



Here's Some Inside Dope on Mississippi Game

Mercer students who read the story on the Bear-Choctaw engagement didn't get much information as to the real facts that played a part in the game. In the local papers there was the usual brief running account of the game, but outside of that—nothing. A good "inside" feature would certainly have been timely.

Here are the facts—no excuses—and Coach Hooks has said that the student body should know what their ball team was doing.

In the first place, the Bears were riddled with injuries. Davis, Harrison and Bergen were not even able to make the trip. Hooks was forced to shift McCrary temporarily to left halfback to help out Blaylock in the absence of Davis and Harrison who regularly play that position. Boynton was shifted to right tackle to make up for the loss of Bergen, and also because Dismuke was still ailing from a leg injury.

Besides being jinxed from the start by that football boogie man, "Injury," the train which carried the boys to Mississippi was late in arriving due to a train wreck. Because of this loss in time, the players were forced to go on the field without their usual pre-game meal. Lady Luck had taken a holiday. By game time it was really cold, and a heavy frost covered the playing field throughout the four quarters.

Mississippi Got Off to an Early Start

The Choctaws scored two touchdowns and kicked one extra point in the second quarter, after Mercer had driven to their nine yard line soon after the game started. A fumble by Phillips halted the drive. Three minutes before the half ended, Blaylock passed to Phillips for a touchdown, the play beginning about mid-field. Brundage failed to kick the extra point.

Mississippi scored again in the second half as a result of a Mercer penalty which put the ball on the Bear one yard line. The Bears held solidly for three downs, but on the fourth try the Chocs bucked it across.

With Blaylock, Page, and Yancey doing the strutting, Mercer took charge of the fray and drove down the field. Dowd and Yancey were in there for some swell pass receiving, and Page bucked it across for another Mercer score. Brundage again missed the point after the score.

Just then the tide seemed ready to turn, Mississippi scored again after Dickey fumbled a lateral setting up the touchdown. This put Mercer on the short side of a 26-12 score, but disregarding the tough breaks they were having—enough to make any ball team ready to call it quits—the Bear growl got louder and the boys showed a spirit unexcelled by any team.

On a reverse play, Yancey cut back, reversed his field, and picked up six orange jerseys which gave perfect blocking. Scooter ended up on pay dirt after racing 55 yards for the score, and, on top of that, Hodges' try for the extra point was good.

How Game Ended was Plenty Heart-Breaking

With two minutes left in the ball game, the Bears started on their own 25 yard line, and with passes from Blaylock to Dowd and Ratliff, along with Blaylock's superb running, the seconds preceding the final whistles found the Bears on the Mississippi one yard line, second down and goal to go!

Sunday's papers carried the score as Mississippi 27, Mercer 19. They were wrong. The score was Mississippi 26, Mercer 19. Had that last drive proved successful, the ball game might possibly have been tied.

Someone has said that Mercer won a moral victory over the Choctaws. Nuts! The Mercer coaches, players and student body are not satisfied with any moral victories. The coaches were well pleased with the Bears' showing against a team composed of juniors and seniors; they were pleased because they realized the handicaps of injury and playing odds. This column believes the students will also be pleased when they know all facts pertinent to the game.

"Rabbit" Hodges' performance, according to Coach Hooks, deserves plenty of praise. Hooks stated that his signal calling in advancing the ball during the last desperate goal line drive was "uncanny." Mazza, playing as acting captain, also turned in his best performance, Hooks added.

The Bear football team does not want any praise individually, or as a whole, but they do want the students and the school they represent on the playing field to know the facts about their games. And as this column has said many times previously—let's give credit where credit is due.

Shorty's Lament...or...“Down in Front!”

I'd like to see the ball game, but I can't 'cause I'm a runt. The only way I can see the play is holler "Down in Front!"

I always like the passes, I thrill each time they punt, But I have to stand on tiptoe and holler "Down in Front!"

To be tall, dark, and handsome must be quite a stunt, Cause every time they make a yard, somebody's up in front.

I pay my dough to see the game, and hate to be so blunt, So if old long legs will just sit down...

No need for "Down in Front!"

Choctaw Team Downs Bears

The Bears mustered a strong offensive against superior odds at the Mississippi homecoming last Friday night but did it too late to prevent a 27-19 victory for the Choctaws. Tallying once in each of the second, third, and fourth periods, the Mercer gridmen lugged the ball down to the Choctaw five, in the closing moments of play, then used up their downs without going over.

The grid team of this Mississippi Baptist college, always strong, at present defending co-champions of the Dixie Conference title, has lost only one tilt—Chattanooga, 20-6. Its coach, Stanley Robinson, tutored the Bears in the days of Phony Smith and Swede Olsson; it is reported that he promised, on leaving, that no team of Mercer would ever beat a team of his. And he has so far been true to his word. Quoth Billy Smith, "We would've like to have made him eat his words Friday night."

The first Bear touchdown was made by Carlo Phillips from the Choctaw twenty five, where he received a pass from Blaylock. Tony Page smashed through the Mississippi defensive for the second-Mercer score in the third quarter. And in the fourth period, Scooter Yancey scooted down the field for the final ringer, with Hodges booting the extra point.

