

A SURVEY OF THE FOOTBALL PROGRAM IN
CLASS A HIGH SCHOOLS IN MISSISSIPPI

by

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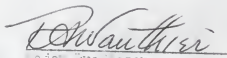
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INTRODUCTION

Purpose

The purpose of this study is to determine the present status of the football programs in class A high schools in Mississippi.

Information gathered in this investigation may prove to be valuable to coaches in high schools of Mississippi trying to improve their football programs. Since the Magnolia State High School Activities Association is relatively new, this investigation might be useful to coaches doing related research.

History and Present Status

In the mid 1950's high school educators throughout Mississippi realized a need for an organization to give guidance to the schools' extracurricular programs.

In October 1960 a fall meeting of principals, supervisors, coaches, music and band people was held in Jackson, Mississippi, to explain the mechanics of the proposed organization. Most of the principals present had pioneered in organizing and promoting extracurricular activities in the high schools they administered, and were among the first to sponsor activities both in and between the schools of the state.

The first attempt to perfect such an organization was presented to the delegate assembly of the Mississippi teachers' associations. A committee was appointed to study constitutions and by-laws of other activities associations and to draw up a proposed constitution.

During the 1964-65 school session the Magnolia State Activities Association listed only five member schools. In 1967-1968 the association proudly includes 161 schools. At its 1966 spring meeting the executive board elected H. T. Drake as its full-time director. The board authorized him to hire a full-time secretary, and to set up an office in order to provide services needed by member schools.

Method of Study

To begin this study an investigation of the resources in the Kansas State and Physical Education Department libraries was conducted. The investigation, however, did not produce any material pertaining to the present programs of football in class A high schools in Mississippi.

A survey questionnaire was designed to collect information about school size, staff size, coaches' responsibilities and duties, squad size, schedules, and coaching philosophy.

The questionnaire was a three-page form and included yes or no questions, as well as the fill-in type. By having short questions and answers, it was intended that a minimum amount of time would be necessary to complete the questionnaire. A copy of the questionnaire is included in the appendix.

A list of class A high schools participating in football was obtained from the Mississippi Magnolia State Activities Association. A questionnaire was mailed to each football coach appearing in this list. For the convenience of each coach a return envelope, self-addressed and stamped, was included with each questionnaire.

In order to obtain as many replies as possible, a second questionnaire was sent to the coaches not replying within five weeks. As soon as each questionnaire was returned, it was tabulated. The return was as follows:

Questionnaires mailed	54
Questionnaires returned	45
Return percentage	83

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The schools that were classified as class A by the Magnolia State Activities Association were consolidated junior and senior high schools (7-12) with an enrollment of more than 500, but less than 1500. For the schools that were not consolidated, the classifications were based upon figures of the National Music Educators. These schools included senior high schools (9-12) with enrollments above 751 and below 1500 which play or sing music in its own classification or higher. This group was the one selected to be studied.

The number of class A schools in Mississippi was 54. Thirty-one of these schools replied to the initial questionnaire. A second questionnaire was sent to the remaining 24 schools. Fourteen schools replied to the second questionnaire. The total number of questionnaires returned was 45 or 83 percent.

Table I shows the total enrollments of the schools answering the questionnaire.

TABLE I
TOTAL ENROLLMENT

Number of schools:	Number of students:
7	1500 - 1400
2	1400 - 1300
1	1300 - 1200
2	1200 - 1100
1	1100 - 1000
6	1000 - 900
4	900 - 800
10	800 - 700
4	700 - 600
8	600 - 500

Enrollment of Class A Schools in Mississippi

The enrollment of the class A schools fell into the higher categories. Ten schools reported an enrollment between 700 and 800. While eight schools reported an enrollment below 600, seven schools reported an enrollment of 1400 to 1500. The median total enrollment was 812.

Table II shows the enrollment of boys and girls in the school and the number of boys out for football.

TABLE II
TOTAL ENROLLMENT AND SUBDIVISION
OF BOY AND GIRL ENROLLMENT AND
BOYS OUT FOR FOOTBALL

Total Enrollment:	Number of Boys:	Number of Girls:	Number of Boys Out for Football:
1500	900	600	36
1500	600	900	60
1500	600	900	35
1485	675	810	50
1482	603	879	40
1466	700	766	66
1405	650	755	65
1312	566	746	44
1312	693	619	75
1200	500	700	75
1148	547	601	84
1100	500	600	33
1059	461	598	150
976	407	569	87
959	400	559	65
956	450	506	45
950	420	530	40
950	400	550	60
900	350	550	45
850	400	450	34

TABLE II (Continued)

Total Enrollment:	Number of Boys:	Number of Girls:	Number of Boys Out for Football:
835	355	480	55
816	408	408	40
812	312	500	33
784	201	583	32
766	300	476	50
774	324	450	45
756	340	416	66
752	400	352	70
734	334	400	50
733	235	498	50
731	311	420	36
730	355	375	38
715	368	347	66
679	279	400	58
671	347	324	54
625	275	350	50
600	250	350	55
550	240	310	60
534	234	300	35
525	215	310	70
512	200	312	60
501	275	226	30

TABLE II (Conclusion)

Total Enrollment:	Number of Boys:	Number of Girls:	Number of Boys Out for Football:
500	195	305	42
500	247	253	55
500	200	300	40

The number of boys enrolled as compared to the number of girls enrolled ranged from an equal number to a difference of 300. The highest number of boys enrolled was 900. The smallest number of boys enrolled was 195.

The number of boys participating in football ranged from a high of 150 to a low of 30. The largest number participating was reported by a school with an enrollment of 1059. The smallest number was reported by one of the schools with the lowest enrollment.

