

1941 SEASON

FRANK THOMAS	Coach
HAROLD DREW, HENRY CRISP, TILDEN CAMPBELL	Assistant Coaches
PAUL BURNUM	Freshman Coach
JOHN WYHONIC	Captain
JOE BAKER	Manager

PLAYERS

Ends: Holt Rast, Sam Sharp, George Weeks, James Roberts, Wheeler Leeth . . . **Tackles:** Noah Langdale, Wallace Richeson, Lloyd Wise, Jack McKewen, Don Whitmire, Leon Fichman, Mitchell Olenski . . . **Guards:** John Wyhonic, Ted McKosky, Tony Leon, Morton Kimball, George Hecht, Joe Chorba . . . **Centers:** Norman Wesley, Joe Domnanovich, Vaughn Stewart . . . **Backs:** James Nelson, William Harrell, Julius Papias, Sumpter Blackmon, Paul Spencer, Al Sabo, Vaughn Tollett, Carl Mims, Howard Hughes, Bart Avery, Russell Mosley, Louie Scales, David Brown, George Gammon, Russell Craft, Don Salls, Mackey McCoy.



SEPTEMBER 27: Alabama defeated Southwestern Louisiana Institute, coached by John Cain, former Tide star, on Denny Field by the score of 47 to 6.

Touchdowns were made by Spencer 2, Nelson, Salls, Brown, Chorba and Scales while the visitors scored in the final period after a sustained drive of 84 yards. A pass from Voiter to Scelfo was good for 51 yards and Bernard scored on a line play.

Voiter was the star for Louisiana with his brilliant running and passing.



OCTOBER 4: On Denny Field before 18,000 fans, the Maroons of Mississippi State blocked kicks, intercepted passes, recovered fumbles and otherwise played alert football to defeat the Crimson Tide by the score of 14 to 0.

The first half was scoreless but the Maroons kept Alabama in her own territory most of the time.

Early in the third period, Nelson's punt was blocked by Captain Arnold, Johnson recovering on the Tide 24. After three passes failed, Murphy connected with Patterson for the score and Dees kicked goal.

Late in the final period, Gorley, center, intercepted a pass thrown by McCoy on the Tide 35 and returned to the Tide 3 yard line where he was tackled by McCoy. On the third play, Black scored on a run around left end. Craig made the extra point by running with the ball.

Both teams fumbled at critical stages of the game. Alabama fumbled six times and her two scoring chances were stopped by poor handling of the ball.

Mississippi State—Ends: Patterson, Varnado, Hughes, Howard, Kowalski. **Tackles:** Arnold, Jones, White, Dreher, Frohm, Horne. **Guards:** Patrick, Grove, Ray, Mihalic, Patterson. **Centers:** Ray, Corley. **Backs:** Dees, Bruce, Craig, Thorpe, Black, Murphy, Wohner, Blount, Mason, Mcates.



OCTOBER 11: Howard College was the victim of a flood of touchdowns on the campus and lost by the score of 61 to 0.

Touchdowns were made by Nelson 3, one being a kickoff return of 95 yards, Mims 3, McCoy, Salls and Cook.

Late in the final period, little Roy Johnson entered the game and completed five consecutive passes.

Jimmy Tarrant of Howard featured with his passing.



OCTOBER 18: Jimmy Nelson was the star for Alabama in the annual game with Tennessee in Knoxville before 35,000 fans. His running passing, punting and interception of three Tennessee passes featured Alabama's victory by the score of 9 to 2.

In the first period it was Alabama's ball near midfield. Brown made 10 yards to Tennessee's 43. Brown fumbled and lost 18 but the Vols were offside. On third down with the ball on Tennessee's 34, Nelson made 6 yards and first down. Salls made 9 and Nelson 5 for another first down. On fourth down with 8 yards to go, Hecht kicked a placement for three points.