Most spectacular play of the game was when Mississippi's Fulton grabbed a pass and ran forty yards through the whole Orange and Black eleven. Spence and McLeod made the other scores for Mississippi College.

Net Play to Start Monday

Following the completion of the annual intra-mural volley ball tournament, a tennis tournament will begin Monday afternoon on the local courts at 2:30.

SAE fraternity plays the Ministers in the first match of the tournament.

Rules for the tournament are as follows: All games must begin at 2:30. Each team will consist of two singles and one doubles team, and players cannot compete in both singles and doubles. Each match will be two out of three sets.

In case of a postponement of any day's matches, the rest of the schedule will drop back one day.

Boys

Monday—SAE vs. Ministers.

Tuesday—ALT vs. KΑ; Non-Frat vs. Phi Delta Theta.

Wednesday—Kappa Sigma vs. ATO.

Thursday—Winners of SAE-Ministers meets winners of KZ-ATO.

Thursday—Winners of ALT-KA meets winners of Non-Frat-PDT.

Friday—Final round of Thursday's winners.

Girls

Monday—ADPI vs. AXE.

Wednesday—Phi Mu vs. Non-Sorority.

Friday—Winners of above matches play for title.

Bears Meet Indians At Newberry Today

The Mercer Bears will take on the Newberry Redskins this afternoon at Newberry, South Carolina, in their last game in the South Atlantic Conference. Newberry is defending champion of the circuit with two more SAC games to go.

The Newberry Tribe have an unimpressive record to date as far as winning ball games is concerned. They have beaten Oglethorpe, Lenoir - Rhyne and an army team from Camp Davis, while losing to Rollins, P. C., Catawba, Appalachian State Teachers and North Carolina State.

Rollins Leads New League

Under the new program of de-emphasized football at Mercer and others of the smaller schools of Florida, South Carolina, and Georgia, the unofficial South Atlantic Conference has succeeded in stimulating rivalry between its seven members to a higher pitch than when the larger schools took up prominent places in the schedules. The "official" members of the conference are Mercer, Wofford, Newberry, Presbyterian, Oglethorpe, and Erskine. Rollins is the seventh member, though an unofficial one.

Assuming Rollins' eligibility for membership, this swanky school from the "Sunshine State" is on top of the conference heap with two very convincing wins—one a 52-0 romp over our Bears and a 40-0 triumph over Newberry. They also hold the lead in points scored and in point defense. Following Rollins with the greatest number of conference games won is Presbyterian College, boasting a 4-1 record. The only blot on their record is the shellacking Mercer handed them two weeks ago.

They have rolled over Oglethorpe twice, Newberry, and Erskine. Wofford and Mercer are in a tie for third place with two wins and one set-back apiece. Wofford has whipped Oglethorpe and Erskine while Mercer handed them their defeat. P. C. is the other scalp on the Bruins string and their loss is already credited to Rollins. Newberry holds down the fifth slot, winning one and dropping two. Oglethorpe was her only victim while P. C. and Rollins conquered her. Bringing up the rear is Oglethorpe who has lost each of four stars already mentioned.

Rollins is almost sure to hold her lead while P. C. will most likely hold her spot. The Blue Hose have to play Erskine, Wofford, and Rollins. If they get by those three they will take over the leadership. Mercer, by whipping Newberry could draw a tie for first, if P. C. fell before Rollins as they will most likely do.

If Wofford stops P. C. they will be in line for the championship. Facing facts however, Rollins is almost a sure winner.

Sparking the Indian backfield is Morgan Randel, senior full-back from Youngstown, Ohio. Randel's pile-driving line plunges and shifty open field runs are the real threat to the opposition. Quarterbacking for the Tribe is "Heck" Waldrop, punting specialist and brilliant signal caller. Pat Ingram, left half, is one of the speediest runners on the squad and a swell pass receiver as well. Buddy Corley at right half is showing much promise at clearing the way for the ball carrier in his role of blocking back.

The Bears have been doing a little light scrimmage the first of the week and left yesterday afternoon for Newberry. Coach Hooks' boys for the most part are a little stiff from injuries with Rabbit Hodges almost out of play because of leg and knee injuries. Tailback Earl Harrison will get a chance to show some of the stuff that he has shown in the first of the season as he is in fine form after an absence of several weeks due to injuries received to his shoulder in the Presbyterian game. Blaylock and Yancey, ace running backs, are in good shape and will probably see much action. Shirley has fully recovered from injuries which have kept him on the bench most of the season and will alternate regularly with West at center.

Probable lineups for the game are:

Mercer—	vs.	Newberry
Phillips	L. E.	Weber
Dismuke	L. T.	Lee
Mazza	L. G.	Berry
West or Shirley C.		Bruce
Wary	R. G.	Hughes
Mitchell	R. T.	Schofield
Dowd	R. E.	Holt
Shepard or		
Powell	Q. B.	Waldrop
Blaylock	L. H. B.	Ingram
Yancey	R. H. B.	Corley
Page	F. B.	Randel

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