

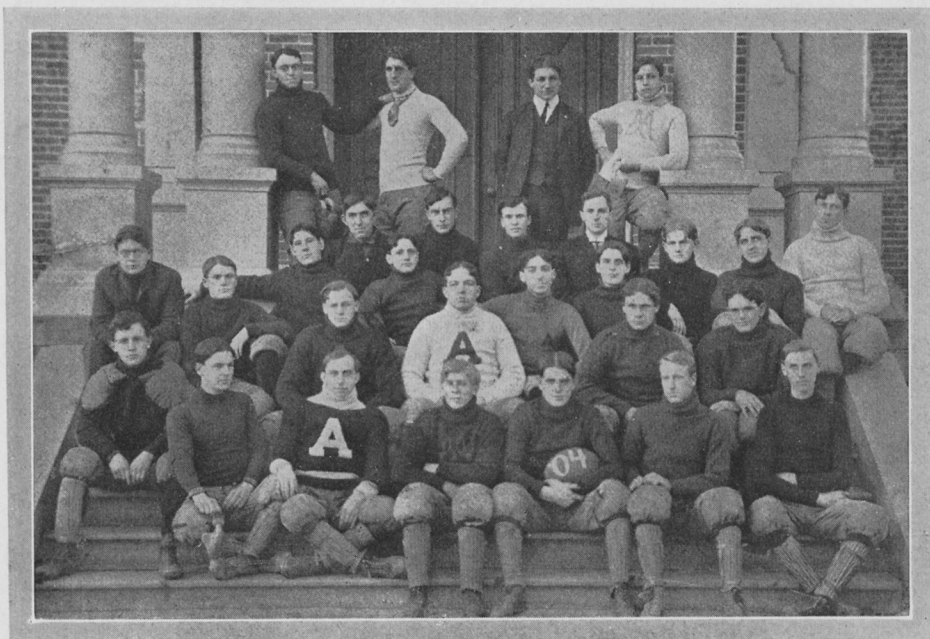
Athletics in the Past

ALTHOUGH Alfred University was founded in 1836, nearly thirty years passed before any sort of organized athletic sports appeared on the campus. The vigorous life of those early days seemed not to require the stimulus of athletic competition.

The oldest sport on record is baseball, which made its bow to Alfred in 1866. During the following decades of the Mid-Victorian era, croquet and lawn tennis joined the ranks of diversions.

These early sports were entirely intra-mural. Only in 1895, did Alfred enter upon an intercollegiate schedule in baseball, thus opening a new period in athletics, in which, until 1921, baseball was always a leading sport.

The same year that saw the introduction of intercollegiate baseball saw the beginning of football, and the next year marked its first outside schedule. Among the teams that played against Alfred in the infancy of the sport were those of Niagara, Buffalo, Colgate, and Rochester, also Geneseo and Mansfield normals. Since 1895, Alfred has played 135 games of football with outside teams. Of these, Alfred has won 40 and tied 13. The records of three games are missing.



The 1904 Football Squad

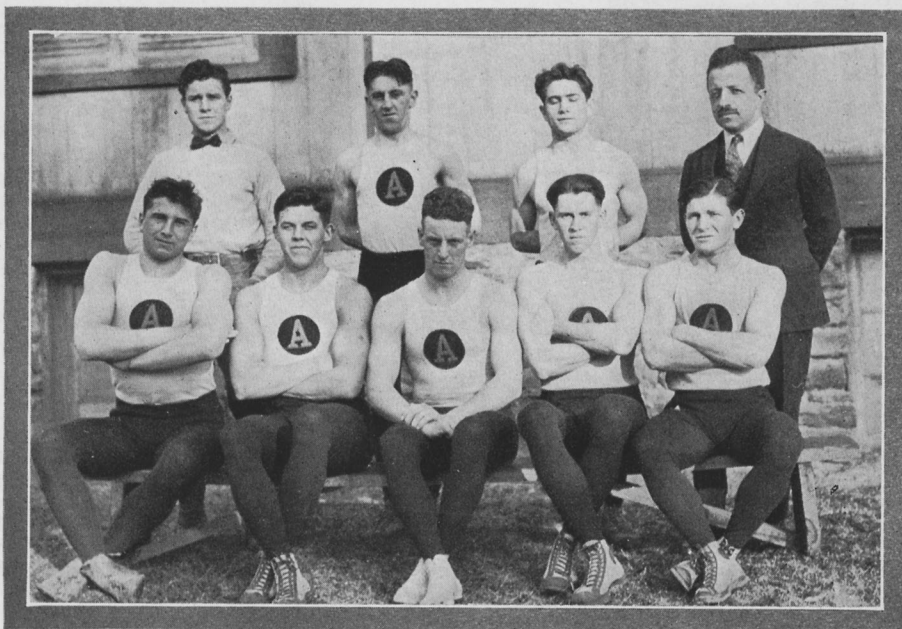
Athletics in the past (Continued)

Sports were always seriously handicapped at home until the laying out of the present athletic field in 1900. In the same year, track events made their appearance, but for several years, they usually took place upon the campus proper, rather than upon the new field. This sport received an impetus in 1908 due to the inauguration of interclass meets. In spite of its early start in track events, it was not until 1921 that Alfred engaged, for the first time, in an intercollegiate track meet. Cross Country followed track as a collegiate sport in 1922 and at once became one of the most successful.

Basketball arrived in 1903 and has held its own ever since, although limited playing space has always handicapped our men in meeting outside teams.

Our infant (but not infantile) sport, wrestling, introduced as a collegiate sport in 1925, bids fair to justify the hopes of its sponsors.

(Material obtained through the courtesy of Professor C. R. Clawson)



Alfred's First Wrestling Team—1925



Minor Sports

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TENNIS has long been a favorite Spring and Fall pastime, but it has seldom reached the dignity of intercollegiate competition. Constant improvement of the courts and a growing interest in playing the game promise much for the future.

Wrestling entered the field of Sports in the Fall of 1923 under the patronage of Professor Seidlin. In February 1925, the team of seven picked men met the Springfield College (Mass.) team, and, after a gallant fight, went down to defeat. Nevertheless, the team has made a start, and the way is now open for further development of the sport.

The long standing tradition of underclass competition in various athletic events has become a source of promising athletic material, as well as the means of promotion of class and school spirit. The sports in which the Frosh and Sophs contest are football, cross country, basketball, baseball, track and tennis. In all except the first two, there are meets for women as well as men. As a whole, these events furnish some of the most interesting athletics of the year.