Butler returned the kickoff to the 22 yard line. After two line plays failed, Nelson intercepted one of Butler's passes and returned to the Vols 32 yard line. Tennessee held and Nelson punted out of bounds on the 11 yard line but Alabama was penalized 15 yards. Nelson punted again and kicked out of bounds on the Tennessee 8. Butler's punt was almost blocked and went out of bounds on the Vols 30. Nelson passed to Rast, who made a sensational catch and run to the Tennessee 9 yard line as the period ended.

After three line plays failed to make the required yardage, Salls scored but goal was missed. Alabama 9, Tennessee 0.

Early in the second half, it was Alabama's ball on her 7 yard line following a 15 yard penalty for roughness. Nelson fumbled the ball while trying to quick kick, recovered the ball behind the goal and was tackled by Balitsaris for a safety.

Later, it was Tennessee's ball on her own 46. With Cifers tearing into the Alabama line for gain after gain, the ball was advanced to the Alabama 4 yard line where Domnanovich, Alabama's center, stopped the drive. On this march, Cifers passed to Mullay, end, for 29 yards but Sabo tackled and prevented a touchdown. Nelson punted out of danger and then intercepted a pass from Cifers to Mullay and returned to the Tide 33. Nelson punted to the Vols 32. Butler connected with Hubbell



RAYMOND R. PATY
Sixteenth President
1942-1946

on two passes that carried the ball into Alabama territory. Two other passes were dropped by Tennessee receivers before Alabama took over on downs and kept the ball until the final whistle.

Domnanovich was the defensive star of the game.

Tennessee—Ends: Balistaris, Rust, Hubbell, Mulla. **Tackles:** Edmiston, Simonette, Francis, Ledford. **Guards:** Klarer, Noel, Stapleton, Meyers. **Center:** Graves. **Backs:** Peel, Butler, Schwartzinger, Nowling, Slater, Partin, Gaffney, Meek, Gold, Fisher, Cifers.

Alabama—Ends: Rast, Roberts, Sharpe, Weeks. **Tackles:** Olenski, Langdale, Whitmire, Fichman. **Guards:** Wyhonic, Hecht, Leon, McKosky. **Center:** Domnanovich. **Backs:** Sabo, Nelson, Brown, Salls, Scales, Spencer, Mosley, Mims, Hughes, Harrell.

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OCTOBER 25: Before a crowd of 23,000 on Legion Field in Birmingham, it was Alabama vs. Georgia and Jimmy Nelson vs. Frank Sinkwich. Both were stars of the first order and proved to be two of the finest backs to appear on Legion Field at one time in many years. Alabama won by the score of 27 to 14 and used 41 players.

In the first period, Alabama scored when Nelson passed to Rast on a play that gained 59 yards. A few minutes later, Alabama scored again on a 67 yard drive that covered the distance in five plays. Nelson going over on the last play of the quarter.

In the second period, Sinkwich was replaced by Captain Heyward Allen, who led Georgia on a drive of 67 yards for a touchdown. Five plays were used to gain the distance. Allen passed three times, the last one being to Lamar Davis, halfback, for a touchdown. Costa kicked goal.

In the same period, Kimsey punted short of Georgia's 31. Craft, Nelson, Sabo and Spencer alternated in plunging through the line and circling the ends with Spencer scoring. On this drive, a pass from Nelson to Weeks, gained 15 yards.

In the third period, Georgia started from her 30 yard line. Sinkwich and McPhee, plunging through the Alabama line, advanced the ball to the Tide 28. On fourth down, Sinkwich's pass to Lamar Davis over the goal was knocked down by Nelson.

Near the close of the third period, Sinkwich's pass was intercepted by Nelson who ran 74 yards for Alabama's final touchdown on a sensational broken field run.

In the last minute of play with Alabama's second and third string players in the game, it was Georgia's ball on her own 44. Allen completed two passes to Kimsey for 17 and 19 yards. He then passed to Phelps for 10 and to Nunnally for a touchdown.

Van Davis, Keltner, McPhee and Kimsey were the stars for Georgia. For Alabama, Domnanovich, Rast, Hecht, Weeks, Olenski and Sabo were outstanding.