Two schools below the median total enrollment reported 70 boys out for football.

Program

Questions were included in the questionnaire to determine the present status of the schools' football programs--budget, equipment, pre-high school program, squad size, number of coaches per squad, season, practice schedule, special meetings, and types of offensive formations.

Table III shows the number of schools that maintained a budget.

TABLE III
SCHOOLS MAINTAINING BUDGETS AND
SUPPORTING GATE RECEIPTS

Budget Maintenance				Gate Receipts			
Yes:	%:	No:	%:	Yes:	%:	No:	%:
34	76	11	24	24	53	21	47

Budget. The schools responding to the questionnaire had two major financial sources of income, namely, board of education funds and gate receipts. There were 34 schools that maintained a budget for football. This represented 76 per cent of the schools reporting. No budget was followed in 24 per cent or 11 schools. A total of 24 schools or 53 per cent were supported solely by gate receipts.

Table IV indicates the amount of the football budgets.

TABLE IV
THE AMOUNTS OF FOOTBALL BUDGETS
REPORTED BY 34 HIGH SCHOOLS

Amount of Budget:	Number of Schools:
\$8,000	1
7,200	1
5,400	1
4,000	2
3,300	1
3,000	3

TABLE IV (Continued)

Amount of Budget:	Number of Schools:
\$3,500	1
2,200	1
2,000	2
1,500	1
1,100	1
1,000	6
800	2
700	1
550	1
500	2

The schools reported a varied range of amounts budgeted to operate their football programs. The highest amount reported was \$3,000, and the lowest amount was \$500. This leaves a difference between the two of \$7,500. The median amount was \$2,000. The schools with the largest enrollments reported the largest budgets.

Table IV shows the number of schools that furnished football shoes.

TABLE V
FOOTBALL SHOES FURNISHED

Number of Schools
3 26 2 4

Equipment. The question is often asked as to the ability of schools in Mississippi to furnish and maintain the total football uniform. The questionnaire inquired as to whether or not shoes were furnished. In 43 schools shoes were provided for a school percentage of 96. Only two schools or four per cent did not furnish shoes.

Table VI deals with the necessity of a pre-high school football program.

TABLE VI
NECESSITY OF A PRE-HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PROGRAM

<u>Number of Schools</u>			
Yes:	%:	No:	%:
40	89	5	11

Pre-High School Program. The reporting schools indicated a need for pre-high school football programs. Forty schools favored such a program. Five did not believe the program to be necessary.

Table VII shows the number of schools that had pre-high school football programs.

TABLE VII
NUMBER OF SCHOOLS WITH
PRE-HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PROGRAMS

	<u>Number of Schools</u>			
	Yes:	%:	No:	%:
7th Grade Football Program	7	16	38	84
8th Grade Football Program	6	13	39	87
9th Grade Football Program	10	22	35	78

The grade classification of the programs are shown in Table VII.

The schools responding on pre-high school football programs were greatest in number at the 9th grade level. Ten schools maintained a 9th grade program, whereas only six maintained an 8th grade program. Seventh grade programs are maintained in seven schools.

Table VIII shows the number of games played in the pre-high school football program.

TABLE VIII
NUMBER OF GAMES PLAYED IN
PRE-HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

7th Grade		8th Grade		9th Grade	
Number of Games:	Number of Schools:	Number of Games:	Number of Schools:	Number of Games:	Number of Schools:
8	2	8	1	10	1
6	1	5	1	8	4
5	1	4	1	6	1
4	1	3	1	5	2
2	2	2	2	2	1
				0	1

Seventh, eighth, and ninth grade pre-high school football programs were carried out in several of the 45 schools responding.

Seven schools reported games played on 7th grade level. The games played at this level ranged from two to eight. There were 30 schools that reported no 7th grade games. The median number of games played by the responding schools was five.

Six schools reported games played at the 8th grade level. These numbers of games varied from two to eight. Thirty-three schools reported playing no games at the 8th grade level. The median number of games played was five.

Ten schools reported games played at the 9th grade level. Reports indicate numbers ranging from two to ten games. Thirty-five schools reported no 9th grade games. The median number of games played was six. One coach indicated that his school had a 9th grade team, but they played no games.

Table II shows the size of the football squads.

TABLE IX

EXISTING PROGRAMS IN THE SCHOOLS SURVEYED
SQUAD SIZES

<u>Varsity</u>		<u>1st Team</u>		<u>Sophomore</u>		<u>Freshman</u>	
No. on Squad:	No. of Schools:	No. on Squad:	No. of Schools:	No. on Squad:	No. of Schools:	No. on Squad:	No. of Schools:
75	1	50	1	0	45	33	2
55	1	30	1			31	1
50	2	29	1			30	1
47	1	26	1			25	1
45	1	22	2			0	40
44	6	0	39				
42	1						
40	5						
37	1						

TABLE IX (Conclusion)

<u>Varsity</u>		<u>'B' Team</u>		<u>Sophomore</u>		<u>Freshman</u>	
No. on Squad:	No. of Schools:	No. on Squad:	No. of Schools:	No. on Squad:	No. of Schools:	No. on Squad:	No. of Schools:
38	1						
37	1						
36	2						
35	4						
34	1						
33	12						
32	1						
30	2						
29	1						
26	1						

Squad Size. There was variation in squad size in the programs for the schools studied. The number of players on the varsity squads ranged from 75 to 26. The mean for the varsity squad size was 35.

The 'B' team squads ranged from 50 to 22 players. The mean for 'B' team squads was 29. There were 39 schools from which reports indicated no 'B' teams as separate units. There were no schools reporting squads on the sophomore level.

