

Origins and Development of College football in South Carolina, 1889-1930

*“The colors of the two institutions were conspicuous. Furman’s banner of purple and white floated in the air and the students wore badges of the same color . . . the players were dressed in canvass cloth uniforms and wore caps of purple and white. The old gold and black of Wofford was everywhere to be seen . . .”*¹

Such was the splendor surrounding the second year of intercollegiate competition between the two upstate college rivals in January 1891 as the teams formed on the field of Wofford’s home ground in Spartanburg. Although the new game of “football” had only begun to take root in the Palmetto State less than a decade before, it was gaining a significant following on these two upstate campuses. At this early stage, though, the rules were different from what they have become. In fact it probably resembled a rugby match more than what we see in college stadiums today. Scrimmage lines were unbalanced, the forward pass was illegal, and scoring a touchdown only earned four points, while the extra point, or goal, as it was called then, earned two. On the sidelines there were few, if any bleachers, but the fan support, with perhaps one- hundred, was enthusiastic and partisan in cheering for their respective team. But as the fans of this third intercollegiate football game in South Carolina cheered they could hardly have foreseen how the game would steadily grow from a contest between amateurs into tightly organized teams with well paid coaches and very demanding alumni, all with a passionate desire to win. By 1930 college football was established on virtually every college campus in the state.²

In the early years of collegiate football teams in the Palmetto state used faculty advisors with personal interest in football who aided fledgling teams in the upstate to the low country. Such people had usually played the game at a northern school before coming south. Paid coaches came later once the game was more established. Yet even though unpaid such coaches were not supposed to coach during games. Only the team captain could give instruction during the matches. Even so the games of this early period could become violent and injuries followed. But this was only one of the reasons most college presidents and their faculties discouraged football. As football took root on South

Carolina campuses professors and administrators feared that too much student attention to the game and its players distracted them from their academic pursuits- concerns that had already affected colleges in the northeast where football began more than three decades before.³

Neither administrations at Wofford or Furman seemed concerned about their students playing the new game as they would a decade later. Instead the president and his trustees appeared indifferent since they did not support it financially or attend the first games. The early years of college football in the Palmetto state were organized and supported by the players with moral support from the rest of their student bodies. As already indicated a faculty member often helped to train players but everything else, from uniforms, transportation to games, to arranging games were the responsibility of the players and their student managers. A faculty member served as a liaison for their institution to monitor college interests and be sure that integrity was maintained. In South Carolina early years of intercollegiate football were truly amateur contests little more than a step above class football competitions staged on most campuses.⁴

Baseball was the main sport on South Carolina college campuses through the 1890s yet recreational levels of football began at some institutions by the 1880s. At what was then South Carolina College (later became the University of South Carolina) football was already a popular sport between groups of students who just seemed interested in its recreational value. In October 1888 a student wrote, in a half joking manner, that football was good for health, because after playing a game players bloodied themselves to the point that they “never need to be bled by a physician.”⁵ Wofford and Furman seemed to have gained knowledge of football prior to their first game in December 1889 through recreational contests held on their campuses. And even after the first game between the two schools, intramural contests between classes at many campuses became an annual contest in the late fall. In 1911, after the intercollegiate season, University of South Carolina had a competition between the four classes for the Football Trophy. Similarly class competitions were held on campuses from Greenville to Newberry even when intercollegiate competition was suspended by most upstate schools during the first decade of the 20th century.⁶

But without its introduction from northern transplants neither class or varsity football would have advanced much in the state. The most noted of these early northern pioneers to come to South Carolina was the future innovator and coaching legend, John Heisman. An 1892 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and football star, in 1899 Clemson College lured him from Auburn in Alabama to lead the upstate school to its earliest football success in a brief four-year tenure. The second paid coach in the state, Heisman is the most famous coach of the early years of college football in South Carolina. Less heralded northern transplants brought the game to other state campuses including Yale graduate Elwin Kerrison who trained the Wofford team for the first Furman contest in 1889. It was unclear if Kerrison played at Yale but he certainly must have known about the game since the Connecticut school was one of college football's top teams in the country with a tradition of winning championships. When University of South Carolina began a varsity program in 1894 it also enlisted a faculty advisor with northern roots and continued to do so until the school hired its first paid coach two years later.⁷