Georgia—Ends: Poschner, V. Davis, Conger, Phelps, Marshall. **Tackles:** Green, Keltner, Ellenson, Horne, Posey. **Guards:** Ruark, Goodman, Burt, Lee, Miller. **Centers:** Godwin, Costa, Ehrhart. **Backs:** Sinkwich, Kimsey, L. Davis, McPhee, Allen, Dudish, Keuper, Polak, Todd, Nunnally.

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NOVEMBER 1: Alabama defeated Kentucky on Homecoming Day by the score of 30 to 0 by scoring one touchdown in each of the first three periods and two touchdowns in the final quarter.

Nelson scored on a 20 yard end run in the first period ending a drive that began on the Kentucky 44 following an exchange of punts.

In the second period, Mosley returned a punt 10 yards to the Tide 35. Runs by Mosley, Spencer and Mims resulted in two first downs on the Wildcat 22. Mosley passed to Weeks over the goal for a touchdown.

In the third period, McCosky recovered Allen's fumble on Kentucky's 40. Craft made 12 yards in two plays. Nelson circled right end for 25 yards and passed to Rast for the score.

Alabama started on her own 16 yard line for the next score. Mims, Hughes and Salls drove to about midfield. Hughes then passed to Mims on the Wildcat 25 and Mims ran across for a touchdown.

Later, it was Alabama's ball on her 27. McCoy gained 5 and Martin went around end for 23. McCoy started off right tackle, reversed his field three times for the final touchdown.

Kentucky reached the Alabama 6 yard line in the third period and the 16 yard line in the fourth but lost the ball on downs.

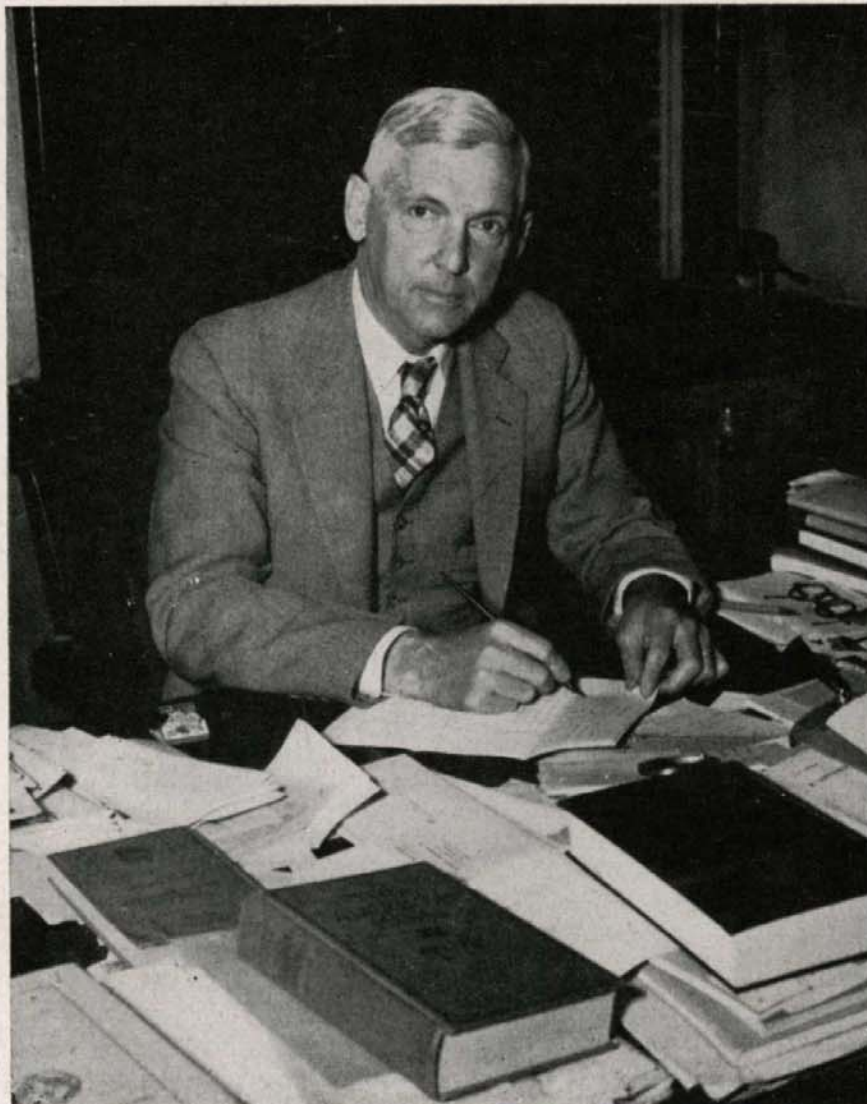
Kentucky—Ends: Portwood, Parr. **Tackles:** Johnson, Wood. **Guards:** Beeler, Calvin. **Center:** Walker. **Backs:** Zinn, Allen, Mullins, Hammond.