Freshman squads were maintained by five schools. The largest squad reported had 33 players. The smallest squad reported had 25 players. The mean was 30 players. There were 40 schools reporting no freshman teams.

Table X shows the number of coaches at the schools.

TABLE X
NUMBER OF COACHES

<u>Varsity</u>		<u>'B' Team</u>		<u>Sophomore</u>		<u>Freshman</u>	
No. of Coaches:	No. of Schools:	No. of Coaches:	No. of Schools:	No. of Coaches:	No. of Schools:	No. of Coaches:	No. of Schools:
5	2	2	5	0	45	3	2
4	7	1	1			2	2
3	19	0	39			1	1
2	16					0	40
1	1						

Number of Coaches. The number of coaches working with the varsity ranged from one to five. There were 19 schools reporting three coaches, 16 schools reporting two coaches, and one school reporting one coach. Only nine schools reported more than four coaches.

The number of coaches working with those schools having a 'B' team varied from one to two. There were five schools reporting two coaches, and one school reporting one coach for 'B' teams. Thirty-nine schools reported no 'B' team coaches. There were no schools reporting sophomore team coaches.

The freshman level showed two schools reporting three coaches, and two schools reporting two coaches. One school reported one coach. There were 40 schools without a freshman team coach.

Table XI shows the number of student managers associated with football.

TABLE XI
NUMBER OF STUDENT MANAGERS

Varsity		'B' Team		Sophomore		Freshman	
No. of Managers:	No. of Schools:	No. of Managers:	No. of Schools:	No. of Managers:	No. of Schools:	No. of Managers:	No. of Schools:
5	4	3	2	0	45	3	3
4	10	2	3			2	2
3	13	0	40			0	40
2	9						
1	8						
0	1						

The number of student managers maintained on the varsity level varied from zero to five. There were 27 schools having from three to five managers and 17 schools with from one to two managers. Only one school reported having no managers.

The number of managers on the 'B' team level as reported by five schools ranged from two to three. Since there were no sophomore teams, 40 schools reported no managers.

On the freshman level three schools reported having three managers, and two schools reported having two managers.

Table XII shows the number of games played by the schools.

TABLE XII
NUMBER OF GAMES

<u>Varsity</u>		<u>'B' Team</u>		<u>Sophomore</u>		<u>Freshman</u>	
No. of Games:	No. of Schools:	No. of Games:	No. of Schools:	No. of Games:	No. of Schools:	No. of Games:	No. of Schools:
10	28	10	1	0	45	8	3
9	11	8	1			6	1
8	2	6	2			2	1
7	2	5	1			0	40
6	2	4	1				
		0	39				

Season. Forty-five schools responded to number of games played per season by varsity, 'B' team, sophomore, and freshman teams. The number of games played on the varsity level varied from six to ten. There were six schools which reported playing from six to eight games. There were 11 schools which reported playing nine games, and 28 schools which reported playing eight games. The median number of games played was ten.

The number of games played on the 'B' level varied from four to ten. The number of schools reporting no games played was 39. The median number of games played by those schools having a 'B' team was six. None of the schools reporting had a sophomore team.

The number of freshman games played ranged from two to eight as reported by five schools. The median number of games played by these schools was six. There were 40 schools, which reported no freshman team.

Table XIII shows the length of the football season.

TABLE XIII
LENGTH OF VARSITY SEASON

Number of Weeks:	Number of Schools:
16	4
15	1
14	1
13	2
12	23
11	1
10	6
9	2

Responses from 45 schools on the length of the varsity season gave a range from nine to 16 weeks. Regulations established by the Mississippi State High School Activities Association determine the length of season as starting during the second week in August and ending the first week in December. The longest varsity season was 16 weeks. The shortest varsity season was nine weeks. Two schools

reported seasons of this length. There were 23 schools reporting a 12 week season. The median length of varsity seasons for 45 schools was 12 weeks.

Table XIV shows the time of the day the games were played.

TABLE XIV

GAME TIME

<u>Afternoon</u>				<u>Night</u>			
Yes:	%:	No:	%:	Yes:	%:	No:	%:
2	4	43	96	43	96	2	4

The questionnaire indicated whether games were played in the afternoon or at night. There were two schools reporting afternoon games for a percentage of four, while 43 schools reported playing night games for a percentage of 96.

Table XV shows the number of schools that practiced during the school day.

TABLE XV

NUMBER OF SCHOOLS HAVING PRACTICE
DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

<u>Number of Schools</u>			
Yes:	%:	No:	%:
13	29	32	71

Practice Schedules. There were 13 schools that reported practice during the regular school day, for a percentage of 29. There were 32 schools reporting practice only after the dismissal of school, for a percentage of 71.

Table XVI shows the length of time of the practice sessions during the week.

TABLE XVI
PRACTICE SCHEDULE BY DAYS
AND TIME IN MINUTES

<u>Monday</u>		<u>Tuesday</u>		<u>Wednesday</u>		<u>Thursday</u>	
Amt. of Time:	No. of Schools:	Amt. of Time:	No. of Schools:	Amt. of Time:	No. of Schools:	Amt. of Time:	No. of Schools:
60	3	65	1	65	1	30	1
65	1	90	1	90	4	45	2
90	4	105	3	105	2	60	18
105	2	110	1	120	24	65	1
120	23	120	25	135	1	75	2
135	1	150	3	140	1	80	1
150	3	170	1	150	4	85	1
170	1	180	6	170	1	90	4
180	6	240	1	180	6	105	1
240	1			240	1	120	6
						150	3
						170	1
						180	3
						240	1

Since the ball games were played on Fridays, the days Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday were the heaviest practice days as far as the amount of time spent on the field.

