

FROM THE BRUIN SPORTLOG

By ALFRED DAVINO

THE BEAR GROWLS

All this week the Mercer Bears have been going through their practice sessions in tight-lipped silence, with a determined look in their eyes. It is not an air of gloom that pervades Alumni field these days, but rather one of dogged determination and persistence; there is a hard task facing the team Saturday, and the boys have decided that this one must be accomplished successfully.

Bitter Disappointment

Three weeks have they gone in search of victory, and for three weeks they have had nothing but bitter disappointment with which to assuage their bumps and bruises. Riding in the wake of one of the best teams ever to represent Mercer on the gridiron, they have been bitterly assailed for their failure to emulate the deeds of their predecessors.

That this attitude on the part of heretofore loyal supporters is unjustifiable, and that an air of wounded pride least becomes those who fain would bask in the reflected glory of a great Mercer team, is the contention of those who hold fast to their faith in Coach Russell and the team. Those who ask what is wrong with Mercer football and who allude to the Presbyterian debacle and the Loyola defeat in proof of their assertion that Mercer football is on the wane, were prominent among the group, who a year ago, after the Georgia classic, heaped praises indiscriminately on coaches and players.

Confidence Needed

It is indeed easy to back a winner, as both Major Blair and Coach Russell pointed out not long ago in chapel, but what does it avail a team to enjoy the unconditional support of its followers if in time of need these same backers begin to make obvious their feeling of uneasiness. A feeling of uncertainty is not fitting for those who are wholeheartedly for the Mercer team—win or lose.

The greatly improved playing of Tyson and Porter in the Birmingham-Southern game has caused the coaching staff to be a bit uncertain of the starting forwards. These two have come along in fine fashion since the first of the season.

"The General" Back

Bob Lee, who played one minute against the Panthers, is expected to start against the Homecoming foe. His ankle, with the proper rest, has come around satisfactorily, and the General says he is ready to do his bit Saturday; if the flashy quarterback is really fit for Furman, that Hurricane may slow down to a Zephyr.

Harry Lichter played a whale of a game against the Alabamans last Saturday, making a majority of the tackles all by himself; all in all, the rugged Detroit was a potent factor in the Mercer defense in Slagtown.

Charley Browne is still ailing with that bad knee of his, and will not be ready to start Saturday. This makes the fourth week out for Browne who was injured in pre-season practice.

Altonen Out

Another guard, and perhaps our best one, on the casualty list, is Carl Altonen; he is carrying his hand in a cast, and the injury has not mended sufficiently to enable him to play any time soon. He definitely will not play Saturday.

Allen Kayoed

Allen was knocked out in the Birmingham encounter and though he continued to play, and efficiently too, he did not come to until after dinner that night. He does not remember a thing that happened after he was hurt until several hours later. Reflex action, instinct or something?

Tyson played a great part of the game with the cut under his eye bleeding profusely. He had several stitches taken in the cut after he collided last Thursday with Lichter's elbow.

Tomorrow's game is the big game of the year for Mercer. It will be a great day and a great game; let us all squeeze for Bear victory. See y'all at the game!

Francis Schmidt, Ohio State University (Columbus) football coach, is a captain in the 847th Infantry, A. E. F.

Albright College (Reading, Pa.) colored approximately 25 students during the past summer to the general repairs on campus buildings. They averaged about \$5 each for their work.

More than 2,000 cubic yards of the River bottom soil were moved to the University of Kansas (Lawrence) campus to insure the growth of foliage, as the soil on the university grounds was found to be too sterile even for hardy plants.

Seven snakes, including two venomous rattles, are not in the big collection of Hobart College (Geneva, N. Y.).

Five dancing lessons were offered to Loyola University (Chicago) students so that some of the students would have an unusual experience from dancing lessons.

BEARS BREW STORM FOR FURMAN SQUAD AT MERCER STADIUM

Local Team Will Fight Hard To Turn Hurricane Into Mild Breeze

By ALFRED DAVINO

Saturday is the big day of football in Macon. Furman, the old rival from South Carolina comes to engage the Mercer Bears on the Homecoming date. That it will prove to be a thrilling encounter, goes without saying, for these two teams put up a titanic struggle every time they meet. Last year the game was played in Greenville with neither team able to break the 6-6 deadlock. At that time the Bears were in a rather crippled condition as a result of the Georgia struggle in which the whole regular backfield was injured to such an extent that none of them was able to take the field against the Purple Hurricane.

Figured To Win

The South Carolinians figured to win that one without too much difficulty but they were outplayed throughout the game by the Orange and Black, scoring on a long pass to Bob Smith in the closing minutes of the game to tie Mercer's six points.

Won In 1932

In 1932 the Furman team won a heartbreaking 2-0 victory from Mercer as the result of a blocked punt which was converted into a safety. In this game, which was remarkable for its exhibition of defensive play, Furman made not one single first down. This year, the Hurricane is going to present a strong outfit against the Bears; although defeated by Georgia they came back to hand Wofford a trouncing. They still have Bill Hutt, that rugged back who has been a thorn in the sides of the Bears for the past two years; no doubt he will prove just as troublesome to the defense this year as he has been in the two previous games.

His playing last year was a big factor in the result of the game. He will have adequate assistance, too, in running with the ball. Furman, this season, boasts a set of backs who can kick, pass or run with equal ease. With four triple threat backs to face, Mercer is in for a trying afternoon.