NOVEMBER 8: Before a crowd of about 50,000, Alabama defeated the Tulane Greenies in one of the most spectacular games ever witnessed in New Orleans by the score of 19 to 14. The statistics were all in Tulane's favor. Tulane made 16 first downs to Alabama's 7, gained 129 yards rushing to Alabama's 74 and 123 yards on passes to Alabama's 49. Alabama returned kicks 148 yards to Tulane's 81.

Alabama scored in the first three minutes of play. Tulane punted to Nelson on the Tide 35. Nelson ran to his left in returning the kick, reversed to Brown who ran to his right and down the east side lines for a touchdown. Sabo blocked out the only Tulane tackler that came close to catching Brown. Hecht's conversion was wide and this failure to kick goal became a matter of great importance later in the game.

After an exchange of punts and some effective running plays to the weak side, it was Tulane's ball on the Alabama 45. Glass passed to McDonald to the Tide's 31. After two plays made 6 yards, Thomas threw a long, high pass which English caught in the end zone for a touchdown. Thomas kicked goal.

Brown received the kickoff for Alabama, swung to his left and reversed to Nelson who ran to his right toward the eastern side lines where he was thrown out of bounds by Hornick, Tulane's right end, about Tulane's 35 yard line. It was a smart play on the part of Hornick and prevented Nelson's going for a touchdown as all of the remainder of Tulane's players within challenging distance were blocked out. Here Tulane held for downs. Nelson's pass to Sabo was a little too far. Craft went in for Brown and Nelson's pass to him over the goal barely failed. On the same play, the pass failed again.



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In the second period, Glass kicked a beauty to Alabama's 1 yard line where it hit the ground and bounded back to the Alabama 5. Nelson punted out of bounds on the Tide 39. In four plays, Tulane drove to Alabama's 28. Running plays and two offside penalties made a first down on the Tide 11. After Sims lateralled to Grush, the quarter back, to the Alabama 6, Thomas passed to Grush over the goal for a touchdown and Thomas kicked goal. Tulane 14, Alabama 6.

No one would have believed it at the time but Tulane's scoring was ended for the day. The Greenies threatened again before the half ended when a pass over the goal was almost completed.

The outlook was dark, indeed, for the Tide's supporters in the stands. But this feeling was not shared by the players. They were on the field five minutes before the third quarter started and their determination was quickly reflected in the results on the field just after the kickoff. The Crimson took the ball and drove 75 yards for a touchdown. Three consecutive first downs carried the ball to the Tulane 3 yard line where Nelson's pass to Rast over the South goal was completed for a touchdown. Hecht kicked goal.

Near the end of the third period, an offside penalty against Alabama and a punt gave Tulane the ball near midfield. Sims fumbled and Salls recovered for Alabama. Nelson's long pass to Weeks near the goal just missed connecting and Tulane held on her 35.

Early in the fourth period, one of Nelson's passes was tipped by an Alabama receiver after a leap and McDonald intercepted the ball near midfield. Glass passed to McDonald for 12 to the Tide's 34. Sabo intercepted Sim's pass to stop the drive. An exchange of punts gave Alabama the ball on her 22. **And then came the play of the game!** Nelson quick kicked for 66 yards over the Tulane safety man's head and the ball rolled dead on the Tulane 12 yard line. Two line plays by Tulane gained three yards and Glass kicked a short one which Alabama almost blocked, Nelson returning to the Tulane 40. Alabama had gained 38 yards on the exchange of punts and only four minutes remained.