On Monday the median time spent in practice was 120 minutes or two hours. The range of time spent on the field was 60 minutes to 240 minutes or four hours.

Tuesday the median time spent in practice was 120 minutes. The range was from 65 minutes to 240 minutes.

On Wednesday the median time spent in practice was 120 minutes. The range was from 65 minutes to 240 minutes.

On Thursday, due to the Friday games, the practice sessions were shortened. The median time was 75 minutes. The longest time reported was 240 minutes, while the shortest time was 30 minutes.

Table XVII shows the number and types of special meetings that were held in addition to the regular practices.

TABLE XVII

NUMBER OF SPECIAL MEETINGS
IN ADDITION TO PRACTICES

Pre-School		Post Practice		After Dinner		Rules Discussion		View Films											
Yes: β	No: β	Yes: β	No: β	Yes: β	No: β	Yes: β	No: β	Yes: β	No: β										
36	80	9	20	35	78	10	22	18	40	27	60	43	96	2	4	4	9	41	91

Special meetings. To determine the number of special meetings held during the football season, a question concerning the various types of meetings was included in the questionnaire.

It was surprising to note that in only three categories was the percentage greater in favor of meetings than against. The three types of meetings favored by the schools reporting were pre-school, post practice, and rule discussion.

The number of schools reporting pre-school meetings was 36 or 80 per cent. Nine or 20 per cent of the schools reporting had no pre-school meetings.

Post practice meetings were favored by 35 schools for a percentage of 78. Ten schools reported no such practice for a percentage of 22.

Rule discussion meetings were favored by 43 schools for a percentage of 96. Only two schools or four per cent reported no rule discussion meetings.

Eighteen or 40 per cent of the schools reported after dinner meetings. Twenty-seven or 60 per cent reported no such meetings.

Special meetings to see game films were conducted by two schools, and 41 schools reported not using this type of meeting.

Table XVIII shows the special meetings held for certain segments of the team.

TABLE XVIII
SPECIAL MEETINGS FOR
CERTAIN POSITIONS OF THE TEAM

<u>Backs</u>				<u>Linemen</u>				<u>Quarterbacks</u>			
Yes:	%:	No:	%:	Yes:	%:	No:	%:	Yes:	%:	No:	%:
32	71	13	29	34	76	11	24	34	76	11	24

The schools reported that it was a common practice to break squads down into smaller specialized groups for meetings.

In the categories of quarterbacks and linemen $3\frac{1}{4}$ schools reported special meetings for each group. This represented a percentage of 76. According to 11 schools or 24 per cent, there were no special meetings scheduled for these two separate groups.

The number of schools that held special meetings for backs was 32, for a percentage of 71. Thirteen schools reported no meetings for backs, for a percentage of 29.

Table XIX indicates the number of schools that utilize game films.

TABLE XIX
THE USE OF GAME FILMS

	Yes:	%:	No:	%:
Do you film your games?	12	27	33	73
Do you film all games?	3	7	42	93
Home games only?	10	22	35	78

It was interesting to note the number of class A high schools in the state of Mississippi that were filming their games.

Of the 45 schools responding, 12 reported filming part of their games. This represents a percentage of 27. Thirty-three schools reported that no games were filmed. Three schools reported filming home games only. There were ten schools indicating that only part of the home games were filmed.

Table XX shows the various formations used by the schools.

TABLE XX
OFFENSIVE FORMATIONS

	Number of schools with one formation:	Incidence of formation in combination:	Total:
Single Wing	0	3	3
Split 'T'	4	10	14
Winged 'T'	8	23	31
Regular 'T'	0	7	7
Slot 'T'	0	1	1
Short Punt	0	4	4
Double Wing	0	9	9
Spread	0	11	11
Pro Set	4	5	9
I Formation	0	2	2

The number of offensive formations used by the 45 schools reporting varied. Sixteen schools reported using only one offensive formation. This represented a percentage of 36. Eight of the schools used the winged 'T', four the split 'T', and four the pro set. The winged 'T' was the most widely used. In addition to the eight schools using this formation exclusively, twenty-three other schools used it in combination with other types of offensives.

There were twenty-nine schools that reported they used more than one formation. This represented a percentage of 64.

Staff

Athletic Director. The information in this area pertains to whether or not the school had an athletic director, his coaching duties, and his teaching duties.

Table XXI indicates the status of the athletic director

TABLE XXI
THE STATUS OF THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

	Yes:	No:
Do you have an athletic director?	40	5
Does he have coaching duties?	36	9
Does he have time off for his coaching duties?	14	31

Out of the 45 schools, 40 indicated they had an athletic director. There were 36 schools reporting that he also coached, while nine schools reported no coaching duties.

Of the 36 schools reporting that the athletic director had coaching duties, 14 indicated that time off was given from his administrative duties for coaching. In contrast 31 indicated that no time off was given for coaching.

Table XXII indicates the coaching duties performed by the athletic director.

TABLE XXII
SPORTS COACHED BY THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Sports coached by the athletic director	Number of Schools:
Football	26
Basketball	6
Baseball	2
Track	2
Other	4

Football was the most popular sport for the athletic director to coach in addition to his administrative duties. Twenty-six schools reported the athletic director coached football. The athletic director coached basketball in six schools. The least popular sports were baseball and track. Four schools reported the athletic director had no outside duties except for administrative responsibilities.

Table XXIII indicates the schools having a physician present during the game.

