

THE SKY-ROCKET

Vol. 3

Henderson, Tennessee, February 15, 1926

No. 5

INTER-SCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS FOR F. H. C.

DECISION REACHED AT STUDENT-FACULTY MEET

Expected to Prove of Much Value in Future Development of School

Inter-scholastic athletics for Freed-Hardeman College is no longer a thing to be desired because of its absence or wished for but not obtained, for it is now an actual, established fact. Though hard to believe it is none the less true, and delight is registered on every hand as the inevitable result of its adoption. And there's no reason why this shouldn't be the case for it was only after much deliberation and thorough weighing of the matter by very intelligent and good men that it was found advisable to inaugurate the new policy. So everyone seems more than pleased with the arrangement, and the new ship of sports is already sailing merrily on in its maiden course.

It was at a student-faculty meeting called especially for the purpose and held one night during the latter part of December, that the question of inter-scholastic athletics was finally brought into public discussion. It is true that the question had been the subject of many private conversation previous to this meeting but nothing definite had ever been agreed upon concerning the matter. This meeting was simply the culmination of all that had been said before and was a dignified, orderly assembly, met to hear the evidence concerning the matter, weigh it and throw the balance accordingly.

On the night of the meeting in question some ninety five per cent. of the male students assembled in the library of the college where they were courteously received by the faculty, Prof. Hardeman acting as chairman.

Joe Rainey, president of the Athletic Association, whose efforts had been most instrumental in arranging the meeting, was the first speaker of the evening. Joe made a speech of which his colleagues were justly proud. After stating the purpose of the meeting for the consideration of inter-scholastic athletics for the college, he followed up his statement by offering several reasons for his stand on the subject. He said that he believed it would be of untold benefit to the college in the way of bringing more students. Backing up this argument he stated that the modern boy in making his choice of a school to attend very nearly without exception picks the one that provides athletic advantages and that many had already turned their backs upon this college because of the absence of those advantages here. Going further he said that association in athletics with other schools would have the effect of bringing us into closer touch with the outside world,

serve to prevent a spirit of isolation from separating us from the world. It was his opinion that contact with outsiders help bring our own student body into a compact union, being bound together by common desires and a common purpose in view. He stated that games between two schools of the same school tend to produce a spirit of unfriendly rivalry

with none too wholesome effects on the school. His plea was to substitute these with inter-scholastic games.

Joe Suggs, Leck Fraley and others, spokesmen for the students followed Rainey giving approval to his speech and adding suggestions. Suggs, though himself not an athlete, expressed himself as heartily in favor of match games and declared he would lend whatever support he could in their interest should we be permitted to have them.

Thus the proposition was brought to the surface, fully aired and explained and laid at the feet of the faculty for that body's approval or rejection. Each speaker had made it clear that it was only in the interest of the college and not through any selfish motives that they had advanced the subject and they desired that it be considered in that light.

When Prof. Hardeman arose, holding in his power to make whatever decision he might see fit, there existed in the assembly hall a quietude that is rarely to be found outside of a graveyard at midnight. Everyone, though wondering, dared not guess what he was about to say. The gist of his speech was about as follows:

"Though not positive, when asked to call this meeting, I had a pretty good idea as to what it was all about. And so what we have just heard is not a surprise to me. Last night at the faculty meeting this very question was brought up and discussed and met the approval of every member present.

"Athletics, as is the case with everything else, can be engaged in in a manner that may either bring harmful or beneficial results. A great deal of that which I have witnessed had been characterized by unpleasant circumstances and this has caused me to grow somewhat prejudiced against such things. But not being willing to judge all by what I have seen, and believing my accusations are prompted to a large degree by prejudiceness, I am willing to give the matter a trial. Should this trial meet with success, well and good. But if it fails to measure up to the proper standards, then it shall of necessity be discontinued."

It looks as if such an announcement as this would have created the nucleus for a great demonstration of approval. But contrary to all reason, such was not the case. The thing so long desired and so little expected had come at last, but so sudden was its coming that it found the petitioners wholly unprepared for its reception. The boys were just too happy to say a word. They were literally overcome with joy.