Passing Game

Furman has shown in its games thus far that it has a particularly effective passing attack; in this connection it may be remembered that both of Birmingham-Southern's touchdowns were made directly on aerials, in last week's encounter. This strength in the air, coupled with a set of sweet running backs, is the assurance that the game is going to prove to be a thriller.

The Mercer Bears, smarting under the third defeat in as many starts, are bound to be truly ferocious in their desperate attempt to regain lost prestige. The Orange and Black will be ready to sacrifice anything for a victory. The unwanted dregs of defeat are bitter in the mouths of the men, and they are anxious to replace them with the fruits of victory. Saturday will see a Bear team fighting for its very right to exist.

Too Much Expected

At the beginning of the season there was much expected from an almost entirely untried sophomore aggregation—perhaps too much; for the boys while possessing a goodly amount of ability, were

MERCER DROPS GAME AS PANTHERS PROVE SUPREMACY ON GRID

Winners Score Twice In First Half To Put Game On Ice

BEARS STAGE FIGHT

The Mercer Bears met defeat Saturday afternoon at the hands of Birmingham-Southern Panthers, 14-0. Both touchdowns were made on passes over the goal line, one in each of the first two quarters. On two different occasions, Mercer held Southern for four downs inside the Bear three yard line. It marked the third defeat in as many starts for the Mercersians, the first two games having been dropped to Presbyterian and Loyola on successive week-ends.

Long Runs

The game was featured by long runs by the Panther backs and a fine aerial attack which was instrumental in producing the scores. Bloodworth made several good runs, one of them for forty yards in returning a punt. The defensive play of Harry Lichter, NeSmith and Red Tyson was outstanding for the defeated Bears.

Lichter intercepted several Panther passes deep in his own territory. NeSmith and Tyson were in the Alabamans' backfield making many a tackle during the afternoon. The Bear attack was strong in several spots but the Orange and Black could not sustain the power when in scoring position and the ball went over to the Panthers on each occasion.

First Quarter

In the first quarter Bloodworth returned Davis' kickoff to the 20 and kicked after two unsuccessful attempts at the line. Birmingham punted to Bloodworth who brought the ball back to the twenty again. Neither team could gain with running plays and the quarter was featured by the kicking of Bloodworth and McKay, with the former getting a bit the better of the exchanges.

With the ball on Mercer's 48 yard stripe, Johnson bucked twice for five yards and McKay passed to Teal for 30 yards, placing the ball on Mercer's 20. The Panthers picked up five yards on two plays and then McKay passed to Haygood on the goal line for a touchdown; Davis added the extra point.

Second Quarter

On the first play of the second quarter, Teal broke loose around left end for 40 yards, being tackled from behind by Allen. On the very next play he again skirted the same flank for 20 more, placing the ball on the Mercer 30 yard

young and inexperienced. That situation obtains practically unchanged on the eve of the Furman game, but those untried sophomores are tempered as a result of the action they have had to see because of the injuries sustained by the older men. This collection of circumstances justifies the prediction that Saturday's game will be replete with action and playing of the highest order.

Colorful Crowd

A colorful crowd will attend the game which is being sponsored by the student body under the guidance of the Blue Key Fraternity. Alumni from way back have sent in for reservations, and with the attendance of the Students and other Bear supporters, the proper backing of the Mercer team is an assured fact.

stripe. After two attempts at running the ends, Teal passed over the goal line to McKay for the second touchdown; Davis again kicked the extra point. Score: Birmingham-Southern 14; Mercer 0.

Third Quarter

Davis kicked to Allen at the beginning of the third quarter; the Mercer back returned the ball to the Mercer 25 where two tries by Smith and Bloodworth failed to produce the necessary yardage. Bloodworth punted to McKay who returned the ball to the midfield marker. Teal fumbled and McKay tried an unsuccessful pass. McKay then punted to Bloodworth who returned the ball to the Mercer 45 yard stripe.

On a fake pass, Teal ran the ball to the Mercer 3 yard line. A fumble, an incomplete pass, an unsuccessful end run, and then a four yard gain was the best the Panthers could do with their scoring opportunity, and Mercer took the ball on downs. Bloodworth tried a pass which was short of the intended receiver and the kick he made was returned by McKay to the Mercer 40. Birmingham punted to Bloodworth who made a beautiful return to the Mercer 46 yard line, as the quarter ended.

Bloodworth and Smith failed to make first down in three tries, at the start of the last quarter, and Bloodworth punted, the ball being downed by Hemple of Mercer on

the 1-yard line. McKay punted to Bloodworth who brought the ball back to the Panther's 10. From this point, however, Mercer could not gain and the ball went over to Birmingham-Southern on downs. The Panthers punted out of danger and an exchange of punts followed, in which Bloodworth got off a fine boot which travelled 50 yards. An endrun by Teal was smeared by Lichter and Warlick, and McKay punted. On a perfectly executed play, Bloodworth to Warlick to Morris, Mercer gained 51 yards. Morris gained 30 yards himself before being brought down by a Panther back. At this point Bob Lee entered the game for Mercer; Bloodworth tossed a pass which was intercepted by Johnson who ran the ball to his own 37 yard marker. McCall broke through left guard for 30 yards as the final whistle blew. Score: Birmingham-Southern 14; Mercer 0.

Charles Helm, field and soil expert at the University of Missouri (Columbia), saved that institution's gridiron from being ruined by the drought by keeping the native blue grass watered to the saturation point all during the summer.

Henry L. Green, Chicago, a graduate of the University Wisconsin class of 1872, is that institution's oldest living graduate. He is 83 years old.

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