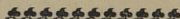


:::FOOTBALL REVIEW::~:



Turning over the pages of history of athletics at our college, we shall unhesitatingly pause when we arrive at the year 1899.

Athletics, and football in particular, has always been a prominent factor in an A. and M. student's life; it has long been the desire of the corps of cadets, the friends and alumni of the college, and, of late, the faculty, to send forth a football team that should be a credit to the college and a joy to her friends.

By hard and constant work, untiring efforts and sacrifice of both time and pleasure, football has risen during the short space of three years from an insignificant "kid" team until to-day the A. and M. College team is recognized as one of the strongest teams in the South and as the champion team of the State. This was the final goal we reached; but our ambition and aspirations have not yet come to an end: on the contrary, they are only beginning to bud. This ambition was born to our team and college: its birthplace was Athletic Park, Austin, Texas; and its birthday, October 22, 1898, when we were honestly and righteously defeated by the 'Varsity team by the tremendous score of 48-0. From that day on, a friendly fire of rivalry was kindled in the breast of every person who ever had any connection with the A. and M.; and this became our motto: "Varsity's scalp must be ours." Such were the aspirations and determination under which we opened the past season.

Coach Murray went to work at once to train the raw material; the applicants were possessed with a strong desire to assist in sending out a team that should reflect credit on their col-

lege, and every able-bodied and well-developed student was always and is always ready to assist in supporting and defending his college on football fields. The first team our team met was the Houston High School. In this game it was established what wonderful progress the team had made. Our system was not favorable to individual brilliancy; but it was a system which called for victory, and to accomplish this the men on the team were trained to play together, not everybody for himself, but everybody for each other. In this kind of play—what is known as "team work"—our team developed so successfully as to be without a rival in the South.

The 'Varsity game will always be remembered with a sorrowful heart. In this game our team showed their superiority in every point over their rivals; victory seemed within our grasp from the very beginning to the very last. The 'Varsity called this one of her practice games. Maybe it was; but our friends from Austin would certainly have bestowed a pleasure on us if they had given us another practice game, for which we asked them so repeatedly and offered them such liberal terms. We were defeated in this game. 'Varsity carried off the victory, not because they had the strongest and best team, but because our men played under disadvantageous circumstances that could not be avoided for the time being.

The real strength of our team was shown in the Sewanee game. This game was a good exhibition of college football, and it was only by the fiercest and hardest playing that the University of the South was able to carry off the laurels.