Other members of the faculty followed Prof. Hardeman in succession with brief talks, each giving acquiescence to all that had been said. Prof. Roland and coach Sowell both emphasized the fact that because some schools deal in unclean athletics it was no reason our school should be so. (Continued on page four)

JOSH CODY GIVES SOME VALUABLE POINTS

Vandy Coach Responds to Request for Expression of Views on I. C. Athletics

In response to a request for a write-up concerning the value of inter-scholastic athletics, Josh Cody, Vanderbilt coach, sent to the Sky-Rocket a most comprehensive and interesting paper dealing with the subject. Mr. Cody is a man of national prominence in athletic circles and is recognized as one of the foremost coaches of this country. He has made for many years a close study of athletics from every point of view and is well capacitated to give worth-while thoughts on any phase of the question. The Sky-Rocket is indeed fortunate in being thus favored by him, and takes this opportunity of publicly expressing its appreciation to him for the interest he has manifested.

Mr. Cody handles the subject as follows:

"There are few people, who have studied the matter carefully, who will deny the benefits to boys from interscholastic athletics. The attitude on the part of schools has changed in recent years. Formerly athletics were to advertise the school and there was a feeling that the team must win at any price; so, there were few eligibility rules enforced. That was the day when only a few in the school were engaged in athletics, and also the day of the so-called 'tramp' athlete. Because of the presence of this type of athlete there grew up a feeling that athletics developed a type of boy who was worthless for anything except athletics and consequently a (Continued on page four)

MATCH GAMES TEACH GOOD LESSON

Prof. Brigrance Makes Observation During Game

During a recent talk in chapel on the subject of self control, Prof. Brigrance had occasion to give as an illustration some interesting observations he had made during one of the basketball games. He said in part:

"One of the rules of the game is to control oneself and the players are not permitted to get mad or do or say ugly things. During the game I saw boys get knocked down, get slapped in the face with the ball and knocked about in various other ways. But they didn't get mad; they simply gritted their teeth, grinned and endured it. The thing I was glad of was that they didn't say a word. They had learned to control themselves. Such practice as this is commendable and it may be that in this way our games will teach us many good things."

The players greatly appreciate the interest taken by the faculty in their athletic contests. It gives them encouragement to feel that there is a power back of them that is anxious for their welfare and it serves as a stimulant to increased effort and enthusiasm. It aids too in bringing about a closer spirit of cooperation between the faculty and students, and the time is well spent that produces such results.

FIFTEEN RAHS FOR THE TEAM!!

F. H. C. "POINT-A-MINUTE" TEAM



Above is the picture of the first inter-scholastic basket-ball team ever organized at Freed-Hardeman College. In the four games played since Jan. 1st., this team has scored a total of 152 points, averaging more than a point-a-minute, thus winning for them the title of the "Point-A-Minute" team. Reading from left to right beginning with top row: Shivelle, Co. Fraley; Lowrance, Rainey, capt., Swaim, Sowell, Coach.

SAVANNAH WARRIORS RETREAT BACK ACROSS THE TENNESSEE WITH HEAVY

Home Guard Completely Routs Invading Force in Spectacular Battle

When the last echoes of a battle die away there is always on the one hand to be found some shining marks of victory while on the other the brightness is more or less obscure. In the case under discussion all that glitters is to be found on this side of the Tennessee, and in the vicinity of Henderson. We are not so sure about the situation across the river, neither are we concerned with it; it is enough for us to think about our own good fortune here.

The Central High basket-ball aggregation from Savannah came over on the afternoon of Monday, February 1st, seemingly full of fire and vigor and having the appearance of high quality ball players. A husky looking bunch they were as they rushed onto the court and they went through their preliminary practice in fine style. The observing eye took them to be a bunch of first-raters, and speculation was rife as to the brand of ball they would wage against the locals.

Our boys were instructed to start the game on the defensive, the object being to first measure the ability of their opponents and then govern the remainder of the plays accordingly.

The game started, our defense was close and a long shot netted the visitors two points. In less than a minute Rainey, for F. H. C., tied the score and excitement began to be registered around the sidelines. From then on till the close of the first quarter our boys were strictly defensive and the Savannah lads were unable to indulge in short shots. They were able to "luck in" a few ones to give them a slight lead at the end of that period.

