

# 1892 SEASON

E. B. BEAUMONT	Coach
WILLIAM G. LITTLE	Captain
F. T. BUSH	Manager

## PLAYERS

**Ends:** D. A. Grayson and Burr Ferguson . . . **Tackles:** F. M. Savage and Eli Abbott . . .  
**Guards:** R. E. L. Cope and William G. Little . . . **Center:** Henry M. Pratt . . . **Backs:** William  
M. Walker, G. H. Kyser, Dan H. Smith, William B. Bankhead and T. Sydney Frazer . . . **Substitutes:**  
A. G. McCants, D. B. Johnson, C. C. Nesmith, M. P. Walker, Bibb Graves, S. W. Henderson, R. E. Boyle.



**NOVEMBER 11:** This game represented the first regular football game ever played in Birmingham under inter-collegiate rules and was played between the University of Alabama and a team picked from the various high schools in Birmingham. It was scheduled as a practice game for the University, who played a regularly scheduled game with Birmingham Athletic Club on the following day. Alabama won by a score of 56 to 0.

The newspaper accounts of the game contained very little of the details except that Alabama scored 28 points in each half and that touchdowns were made in the first half by Grayson, who scored after a 75 yard run, and by Kyser, who scored following a 50 yard end run by Smith, by Little on a run for 30 yards, and by Frazer and Smith.

No details whatever are available for the second half except that Alabama scored 28 points.

Smith, Grayson and Frazer were the stars for Alabama while the running of Luckie and the tackling of Donelson, Comer and Schoppert featured for the School Boys.

**Alabama—Ends** Ferguson, Grayson. **Tackles:** Boyle, Savage. **Guards:** Little, Cope. **Center:** Pratt. **Backs:** McCants, Walker, Smith, Frazer, Kyser.

**School Team—Ends:** Donelson, London. **Tackles:** A. Smith, W. Carroll. **Guards:** Koenig, Drennen. **Center:** Taylor. **Backs:** Luckie, Comer, Ullman, Schoppert.



**NOVEMBER 12:** The Cadets of the University of Alabama were defeated by the heavier eleven of the Birmingham Athletic Club at Lakeview Park in Birmingham by the score of 5 to 4. In those days, a touchdown counted four points, a goal after touchdown two points while a field goal was good for five points. Alabama made the touchdown, missed the goal and led until the final minutes of the game, when J. P. Ross of the Athletics kicked a drop kick for 63 yards and five points.

As this book is being written, this loss of the game by the slender margin of a single point represents the only game that Alabama has ever lost by one point. It is true that, in the 1893 game between these two teams, Alabama was defeated 10 to 8, which was due to Alabama's failure to kick goal after touchdown. But these are the only two instances in which the failure to make the goal after touchdown has resulted in Alabama's defeat.

The team work of the Cadets was smoother than that of the Athletics. But the Cadets looked like boys as they lined up against their matured and stronger opponents, many of whom had played college football. But the plucky Cadets earned the sincere admiration of the crowd, some of the Athletic's supporters expressing the wish that the Cadets might have won.

Both teams resorted almost exclusively to mass plays, using what was commonly referred to as the "V" or wedge play. Fumbling was frequent.

In the first half, Alabama drove to their opponents' five foot line but lost the ball on downs. Just before the half ended, Captain Little scored on a "guard around" play but Walker missed the try for goal. Alabama 4, Athletics 0.

In the second half, the Athletics gained 17 yards before losing the ball on downs. Henderson went in at fullback for the Cadets and gained 12 yards. Punts were exchanged, and, when the Athletics made a "foul tackle," Alabama was awarded a free kick and kicked far down the field. Ross of the Athletics then made good a drop kick for the remarkable distance of 63 yards (188 feet) for 5 points to win for the Athletics as the game ended a few plays later.

Coach Beaumont of Alabama was referee and Walter Winn was the umpire. Their decisions met with general satisfaction.



The press accounts of the game stated that the grand stand was filled with enthusiastic women and conservative business men; that groups of happy couples were present in "drags" gaily decorated in the colors of their favorites. One newspaper account concluded as follows: "Long live the manly outdoor sport which has never been tainted by professionalism."

**Alabama—Ends:** Ferguson and Grayson. **Tackles:** Abbott and Savage. **Guards:** Little and Cope. **Center:** Pratt. **Backs:** Walker, Smith, Kyser, Bankhead and Henderson. **Substitutes:** McCants, Boyle, Frazer.

