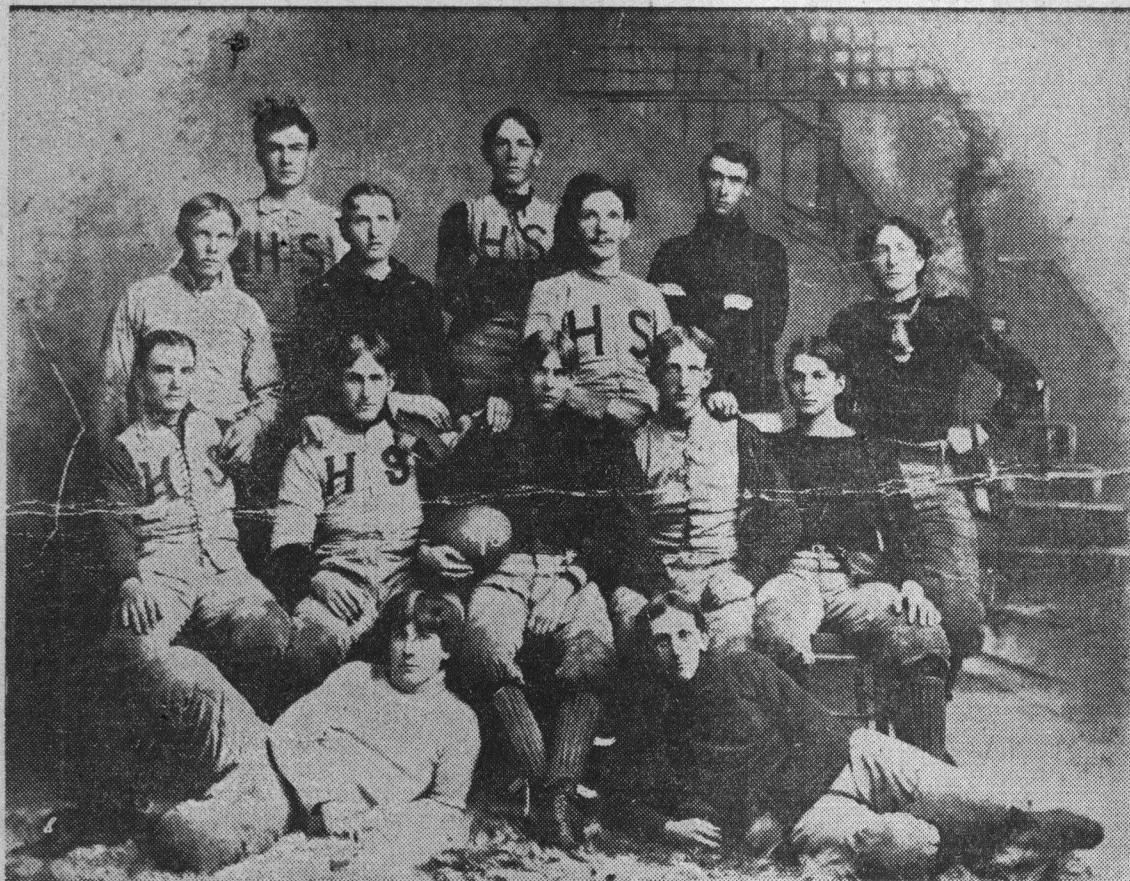


Santa Cruz Yesterdays



HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM OF 1895

(From the Preston Sawyer Collection)

The first football team of Santa Cruz high school, in the fall of 1895, could find only one other high school team in the vicinity to play. Consequently it went out after college teams. It played — and defeated — Santa Clara University by 18 to 0. Then it ended the season with a game against the University of Pacific (today's College of Pacific) and held its team to a 4 to 4 tie.

The season opened with a game here, at the Vue de l'Eau grounds near the end of Woodrow avenue, against the Stanford freshmen, who won 4 to 0. Centerville high school, the only prep school team which could be found, was brought down and beaten 12 to 0. A "picked team" from San Jose high school was defeated 4 to 0.