Nelson faded back to pass and was badly rushed by a swarm of Tulane linemen. At the last moment before being thrown for a heavy loss, Nelson threw the ball forward but it was incomplete. There was a heated protest on the part of Tulane who contended that the ball was intentionally grounded. The facts were that the ball was thrown forward in the direction of an eligible receiver and that such eligible receiver actually got his hands on the ball but failed to hold it. Nelson then passed to Rast who made a fine leaping catch and ran for 13 yards. Craft made 6 on a swing to the left. On the next play, Nelson's interference went to the left and he drove off right tackle for 6 yards. Nelson faked a pass and went around right end for 7. Salls hit center for 6 to the two yard line. Salls then went across but the play was called back as both teams were offside. Salls drilled through center again for a touchdown but goal was missed. Alabama 19, Tulane 14.

Tulane received and started passing with Thomas doing the throwing but Babs Roberts and others were doing the rushing. Thomas hit Thibaut with one that carried to the Tide 31. Four more passes were tried and failed with Nelson rushing back and knocking one out of the hands of English over the goal by a spectacular leap. Alabama took over and froze the ball for the rest of the game.

There were many heroic figures for the Tide. Stewart, 160 pound center, who played most of the game in the place of the injured Domnancvich, backed up the line splendidly and his selection of the defensive formations was faultless. Sabo and Salls, the latter playing the full sixty minutes in place of Spencer, Whitmire and Rast, whose consistent end play led to his selection on the leading All American picks, were also outstanding. Nelson played his usual fine game in spite of being crippled so badly that he was heavily taped.

Thibaut, Blandin and Rice featured for Tulane.

Tulane—Ends: English, Hornick, Rowland, Mullin. **Tackles:** Blandin, DuFour, Klein. **Guards:** Bittman, Wallbrette, Tittle, Benz. **Centers:** Rice, Mandich. **Backs:** McDonald, Glass, Brignac, Pracko, Thomas, Sims, Thibaut, Grush.



NOVEMBER 15: Alabama defeated Georgia Tech in Birmingham before 25,000 fans by the score of 20 to 0, scoring in the second, third and fourth periods.

In the first quarter, Bosch fumbled a punt on his own 34 yard line, Alabama recovering. After Tech held for downs, Nelson kicked out of bounds on the Tech one yard line. McHugh punted to Hughes who returned to Tech's 34. Hughes made 4 and then passed to Sharpe for 8 as the period ended.

Runs by Salls, Craft and Hughes advanced the ball to the two yard line where Hughes scored on an end run. No goal.

In the third period, Hecht kicked off, Alabama held and Tech punted to Nelson who returned 20 yards. A pass from Nelson to Brown carried to the Tide 47. Nelson punted to Sheldon, who was tackled by Weeks on Tech's 14. Tech soon punted Nelson who caught the ball on Alabama's 32 and ran 68 yards for a touchdown. Hecht converted.

Hecht kicked off again, Alabama held and McHugh punted to Alabama's 44. Alabama drove to Tech's 36 before losing the ball on downs. Sanders punted to Hughes on the Tide 25 and Hughes, aided by Sabo's block, returned the ball 71 yards to the Tech 4 yard line as the period ended.

On the next play, Nelson passed to Craft for the final touchdown and Hecht kicked goal.

With Alabama using her second and third string players, Tech drove from her own 45 to the Tide 10 yard line. Alabama then sent in four first string linemen and the ball went over on downs on the Tide two yard line.

Alabama's fine line play and downfield blocking featured the game. Nelson, who played less than one third of the game, Rast, Domnanovich, Wyhonic and Weeks were the stars for Alabama while Wright, Dyke and Jordan were outstanding for Tech.

