



FOOTBALL STAYS

The trustees have given football back to the students and what now arises is "What are the students going to be able to do with it? We have never seen or heard of any plan exactly like this rather indefinite one that they have left for us. But the one thing that means most to us who signed the petition is that they didn't take football away. We're got football and it's up to us.

Along the line of what our situation without intercollegiate sports would have been, there are several things worth mentioning. Most important is the fact that no institution without intercollegiate competition can maintain a semblance of school spirit comparable to those who have arch rivals. Let us hope that Mercer will always profit by the pitiful experiences of the schools that have neither athletics nor its complement, school spirit.

Another thing, it can be done. We mean a small school still can play football and come out with a respectable record. Lafayette, a school of 827 students, has made an amazing undefeated record this fall against some of the nation's best teams. St. Mary's has long been a football power on the west coast, yet it has only 507 students. Not so many years ago, the whole nation sat up and took notice when Little Centre college beat Harvard. Chattanooga, a Mercer opponent with an enrollment of 571, always plays good ball and never less has less than 6,000 people at one of their home games.

This happens to be one of the weeks near Christmas that is not Thanksgiving, but this column certainly gives thanks that the trustees didn't take football away. That long-sought-after victory over Georgia may yet come, and we now know that our football fame will continue in the foreground.

Basketeers Begin Work For Season

Team Opens Season Against SGC Five In Gym Next Week

Tuesday marked the first practice of what promises to be one of the best basketball teams at Mercer in several years.

The nine boys that reported for the practice immediately began preparations for a game at Porter gym next Friday with the South Georgia Tigers.

Coach Joe Dougherty has five returnees and three members of last year's fine freshmen team with which to build a team. Over half of the team members are more than six feet tall.

The return to school of Don Spice has sent the Bears' hopes of their first Dixie Conference championship to a new height. It was Spice who teamed with a fellow townsman, Rex McIlvaine, to score over 500 points at Gordon Military College. These two, receiving passes from the dependable Herbert Norman are expected to form a definite scoring threat. Wallace Lumpkin, an ex-Lanier long-shot artist has joined the squad and strengthens the guard position.

There are five All-State players on the squad. Spice and McIlvaine from Gordon, Herbert Norman from Norman Park, Billy McCowen from Lanier and Jimmy Aitkens from SOC. It is a well balanced squad with plenty of scoring power and height.

There will be only one game before the Christmas vacation but during the winter a full schedule will be played. The pre-season game will be next Friday night.

The squad list and the players' positions: forwards, Bill Nee, Roger Nelson, McIlvaine and Aitkens; centers, Tom Heaton and Spice; guards, Bill Culp, Norman, Lumpkin and McCowen.



TONY PAGE



CARL STAGER

Bears to Look to Juniors For Principal Team Support

With 10 members of the Mercer ball up for graduation this year, seven junior men are left to provide the backbone of the 1941 football team. Among those seven, Stager and Page probably will be outstanding next year.

Little Carl Stager, the fast stepping back, makes up for his size in fight. The boy from Akron is a hard runner, evasive, and a tough one to stop.

Tony Page, wild running back-field ace, is full of spirit and is out there trying every minute. His playing has improved greatly this past season, and he should be in even better shape during the next season.

Tom Heaton, the banged-up end, if he has no future injuries should develop into a good defensive and offensive player.

"Tanks" Wary is one of the best men in the line. He started out as guard but was shifted to tackle this year. Probably the heaviest player Mercer has, he throws his weight around in a manner that can mean nothing else but spirited aggressiveness.

Dizadyk, Karsznua and McIlvaine undoubtedly will be called upon to do plenty of playing next year. These three boys are all hard-running, fast-stepping, line-plunging fullbacks. Dizadyk keeps the team's spirit up with his endless chatter, while Handsome Harry really opens a hole when he hits the opposing line. McIlvaine is the victim of the accident jinx, having been banged up some this season, but he is still a good man in defense work, and should go far next year towards being Mercer's best.

The way things look now, and a few new faces to see next spring, Mercer should be ready for a good season in '41 and all set to go.

PERSONAL NOTICE in the Daily Iowan, University of Iowa:

"JOHN — after this when you borrow my pants bring them back the next morning. I have 8 o'clock class." Furthermore, it's hard for the average college man to have any class at all these days without trousers.

Intra-Murals Are Delayed

The combination of unfavorable weather conditions and the uncertainty of the athletic situation caused postponement of the intramural program until the winter quarter.

Coach Joe Dougherty announced that the two basketball tournaments will be held after Christmas holidays. There has been no definite date set for the touch football league that the board hoped to start this year.

Other events scheduled to be run off before the close of school are tennis, horseshoes, softball, track and golf. Most of these will probably take place during the spring.

Then there's the story of the Chinese laundryman who was hit by an automobile while crossing the street. He went down with flying collars!

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