Beginning cautiously our boys launched some few offensive

during the second quarter, with the result of a steadily shifting score. Their defense still held tight, but more and more work was being done in enemy territory. The batteries were beginning to test their marksmanship and found it effective. The end of the half found the score 18-15 in our favor, and as yet we had hardly begun to play.

The second half was inaugurated with a rush when the F. H. C. offense opened in all its fury. The boys from across the river were completely routed at every turn. Their work was going through

charm; the right man was to be found at the right place at the right time, and the "ole pill" was sliding through like magic. Savannah attempted to put up a defense but it proved to be nothing more than a tissue paper affair. It broke and broke again under the strain of swift and accurate pass work. Points were being scored over them at the rate of more than one a minute, and they were powerless to prevent it. At the same time our defense was working with clock-work precision. It swayed into line the moment the ball was secured by the enemy and a goal was shot during the next play.

The four field goals were scored through during the second half. The four field goals were of the

THE SKY-ROCKET

Published Monthly by the Students
of Freed-Hardeman College.

Entered as second-class matter
October 15, 1923, at the postoffice
of Henderson, Tennessee, under the
Act of March 3, 1879.

Subscription rate \$1.00 per year
Advertising rates made known on
application. Address all communica-
tions to The Sky-Rocket, Hender-
son, Tennessee.

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TRI-COUNTY NEWS, FRIENDSHIP, TENN.

THE CHANGE

The change of policy with regard
to athletics at Freed-Hardeman
College is viewed in three lights by
as many groups of people. These
are the pessimistic, the doubt-
and the optimistic. The
ponents of the first group are
firm in their belief that inter-
collegiate athletics are going to
bring untold harm and misfortune
to the college, and they sorrow in
sweat and ashes that such a
thing was ever allowed to happen.
Of course they'll admit they have
no reason of any sort for their
and on the question but they are
positive that it is just as
long as wrong can be, and for
should have never been

long, certainly, it is a
and shall be griev-
for. But before a
passed as not right
discovered some-
makes it so.
when we ask for the enumera-
tion of these poisonous things we
are necessarily forced to pause for
a reply, and to date our pause has
been quite extended. Very proba-
bly it will continue to be extended
until it becomes a thing perpetual.
We welcome any criticism that is of
constructive nature; but it is des-
tructive criticism that only seeks to
tear down, unmindful of the need
for building up, and is the kind we
and no need for in this age of ad-
vancement.

is another class, however,
who are so quick to condemn.
They may doubt the propriety, or
impropriety, as the case may be,
but have no desire to cast slurs up-
on something that as yet has not
been fully tested and found good or
bad. They lay no claim to powers
of prophecy and hold in reserve
their judgment until later date,
when, all things tried and their
results proved. Such a view as this
is highly logical and should be held
in all due respect.

Those who have seen athletics of
the right character tested out
through all its various stages, have
considered the merits and
drawbacks, are doubtless
of the conviction that
are certain of
else could
ages



CREATING A WELL BALANCED TEAM

BY
JOE RAINEY CAPT.

In looking back over the games
played this season a decided improve-
ment can be noted in the working of
our team. At the beginning of the
season, with new men playing to-
gether, it was rather difficult to get
very much co-operation. But as the
season got under way, with intensive
and constant practice the team has
developed into a well trained, well
organized group of players that work
together; not for the honor that may
be gained by individual playing, but
for the winning of the game by the
team rather than by any one man.

At the first our defensive play
was ragged. It seemed that it
couldn't be formed as quickly as it
should be; the players were not ac-
customed to so much system and it
was hard for them to realize its im-
portance. However, after much per-
severance on the part of the coach
and the players, a good defense has
finally been attained and used to
great advantage in the last games
played.

It has been our good fortune to
learn a great deal from the failures
of others, and by observing the mis-
takes of our opponents. From time
to time we have been able to improve
our tactics. The players of one par-
ticular team that we met early in the
season had a peculiar knack for
arguing with the officials and
mouthing about everything that
didn't go just to suit their fancy. Our
boys were quick to see the poor
sportsmanship in such conduct and
resolved at once to never be guilty

land today that doesn't stress the
physical welfare of its students as
well as their mental well-being, it is
so obscure as to be unnoticeable even
to the most searching eye.

