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HOMECOMING 1967

REUNION OF 1928-29 FOOTBALL TEAMS

REVIEW OF TEAM HISTORY

OR AN ORIGINAL ESSAY BY SAMUEL H. JOHNSON

In terms of today our team members were deprived. We had cheap, thin khaki pants that seldom fit. We had one jersey per season which got washed only if we did it, and if it got torn off our backs it was a real emergency. Our shoulder pads rarely covered the whole shoulder, and as the other pads, were thin and flimsy. The backfield sometimes got to go down to York Arms and get shoes fitted properly -- others would likely have to find a pair on hand - - slightly used -- that nearly fit. We always had one game football and three practice balls -- some of them by now almost round. On a wet muddy day we had no one to even wipe the ball off, much less to toss in a new one. We played 60 minutes, for we hadn't heard of defensive and offensive units -- we had no grants-in-aid -- and our squad rarely exceeded 30 members. On trips we rode day coaches (straw covered) on the trains or buses without heat or air conditioning and poorly upholstered. We were all allowed 25 cents a meal on road trips whether we were hungry or not. On long trips, like to Delta State, we sometimes got to spend the night in a hotel, but most often we spent a good part of the night coming home by day coach or bus.

Each player, on trips, had to pack his uniform in his football pants and take it personally to the game, on the bus, train or to the hotel.