Coach Played Center

The beginning of football in the high school was due to W. W. Wilson, a 25-year-old member of the faculty, who played center, a practice followed by many teams of the time. Wilson was a native of Canada who had come here after teaching at Pescadero. He went to Los Gatos and, principal of the school there, died 10 years later. He is in the second row from the back, the only player sporting a moustache.

Left, in the back row, is Billy Barnes, left tackle, a Soquel boy who, the following year, played on the University of California freshman team. He became a mining engineer and lived in New York City until his death.

Armstrong Became Teacher

Second in the back row is Frank Armstrong, son of Chief of Police J. E. 'Ned' Armstrong. He took

two years at U. of C., worked 10 years for the U. S. Immigration Service, attended university classes at night and became a teacher in San Francisco. Retired, he is living at 127 Fernside street here.

James Olive, a sub, third in the back row, was a son of George Olive, a Forty-Niner whose saw-mill on Soquel creek gave Olive Springs its name. James later was a photographer in Santa Cruz besides being city engineer in which capacity he laid out Morrisey avenue. His home was the first built on that street.

Peck Went To Japan

Left in the second row is Clarence Peck, right guard. He was then the 20-year-old son of Elon G. Peck, early Soquel resident. Clarence was also on the U. of C. freshman team the following fall. He made a brilliant record as a student at Berkeley and was picked to teach in Japan. Later he taught in high schools of Fresno, Berkeley and San Francisco. He died in 1929 at Mountain View.

Second from the left, in the second row from the back, is Clyde Hawthorne, 18-year-old right half. His mother seven years before had married John Leibbrandt. In addition to his prowess on the gridiron he was noted as a swimmer. After soldiering in the Spanish-American war he was a gripman on a cable car line in San Francisco and worked for the Santa Fe. He died in 1926 in Stockton.

Bailey Batchelder, right, in the second row, was a brother of the wife of Dr. James P. Parker, who had come to live with them and go to high school. He became a doctor and practiced in Sebastopol,

where he died during the recent war from a heart attack due to overwork.

Faneuf Is Mining Engineer

On the left, in the third row from the back, is Sam Faneuf, left end. He was one of six brothers, sons of Mrs. Edmund Maddock of Soquel. After graduating he took four years at the University of California and, as a mining engineer, left for Mexico. During the recent unpleasantness he was superintendent of a gold mine in the Philippines, captured by the Japanese, survived the hardships of the prison camp and today is in South America practicing his profession.

Second in the row is Floyd Uhden, left guard, the 18-year-old son of Henry Uhden, an Ohio man who had come to Santa Cruz 38 years before. He is today living at 503 California street, owner of a ship chandlery business on the wharf.

Third is Jesse Woods, the quarterback, a grandson of John Woods, the Forty-Niner whose homestead gave Woods Lagoon its name. He was on the team the following fall and in 1904 was, with his brother Jim, running a physical culture parlor in Honolulu.

Bernie Stewart, fourth in the row, lived at Lincoln and Chestnut. He went to work in San Francisco and is still there with Hancock Brothers, printers and lithographers. His home is in Berkeley.

Last in the third row is Ralph Bias. He was the son of Billy Bias, who came to Santa Cruz in 1862, was a stage coach driver up the coast and became county treasurer. He is living in San Francisco. He

is a cousin of Leslie and Belde Bias of this city.

Left, in the front row, is Frank Sears, who lived on Walnut avenue. He went to San Francisco as a salesman and is still there.

Bert Evans, right, in the front row, was the younger son of John Evans, an English stone cutter who had come to Santa Cruz 10 years before. Their home was at Laure and Myrtle. An older brother, Sam, was long city clerk.

Lee Esty, not in the photograph, was a substitute linesman. He was the 19-year-old son of J. D. Esty, resident of Soquel since 1879 who in 1896 was elected county supervisor. Lee became an architect and remained a resident of Santa Cruz until his death in 1943.