

1916 SEASON

THOMAS KELLY	Coach
B. L. NOOJIN	Assistant Coach
LOWNDES MORTON	Captain
C. W. DUFFEY	Manager

PLAYERS

Ends: Lowndes Morton, A. M. Boone . . . **Tackles:** Ike Rogers, Sheldon Whittlesy . . .
Guards: Sydney Johnson, Jack Hovater, Harry Rowe . . . **Center:** E. W. Maynor . . . **Backs:**
Cecil Creen, Hunter Burnett, F. H. Gage, Goree Johnson, Walter Hovater, J. H. Hagan, J. K. Taylor.

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SEPTEMBER 30: The opening game on the campus with Birmingham College, resulting in a 13 to 0 victory for Alabama, showed a starting lineup of three brothers: Dexter Hovater, guard, Walter Hovater and Jack Hovater, backs.

Walter Hovater scored the first touchdown in the first period on a 5 yard plunge through the line and Creen kicked goal. Jack Hovater scored the final touchdown in the second period but goal was missed.

The feature of the game was the fine defensive play of the Birmingham College team. Captain Bailey, tackle, was the star of the day. Tram Sessions, who later starred at Alabama, played an excellent game at center while Neill, end, was a splendid punter.

Creen, Jake Taylor, the Hovater boys and Burnett were the stars for Alabama.

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OCTOBER 7: Alabama scored at will against Southern University on the campus, the final score being 80 to 0.

Touchdowns were made by Goree Johnson (4), Creen (4), Boone, Comer, W. Hovater and Taylor.

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OCTOBER 14: Mississippi College threw a scare into the Alabamians on the campus but Alabama came from behind to win by the score of 13 to 7. Alabama's play was ragged and lacking in scoring punch. Mississippi held and took the ball on downs three times within their five yard line in the first half.

In the second half, Alabama lost the ball on a fumble on the Mississippi one yard line. After the kickout, long runs by Gage and Walter Hovater placed the ball in scoring position and Goree Johnson went over but goal was missed.

Later in the second period, Gage punted over the goal. On the first play, Captain Anderson broke through left guard and ran 80 yards for a touchdown. Hartman kicked goal and the visitors were ahead by the score of 7 to 6.

In the fourth quarter, Creen scored after a series of wide end runs and kicked goal. Alabama 13, Mississippi 7.

Dexter Hovater fractured his leg in the first quarter.

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OCTOBER 21: Alabama journeyed to Gainesville, Florida and, with Creen leading the procession, defeated Florida 16 to 0.

In the first period, Creen, circling the ends, and Burnett and Hovater, hitting the line, carried the ball to the Florida two yard line. Creen scored and Gage kicked goal.

In the fourth period, Creen returned a punt 40 yards to midfield. Two first downs carried to Florida's 20 where Gage kicked a field goal.

Florida completed a pass to Alabama's 20 and tried another which Walter Hovater intercepted. Creen ran to the Florida five yard line in three plays and later scored.

In addition to playing a fine offensive game, Creen twice tackled Ward, Florida end, from behind with a clear field ahead.

OCTOBER 28: Alabama defeated the University of Mississippi at Tuscaloosa by the score of 27 to 0 with Creen again being the star on the offense.

In the first quarter, Creen circled end for 30 yards to midfield. A series of line plays and end runs advanced the ball to the Ole Miss 10 yard line where Gage scored and kicked goal.

Mississippi's only threat came in the second period when Alabama fumbled and Anderson, center, recovered the ball and ran deep into Alabama territory before being tackled from behind. Alabama held on the two yard line and the ball went over.

In the fourth quarter, Alabama drove steadily to the Ole Miss 5 yard line where Creen scored and Gage converted.

Later, Creen ran right end for 25 yards and, on the next play, circled left end for 50 yards and a touchdown. Gage converted.

The final few minutes were played in darkness. Ole Miss fumbled the kickoff, Boone recovering and running across for the final touchdown.



NOVEMBER 4: In one of the most exciting games ever played in Birmingham, Alabama defeated Sewanee by the score of 7 to 6. It was a game of wasted opportunities by Alabama with the Crimson knocking at the touchdown door frequently only to see her offense fall apart as the result of fine defensive play by the Sewanee linemen, particularly by Stone, who seemed to be in every play and who covered passes well. The excellent punting of Clark, who kicked several times from behind his own goal, emphasized the value of long and consistent kicking. Alabama must have gained five times as much ground as Sewanee.

Sewanee received and Clark punted to Creen, who fumbled and Herring recovered on the Alabama 35 yard line. A pass, Herring to Sellers, made a first down. Hovater intercepted a Sewanee pass on the Alabama 10 but Alabama couldn't gain and punted out of bounds on her own 30. Sellers circled left end to the one yard line and then went over for the touchdown. Clarke failed to kick goal.

