

1931 SEASON

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| FRANK THOMAS | Coach |
| H. G. CRISP, HAROLD DREW, RICHARD DONAGHUE | Assistant Coaches |
| PAUL BURNUM | Freshman Coach |
| JOE SHARPE | Captain |
| TOMMY COOK | Manager |

PLAYERS

Ends: Ben Smith, Autrey Dotherow, Foy Leach, Robert Turner, Robert Swain, Tom McMillan . . .
Tackles: Newt Godfree, Max Jackson, Carney Laslie, James Dildy, Troy Barker . . . **Guards:** J. B. Whitworth, B'Ho Kirkland, Comer Sims, Tom Huppke, Calvin Frey, Donald Sanford . . . **Centers:** Joe Sharpe, Ellis Houston, Willis Hewes . . . **Backs:** John Cain, Hillmon Holley, Leon Long, John Tucker, Frank Moseley, Howard Chappell, Dave Cochrane, Larry Hughes, Erskine Walker, Joe Causey.

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SEPTEMBER 26: Alabama playing her first game under Coach Frank Thomas, easily defeated Howard on the campus by the score of 42 to 6. Touchdowns were made by Long 3, Holley 2 and Hughes.

Howard scored in the third quarter. Gresham returned the kickoff 28 yards. Sweeney passed to Estes for 15. He then passed to Parks, who caught the ball on the Alabama 25 and ran for the score.

Sweeney starred on the offense and defense for Howard.

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OCTOBER 3: The Tide scored at will in winning from Ole Miss on Denny Field by the the score of 42 to 6. John Cain scored three times, Holley and Hughes twice and Long once.

In the third period, Jack Burke of Ole Miss returned the kickoff 104 yards for a touchdown. He ran down the center of the field, cut back to the sidelines and need very little blocking on his run. He made a similar run against Tulane the previous week.

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OCTOBER 10: Alabama scored eight touchdowns in defeating the Mississippi State Maroons in Meridian, Mississippi by the score of 53 to 0. The Tide's first team played only the second period.

Alabama scored twice in the first period, three times in the second, twice in the third and once in the fourth, the scores being made by Walker 2, Smith 2, Long, Holley, Hughes and Chappell.

Tutor, Page, Brown, Wright and Thompson were the defensive stars for the Maroons.

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OCTOBER 17: Tennessee crushed Alabama in Knoxville by the score of 25 to 0 with McEver, who missed the 1930 season because of injuries, leading the attack. John Cain, the sole survivor of the Tide's 1930 first team, was Alabama's star.

The center of the Vol's line was impregnable. In short, Tennessee was just too strong for Alabama. She had the weapons and knew how to use them.

Tennessee scored in the first period, culminating a drive of 56 yards. Brackett ran to his right and cut back through tackle for 28 yards. McEver passed to Derryberry on the Tide 5, the pass being ruled complete because of interference. McEver scored on a line play and Hickman kicked goal.

Buck Hughes returned the kickoff to the Tide 35. Cain drove to the Vol 49 as the quarter ended.

Holley lost 9 and Cain made 14. The Vols held and took over on their own 41. Punts were exchanged and Cain sliced one out of bounds on the Vol 8. Just before the period ended, Feathers punted 65 yards to Alabama's 22.

In the third period, with the ball in midfield, McEver's pass to Kohlcase gained 20. The same play placed the ball on the Tide 3 yard line where McEver scored. No goal.

In the fourth period, Brackett intercepted Holly's pass on the Tide 35. Feathers made 18 and Brackett ran right end for a touchdown. No goal.

Holley returned the kickoff to his 26 and passed to Cain for 11. Rayburn intercepted a pass at midfield. Feathers gained 10 and McEver passed 23 yards to Feathers. Three plays later, Brackett passed to McEver for the score. Again goal was missed.

Sharpe, Kirkland and Huppke were the line stars for Alabama.