TABLE XXIII
THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING TEAM PHYSICIANS

	Yes:	%:	No:	%:
Do you have a designated team physician	27	62	18	38
Do you have a physician on the bench during your games?	5	11	40	89

Team Physician. It is important to have a physician present at all varsity football games, considering the possibility of injuries known to exist on the basis of past experience. Because of the limited amount of physicians in certain areas of the state, it is difficult for the coaches to obtain a physician for game time. But the physician in the area will be notified by the administration of each home game played.

There were 27 reports of a designated team physician, while 18 schools reported no specifically designated team physician.

There were five schools or 11 per cent that reported a physician present on the bench during the game. Forty schools reported no provision for a physician on the bench during the games.

Table XXIV shows the responsibilities of the assistant coaches.

TABLE XXIV
THE DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

	Asst. Coach:	Manager:	Athletic Director:	Principal:
Training Room	39		1	

TABLE XXIV (Conclusion)

	Asst. Coach:	Manager:	Athletic Director:	Principal:
Equipment Room	31		14	
First Aid on the Field	31	3	4	
Arrangement of Transportation	3		30	2
Hiring of Officials			32	1
Scheduling			33	1
Buying Equipment			38	5
Scouting	30		7	

Coaches' Responsibilities. A question concerning the extra responsibilities of assistant coaches was included in the questionnaire to determine the amount of responsibility delegated to assistant coaches. The findings were inconclusive, although a trend toward some delegation of responsibility was shown.

The areas most frequently delegated to the assistant coach were training room, equipment room, first aid on the football field, and scouting. Three schools reported using managers for first aid on the football field.

Arrangement of transportation, hiring officials, scheduling, and buying equipment were handled by the athletic director and principal.

Table XXV shows the teaching load of the coaches.

TABLE XXV
TEACHING LOAD OF THE COACHES

<u>Head Coach</u>		<u>Assistant Coach</u>	
Number of hours taught per day:	Number of Schools:	Number of hours taught per day:	Number of Schools:
2	2	0	1
3	4	3	2
4	20	4	12
5	14	5	25
6	5	6	5

The number of hours taught by head coaches varied from two in two schools to six in five schools. The median number of hours taught per day was four.

The number of hours taught by the assistant coach varied from zero in one school to six in five schools. The median time for the assistant coach was five hours.

Table XXVI shows the delegation of authority to assistant coaches on the various phases of the game.

TABLE XXVI
DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY TO
ASSISTANT COACHES ON THE VARIOUS
PHASES OF FOOTBALL

	<u>Delegation of Authority to Assistant Coaches</u>	
	<u>Yes:</u>	<u>No:</u>
Offensive	12	33

TABLE XXVI (Conclusion)

	Delegation of Authority to Assistant Coaches	
	Yes:	No:
Defensive	33	12
Ends	24	21
Backs	21	24
Linemen	35	10

The assistant coach was given the responsibility of the linemen in 35 of the schools responding. This represented a percentage of 78. Ten schools reported no delegation of responsibility in respect to linemen.

The next delegation of responsibility was that of the defense. The reporting schools indicated that 33 of them delegated the responsibility to an assistant coach. This represented a percentage of 73. There were 12 schools reporting no delegation of responsibility in respect to defense.

Delegation of responsibility of ends was indicated by 24 schools. There were 21 schools replying that this responsibility was not delegated.

The responsibility for the backs being delegated to an assistant was indicated by 21 schools. Twenty-four schools did not delegate this responsibility.

The offensive responsibility was delegated in 12 cases, while 33 coaches replied that they did not delegate the responsibility. The offensive represented the lowest number in delegation.

Table XXVII shows the number of schools where the head coach gave assistance in hiring other coaches.

TABLE XXVII
ASSISTANCE OF THE HEAD COACH IN THE
HIRING OF ASSISTANT COACHES

	Yes:	%:	No:	%:
Does the head coach assist in the hiring?	15	33	30	67

A question was included in the questionnaire to determine the number of schools that permitted the head coach to assist in the hiring of assistants.

Fifteen schools replied that the head coach had some advisory responsibility in the employment of assistant coaches. This represented 33 per cent. There were 30 schools that did not permit the head coach any responsibility for the employing of assistants. This represented a percentage of 67.

Table XXVIII shows the amount of extra pay received for coaching.

TABLE XXVIII
ADDITIONAL SALARIES FOR COACHING
OVER THE REGULAR SALARY SCHEDULE

Head Coach		Assistant Coach	
Salary:	No. of Schools:	Salary:	No. of Schools:
\$1,500	1	\$1,000	2

TABLE XXVIII (Conclusion)

Salary:	Head Coach	No. of Schools:	Salary:	Assistant Coach
	No. of Schools:			No. of Schools:
\$1,300	1		\$ 800	2
1,200	3		700	1
1,000	3		600	6
900	1		500	5
800	2		400	4
700	1		300	5
650	1		250	3
600	5		200	4
500	5		150	2
450	1		100	3
400	5			
300	2			
250	3			
200	2			
150	1			

Salaries. Out of the 45 schools reporting, 37 reported additional payment for coaching while eight schools reported no additional payment. The head coach's additional salary ranged from a low of \$150 to a high of \$1,500. The median additional salary for head coaches was \$500.

The assistant coach's additional salary ranged from a low of \$100 to a high of \$1,000 with a median of \$400.

Table XXIX indicates the average experience of the assistant coaches.

TABLE XXIX
AVERAGE EXPERIENCE OF ASSISTANT COACHES

Average Number of Years Experience:	Number of Schools:
1	10
2	8
3	8
4	3
5	6
6	5
7	3
8	1
9	1

The range was one to nine years for the average amount of experience for assistant coaches. Two schools reported the average amount of experience for assistant coaches was eight and nine years. The smallest amount of experience was one year, as reported by ten schools. The median was four years.

