



**Concerning Mercer's Win over the Teachers . . .**

Only one word describes Mercer's victory over Georgia State Teacher's college last Saturday night—unimpressive. The score, 25-0, made good reading in newspaper headlines Sunday morning, but those spectators who witnessed the game definitely saw a poor exhibition of football. The game started off with a bang, sparked by the scoring of two Mercer touchdowns soon in the first quarter. At first impression, it seemed as if the Bears had hit the stride everyone had been hoping for. As the game progressed, fumbles, mixed signals, and several mistakes on the part of individuals slowed down the fast pace.

The game did, however, show what Mercer's team can do when everything is clicking. By this week-end, an even more improved team will be facing Wofford, and this column believes those mistakes won't be so evident. Hooks is still building—not only during this season, but he will still be building for a greater football team next year and the year after. Another week has passed since the two weeks' lapse between the Georgia game and the Teacher game. Hooks knows how to utilize the weeks' practice between games, and Wofford should fall under the tricky offense that the Bears possess—provided that it clicks.

**"Hoggy" Hilton Main Cog in Wofford Offense**

Several years ago when your columnist was in high school he heard of a high-scoring basketball forward in the Ninth District tournaments. "Hoggy" Hilton sparked Canton high school's basketball team, and, incidentally, Canton went to several state high school basketball playoffs. Up thar' in the mountains of north Georgia they really played the game. Later, your columnist heard of a little Georgia Military College back who was doing some fancy stepping for that junior college on the gridiron. Then, last year, it was learned that the same Hilton was prancing for Wofford in Spartanburg, S. C.

"Hoggy" Hilton will be in town with the Wofford squad, and he is the main backfield man to watch. Reports coming out of Spartanburg indicate that Hilton is small, fast, and plenty of dynamite. And you can bet the Bears will see plenty of him for sixty minutes in this week's game. The Old Gold and Black, Wofford student newspaper, speaks of "football a la Hilton."

**Little Man Always Shines on the Gridiron**

Spectators like small, fast backfield men. Small players always get plenty of publicity, and the public is built up to a point where they will, naturally, watch for the little guy during a game. For example: Sammy Baugh, hefty but still little "Stumpy" Thompson, Johnny Bosch and many others. In spite of the liking for little players, football is still a big man's game. Norris Dean, Tech freshman coach, used to say that he preferred the good big man to the unusually good little player. He said that the smaller man stands a greater chance of being injured, and the big man could just naturally take it. Tech's Bosch is really an outstanding example of the little man that can take the punishment. The last time Alabama played Tech at Grant Field, your truly was sitting close to the sidelines when both guards and one Alabama tackle broke through on a pass play and hit Bosch—three big men at once. While officials weren't looking, one of the linemen slugged little Johnny in the ribs—he had been giving them plenty of trouble with his perfectly thrown passes, and this was a direct attempt to get rid of him for the rest of the game. Ordinarily, this type of roughness would have shaken even the toughest of the tough, and many good backfield men would have been carried off the field after being hit by nearly seven hundred pounds of Alabama beef. Well, little Johnny was the first one on his feet; he just laughed at them while they hobbled back to the lineup. That guy can take it.

Still, football is a big man's game . . .

**Glancing at State Football Talk**

Mississippi proved that the Bulldog growl wasn't so loud . . . Georgia was lucky to even tie that one . . . This column figured right on the Tech-Notre Dame game, as did every other predictor in the country . . . Harry Mehre, Mississippi coach who was ousted from Georgia several years ago just loves to play Georgia . . . We can remember when some few predicted Mehre as on his way out when he left Georgia . . . With a wealth of football material at Mississippi, Mehre has had some good teams, and he licked the pants off the Bulldogs after leaving Athens town to be followed by Joel Hunt . . . Bulldogs ain't ready for a bowl of anything, but, Georgia alumni say, just wait . . . Many moons will pass before the cracker state sends another team to the Rose Bowl—yes, another . . . Remember? Tech went in 1928.

**ALT's Lead Volley Ball Tournament**

The Alpha Lamda Tau fraternity is setting the pace in the intra-mural volleyball tournament which began Monday afternoon. The ALT's won the first match of the tourney when they overcame an ATO team 21-10, 21-16. Their second win was over Kappa Alpha Wednesday afternoon.

Tied for second place in the tourney are four teams: Sigma Alpha Epsilon, as a result of a victory over Phi Delta Theta in a three game match; Kappa Alpha, who ousted the Kappa Sigma sextet; Alpha Tau Omega who won out over Barfield's Health Club; and the defending Ministerial champions who began the season with a 21-8, 21-14 win

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**Bruins Down Profs 25-0**

The Mercer Bear showed its mettle last Saturday as it rolled over the Professors from Statesboro to the tune of 25-0. The first seven minutes of play proved that Mercer greatly out-classed the game but light squad from the Teacher's college.