But while these northerners introduced the game they could not coach in the modern sense of the word, at least not until Heisman took over at Clemson. No coach or trainer is mentioned in the reports for the 1891 Wofford- Furman game. And except for Clemson and South Carolina, the games between other South Carolina schools seemed genteel affairs where the both sides respected the competitive spirit of the other. The Furman writer who accompanied the 1891 team to Spartanburg for the third contest described a friendly and spirited cheering between the rival fans as the teams prepared for the muddy match in rain and cold wind. Although a low scoring affair in which the visitors prevailed 10-0, the sides had a hotly contested game in which Wofford's tackling and blocking for their running backs was their best feature. It was mainly Furman's better teamwork that seemed to overcome the home side in the end. The Wofford writer concurred although he attributed the loss to insufficient practice time along with injuries to key players before the contest.⁸

During the 1890s South Carolina and Clemson began varsity programs in 1894 and 1896, respectively, but none of the state's other colleges began intercollegiate programs until the new century. North of South Carolina, the University of North Carolina had begun playing a small schedule of intercollegiate games in the late 1880s and to the west,

the University of Georgia began playing other colleges in 1891 followed by Georgia Tech. During this first decade of intercollegiate football the state's colleges occasionally scheduled these out-of-state schools.⁹

But there were a few schools within the Palmetto State that began to play football that by law could not compete with South Carolina, Clemson, or the small upstate schools. These were the black schools in Orangeburg and Columbia. Sadly, the early records for these programs are meager leaving the historian with just a few facts. Privately supported Claflin College of Orangeburg, SC had a team by 1899 but none of its early records are extant. Eight years later its neighbor, South Carolina State College, began an intercollegiate team, defeating Morehouse College in that year's first and only match. The following year, the Orangeburg school tied Allen University of Columbia and lost the other four games that season. Within three years of its first varsity season State College became part of a segregated college league called the Georgia- South Carolina Intercollegiate Association (later renamed the South Atlantic Conference), winning that conference's title for the first time in 1919. Allen University was part of this league during the same period.¹⁰

On the South Carolina coast the College of Charleston began its first intercollegiate squad in 1899, defeating the more experienced Furman, 22-0 but losing to South Carolina, 18-0. After the first year the College did not play another team outside of Charleston for the next three years. The lowcountry school, like other programs in the state, focused its competition on local rivals, particularly the city YMCA, teams of former college players living in the city, and even high schools. Its future town rival, the Citadel, would not have a varsity squad until 1905. With a small student body of barely 100 and a very small budget, the college's local competitive schedule seemed linked to cost factors.¹¹

But as the game was introduced to Charleston colleges the upstate institutions that introduced varsity football to the state banned it. Both Wofford and Furman had intermittent years when football at the varsity level was absent. The Spartanburg school did not play intercollegiate football for a three-year period from 1897 to 1899. Furman had no schedule in 1894 and then, like Wofford, had a three-year hiatus in the late 1890s. As the new century began both schools returned to varsity play for two years with

Wofford playing its fullest schedule in 1901 with six games. And then intercollegiate play ended for more than a decade.¹²

By this time the game, while growing in popularity on most South Carolina college campuses, had become a major distraction among student bodies according to the faculty and administrators at Wofford and Furman. Concern that football marginalized the academic purpose of their institutions was coupled with what Wofford President Henry Snyder described as “the unadulterated spirit of battle appealing primarily to the primitive instincts of man . . .” Furthermore, the two schools’ presidents claimed that permitting football in the fall, when baseball already took up the spring term, meant that academics would be compromised in both the fall and spring terms to the severe detriment of their small student bodies.¹³ Another factor that influenced their decision could be linked to the strong religious affiliation of both colleges. With strong ties to the Methodist denomination at Wofford and the Southern Baptists at Furman, and, condoning violent, unsportsmanlike conduct that football generated led to criticism from lay and clergy alike. By the end of 1896 the Board of Education of the South Carolina Methodist Conference denounced football not only as brutal and wasteful of “time and money” but destructive of intellect and morals at Wofford. Eventually the trustees accepted the Conference recommendation, but only in part. Intercollegiate games continued until 1903 when the Methodist school ended varsity play for the next decade but class football still continued.¹⁴ In 1896 Furman’s board seemed less critical, at first, for they continued to allow some football off campus but strictly at the expense of the students who participated. Then, seven years later, the board banned inter-collegiate play because it was “too rough and expensive” but, curiously, encouraged class football on campus. As off-campus football disappeared on these and other upstate colleges the ban may have also been connected to the growing national press’ criticism of the game that was carried in at least one state newspaper.¹⁵ Columbia’s *State* newspaper followed the intense criticism of football in the Northeast, especially as the season ended in December 1905. It quoted a Boston paper that claimed that football rules, as then permitted, “encouraged brutality and roughness, and put a premium on deceit.” That same month the Columbia paper reported that one of the biggest northern colleges, Columbia University, had banned football outright.¹⁶