Georgia Tech—Ends: Arthur, Webb, Crawford, Burroughs, Marshall. **Tackles:** Sanders, Anderson, Helms, Morrow. **Guards:** Dyke, Jordan, Ryckley, Hardy, Haines. **Centers:** Wright, Manning, Quigg. **Backs:** Lamb, Sheldon, McHugh, Dodd, Bosch, Eldredge, Plaster, Stein, Hancock.



NOVEMBER 22: Playing a brilliant defensive game by holding Alabama to a net gain of 38 yards on running plays and 38 yards on a forward pass, Nelson to Rast, which officials ruled complete because of interference, Vanderbilt upset the dope by defeating Alabama 7 to 0 in a driving rain on a field ankle deep in mud. The uncanny and brilliant spot kicking out of bounds and away from the Alabama punt receivers by Burns of Vanderbilt was also a major factor in the Commodore victory.

Jack Jenkins of Vanderbilt was the star of the day with his sixty full minutes of fine blocking, tackling and running. Gude and Holder, centers, Fritz at guard and Peebles at tackle were also outstanding while Rast, Wyhonic, Domnanovich, Sabo and Brown featured for Alabama.

The only score of the game came in the third period. Nelson returned Jenkins' kickoff 15 yards. Vandy held and Nelson punted to Rebrovich, who returned 42 yards to the Tide's 20. A line play lost 5 yards. Rebrovich ran to his right and passed to his left to Jenkins who ran across for the touchdown and kicked goal.

Vandy made 11 first downs for a net gain of 216 yards and had numerous opportunities to score. What few chances Alabama had of scoring were promptly and effectively stopped by a hard charging and alert Vandy line. The game was marred by ten fumbles.

Vanderbilt—Ends: Webb, Olsen, Baird, Richter, Atkinson. **Tackles:** Peebles, Walton, Robertson. **Guards:** J. Atkinson, Fritz, Folmar, Powell. **Centers:** Gude, Holder, **Backs:** Jenkins, Moore, Rebrovich, Rohling, Burns, Bushmaier, Marlin.



NOVEMBER 28: Alabama defeated the Miami Hurricanes in Miama, Florida, before 26,000 spectators by the score of 21 to 7.

In the first quarter, Nelson caught a punt on his 10 yard line, ran up the side lines as he picked up his blockers, cut across the field and was downed on the Miami 5 yard line by Coates, halfback. Miami held for three downs and Craft scored on a reverse around his own left end. Hecht kicked goal.

Miami received the kickoff and drove 70 yards for a touchdown. Kasulin drove over left tackle for 45 yards. A forward pass and three line plays advanced the ball to the Tide 2 yard line where Plasman scored and Petroski kicked goal.