**Birmingham Athletic Club—Ends:** Carroll and Donelson. **Tackles:** Simonds and Hyde. **Guards:** Haskell and Maxwell. **Center:** Taylor. **Backs:** Cahalan, Horgan, Ullman, Luckie.



**DECEMBER 10:** Alabama defeated Birmingham Athletic Club at Lakeview Park in Birmingham by a score of 14 to 0, showing a decided improvement over her previous games.

The first half was featured by a 30 yard end run by Ross of the Athletics, who was stopped by Ferguson on a brilliant tackle, and a sensational end run by Grayson for 65 yards and a touchdown. The Cadets carried Grayson on their shoulders on a parade around the field. Bankhead missed goal.

After a rest of fifteen minutes during which "bruises were rubbed, stiff legs limbered up, cuts were patched and wind restored," Alabama gained 10 yards on a "wedge" play. Grayson, Abbott and Smith made 18 yards in three plays. Cope, running behind good interference, scored but Walker missed goal.

Abbott scored the final touchdown following four runs by Little, Grayson and Kyser that gained 35 yards. Kyser kicked goal.



**FEBRUARY 22, 1893:** Auburn defeated Alabama at Lakeview Park in Birmingham by the score of 32 to 22 before 5,000 fans.

Captain Daniels of Auburn won the ball. A flying wedge gained 10 yards. Shackelford, Redding, Dorsey and Buckalew made 30 yards in four plays. Alabama took over on downs. Auburn held and Bankhead punted 10 yards. After Redding made 10, Dorsey ran 20 yards for a touchdown. Daniels missed goal. Auburn 4, Alabama 0.

Smith of Alabama gained 10 on a wedge and then 12 more. Abbott and Smith gained 21 yards. Alabama drove to Auburn's 5 yard line where Auburn took over on downs. After Buckalew gained 6, Daniels circled end for 65 yards. It required several minutes to clear the field. Dorsey ran 20 and several lesser gains carried to Alabama's one yard line where Dorsey scored. No goal.

Walker gained 12 yards on the wedge. Short gains were made by Smith, Kyser, Savage and Grayson. After Ferguson made 15, Savage scored on a trick play around end. Bankhead kicked goal.

Daniels hit center for 20 yards, fumbled and Alabama recovered. Auburn took the ball on downs. After Riggs gained 10 yards, Shackelford circled end for a touchdown. Dorsey kicked goal.

Walker gained 30 yards on the wedge, was hurt and McCants substituted. A few plays later, Smith scored on a 20 yard end run. Kyser kicked goal. Auburn 14, Alabama 12.

Beginning the second half, Smith gained 25 yards on the "turtle back" wedge. Alabama then fumbled, Dorsey recovered and ran 65 yards for a touchdown. Daniels kicked goal. Auburn 20, Alabama 12.

Smith, Kyser and Cope gained 24 yards. Smith and Grayson gained 15 but Ferguson lost 10 and Auburn took the ball. Auburn fumbled and Alabama recovered. Little circled Auburn's left end for about 30 yards and a touchdown. Kyser kicked goal. Auburn 20, Alabama 18.

A few minutes later, Daniels of Auburn scored and kicked goal following consistent gains by Buckalew, Dorsey and Riggs. Auburn 26, Alabama 18.

Alabama gained 27 yards in four plays, fumbled and Auburn recovered. The ball changed hands several times before Daniels drove through center for 25 yards and a touchdown. Daniels kicked goal. Auburn 32, Alabama 18.

Just before the game ended, Abbott gained 25 yards around end and Smith scored on a wedge play. Kyser missed goal. Auburn 32, Alabama 22.

**Auburn—Ends:** Riggs, Foy. **Tackles:** Redding, Buckalew. **Guards:** Brown, McKissick. **Center:** Shafer. **Backs:** Dunham, Shackelford, Dorsey and Daniels. **Substitutes:** Stevens, Loveless.

**Alabama—Ends:** Ferguson, Grayson. **Tackles:** Abbott, Savage. **Guards:** Little, Cope. **Center:** Pratt. **Backs:** Walker, Smith, Kyser and Bankhead. **Substitutes:** McCants, Nesmith, Walker, Johnston, Powers.