Despite these bans, the game at public supported state colleges continued with opponents from other states. But for the two biggest schools in South Carolina the growing rivalry between Clemson and University of South Carolina became the biggest clash in the state as the new century began. By 1908 one former player recalled years later that football was displacing baseball as the premier game on South Carolina's campus and most of the other colleges. The bitter rivalry between the two biggest schools in the state had already become legendary. The first full manifestation of the Carolina vs. Clemson face-off came in the aftermath of Carolina's 1902 victory, 12-6. It began shortly after the game's conclusion when South Carolina students produced a "transparency" of a gamecock crowing over a crouching tiger. When they marched down Columbia's Main Street with it in their midst Clemson students confronted them resulting for a brief time in "a scrimmage in which it is said knives and swords and knucks (sic) were used." No one was seriously hurt but the transparency was badly damaged. Following the melee the Carolina faithful returned to campus to produce another copy to use in the following day's Elks' parade. Clemson cadets were livid once more. Efforts by authorities on both sides failed to find a compromise. The cadets marched to the brick wall of the Horseshoe on Sumter Street ready to storm the Carolina campus and destroy the new copy. At the last moment cooler heads prevailed when a three man committee of each side met and agreed to allow each side to get one half of the image and burn it before the other.¹⁷

While little blood was shed, in the wake of this incident Carolina's board chose to ban the Clemson game for the next seven years. Then three years later Carolina ended intercollegiate competition for the 1906 season. Apparently the game's brutal nature and the student body's fanatical interest made the trustees decide that banning football was the best option for the school. However USC's decision did not influence either Clemson or the two Charleston institutions to follow the same course. As far as the College of Charleston and the Citadel were concerned their budding rivalry was the biggest for either in the first decade of the twentieth century. Although the college began playing regular inter-collegiate football two years before the military college, the cadets did not take long to catch up to their city neighbors. After fierce opposition to student petitions that requested football, the commandant and his board reluctantly granted permission in late 1904. Fears by the Citadel leaders that the game interfered with cadets' academic and

military training had finally been overcome. The new Citadel team played mostly local teams both colleges and high schools. In this first decade of play one opponent included the “Medicos,” a team of medical students from the Medical College of South Carolina. But rival for the new Citadel varsity was the College of Charleston. And the biggest game in these early years probably was the 1910 contest between the two schools.¹⁸

In October the Citadel seemed poised for another win over their city rival, having a larger, more physical side compared to the smaller college squad. Furthermore the cadets had not allowed their city rivals to score on them since 1907. Nevertheless the bigger side was stymied all day, while the quicker, smaller “Maroons,” found ways through and around the cadet defense. The culminating play of the game, sealing the upset, was devised in a huddle by Alex “Frau” Pregnall, the College’s speedy quarterback. After the ball was centered, Pregnall hid behind his backfield, stuffed the ball under his jersey (a legal move at this time), and took off. While the rest of his backfield headed around one end of the line the quarterback took off around the opposite end toward the Citadel goal-line. Perplexed at first, the cadet defense only realized the ruse after Pregnall was well down the field. Although tackled just a few yards from a score after a sixty yard gallop, it took just one more play for him to take it over sealing the victory, 11-0.¹⁹

Such a triumph, the only one over the Citadel in the College of Charleston’s brief football history, was followed after the game by one of the college’s biggest celebrations in the early sporting history of Charleston. In the evening a large parade of student fans marched through several streets in the center of the city, dressed in robes of white and banging two big drums while others made more noise with mouth organs and sundry other instruments. Along the way they stopped to serenade businesses and undisclosed residences, including the *Charleston News and Courier* offices.²⁰