Freed-Hardeman College is mak-
ing the recent change in athletics is
but keeping pace with the forward
moving world about us. People, not
times, have changed and the new
generation of thought demands that
we make the most of the opportuni-
ties before us. If there's any bene-
fit to be derived from athletic rela-
tions with other schools this college
wants to share in them. Should no
such benefits be found to exist,
then will be time enough to say that
we are wrong. Until then let us, in
the belief that we are in the right,
make every effort to make it prove
successful.

"THE TEAM"

most common form of
the "team", play-
game against another
each boy regards him-
as a mere independent in-
but as a member of the
In the interests of the team
interests are merged, at least

of things of that nature. Then we
met another team of very fine boys,
good players they were too, but they
had made the mistake, one that's
common with too many teams, that
of placing all their confidence in the
ability on one man's winning the
game for them. As that game pro-
gressed it was easy to see what the
final outcome would be. It is very
seldom that a team, which is so un-
fortunate as to possess an "individu-
al player" ever wins against a team
that knows the value of team work.
An individual player feels it his duty
to take long shots, in order that the
observer may see his ability. In a
few cases it may be advisable to try
a long shot, but it is a fact that most
of these fail to succeed. If it does
fail it puts the ball in the possession
of your opponents and in this the
team loses the advantage already
gained.

Every true basket ball game is
made up of two kinds of play, viz,
offensive and defensive, and any
team is fifty per cent short of its
real strength that does not know
how to use either one of these. It
has only half a chance to win.

There must also be harmony and
good will among the players in order
to have a winning team. Hatred and
distrust causes the playing of indi-
vidualistic ball, which completely de-
stroys all team work. When there is
enmity among the players, there will
be no team work, and without team
work there will seldom be a victory.

for the time being. The victory of
the team is his glory, and the de-
feat of the team is his humiliation.
Long courses of severe training,
with self-denial, are cheerfully un-
dergone, not for any personal ad-
vantage, but in the interests of the
social unit. The value of all this in
reference to the building of charac-
ter and the cultivation of those per-
sonal qualities that make for the
highest type of true citizenship, is
potentially very great.

Few things are better fitted than
this to give self-control, considera-
tion of others, quickness in respond-
ing to any given situation by the
most suitable reaction, and a health-
ful balance between egoism and
altruism, which is one of the high-
est educational desiderata.

All good things, of course, can be
abused, and team play may be so
carried on as to militate against the
true social spirit. If the interests
of the team are placed above the in-
terests of clean sport, so that moral
principles are sacrificed for the
sake of victory, then team play is
abused; in exactly the same man-
ner as politics is abused whenever
party is placed above country.

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JOKES

Leo: "So your father objected at first because he didn't want to lose you?"

Ham: "Yes, but I won his consent. I told him that he need not lose me; we would live with him so he would not only have me but a son-in-law to boot."

Leo: "H'm. I don't like that expression 'to boot.'"

Moody: (Reproachful to one of his church members) "They tell me, Giles, that you now attend Mr. Jones' church. I don't think you would be pleased if any of your sheep were to feed in someone else's field."

Bro. Giles: "I don't think I should mind it if the grass were better."

Eleanor: (To L. W. B.)
"I will not go to Florida,
I do not care to roam;
And if I wish to speculate,
I can get skinned at home."

Bro. Joe: "Miss Greshman seems to be a thoroughly up-to-date girl."
F. L. "Well, she isn't. She's ten years behind in the matter of birth-days."

Calhoun: "Beulah do you
that becomes of naughty lit-
tle?"

"Yes'm. They grow up
dates."

Definition. "A person
taste, more interested in him-
self than in me."

BULLETIN

F. H. C. Beats Jackson

Jackson, Feb 13—In a fast and furious game, Freed-Hardeman College defeated Jackson High on the "Y" court tonight, the score being 23-17.

INSPIRING CHAPEL TALKS

School Has a Number of Welcome Visitors and Able Speakers

During the special course for preachers and elders which began Jan. 12, and lasted two weeks, the different preachers who attended conducted chapel exercises from time to time. Many important points were emphasized which will no doubt be a great help to all who will heed the things that were said. Chapel exercises during the meeting were as follows:

On Wednesday, Jan. 13, Brother M. S. Mason, of Springfield, Missouri, conducted chapel exercises. He gave a very interesting and inspiring address on "Appreciation" in which the fact that the student body should appreciate their being, freedom, school plant, parents, and teachers; and then he said that we could show our appreciation by attendance, study, punctuality and obedience to both parents and teachers.

