the road and four at home. In these ten games Mercer will meet some of the strongest teams of the S. I. A. A.

VALENTINES

STEVE POPPER GIFTS

When a Feller Needs a Friend : : : : By BRIGGS

YOU WANT TO CROSS THE STREET, BUT ZWIG-S-SH COMES A CAR THIS WAY.

"AND ZWIG-S-S-SH" COMES A CAR THAT WAY

AND THEN THEY COME ALONG FROM OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS

FINALLY YOU GET UP ALL YOUR COURAGE AND START ACROSS

AND RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE YOU BEGIN TO COUGH

WHY DON'T YOU SMOKE OLD GOLD CIGARETTES AND KEEP THE BALLING UP THE ROAD? GET A CIGARETTE

ALL RIGHT, OFFICER, GET THE OUT OF THE ROAD! I'VE GOT A CIGARETTE

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... not a cough in a carload

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