

# **THE EARLY YEARS IN THE SAAFL**

## **ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY FOOTBALL CLUB - 1911 to 1919**

### **DECADE TWO - 'THE BLACKS' LEAD THE WAY**

**Written by David Bartlett #11**

The 1911 season was a milestone in the history of the Adelaide University Football Club as it marked the formation of an active club in contrast to a club that had existed in name only for the previous three seasons.

It also marked the formation of the South Australian Amateur Football League (SAAFL), an organisation with which the University Football Club has been synonymous ever since.

During this five year period the University Football Club won two Premierships (1911 and 1912) and competed in the Finals each year. A highlight in the 1915 season was C.E. Pellew winning the Naylor Medal for the Best and Fairest player in the Amateur League.

The Club's first 'B' grade side was formed in 1912. The 1914 season saw the inauguration of the Adelaide Students' Football Association, in which University was the first Premier.

The Inter-Varsity competition continued up until 1915 when it was suspended because of the World War I. In 1914, the Club defeated Melbourne University for the first time – a great moment for 'the Blacks'.

A brief summary of each of the years during this period follows.

#### **1911 Season**

By the end of February 1911, the League, consisting of St. Francis Xavier, Glenferrie,

Marlborough, St. Bartholomew and Adelaide University had been formed.

Semaphore Central had also applied to join the Amateur League, but the program had already been prepared and they were not admitted until 1912.

The first Amateur League match was played in May 1911 at the Price Memorial Oval (also known as Hawthorn Oval) with approximately 3000 people attending. The oval was named after Sir Thomas Price, the first Labor Party Premier in South Australia.

University's performance in its first year was indeed meritorious as it was undefeated (except by Melbourne University) and took out the first of its many A1 Premierships.

All premiership team photos can be seen on our website

<https://uniblacksfc.com.au/premierships/>

Out of all our 105 premiership/championship photos in all grades in 119 years we only miss the 1912 premiership team photo. Please look for this priceless team photograph.



UNIVERSITY TEAM: PREMIERS, 1911.

Back Row—C. F. Pitcher, F. Schmitt, J. Symon, H. Badger, E. I. Baylis, A. F. Jain, L. G. Gault, A. C. Wilton, K. N. Steele, H. B. Willmore, L. J. H. Hurley, S. D. Ronald, and L. A. Hayward. Middle Row—J. J. Forrester (Trainer), S. W. Jeffries, C. F. Drew, H. W. D. Stoddart, T. N. LeMessurier, E. B. Jones, and T. Margitich (Trainer). Front Row—C. G. H. McDonald, A. Williams, F. Seymour-Smith, H. Colman (Umpire), W. J. E. Phillips, T. Williams, and W. W. Cooper.

'The Blacks' played 14 matches for the season and kicked a total of 152 goals and 176 behinds to 66 goals and 99 behinds against during its unbeaten run. The team was ably led by former Norwood star H.W.D. Stoddart, until the Vice-captain C.F. Drew replaced him part way through the season due to injury. F.N. LeMessurier, who was later to become President of the Club for many seasons, was then made Vice-captain.

One of the other notable players in the side who went on to play League football was C.J. Perry. J.W. Blacket, H.W.D. Stoddart, C.F. Drew, F.N. LeMessurier, E. Britten Jones, K.N. Steele, J.T. Londrigan, O.J. Murphy and H.B. Willmore while F. Seymour-Smith had already had League experience.

The Premiership table at the end of the minor round is shown below

### Premiership Table 1911

| Club               | Pl | W  | L  | Pts |
|--------------------|----|----|----|-----|
| <b>University</b>  | 12 | 12 | 0  | 24  |
| St. Francis Xavier | 12 | 8  | 4  | 16  |
| St. Bartholomew    | 12 | 6  | 6  | 12  |
| Glenferrie         | 12 | 3  | 9  | 6   |
| Marlborough        | 12 | 1  | 11 | 2   |

Despite their poor minor round performances, Glenferrie won through to the Final. However, University beat them easily - 14.15 to 5.11, with Londrigan, LeMessurier and Drew best for 'the Blacks'. Hurtle Willmore kicked five goals for University.

Thus University finished this inaugural SAAFL season as undefeated Premier. This was hardly surprising given that the University team contained 11 former League players, of whom four had represented South Australia.

Another decided advantage was that all the Finals were played at University Oval!

During the season a Combined Amateur League team played the Gawler Association and won 14.12 to 4.4. The University Football Club was represented by C.F. Drew (Captain), F.N. LeMessurier, J.W. Londrigan, F. Seymour Smith, K.N. Steele, H.B. Willmore and A.C. Wilton.

Match reports indicated that C.F. Drew and A.C. Wilton were amongst the best players.

### 1912 Season

The 1912 season was again a successful one for University, winning its second Premiership in a row with only two losses - its only losses in the first 24 games in over two years of the Amateur League.

The new teams admitted to the SAAFL in 1912 were St. Peter's College and a team with which University was to become a traditional rival, Semaphore Central. With these sides included the competition improved and became much keener.