College of Charleston fan support, coupled with the near riot in Columbia eight years before, is indicative of how college football had evolved into more than a game on most campuses across the state. Winning, especially against bitter rivals, was more important than having just a sporting competition. The almost friendly atmosphere in the early contests between Furman and Wofford had changed. As the new century began nasty encounters between rival fans and players on the field began to resemble some of the games in the Northeast. An alum of the South Carolina team of 1908 recalled a half

century later that in his playing days a bonfire and loud cheering began on campus the night before the Carolina- Clemson contest. If the Gamecocks were victorious the student body had a “shirt tail parade” into downtown Columbia. At the game itself the sidelines were jammed with over-zealous fans milling about, following the progress of the ball during each play. Shouts of all kinds, including advice to their teams and game officials, were punctuated by “waving streamers, sticks and derby hats.” A similar atmosphere surrounded Citadel games. Grandstands in these early years were few and often temporary; one paid thirty-five cents to sit, while the fans that stood on the sidelines paid ten cents less. These supporters often stepped onto the field of play forcing the game to be held up while officials shooed them off. And fights between rival fans made disruption of play even more frequent.²¹

The teams on the field gave no quarter to their opponent either. At Citadel games a former Bulldog, James Hammond, Class of 1907, recalled that “Anything went and there were plenty of injuries.” Smaller players carrying the ball were nearly torn apart when their linemen pushed the ball carrier forward to gain yardage while the defensive team “dragged” him by the neck to hold him back. And verbal abuse between rival players could be just as abusive. This was especially the case when a player transferred from one school to another. One former Charleston native, who had played a season at the Citadel, recalled that when he changed sides the following season to join the rival Charleston Athletics, he was cursed at regularly during the game, but in Gullah.²²

Based on such rough, abusive behavior, it would seem, as one historian has argued, that in the early decades of college football women were excluded from the sidelines or kept segregated from boisterous male fans. Granted few South Carolina colleges in the early twentieth century allowed women students. Those that did, South Carolina was one, had just a small cohort of co-eds, usually little more than ten per cent. Some all male campuses, such as Furman, had a separate female campus. Young ladies who attended Furman games usually had a male escort. Usually unescorted women who attended came in carriages and watched the game from them, somewhat protected from potentially rowdy fans, but not always. In Greenville at the November, 1893, Furman game, Wofford had a contingent of female fans that came from Converse, Spartanburg’s college for women. Here they seemed not to be segregated from the rest of the fans. With nearly one

thousand in the temporary stands, the crowd included “an array of feminine beauty that could only be produced in the genial clime of the fair South-land.”²³ At other Wofford games it seemed that female fans were more protected. The young women stood in the “neighboring piazzas” waving Wofford's black and gold covers. At the most male-oriented college in the state, the Citadel, several “female sponsors” attended the home games to encourage the team and its cadets before and during each game. Young women from the all-female Chicora College in Columbia came to Carolina games escorted by male students. After one of the big victories over a rival in 1910 Carolina students made a procession to Chicora to proclaim their triumph to the girls on campus.²⁴

Whether the growing excitement generated by the games at Carolina, Clemson, and Charleston had an impact or not, by 1913 the decade-long moratorium imposed by presidents at Furman and Wofford was wavering. Students of both schools had never liked the prohibition and each year had attempted, but failed, to have football reinstated. Then, at the end of 1912, Furman's student body overwhelmingly voted that a three-student delegation plead their case to the Furman board meeting in Abbeville that December. Although what the argument was that persuaded the board to suspend their ban is unrecorded, the campus had a huge celebration when their representatives telegraphed the student body back in Greenville afterwards announcing the games' reinstatement. But perhaps the board had not needed too much persuasion. Seven years later, on the eve of another football season, one Furman student proclaimed that the football team had a new and significant “drawing card” with a new stadium which would help encourage increase Furman's student body to five hundred. The team with the new stadium was now more than just a way to increase school spirit but it promoted the school beyond the confines of Greenville and helped with new student recruitment. It is difficult to know if the latter rational helped change the minds of other college administrations about allowing football but all had students bodies that wanted the game allowed on their campuses. Wofford reintroduced the game a year after its Greenville rival. Newberry College officially introduced inter-collegiate football the same year that Furman had reinstated it. Erskine College, a Presbyterian institution in Abbeville County, began its first team in 1915. In each case the student body had lobbied for several years to either reinstate the game or allow it on campus for the first time. Presbyterian College in