Philosophy

Several questions were included in the questionnaire pertaining to the attitudes and philosophy of the coaches. The writer deviated from the short answer type of questions in order to obtain the coach's personal attitude in his own words. The questions of squad sizes, regulating the squad, and benefits derived by boys from football were asked. Short answer questions were used to obtain information concerning professional training of coaches, recruiting players from the student body, and the status of seniors.

Table XXX shows the physical education training of the coaches.

TABLE XXX
PHYSICAL EDUCATION TRAINING FOR COACHES

	Yes:	%:	No:	%:
Do your coaches have at least a minor in physical education?	30	67	15	33
Do you think it is necessary?	30	67	15	33

Professional Training. Of the 45 schools reporting, 30 or 67 per cent had at least a minor in physical education. Fifteen schools or 33 per cent reported coaches without a minor in physical education.

Thirty schools, or 67 per cent, indicated that it was necessary to have at least a minor in physical education. Fifteen schools or 33 per cent reported that having a minor in physical education was not necessary.

Table XXXI shows the ideal squad size for two and three coaches.

TABLE XXXI
IDEAL SQUAD SIZE FOR TWO AND THREE COACHES

Two Coaches		Three Coaches	
Number of Schools:	Size of Squad:	Number of Schools:	Size of Squad:
1	40	1	50
1	36	2	45
7	33	5	44
4	30	4	40
1	27	4	36
3	26	17	33
5	25	4	30
2	24	1	27
17	22	1	24
1	20	1	22
1	16	1	14
1	9		
1	3		

Squad Size. A question was included in the questionnaire pertaining to the ideal squad size for two and three coaches. The question was intended to obtain information concerning the size that two or three coaches could work with and do the best job.

One school reported that 40 was the ideal size for two coaches, while another school reported three as being the ideal squad size. The median for two coaches was 24.

For three coaches the squad size was reported as ranging from 14 to 50. The median for the three coaches was 33.

Table XXXII shows whether coaches think boys should be encouraged to participate in football.

TABLE XXXII
SHOULD BOYS BE ENCOURAGED TO
PARTICIPATE IN FOOTBALL?

Yes:	%:	No:	%:
42	93	3	7

Regulating Squads. Forty-two of the reporting schools indicated that boys were encouraged to participate in football. This represented a percentage of 93. Three schools or five per cent reported that they did not encourage boys to participate in football.

Table XXXIII shows whether or not a coach cut his squad.

TABLE XXXIII
DO YOU CUT YOUR SQUADS?

Yes:	%:	No:	%:
19	42	26	58

Twenty-six schools reported that their squads were not cut, for a percentage of 58. Nineteen coaches reported that they did cut their squads for a percentage of 42. These nineteen coaches gave the following reasons for cutting squads:

1. Limited amount of equipment and facilities.
2. The school buying insurance for only 33 boys.
3. Ability to devote more time to boys that do the playing.
4. Large number of boys and limited amount of coaches.

Table XXXIV shows the status of seniors.

TABLE XXXIV
STATUS OF SENIORS

	Yes:	%:	No:	%:
Are there seniors on any squad other than the varsity squad?	6	13	39	87

It was assumed that the status of the seniors in a football program was a major one. To determine how the schools handled this problem, a question concerning seniors playing on any squad other than varsity squad was included in the questionnaire.

Only six schools reported that seniors could play on squads other than the varsity. This represents a percentage of thirteen. Thirty-nine schools reported that seniors were allowed only to play on the varsity squad. This represents a percentage of 87.

Character Development. The following list of character attributes was reported by the coaches. The following areas were strengthened by the boys' participation in football:

1. Loyalty
2. Responsibility
3. Honesty
4. Leadership
5. Discipline
6. Sportsmanship
7. Cooperation
8. Self-control
9. Courage
10. Confidence
11. Education
12. Social adjustment

SUMMARY

There were 54 class A schools in Mississippi. Forty-five schools replied to the questionnaire concerning their football programs.

The enrollments of the schools ranged from a low of 500 to a high of 1500. The number of boys participating in the football programs ranged from a low of 30 to a high of 150.

Thirty-four schools reported that they followed a budget in financing their football program. Twenty-four replied that the budget

was financed solely through gate receipts. The high budget reported was \$8,000, and the low budget reported was \$500. The median amount budgeted was \$2,000.

Ninety-six per cent of the reporting schools furnished football shoes. Only two schools or four per cent did not furnish shoes.

A pre-high school program was reported to be most popular on the 9th grade level. Ten schools reported a 9th grade program. Six schools reported an 8th grade program, and seven schools reported a 7th grade program. Forty schools indicated that a pre-high school program was necessary for a successful football program. Five coaches did not believe the program was necessary.

The squad size on the varsity level ranged from 26 to 75. The median squad size was 29. The 'B' team squads ranged from 50 to 22 players. The median for 'B' team squads was 29. There were no schools reporting squads on the sophomore level. The squad size on the freshman level ranged from 25 to 33. The median was 30. The most prevalent number of coaches on all levels was reported as two.

The varsity squads usually played ten games. The number of games on the other levels varied from four to ten games. The average number of games played on the 'B' team and freshman team levels was two. None of the schools reporting had a sophomore team. The most frequent number of student managers reported was three. The length of varsity seasons ranged from nine to sixteen weeks. The average length of varsity seasons was 12 weeks. Two schools reported playing afternoon games, while 43 schools or 96 per cent reported playing night games.

Thirteen schools reported practicing before the dismissal of school.

Thirty-two schools reported practicing only after dismissal of school.