Thursday, Jan. 14, Brother Allen Phy of Brownsville, Tenn., favored us by a speech. The thought that he emphasized especially was that "We are not our own," but "We have been bought with a price." In his talk he stressed the importance of doing just what God

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teaches as we have been bought with
the blood of Christ.

The following Friday, W. C. Walker, of Haleyville, Ala., read and commented on Psalms 23, in which he stressed the greatness of having the Lord as our Shepherd. Many beautiful and helpful thoughts were brought out in his talk one of which was that when we have the Lord as our shepherd, we should "fear no evil."

Brother E. L. Whitaker of Fulton, Ky., spoke Saturday, Jan. 16, on "The Importance of Living To-day," for we know not what will be tomorrow. To show the brevity of life, he quoted from James when he said, "our life is as a vapor that appeareth for a little while and then vanisheth away."

Chapel exercises, Tuesday Jan. 19, were conducted by C. L. Wilkinson of Springfield, Missouri. In his address, he called attention to "Three Things on Which Success Depends," namely, attention, honesty, and right kind of food, both physical and intellectual; and then he tried to impress upon the students minds the importance of "eating freely of the food that was being offered in F. H. C." while they had an opportunity.

Wednesday, Jan. 20, Brother J. W. T. Hinds who is now located in Jackson, Tenn., spoke on "The Coming Man" in which he called attention to the idleness around public places today. He further emphasized the fact that the future depends upon the rising generation and that we should not be satisfied until we have hit the mark at which we have aimed.

Thursday, Jan. 21, Brother J. W. Brents, a citizen of Henderson, talked on the subject of "Habits," and he stressed the importance of forming the right kind of habits. He further impressed upon the students that all bad habits should be broken before the person becomes a victim of them; for a habit is more easily broken when first begun than when practiced for a while. He called attention to the following habits which all should have; encourage others, be courteous to all, steadfast in our convictions, and reading the Bible.

Friday, the last day of the course, Brother Mason spoke of his impressions of Freed-Hardeman College. He said many commendable things and then, he offered a few criticisms which we hope will be helpful to all.

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THE

ADVISE

(Continued from page one)

spirit of antagonism on the part of many parents to their boys taking part in athletics. Today athletics are a part of the program of every educational institution. Educational institutions recognize the need for athletics properly controlled and supervised by their faculties. They realize that the physical welfare of students must be looked after the same as the mental and moral welfare. No matter how brilliant a boy is mentally, no matter how good he is at heart, if he has not the physical stamina to produce, he will not be a success in life. Institutions are, today, trying to provide means by which all their students can take part in competitive athletics of some kind. For it is recognized that the most good comes from competitive athletics rather than from the formal gymnastic drills that used to be a form of athletics that every student was forced to take part in. It is also recognized that the greatest boon to this program of athletics for all is inter-scholastic athletics, for the boys always have in mind the possibility of representing their school in competition with other schools.

"It is a great privilege to a boy to represent his school on the athletic field. It develops him as much as any other activity of his educational program. The things that he learns on the athletic field are: self-control, clear judgment, rapidity of thought, team play and good sportsmanship. A boy must exercise more self control in athletics than in any other activity of his school career. Not only must he control his conduct on the field of play, but he must also control every phase of his living. Athletics demand that he give up things that will hurt him in life. Athletics demand right thinking, and the living. The boy who will not live a clean life is no longer tolerated on the athletic field, for today coaches recognize that the boy who lives right is the boy to put on the field to represent his school for he is the boy that will stick when the going is hard. The other type of boy will compete well while the going is easy, but when the going is hard he will be the type of boy who quits.

While competing in games a boy must rely on his own judgment. His coach teaches him the right technique of having him do a thing until it is a habit, by correcting him he develops his actions into right habits, but out on the field the boy must exercise the judgment that carries out the play. A boy is out

on the baseball field, he feels self-conscious, a play must be made, no one can tell him for it must be made instantly. By experience he develops his judgment of which play to make. The fact that he might make the right play will not help him in life; but the fact that he is developing his power of judgment will help him.