Clinton, SC began play in 1913 after the faculty committee accepted a student petition with ninety signatures that football be permitted. Perhaps because of student lobbying, college administrations began to realize that football at their campuses would help bring new students that everyone eagerly wanted.²⁵

Just as football began its renaissance on upstate campuses the nation found itself slowly getting entangled in an international crisis, World War I. Until the United States declared war on Imperial Germany and its allies in April, 1917, college football remained unaffected. Even in the fall season of 1917 college teams in the state seemed to carry on as they had in peace time. The only difference was that on most schedules one or two military teams were included. Along with Guildford (in North Carolina) and Presbyterian, Wofford also played the First New York Ambulance football team. The military team was part of the 27th Division that came to train at the newly established Camp Wadsworth located on the western outskirts of Spartanburg. The army team was defeated by the college boys, 21-0. In Columbia, where Camp Jackson was established about the same time, the University of South Carolina used former players, then training at the camp, to serve as officials for their first game of the season versus Newberry.²⁶

The new army installations that were forming in South Carolina (and across the nation) in the summer and fall of 1917 provided much more than just football officials and new opposition on the field. Because the new army recruits included former college players most units formed teams that had intra-squad games on base. Most military camps also formed all-star teams that competed against other military bases. While their schedules were usually just a few games in the fall they provided great interest both on and off base. When Camp Jackson's team prepared to play Camp Gordon of Atlanta, Georgia in November, the local coverage of the game was extensive. *The State* noted that both squads consisted of many stars from South Atlanta colleges, including Clemson and USC. The game was played at Melton field, the home field for the University of South Carolina, ending in a 10-0 victory for Camp Jackson.²⁷

A year later Army authorities initially discouraged football on those campuses that had Student Army Training Corps units. Since most colleges in South Carolina had their male students enrolled it appeared that little, if any, football would be played for the 1918 season. But the Army's stand on football changed within a month. In early October it was

announced in a Columbia newspaper that football would be permitted although travel and schedules would be curtailed. But more than the war situation seemed to curtail football, at least during the month of October. In this period the influenza pandemic had its greatest impact throughout the state and the nation, closing most public activities from church services to cinemas. It also had impact on football games. The University of South Carolina played just four games that year while Wofford and the Citadel had only three, all in November or December. Military teams such as Camp Jackson and the Charleston Navy Yards Training Service teams continued play but with longer schedules.²⁸

Once the Armistice was signed in November 1918, ending the Great War, the reduced football on South Carolina's college campuses expanded with longer seasons and improved facilities. The only exception was the College of Charleston. With its student body of barely 100 and a miniscule budget, 1913 was its last season on the gridiron. During the college's final two seasons its teams earned just one victory in ten games, ending its last season with embarrassing defeats to its Citadel rivals, 72 to 0, and Newberry, 39 to 0.²⁹

The rest of the state's schools continued, with improved student and financial support, under the umbrella of a formal league association. By 1914 the South Carolina Intercollegiate Athletic Association had most state schools under its umbrella with a written code of ethics and sportsmanship agreed upon by all members. Although not all schools obeyed the code it was apparent intercollegiate athletics, especially football, had become more than just an occasional sport for nearly all the state's campuses. By the early 1920s the state's two largest schools left the state conference to join a new Southern Intercollegiate Conference. In 1921 Clemson became one of the first members with several other Southern schools, including Alabama, Georgia, and North Carolina, forming a fourteen team conference known today as the Southern Conference. The following year South Carolina joined with four other institutions. This association with formal rules regulated team behavior on and off the field with regard to recruiting and conference championships. Although the decade's perennial power, Furman, did not join the Southern Conference until the 1930s, it seemed satisfied with its dominance within the state football ranks until then.³⁰

By 1919 Furman began a run of titles that surpassed all the other state colleges through the twenties. Any qualms by the Furman administration about football had disappeared. In 1919 a new 10,000 seat Manly Stadium was inaugurated for the new season. This facility, with better players and a young, successful coach, Billy Laval, led to the Baptist-affiliated school's dominance of the state college ranks with six state titles through 1927. By the 1922 season Furman Professor W.H. Coleman proudly wrote that students and faculty were united in their support of the football team in its mounting success, "The strong, clean teams that have represented Furman on diamond and gridiron . . . have added new brilliance to the name and fame of Furman." The Greenville college's strong football team gave the institution greater name recognition which many students and faculty thought attracted not only better athletes but more new students in general.³¹

