



Dr. Dowell Congratulates Bobby Hooks on His Selection as Mercer Coach

BOBBY HOOKS RECEIVES THE HAND OF WELCOME from Mercer's president, Dr. Spright Dowell, as members of the athletic committee look on approvingly. Hooks was selected to coach the football team succeeding Lake Russell who had previously resigned. As Hooks' assistant the board selected alumnus Billy Smith who has been in Fitzgerald for the last three seasons. The selection ended a two months' consultation period during which time a great many applicants were considered. Reading from left to right in the picture are J. D. Blair, H. P. Fleming, G. E. Carver, Hooks, Josiah Crudup, W. A. Bootle, Dr. Dowell and W. T. Smalley.

New Coaches Plan Revision Of Football

Continued from page 1
schools, with 21 victories and 3 defeats.

The special committee that nominated the coach was composed of H. P. Fleming, W. A. Bootle and Hamilton Holt. Other members of the athletic board that unanimously approved the selection were Hugh Hill and faculty representatives W. T. Smalley, G. E. Carver, Josiah Crudup and J. D. Blair.

The latter, who is one of the leading football officials of games played in the South Georgia sector, said that the 1940 Valdosta team, which was one of the championship eleven's that Hooks produced, was the best coached high school team he had ever seen.

No exact date for the start of spring practice has been set by the new coach and no limit on the number of candidates has been decided because much work has to be done.

To Install Notre Dame System

Being installed at Mercer the Notre Dame system which places stress on speed. This will replace the Warner system used here for the past 12 years, which had power plays as its threat. The changes point toward a wide open game with plenty of passes and deception. Mercer will have a colorful "raid" of ball that can rival the modified Notre Dame system used by Lamar high for a number of years.

Cheer Leaders Seek Improved Yelling

Cheerleaders Helen, Katherine, Marie, Hagen and George Hummert have requested that all Mercer students sit on the north stands in a bay and yell. The band will be on the same side and will help whip it up.

Yelling at the last two home games has picked up considerably and with complete cooperation from the students, a new peak of team spirit may be reached.

The practice drills that were very much enjoyed in the past way have been improved.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

By weighing the game Mercer played with Mississippi college last night and the one that comes off tonight fans will be able to form a definite idea of how strong the basketball team really is. The Choctaws annually produce one of the leading teams in the conference and can be used as a gauge on the strength of the other teams. These two games will have to take a back seat in favor of the Battle of the Year Tuesday, against the Dogs from Athens. This contest should be played before a full house and said full house should not be disappointed with the interesting game the teams are bound to play. But, see you tonight, and LET'S ALL YELL!

ANOTHER DEBT

Our school is in debt. All of us know that. On top of this, the school recently incurred a large indebtedness that possibly can never be fully repaid. That obligation is the one all Mercerians owe to Mr. H. P. Fleming who has directed the recent movements that saved intercollegiate athletics for the institution. None of us can appreciate the hours of time that this true friend of the school has spent during the last few weeks arranging every-

thing. viewed went as high as six, and the lengthy talks, took up most of the day. He went out of town several times arranging for the new conference of which Mercer is a member. His trips to Tattall Square have been innumerable and of prime importance.

After the Presbyterian game, he told his little daughter, who too is an ardent Mercer fan, that he had to see Mr. Hubbard a minute. She was heard to remark, "Daddy, you always have to see Mr. Hubbard when you come to Mercer." That statement sums up the extent of the debt Mercer owes one of its staunchest supporters, Mr. H. P. Fleming.

HERE AND THERE

People hate excuse makers and usually ridicule their stories, but most of us like to agree with the leaders who think Mercer's second loss of the year might have been averted with a little better officiating. That consoling theory

Continued on page 6

Trip Adds 2 Wins, 1 Loss

The Mercer basketball team came back from its recent trip to South Carolina with a season's record of four victories and only two defeats.

Though the hoopmen started slowly in the Newberry tilt, they were rapidly overcoming a large lead that Newberry had piled up, when a combination of several bad breaks and some questionable officiating cost them the game 47 to 45. Bill Nee shot a field goal, and at the same time McIlvaine was being fouled. The two points should have counted and one official signaled the score-keeper to tally the score, but as play was resumed, the other official, who had called the foul, ran over to the sidelines and ordered the points to be nullified.

The next night the boys took out their grievances on a hapless Erskine squad to the tune of 47 to 37. It was a nip and tuck battle until half time, but after intermission the game was not even close.

Culp and Heaton were high men in Mercer's second win over Presbyterian this season. The quintet stayed in there and fought throughout the entire game and came out on the long end of a 55 to 46 score.

Bears Play Mississippi in Gym Tonight

Mercer will end its two-game series with Mississippi college tonight in Porter gym at 8 o'clock.

This series is one of the most important of the year for the Brums as the Choctaws are reputed to have one of the Dixie conference's strongest quintets.

A fast-breaking offense employed by Mississippi college last night finally wore down Mercer's only three available guards and a final spurt enabled the Choctaws to take the initial game of their series 49-42. It was a typical Mercer-Mississippi clash, rough and tumble with the result in doubt up to the end.

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