The amount of time spent on practice varied as to the day of the week. Monday practice time ranged from a low of 60 minutes to a high of 240 minutes. Tuesday and Wednesday were heavy practice days. On these days practice time ranged from 65 minutes to 240 minutes. Thursday was the lightest work day with the schools reporting a low of 30 minutes to a high of 240 minutes.

The number of special meetings varied from a low of 40 per cent with after dinner meetings, to a high of 96 per cent having rules discussions. Seventy-eight per cent of the schools conducted post practice meetings. Pre-school meetings were conducted by 80 per cent of the reporting schools. Only four per cent of the schools held special meetings to show game films. Special meetings for certain categories of the squad were reported as follows: backs, 71 per cent; linemen, 76 per cent; quarterbacks, 76 per cent.

Twelve schools reported filming their games. Ten schools reported filming their home games. Three schools filmed only part of their home games.

Of the various offensive formations, sixteen schools used one formation, and 29 schools reported using several formations.

Eighty-nine per cent of the schools had an athletic director. Thirty-six schools reported coaching duties for the athletic director. Football was reported by 26 schools as being coached by the athletic director. Basketball was coached by the athletic director in six schools.

There were 62 per cent of the schools which reported having a designated team physician. Eleven per cent had a physician on the bench during games.

Training room was the most important responsibility delegated to an assistant coach. Thirty-nine schools reported delegating this responsibility to the assistant coach. The athletic director, if present in the system, handled buying equipment, scheduling, hiring officials, and arranging transportation. Thirty-one schools used an assistant coach in the equipment room and to handle first aid on the field. Scouting was another duty that was delegated to an assistant coach.

The head coach taught four hours per day in 20 schools. Fourteen schools reported the head coach taught five hours per day. The assistant coach taught five hours per day in 25 schools and four hours per day in twelve schools.

The head coach delegated the lineman phase of the game to the assistant coach in 78 per cent of the schools. The defensive phase of the game was delegated in 73 per cent of the schools. The responsibility of the ends was delegated in 54 per cent of the reporting schools. The backfield phase of the game was delegated in 44 per cent of the schools.

The head coach was permitted to assist the administrator in hiring assistants in 33 per cent of the schools. The head coach received a low of \$150 over the regular salary schedule for coaching. The high additional salary for a head coach was \$1,500. The assistant coach

received a low of \$100 for the additional work and a high of \$1,000. The average length of experience of the assistant coaches ranged from a low of one year to a high of nine years.

In the area of professional training the schools reported that 67 per cent of the coaches had at least a minor in physical education. Of the schools reporting, 67 per cent indicated that at least a minor in physical education was necessary.

The ideal squad size ranged from 14 to 50 for three coaches. The median was 33. For two coaches the range was 3 to 40. The median was 24. Of the schools reporting, 93 per cent encouraged boys to participate in football.

Nineteen schools indicated that they cut their football squads. Lack of equipment, facilities, and coaches were the reasons given for cutting squads. Seniors were allowed to participate on teams other than varsity squads in only six schools.

The coaches indicated that leadership, discipline, sportmanship, cooperation, and responsibility were some of the attributes to be gained from participation in football.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Sincere appreciation is expressed to Assistant Professor Raymond A. Wauthier of the Department of Physical Education at Kansas State University for his personal and professional advice and his time and effort throughout this study.

Appreciation is also expressed to the many high school football coaches throughout Mississippi for their cooperation and assistance in making this study possible.

APPENDIX

A SURVEY OF THE FOOTBALL PROGRAM IN CLASS A HIGH SCHOOLS
IN MISSISSIPPI

QUESTIONNAIRE

I. Enrollment:

1. School enrollment: Boys_____, Girls_____, Total_____.
2. Number of boys out for football: _____.

II. Program:

1. Do you finance your program solely through gate receipts:
Yes_____, No_____.
2. What is the average amount budgeted for football each year:
_____.
3. Do you furnish shoes: Yes_____, No_____.
4. Do you feel that a pre-high school football program is necessary
for a successful program on your level: Yes_____, No_____.
5. Do you have a pre-high school football program in your district:
 - a. 7th Grade: Yes_____, No_____. Number of Games_____.
 - b. 8th Grade: Yes_____, No_____. Number of Games_____.
 - c. 9th Grade: Yes_____, No_____. Number of Games_____.
6. Please fill out the following chart for each squad that you maintain:

<u>Squad</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>No. of Coaches</u>	<u>No. of Games</u>	<u>No. of Managers</u>
Varsity	_____	_____	_____	_____
B Team	_____	_____	_____	_____
Sophomore	_____	_____	_____	_____
Freshman	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. What is the length of your varsity season: _____.

8. Do you play your games in the afternoon: Yes _____, No _____.
At night: Yes _____, No _____.
9. Do your practices start before the dismissal of school:
Yes _____, No _____.
10. What is the length of your practice sessions: Monday _____.
Tuesday _____. Wednesday _____. Thursday _____.
Friday _____.
11. Special meetings: Pre-school Yes _____, No _____. Post
practice Yes _____, No _____. After dinner Yes _____,
No _____.
12. Do you have special sessions to discuss the rules: Yes _____,
No _____.
13. Do you use practice time to show your game films: Yes _____,
No _____.
14. Do you have meetings for only the backs: Yes _____, No _____.
Linemen: Yes _____, No _____. Quarterbacks: Yes _____,
No _____.
15. Do you film your games: Yes _____, No _____. All games:
Yes _____, No _____. Home games only: Yes _____, No _____.
16. Encircle the formation that you employ: Single Wing, Split 'T',
Winged 'T', Regular 'T', Short punt, Double wing, Spread,
Other _____.