None of the other state schools could claim such a record but all tried to build winning programs through hiring better coaches and recruiting top players. Clemson and Carolina built on their rivalry that had been cemented before 1917. Neither consistently challenged Furman in the decade after World War I but they never stopped trying. After the 1927 season Carolina went to the extreme of luring Furman's successful coach, Billy Laval, to Columbia. Although after his second season the new coach accused Carolina's student body of lacking sufficient spirit and commitment to the football team, there was still enough campus support that included the "Cheerios," student cheering section numbering 275. Even with a loss to Clemson in 1929, the annual rivalry between the two state schools drew 14,000 fans. Indifferent records on the field could not dampen significant interest in the Gamecocks despite Laval's criticism.³²

Within the segregated college varsity programs of the state the competition to win had become just as strong even if it did not get the same coverage as its white college counterparts. By the mid to late 1920s African American journalists began to scrutinize several black college athletic programs, including Claflin and South Carolina State. Noted civil rights leader, scholar and editor of the NACCP magazine, *the Crisis*, W.E.B. DuBois, severely criticized several black college athletic programs for recruiting abuses in which players had regular roster spots even though their academic records were poor to non-existent.³³ A DuBois assistant, George Streater, wrote in 1932 that for several years

South Carolina State, Claflin, and Allen had admitted athletes without reviewing their transcripts. In particular he claimed that State had placed athletes on its football team who had played for the “last eight years” on teams in the region, he did not enumerate at what level but he seemed to suggest that they had played on other college teams.³⁴

Problems with illegal recruiting had become big issues in white schools across the nation by the 1920s. The University of South Carolina had already become embroiled in illegal recruiting prior to World War I. After the 1914 season, with only two victories over its arch rival Clemson since their first game in 1896, Carolina alumni and local Columbia supporters decided to bring in players with better football credentials. By the middle of the 1915 season its surprising wins over state and out-of-state competition drew the suspicion of Clemson officials and investigators from around the state. Even Carolina faculty expressed suspicions. As one professor wrote to USC President Currell, “We’re importing ‘ringers’ from Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and heaven only knows where else.”³⁵ Before the Clemson game in late October several Carolina players were barred from playing because of eligibility questions. The rival match ended in a 0-0 tie. But the issue continued to affect the rest of the season with Davidson cancelling its game with Carolina outright after further evidence proved the original suspicions to be accurate. With Carolina’s student honor system severely compromised the president had to act. Currell dismissed two players for falsifying their records and two others left on their own accord to avoid further publicity. In addition the Gamecocks had to forfeit three of their early wins of the 1915 season. While the school regained some of its respect in the academic community the next year it suffered another dismal season.³⁶

In any event by the end of the First World War colleges across the state had decided that competitive football teams were important for their campuses. So even as Clemson and South Carolina had 5-5 records against each other during the decade and only moderate success against other competition within and beyond the Palmetto State any reservations about varsity football were forgotten. Similarly other schools in the Palmetto State, from Erskine and Wofford to the Citadel in Charleston, had modest football records but it did not discourage varsity play. Erskine had only two winning seasons after 1921. Likewise Wofford had few wins to boast about during the decade, losing all six games against its Furman rival during the decade. While there is still more research

required to delineate the social and economic impact of football on South Carolina college campuses, this paper has tried to demonstrate that college football had become a main stay by the twenties for the Palmetto State. Although the money and influence it has on today's campuses is considerably greater football's social and economic value was already accepted and promoted by students and most of South Carolina's college faculties and administrations by 1930.³⁷

Notes

¹ Undated news clipping, Furman football folder, (probably the January 1891 based on *Furman Football Media Guide, 2008*, 199), Special Collections and Archives, Furman University Library, Greenville, SC. The author has not found a rule book or clear description of how these first games were played in South Carolina. The best idea of how football was played in the early years see, *Wofford College Journal*, January, 1891, 20-22, Wofford College Archives, Spartanburg, SC.

² Ibid.