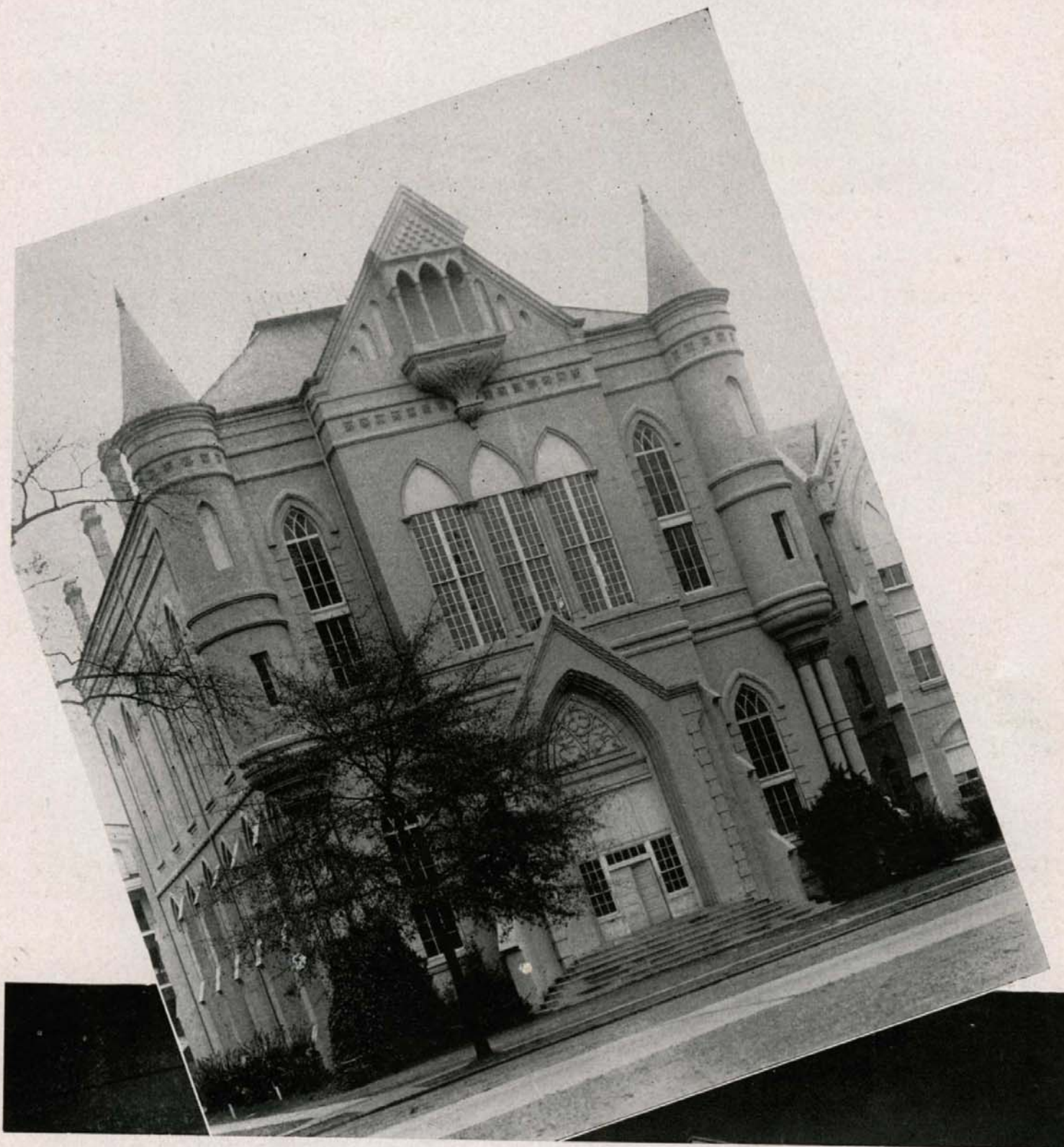
Alabama received and drove to the Miami 9 yard line where the ball was lost on downs. Two drives by Alabama to Miami's 25 and 32 yard lines were stopped by an alert Miami defense. Later, Hughes returned a punt by Plasman to the Tide 42. Hughes made 3 and Salls 15 through right tackle. After Hughes and Salls made another first down, Brown ran 28 yards on a reverse play for a touchdown. Hecht kicked goal.

In the third period with the ball on his own 37, Brown made 15 on a reverse, Nelson made 3

and Brown circled left end for 10. Brown, Salls and Nelson carried the ball to Miami's 24. After Salls made 12 over tackle, Nelson scored in two plays. Hecht kicked goal.

In the fourth period, Plasman punted 74 yards to the Tide 1 yard line. Nelson punted out 41 yards and held. Plasman punted out of bounds on the Alabama 4. Nelson kicked out again to the 38 yard line. A pass, Coates to Douglas, was completed for 32 yards. Alabama held for downs on her own 1 yard line. Nelson punted again to the Tide 35, Coates returning 10 yards and laterally to Plasman who ran to the Tide 22. A pass, Coates to Troblinger, advanced the ball to the Alabama 8. Alabama held again on her 3 yard line. Nelson again punted out. Coates' pass to West was completed to the Tide 5, where Weeks intercepted a pass as the game ended.

Plasman and Coates starred for Miama as did Salls, Brown and Weeks for Alabama.



CLARK HALL