Tennessee—Ends: Derryberry, Rayburn. **Tackles:** Aitken, Saunders. **Guards:** Frank, Hickman. **Center:** Mayer. **Backs:** Brackett, Allen, McEver, Kohlcase. **Substitutes:** Feathers, Wynn, Shull, Mark, Maples, McCallister, Franklin, Disney, Bayless, Clemmer, Hall, Voss.

Alabama—Ends: Smith, Dotherow, Leach. **Tackles:** Godfree, Laslie, Dildy, Jackson. **Guards:** Huppke, Whitworth, Kirkland, Sanford. **Center:** Sharpe. **Backs:** Cochrane, Holley, Hughes, Chappell, Long.



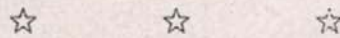
OCTOBER 24: Alabama defeated Sewanee by the score of 33 to 0 before a crowd of 5,000 at Legion Field in Birmingham.

In the first period, Cain circled end for a touchdown after Sewanee fumbled the opening kickoff and Alabama recovered. Holley passed to Smith for the second touchdown ending a drive of 46 yards. Laslie kicked goal.

Alabama recovered a fumble by Captain Phillips on the Tide 28 in the second quarter. Four plays later, Cain scored and Laslie kicked goal.

In the fourth quarter, it was the Tide's ball on the Tiger 33 yard line. Long made 5 and Causey circled end for 28 yards and a touchdown. Bellini drop kicked for the extra point.

Alabama then received a Sewanee punt on her own 37. Chappell made 7, Causey 14 and Long 26. Chappell passed to Long for the score.



OCTOBER 21: The Kentucky Wildcats more than entertained the Tide in the Homecoming game on Denny Field before a crowd of 10,000. Alabama won 9 to 7 in the final period.

Alabama led in the statistics, which failed to reflect the dogged resistance of the Wildcats. In the first half, they held the Tide for downs six times deep in their own territory. One of the goal line stands took place on the 10 yard line and another on the three yard stripe.

The crowd witnessed a punting duel between two of the great artists of the period: John Cain of the Tide and Ralph Kercheval of Kentucky.

The first half was scoreless with Seale, Wildcat center, playing a magnificent defensive game. Kentucky never threatened except when Shipwreck Kelly circled end for 26 yards to the Tide's 29. Alabama made 7 first downs but Kentucky stopped every scoring threat.

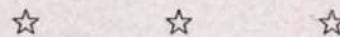
On the second play of the third period, with the ball on the Wildcat 43, Kelly swept around his own right end, cut back behind superb blocking and ran 57 yards for a touchdown. Wright converted.

Alabama received and marched steadily down the field when a penalty of 29 yards stopped the march. Cain punted to Kentucky's 22 yard line. Kercheval fumbled on the first play and Moseley of the Tide recovered. Cain, Holley and Moseley made 16. Two plays later, Cain scored and Whitworth kicked goal.

In the last period, a series of long punts by Cain placed the ball on the Wildcat 8 yard line. Huppke blocked Kerchival's punt and a safety resulted. Alabama 9, Kentucky 7.

Captain Sharpe, Huppke and Laslie were the Alabama stars along with Cain and Holley. Kelly, Kerchival and Seale were outstanding for Kentucky.

Kentucky—Ends: Duff, Kreuter, Skinner, Yates, Cavana. **Tackles:** Wright, Andrews, Kippling. **Guards:** Gibson, Davidson. **Center:** Seale. **Backs:** Kelly, Kerchival, Richards, Johnson.



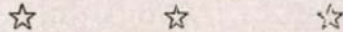
NOVEMBER 7: Florida was no match for the Tide on Legion Field in Birmingham as the score of 41 to 0 indicates. Alabama scored two touchdowns in each of the second, third and fourth periods.

Florida threatened in the first quarter when a pass from Davis to Parnell netted 63 yards and placed the ball on the Alabama 9 yard line where Alabama held and took over on downs.