³ For analysis of the origins of football in the US and its early history and controversy in the 1880s through the 1900s see John S. Watterson, *College Football: History, Spectacle, Controversy*, (London: John Hopkins University Press, 2000), 23-24, 28, 78, 171-172; John H. Moore, "Football's Ugly Decades, 1893- 1913," in Steven A. Reiss, *The American Sporting Experience*, (West Point, NY: Leisure Press, 1994), 168, 171-172. For some early rules of football and their evolution see David M. Nelson, *The Anatomy of the Game*, (Newark, De: University of Delaware, 1991), 436- 438.

⁴ Undated news clipping [1891], Furman football folder. *Wofford College Journal*, January 1891.

⁵ Carolyn B. Matalene and Katherine C. Reynolds, (ed.) *Carolina Voices: Two Hundred Years of Student Experiences*, (University of South Carolina Press: Columbia, 2001), 97.

⁶ For early inter-mural football at Carolina, *Garnet and Black*, 1912; for Newberry College see Gordon C. Henry, (ed.) *God Bless Newberry College: Memories of Newberry College's Yesterday and Today*, (Newberry College, Newberry, SC, 2006), 170; for Wofford College see junior class team photo, 1904, Wofford College Archives, Spartanburg, SC.

⁷ John Heisman published resume, Clemson, 1900, Football folder, Special Collections, Clemson University Libraries, Clemson, S.C. *John Heisman: Principles of Football*, (University of Georgia Press, Athens, 2000), originally published 1922. For Wofford see *Wofford College Journal*, (December 1889), 21 and South Carolina see *Garnet and Black*, 1901, University of South Carolina Library, Columbia, SC.

⁸ Undated newspaper clipping, [1891], Furman football file," Furman. *The Wofford Journal*, (January 1891), 19, Wofford College Archives.

⁹ For Georgia and North Carolina see Stegeman, *The Ghost of Herty Field*, 2-3, 10, 27.

¹⁰ Claflin team photo, dated 1899, is in possession of John Daye, Irmo, SC, but nothing further has been found to date about the team. For early SC State College football records, *A Century of Football SC State University, 2007 Bulldog Media Guide*, 70; *South Carolina State College Athletic Reunion, April 5-8, 1990*, this pamphlet provides more details about its early football history, including conflicting information on the college's first opponent in 1907, according to this they defeated Georgia State, South Carolina State University Library Archives, Orangeburg, SC, the author thanks his colleague, Elaine Nichols, for locating this.

¹¹ Schedule for College of Charleston, 1903-1912, compiled by John Daye, Irmo, SC, copy provided the author.

¹² The schedules for both schools are based on *Furman 2008 (Football) Media Guide*, 166-167.

¹³ Edited versions of the letters from Wofford and Furman, as well as Presbyterian and Erskine, were solicited by Newberry College Board Chair, George Cromer, in 1911 when that school began contemplating the introduction of varsity football, see Henry "God Bless Newberry College", 169

¹⁴ David D. Wallace, *History of Wofford College, 1854- 1949*, (Nashville, TN: Vanderbilt University Press, 1951), 109.

¹⁵ Alfred S. Reid, *Furman University: Toward a New Identity, 1925-1975*, (Durham: Duke University Press, 1976), 22; Robert N. Daniel, *Furman: A History*, (Greenville: Furman University, 1951), 107, 110.

¹⁶ For the *State* articles from the Northeast see December 6, 20, 1905, I wish to thank Ann Watts, Columbia, SC for locating these two articles.

¹⁷ For growing importance of football on campus see James H. Hammond narrative on early football at Citadel and Carolina, Class of 1907, in a letter dated August 4, 1961, Hammond Papers, Manuscripts Room, South Caroliniana Library, USC, Columbia, SC, the author thanks Ann Watts of Columbia, SC for locating this fascinating account. For account of the 1902 near riot see, Matalene and Reynolds, *Carolina Voices*, 100-102.

¹⁸ For the beginning of Citadel football see Hammond narrative, 1961, SCL; for the College of Charleston see Katherine Chaddock and Carolyn Matalene (ed.) *College of Charleston Voices: Campus and Community through the Centuries*, (The History Press: Charleston, 2006), 95-96.

¹⁹ Chaddock and Matalene, *College of Charleston Voices*, 95-96. The author is indebted to William Pregnall, Irvington, Va. for sharing his memories of his father's athletic career and a copy of his unpublished manuscript about his father that included several copies of news articles, including a description of the 1910 game dated October 23, 1910.