III. Staff

1. Do you have an athletic director: Yes _____, No _____. Is
he also a coach: Yes _____, No _____. What sport does the
athletic director coach: _____. Does he have time
off from teaching for this job: Yes _____, No _____.
2. Do you have a designated team physician: Yes _____, No _____.
3. Do you have a physician on the bench during a game: Yes _____,
No _____.
4. Are any of the following extra responsibilities handled by
coaches other than the head coach, if so please designate:
Indicate also if handled by the athletic director:
 - a. Training room:
 - b. Equipment room:
 - c. First aid on the field:

- d. Arrangement of transportation:
 - e. Hiring of officials:
 - f. Scheduling:
 - (1) Varsity:
 - (2) 'J' Team
 - (3) Sophomore:
 - (4) Freshmen:
 - g. Buying equipment:
 - h. Scouting:
5. How many hours does the head coach teach: _____.
Assistants _____.
 6. Do you delegate some phase of the game exclusively to an assistant:
 - a. Defensive: Yes _____, No _____.
 - b. Offensive: Yes _____, No _____.
 - c. Ends: Yes _____, No _____.
 - d. Backs: Yes _____, No _____.
 - e. Linemen: Yes _____, No _____.
 7. Does the head coach have any responsibility in hiring assistants:
Yes _____, No _____.
 8. Do the coaches get paid extra for their coaching duties:
Yes _____, No _____. How much: Head coach _____.
Assistant Coach _____.
 9. What is the average amount of experience of your assistants:
_____.

IV. Philosophy

1. Do your coaches have a minor in physical education: Yes _____,
No _____. Do you feel that work in physical education is
necessary for a coach: Yes _____, No _____.
2. What is the ideal squad size for 3 coaches: _____.
3. What is the ideal squad size for 2 coaches: _____.
4. Do you encourage the boys that you feel should be out for
football: Yes _____, No _____.

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5. Do you cut your squads: Yes_____, No_____.
 6. If your answer to number 5 is yes, please explain your reasons on the reverse side of this sheet:
 7. Do you allow seniors to play on any other team than the varsity:
Yes_____, No_____.
 8. Write below what you feel are the important things that a boy will gain from football:

A SURVEY OF THE FOOTBALL PROGRAMS IN
CLASS A HIGH SCHOOLS IN MISSISSIPPI

by

WILLIE EDD MCGOWAN

B. S., Alcorn A. & M. College, 1961

AN ABSTRACT OF A MASTER'S REPORT

submitted in partial fulfillment of the

requirements for the degree

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Department of Physical Education

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY
OF AGRICULTURE AND APPLIED SCIENCE

1968

The purpose of this study is to determine the present status of the football programs in class A high schools in Mississippi.

In the mid 1950's high school educators throughout Mississippi realized a need for an organization to give guidance to the schools' extracurricular programs. The first attempt to perfect such an organization was presented to the delegate assembly of the Mississippi teachers' associations in October of 1960. During the 1964-1965 school session, the Magnolia State Activities Association listed only five member schools. In 1967-1968, the association proudly includes 161 schools.

A survey questionnaire was designed to collect information about school size, existing football programs, staff, and coaching philosophy.

The questionnaire was mailed to the 54 class A high schools. A return envelope, self-addressed and stamped, was included with each questionnaire. The percentage of returns was 83.

The study revealed that the majority of class A schools was below 900 enrollment. The enrollment ranged from 500 to 1500. Eighteen schools reported an enrollment above 900. The largest number of boys out for football was 150, and the lowest was 30.

A majority of schools followed a budget in financing their football program. The budget was supported solely through gate receipts in 53 per cent of the schools. The amounts budgeted ranged from a high of \$8,000 to a low of \$500.

A pre-high school program was considered necessary for a successful high school football program by 89 per cent of the reporting coaches. However, only 10 schools or 22 per cent reported a 9th grade program. Sixteen per cent of the schools had a program for 7th graders; 13 per cent had an 8th grade program.

The average varsity squad size was 35 with three coaches and three student managers. The six "E" teams reported averaged 29 players, two coaches, and two managers. There were no sophomore teams reported. The five freshman teams averaged 30 players, two coaches, and three managers. The mean numbers of games played were as follows: varsity, ten; "E" team, six; freshman, six.

The majority of schools had special meetings for rules discussions.

The coaches felt the importance of game films was great, but lack of equipment prohibited wide usage. Only 12 of the 45 schools filmed any part of their games.

Sixteen schools used one offensive formation, while 29 used a variety. The most popular formation was the winged "T".

The position of athletic director was a part of the administrative staff in 89 per cent of the schools. In addition to his administrative work the athletic director coached in 36 schools.

A physician was present at the games in 11 per cent of the schools. There was a designated team physician in 62 per cent of the schools.

The responsibilities most frequently delegated to assistant coaches were training room, equipment room, first aid on the field,

and scouting. The average amount of time spent in teaching for head coaches was four hours per day. The assistant coaches averaged five hours in the classroom.

Additional salary for head coaches over the regular salary schedule ranged from \$150 to \$1,500. The mean additional salary was \$500. The assistant coaches' additional salary ranged from a low of \$100 to a high of \$1,000 with a median of \$400.

The average amount of experience for the assistants was as high as nine years and as low as one year.

Forty-two per cent of the schools cut their squads because of limited amounts of equipment, facilities, and staff. Seniors played only on the varsity level in 87 per cent of the schools.

The coaches listed the following character attributes as being developed through the boys' participation in football:

Loyalty	Discipline	Courage
Responsibility	Sportsmanship	Confidence
Honesty	Cooperation	Education
Leadership	Self-Control	Social Adjustment