The first quarter and most of the second showed Mercer rolling up first downs and points almost at will. Shortly after the first whistle, the Bear team was down on the Teacher's four yard line and Hodges slithered through for the score. The point was bad. The Teachers received but had to punt, and swivel-hipped Yancey and Harrison quickly had the ball back at the Teacher's door. Big Tony Page slashed off tackle to hit pay-dirt for Mercer for the second time in seven minutes.

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**Bears Primed For Victory Over Wofford**

After a week of practice in which pass defense was mainly stressed, the Mercer Bears will meet Wofford College of Spartanburg, S. C., Saturday at 2:30.

The Wofford team boasts a strong aerial attack, and is fresh from a victory over Erskine College last week-end, 13-6. The Bears chalked up an unimpressive victory over Georgia State Teachers College last Saturday, but are expected to show an improved team against Wofford.

Besides stressing pass defense in the week's practice, Coach Hooks put the squad through blocking and fackling practice, punt coverage, and also a couple of dummy practices. Two group scrimmages for the Bruins were held this week.

According to Hooks, Pittman looked the best yet in practice Wednesday. Chappell has been improving steadily, especially at pass receiving. Mazza and Wary, as running mates in the guard positions, are mainstays in the Bear line. Tony Page, fullback, is now in top shape. Hampered by a leg injury for the first two games, Page had a slow start, but he is now showing plenty of drive in practices.

**Bergen Will Play**

Bergen, injured in the Georgia game, was back Monday for full practice, and he will be playing in the line Saturday. Jim Powell and Harold Shepard, quarterbacks, are not in their best form due to ankle injuries at the season's start. Hodges and Davis will probably see the most service as signal-callers.

"We'll go in as the underdog, because Wofford has a much more experienced ball club. We'll be handicapped the whole season because the majority of our boys are new," Hooks said.

Mercer's backfield standouts are small and fast. Epps, Linn and Hilton loom as the greatest threats to Mercer's defense.

**Probable starting line-ups:**

MERCER	WOFFORD
QB—Hodges	185 Stephens
C—West	178 Sonnebarn
RG—Wary	181 Robinson
LG—Mazza	170 Capt. T. Martin
RT—Mitchell	192 Huff
LT—Dismuke	209 Faust
LE—Phillips	171 Boswell
RE—Dowd	194 Epps
LHB—Harrison	173 Hilton
RHB—Yancey	170 Linn
FB—Page	184 Nicholson

**Valdosta Pony Backfield Follows Coach to Mercer**

By JACK DEWITT

Coach Bobby Hooks' 1941 edition of the Bear squad includes the famed "Pony-backs" whom he brought with him from Valdosta. These four boys, playing in the 'Dosta backfield won fame and acclaim last year for their gridiron accomplishments. A junior edition of the famed "Four Horsemen" of Notre Dame, they are "Jumpin" Joe Davis, "Joltin" Jim Powell, Glenn "Rat" Ratliff, and "Knucklehead" McCrary (people got tired of trying to say William Mathew McCrary.) All four were All-conference last year and "Jumpin" Joe was the only boy in the conference to be unanimously selected by all the coaches.

Joe was sports editor of the 'Dosta Outlook and was the senior class poet. His buddies say that he can make up the darndest verse about them while on the field, and is continually hacking them with tricky little couplets. Joe had quite a time deciding to come to Mercer with his high school mentor, Bobby Hooks, as The Citadel and the University of Georgia were after him to say nothing of numerous prep schools. Joe played three years on the Valdosta varsity as a crack back.

Jim Powell was also a sports editor on the 'Dosta Outlook, writing a column of current sports. During his junior year he was quite a figure in the activities surrounding Valdosta high and was a highly competent toastmaster—at the junior banquet. Jim played three years of varsity basketball, three years of varsity football, and made the track team in his senior year. Jim was in much demand to play ball in the University of Georgia system, but rather than break up such a swell combination he chose to come to Mercer.

Glenn Ratliff was the most popular boy at Valdosta. He was president of the junior and sen-

ior classes and voted the best all-around sport. He was captain of both the basketball and football teams and played four years on each. He was also a three year track man. Glenn was in much demand as a ball player when he finished high school, especially at the University of Georgia.

The last of the Pony-backs, Knuck McCrary, is probably the craziest of the whole bunch. Knuck is a good little ball player and saw three years of action on the 'Dosta varsity eleven and also the track team. In the words of big Lou Blanton, "Knuck was the biggest hell-raiser in high school." When I asked him how he got along with the gals, he replied, "Well, he was voted the biggest flirt in school one time. I guess he does all right."

These four boys have played together for the past four years and are now starting together at Mercer. With a combination such as this, Coach Hooks ought to do pretty good in future years.

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