²⁰ Chaddock and Matalene, *College of Charleston Voices*, 96.

²¹ James Hammond narrative, Class of 1907, SCL; this account seems to have confused the dates since Carolina did not play Clemson during the years 1903 to 1908 although he refers to the game as taking place in 1908. Since Hammond was recalling events more than a half a century later he probably meant to say 1909 when the rivalry resumed.

²² Ibid.

²³ *Wofford College Journal*, December 1893, 118.

²⁴ *Wofford College Journal*, April 1893; James Hammond narrative, Class of 1907, SCL.

²⁵ *Bonhomie* (Furman annual) 1913, Special Collections, Furman; Henry, *God Bless Newberry College*, 176; Lowry Ware, *A Place called Due West*, n.d., thanks to Richard Haldeman of Due West for providing this information and notes to the author. For Presbyterian College student petition and faculty agreement to allow football see Faculty Committee Minutes, (May 29, 1913, 72), Special Collections, Presbyterian College Library, Clinton, SC.

²⁶ *State*, 1, 5, 14 Oct 1917

²⁷ *State*, 1, 10 Nov. 1917; thanks to John Daye, Irmo, SC, for providing further details about military teams during World War I. He will detail this and more in a forthcoming book scheduled for release in summer, 2010, "Armed Services Football: A History of Service Teams in Wartime and Peace."

²⁸ For Army's changes in football for colleges in 1918 see *The State*, 13 Sept., 4 October 1918, thanks to Kate Jernigan, USC student volunteer intern, for locating this information. On the impact of the influenza on the state and nation see Fritz Hamer, ed. *Forward Together: South Carolinians in the Great War*, (Charleston: The History Press), 44-48. For reduced schedules for these teams see John C. Griffin, *The First Hundred Years: A History of South Carolina Football*, (Atlanta: Longstreet Press, 1992), 157; www.athletics.wofford.edu/sports then click on Football archives; *Citadel Bulldogs [Football] Media Guide*, 2009, 131.

²⁹ Chaddock and Matalene, *College of Charleston Voices*, 95; College of Charleston football record came from South Carolina colleges football records file (compiled by Rich Topp, Chicago, Ill.) shown at the SC State Museum exhibition, "Mud, Sweat, and Cheers: A History of Palmetto State football," 1 August 2008- 8 February 2009; on funding problems at this time see Walter Fraser, Jr., *Charleston! Charleston!* (University of South Carolina Press: Columbia, 1991), 350. Note that although published sources claim all football ended at the College after 1913, it appeared that at least one more game was played after the war against Erskine, see *The State*, October 14, 1921. The author is indebted to John Daye, Irmo, SC, for providing this source.

³⁰ For an early reference to the state association see "Presbyterian College Faculty Minutes," (1913), (1914), Special Collection, PC Library; for the 1920s see *Furman Football Program*, 1928, Special Collections, Furman Library. For the history of the Southern Conference see its web site, http://www.soconsports.com/ViewArticle.dbml?DB_OEM_ID=4000&KEY=&ATCLID =... Other members of the original conference were Auburn, Georgia Tech, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi State, North Carolina State, Tennessee, Virginia, Virginia Tech and Washington & Lee

³¹ *Official Furman Football Program*, 1922, Special Collection, Furman.

³² *Garnet and Black*, 1929. During the twenties Carolina lost seven and won just three over Furman from 1919 to 1930. Clemson's record during the same period was little better at six losses, three wins and one tie, *Furman 2008 Football Media Guide*, 199. For fan attendance see *New York Times*, October 25, 1929, the author thanks Debra Bloom, Librarian, Richland County Library, Columbia, SC, for locating this article.

³³ Patrick B. Miller (ed.), *The Sporting World of the Modern South*, (Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 2002), 137-138.

³⁴ *Ibid.*, 138-139.

³⁵ Miller, *Sporting World in South*, 139. Daniel Hollis, *University of South Carolina: College to University*, (University of South Carolina Press: Columbia, 1956), 282-284.

³⁶ *Ibid.*, 284

³⁷ The records of the schools in the 1920s are based on data compiled in, *Furman 2008 Media Guide*, 167-168 ; Ware, *A Place called Due West*, n.d., “Erskine College football results, 1915-1951,” thanks Richard Haldeman, Due West, SC, for supplying a copy of this to the author.