"Closely akin to the developing his power of judgment is the developing of the faculty for rapidity of thought. On the athletic field he must think quickly under great stress oftentimes. He may be under stress mentally as well as physically. He must make his decision in the smallest fraction of a second, having decided what he is to do, he must put his thought into action. Again he is getting excellent training for life, for today the world is looking for the man who can put his thoughts into action.

"The lessons a boy learns from team play will be of benefit to him throughout life. Here he learns to sacrifice himself for the good of the team. He learns that by working with his team mates his team will be successful and that if he fails his team mates, either on or off the field, his team will not be successful. He learns that he must give everything that there is in him or he will not have the satisfaction that comes to those who give all that they have to an undertaking, for only those who give their all, by diligently preparing for the contest and by giving their all during the contest, can ever be winners. He learns that he must help his team mates in order to help himself. The whole lesson of team play can be summed up in this quotation:

"There is a destiny that makes us all brothers.

We can not live our lives alone; All that we put into the lives of others

Comes back into our own."

"The lessons of good sportsmanship will be of lasting benefit to all boys. Anyone who follows them in his daily life will be a better citizen. They are to show courtesy to your opponents, play the game according to the rules, abide by the decisions of the officials without remarks, be courageous losers but do not quit when the score goes against you, play your best to the end, and be a modest winner. Above all play the game so that when you have finished your education you can face life with the feeling, "Bring on your game, I am ready for it."

"Inter-scholastic athletics bring us into contact with our neighbors—they build loyalty and character. They produce many deep personal

memories of friendship, otherwise missed and examples of courage otherwise unrecognized. They keep the boys interested in exercise which develops their bodies so that they have the physical stamina to put their thoughts into actions. They are clean wholesome and manly, and are developing to meet the needs of the times.

(Signed)

Josh Cody.

DECISION REACHED

(Continued from page one)

school should conduct its affairs in that way, and the belief was expressed that we should go through the season without a mar upon our calendar of sports. Certainly, there is no reason why this will not prove true.

Of course it is impossible to even estimate the probable importance that may result from this meeting. It would take a prophet to look into the future and tell what awaits us there. But suffice it to say that at least all things are pointing in the direction of SUCCESS; and should our new acquisition be exploited for its natural worth it should not fail to bring the benefits predicted.

A committee appointed to draw up eligibility requirements for players, drew up and submitted some rules the gist of which is here given. The player must make passing grades in at least three-fourths of his subjects, must make an average of ninety or above in deportment, must be in good standing with the faculty and must possess a character that is respected in the eyes of the public. In carrying out these requirements the players will always be of a type that will reflect nothing but honor upon the school they represent.

SAVANNAH RETREATS

(Continued from page one)

er continuously as one man; "there were many members with but one body." It was a perfectly coordinated five cylinder machine hitting on all five, in a way that was intensely thrilling to even the most careless spectator.

Affairs of every character hold some good lessons that man might learn and profit by. A lesson that might very easily have been suggested by this game was, "United—we stood; divided—they fell."

It must be said to the credit of the visitors, however, that they proved to be an exceeding game and clean group of fellows. They entered the fray, as did we, determined to win by fair play or not at all. And their playing was characteristic of that determination throughout. They fought well and hard; refusing to give up the ship until the final whistle blew. Though facing certain defeat from the beginning till the end of the last quarter, they were no quitters and their fairness in play should furnish a good model for many other teams who are not so familiar with such tactics. It is a satisfaction to engage in contests with athletes of this type even though we may often lose by so doing. May their tribe increase.

The line-up of each team was as follows:

F. H. C.	Savannah
Fraley (14)	Oldman (2)
Cook (15)	Dodds (9)
Rajney (8)	Goodman (8)
Lowrance (2)	McFall (6)
Swain	Alexander

Score. First half F. H. C. 18; Savannah 15. Sec. half F. H. C. 21; Savannah 10. Final Score: F. H. C. 39; Savannah 25.

Officials: Seamen, Boswell and Barker; Timer, Melton; Referee, Sowell.

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