The rest of the half was all Alabama's and was featured by a pass from Creen to Burnett for 30 yards, two runs by Creen for 35 and 25 yards. Between these plays, however, Sewanee intercepted two passes. Alabama finally drove to Sewanee's one yard line and, with fourth down and goal to go, Sewanee held and Clark punted out of danger. The half ended as Creen made 20 yards around end.

Alabama received and soon punted to Wortham on Sewanee's 20 yard line. Clark punted to Alabama's 40. A series of plays, including a run of 25 yards by Creen, carried to Sewanee's 14. Three line plays gained 7 yards, a forward pass failed and Sewanee took over. After an exchange of punts, Alabama marched about 45 yards to Sewanee's 5, where the Tigers held again. After Clark punted out, Creen's pass to Bocne made 25 yards to Sewanee's 5 yard line. Burnett then scored through the line and Gage kicked goal. The press referred to Gage's kick as the "\$50,000.00' beauty. The game ended a few plays later. Alabama 7, Sewanee 6.

Alabama—Ends: Boone, Morton. **Tackles:** Rogers, Whittlesy. **Guards:** Johnson, Rowe, Downey. **Center:** Maynor. **Backs:** Creen, Gage, Burnett, Hovater, Goree Johnson.

Sewanee—Ends: Captain Edmonds, Clark, Lyman. **Tackles:** Brown, Moss, Braly. **Guards:** Perry, Means, Rucker. **Center:** Scott. **Backs:** Herring, Wortham, Sellers, Stone, Andrews, Crudington.



NOVEMBER 11: "The spirit was willing but the flesh was weak" correctly reflected the situation in Atlanta as Alabama met defeat on a wet field by the score of 13 to 0. Creen, Alabama's main offensive threat was completely held in check by the Tech linemen. Alabama gained but 60 yards and two first downs during the game as compared with Tech's 20 first downs and 270 yards.

After holding Tech time after time during the first three periods, Gage of Alabama fumbled a pass from center during the last minute of the third period and Fincher recovered for Tech. Four plays later, Guill scored and Fincher kicked goal. Later, an exchange of punts gave Tech the ball on Alabama's 40 yard line. Alternate runs by Guill and Glover carried the ball to Alabama's 5 yard line. Alabama held for three downs but Glover went over on the fourth down.

The play of Captain Morton and Rogers were the bright features of Alabama's splendid defense.

Georgia Tech—Ends: Dunwoody, Bell. **Tackles:** Alexander, Carpenter. **Guards:** Fincher, Lang, West. **Center:** Phillips. **Backs:** Guill, Shaver, Spence, Strupper, Hill, Glover.



NOVEMBER 18: After playing two very hard games on the two previous Saturdays in which only two substitutes were used, Alabama met the Tulane Greenies at New Orleans. Tulane was at her peak, mentally and physically, and played real football for the first time during the year. The result: Tulane 33, Alabama 0.

Tulane scored in every quarter. The last quarter was cut short by seven minutes on account of darkness. For Tulane, Faust scored two touchdowns, while Barnes, Cardosa and McGraw scored one each.

Outside of Creen, Alabama played ordinary ball, while Tulane was alert the entire game. Probably the recent betterings Alabama received from Sewanee and Georgia Tech had taken it's toll of physical endurance. Probably, too, extenuating circumstances intervened.



NOVEMBER 30: On Thanksgiving Day in Birmingham, Alabama lost to Georgia by the score of 3 to 0. The only score came in the second period on a place kick by Donnelly with Dezendorf holding the ball. Georgia had marched to the shadow of Alabama's goal where they received a 15 yard holding penalty. Pew made a low pass from center, the ball hitting the ground. Dezendorf got up from his kneeling position, recovered the ball, placed it on the ground and Donnelly kicked the goal. Georgia's line held so effectively that not a single Alabama player got through to rush the kicker.

The first half was all Georgia's as was the first part of the third period. Beyond that, Alabama dominated the play. Gage, Johnson and Taylor drove through big holes in the Georgia line. When the march was stopped, Alabama tried a field goal that failed.

In the fourth period, it was Alabama's ball in midfield. Creen opened up with a variety of plays, mixing passes with end runs and line bucks from the close and spread formation. The ball was advanced to the Georgia 14. There the luck broke. Jake Taylor went through the line for a sizeable gain but fumbled when hit hard by three Georgians, the ball bounding toward the goal line. An Alabama player tried to pick it up instead of falling on it but Donnelly of Georgia dived under the Alabama player and recovered the ball just inches from the Georgia goal. Georgia kicked out and Alabama started another march when the game ended.

Georgia—Ends: Neville, Tate. **Tackles:** Thrash, McConnell. **Guards:** Garmany, Wingate, Beasley, Ferguson, Hutchison. **Center:** Pew. **Backs:** Donnelly, Dezendorf, Coleman, Moore, Ferst.