In the second period, Cain scored from the one yard line ending a march of 44 yards. Long also scored on a short line play after Cain had intercepted a pass and set up the score.

In the third period, Alabama started a drive on her own 23. Holley ran left end for 37, right end for 23 and then hit center for 8. Three plays later, Long scored. Later, it was Alabama's ball on the Florida 16 when a Florida punt was rushed and went straight up. Three plays later, Holley scored on an end run.

In the final period, Walker, Hughes, Tucker and Chappell were in the backfield. Chappell scored on a 17 yard end run ending a drive of 62 yards. Walker made the last touchdown on a four yard plunge to end a drive of 57 yards.



NOVEMBER 14: Alabama scored at will against Clemson at Montgomery, making 11 touchdowns and winning 74 to 7. Clemson's only score resulted from a pass intercepted by Lambert who ran 29 yards to the Tide 11. On fourth down, Hook scored.

Alabama started her second team, which played about three quarters of the game. The Tide made two touchdowns in the first period and three in each of the other three quarters. Touchdowns: Chappell 3, Long, Cain 3, Holley 2, McMillan, Causey.



NOVEMBER 26: Alabama gained a well earned victory over Vanderbilt in Nashville on Thanksgiving Day by the score of 14 to 6. The Tide had a decided edge for the first half while Vanderbilt dominated the play in the last half.

The game was something more than another victory for Alabama. It was the end of a most satisfactory season for Coach Thomas and his associates, who were serving their first year at Alabama. The only loss was to Tennessee.

John Cain was the star for Alabama. He was picked on Collier's and other well recognized All-American selections. Captain Sharpe, Smith, Laslie and Huppke were the line stars for Alabama as were Holley and Long in the backfield. On one occasion, Laslie caught Fortune, who was the outstanding player for Vanderbilt, from behind when the latter had a clear field.

In the first period, Leonard of Vandy fumbled and Long recovered on the Alabama 36. Long, Holley and Cain, who alternated in carrying the ball, drove for a touchdown with Cain scoring. Whitworth kicked goal.

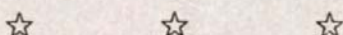
In the second quarter, Alabama gained on punt exchanges and finally Fortune had to punt from behind his own goal. He kicked out of bounds on his own 32 yard line. Holley and Cain made first down. Holley then ran the remaining 16 yards around right end behind good blocking, especially by Frey, for the score. Laslie converted. Alabama 14, Vanderbilt 0.

Beginning the third quarter, Leonard returned the kickoff to about midfield, Sharpe tackling when it appeared that Leonard was going all of the way. Vandy drove to the Tide 23, where Alabama held and Roberts punted to the Tide 5. But Alabama was offside. Roberts then passed to Foster, who lateralled to Close, who ran for a touchdown. When Foster failed to convert, Alabama felt relieved.

In the fourth period, Vanderbilt drove to the Tide 9. Alabama held on the 4 with Dotherow stopping Fortune and the ball went over. Cain punted out, Vanderbilt's passes were broken up and the game soon ended.

Vanderbilt—Ends: McNevith, Foster, Shackelford, Kirwin. **Tackles:** Leyendecker, Surheinrich. **Guards:** Hughes, Armstrong, Talley. **Center:** Gracey. **Backs:** Leonard, Roberts, Close, Fortune, Johnston, Henderson.

Alabama—Ends: Smith, Leach, Dotherow, Turner. **Tackles:** Godfree, Laslie, Dildy, Barker. **Guards:** Huppke, Whitworth, Frey, Sanford, Hewes. **Center:** Sharpe. **Backs:** Moseley, Holley, Cain, Walker, Chappell, Tucker.



DECEMBER 5: Alabama met Chattanooga in a game strictly for charity in Chattanooga and won by the score of 39 to 0. Only a small crowd was present because of bad weather.

Alabama scored in each of the four quarters, touchdowns being made by Chappell 2, Long 2, Smith and Holley. Chappell was the leading ground gainer with 126 yards in 12 runs with the ball.