

= 1882 Navy Midshipmen football team =

The 1882 Navy Midshipmen football team represented the United States Naval Academy in the 1882 college football season . The team was the second intercollegiate football squad to represent the United States Naval Academy , and the first since 1879 . The team was coached by player @-@ coach Vaulx Carter , and was entirely student @-@ operated . It was captained by squad member Alex Jackson . The team played just a single game , an 8 to 0 (8 ? 0) shutout of Johns Hopkins , which was the school 's first ever win . The squad was entirely student operated , and was not supported by the Naval Academy 's faculty . The season would mark the beginning of eight season rivalry between the Midshipmen and Johns Hopkins .

= = Prelude = =

It is widely believed by football researchers that the playing of intercollegiate football began in November 1869 , when a player at Rutgers University challenged another player at the nearby College of New Jersey (now Princeton) . The contest more closely resembled soccer , with teams scoring by kicking the ball into the opponent 's net , and lacked a uniform rules structure . The game developed slowly ; the first rules were drafted in October 1873 , and only consisted of twelve guidelines . Even though the number of teams participating in the sport increased , the game was still effectively controlled by the College of New Jersey , who claimed eight national championships in ten years . Only Yale presented any form of challenge , claiming four national championships in the same time period .

The Naval Academy 's first ever football team was fielded in 1879 . The squad was entirely student @-@ operated , receiving no official support from Naval Academy officials . The team was entirely funded by its members and their fellow students . This would continue until 1892 , when that season 's team was led by coach Ben Crosby . The 1879 team participated in just one game , which resulted in a scoreless tie . It was played against the Baltimore Athletic Club , at most likely an unused drill field on the Naval Academy campus . Navy would not field a football team in 1880 or 1881 , likely due to the lack of support .

= = Schedule = =

= = Season summary = =

= = Navy 8 , Johns Hopkins 0 = = =

The 1882 season began when second @-@ year cadet Vaulx Carter formed a team , which he led as both a player and the coach . Alex Jackson was appointed captain of the squad . Carter scheduled a single game for the season , which was played on Thanksgiving Day against the Baltimore @-@ based Clifton Football Club . The Clifton team was made up of players from Johns Hopkins University , who were unable to play for their school due to their administrator 's negative views towards the sport . Navy 's team itself played without official permission ; the first year the team received approval was in 1885 , when , according to Morris Allison Bealle , " some of the faculty actually gave in and admitted that football might , at that , be or become an interesting diversion " .

It snowed heavily before the game , to the point where players for both teams had to clear layers of snow off of the field , making large piles of snow along the sides of the playing ground . The field was 110 yards by 53 yards , with goalposts 25 feet (7 @. @ 6 m) apart and 20 feet (6 @. @ 1 m) high . The first half of the game went scoreless ; the Baltimore American reported that " the visitors pushed Navy every place but over the goal line in the first half " . During play , the ball was kicked over the seawall a number of times , once going so far out it had to be retrieved by boat before play

could continue . The American described the second half in detail :

After ten minutes interval the ball was again put in play , this time being kicked off by the Cliftons . The rest period had apparently stiffened the Cliftons , for the Academy making a vigorous spurt got the ball thru them , and Street , following it up well , scored a touchdown for the Academy .

The try at goal failed , but the ball , instead of going to the Cliftons behind the line , fell into the field and into the hands of one of the Academy team . By a quick decisive run , he again got the ball over the Cliftons goal line and scored a touchdown .

Cadet George Washington Street , of Wisconsin , was identified as the first person ever to score a touchdown for the Naval Academy . The Baltimore Sun stated that William Abrose O 'Malley , of Pennsylvania , was the cadet who caught Street 's blocked kick and scored the second touchdown . The Sun also covered , in detail , the uniforms the squads wore ; Johns Hopkins sported blue , black , and white striped uniforms , while the Naval Academy wore maroon and white uniforms . Both teams also nailed strips of leather to the bottom of their shoes to help deal with slipping .

= = Players and coaching staff = =

= = = Players = = =

The 1882 Naval Academy team was made up of eleven players at five different positions . The squad consisted of four rushers , two ends , two tackles , two guards , and a center :

= = = Coaching staff = = =

Vaulx Carter took on coaching duties for the 1882 team . He was the academy 's first coach ; it was not until a decade later , in 1892 , when Ben Crosby was hired as the school 's next coach . The squad also appointed an official umpire , the only time it would ever do so . Its three staff members were :

= = Postseason and aftermath = =

The first postseason college football game would not be played until 1902 , with the Pasadena Tournament of Roses ' establishment of the east @-@ west tournament game , later known as the Rose Bowl . The Midshipmen would not participate in their first Rose Bowl until the 1923 season , when they went 5 ? 1 ? 2 and tied with the Washington Huskies 14 ? 14 in the match . As a result of the lack of a competition , there were no postseason games played after the 1882 season . According to statistics compiled by the National Championship Foundation , Parke Davis , and the Billingsley college football research center , Yale was declared the 1882 season champion , giving them their eighth championship overall .

The Midshipmen 's win was the first in school history , and continued the team 's shutout streak . They would lose their only game in the 1883 season , ending the consecutive shutouts , and the Naval Academy would not get another shutout until the 1886 season , when they defeated Johns Hopkins 6 ? 0 . The 1882 season also marked the start of an eight @-@ season long rivalry with Johns Hopkins , which Navy would win , five games to four . The team would not have another coach until the 1892 season , when Ben Crosby was hired to lead . Navy would finish the 1880s with four winning seasons , and an overall record of 14 ? 12 ? 2 . The squad would outscore their opponents 292 ? 231 , and would finish the 19th century with an overall record of 54 ? 19 ? 3 .