University's first loss in Amateur League came on 27 July 1912 against St Francis Xavier by nine points (2.9 to 3.12) and its second to Glenferrie three weeks later (7.15 to 10.6).

Despite these setbacks, the team still retained the Minor Premiership, and had no difficulties in the Finals. (For the record, the first game against Semaphore Central was won by University - 8.7 to 5.9.)

'The Blacks' gained several new players at the start of the season, notably W.A. Rollison, A.G. Moyes (later to be known as a renowned cricket journalist) and L.A. Hayward and, with the exception of one, all those players who had left their respective League teams to play for the University again played regularly throughout the season. The Captain, F.N. LeMessurier, performed well during the season and was ably supported by H.B. Willsmore as Vice-captain.

The 1912 season also saw the formation of a 'B' grade team, under Secretary I.B. Jose, although exactly where and who the team played is not known. However, it is known that the team was beaten on all but two occasions and that there was some difficulty at times in getting a team together.

The Premiership table at the end of the minor round is shown below.

**Premiership Table 1912**

| Club                | Pl | W  | L | D | Pts |
|---------------------|----|----|---|---|-----|
| <b>University</b>   | 12 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 20  |
| St. Francis Xavier  | 12 | 9  | 3 | 0 | 18  |
| Semaphore Central   | 12 | 7  | 5 | 0 | 14  |
| Glenferrie          | 12 | 6  | 5 | 1 | 13  |
| St. Peter's College | 12 | 4  | 8 | 0 | 8   |
| Marlborough         | 12 | 3  | 9 | 0 | 6   |
| St. Bartholomew     | 12 | 2  | 9 | 1 | 5   |

In the Semi-final, University defeated Semaphore Central 15.15 to 3.6 at University Oval. University won its second successive Premiership by defeating St. Francis Xavier in the Final 12.9 to 5.7, again played at University Oval.

The leading goalkicker for the season was Arthur Wilton of University who scored 41 goals.

George Murray (later Sir George), a Law Professor at Adelaide University and future Chancellor and Chief Justice, donated a perpetual shield for the Premier. University was given permission to attach a small silver shield for its 1911 success, and this practice continues to the present time.

### 1913 Season

Two additional teams, namely Prince Alfred College and Kingswood, were admitted to the SAAFL in 1913, taking the number of teams to nine.

At the 1913 University Football Club AGM it was decided that *"it would be to the benefit of all concerned if those men who had left the SA League to play for University two years ago should again take their places in the ranks of their respective League teams"*.

The team was thus weakened by the loss of F.N. LeMessurier, E. Britten Jones, K.N. Steele, H.B. Willsmore, S.W. Jeffries, F. Seymour-Smith and A.C. Wilton.

Significant trial matches were played early in the year against the West Adelaide and North Adelaide League sides, with University almost defeating the latter.

The Club put up a creditable performance under the leadership of J.W. Blacket (Captain) and L.A. Hayward (Vice-captain). Other stalwarts in the side were F.E. and A.E. Williams, R. Badger and W.A. Rollison. The leading goalkicker for the season was John Blacket of University.



#### 1913 INTER-VARSITY TEAM

Back Row: A.H. Guymer, I.B. Jose, H.W. Neitz, E.W. Timcke, A.H. Limb, W.J.E. Phillips, H.J.G. Nicholson.

Middle Row: E.P. Howard, W.A. Rollison, F.E. Williams, L.A. Hayward (Capt.), R. Badger, A.E. Williams, F.S. Smith, N.B. Stevens.

Front Row: H.C. Thrush, P.W. Rice, T.R. Mellor.

At the end of the minor round, Semaphore Central had replaced University as Minor Premier, University slipping to third late in the season.

### Premiership Table 1913

| Club                  | Pl | W  | L  | Pts |
|-----------------------|----|----|----|-----|
| Semaphore Central     | 16 | 14 | 2  | 28  |
| Kingswood             | 16 | 13 | 3  | 26  |
| <b>University</b>     | 16 | 13 | 3  | 26  |
| Marlborough           | 16 | 10 | 6  | 20  |
| Prince Alfred College | 16 | 7  | 9  | 14  |
| St. Bartholomew       | 16 | 6  | 10 | 12  |
| St. Francis Xavier    | 16 | 5  | 11 | 10  |
| St. Peter's College   | 16 | 4  | 12 | 8   |
| Glenferrie            | 16 | 0  | 16 | 0   |

University defeated Minor Premier Semaphore Central in the Semi-final played at University Oval 7.9 to 7.4, while Kingswood defeated Marlborough in the other Semi-final played at Price Oval.

In the Final at Unley Oval, Kingswood comfortably beat University 4.7 to 7.13.

Semaphore Central exercised their right to a Challenge Final and in the Premiership game was defeated by Kingswood (in its first year in the Amateur League). Semaphore Central therefore was runner-up.

During the season, a Combined Amateur League team defeated the Gawler Association's team 10.13 to 5.7. Best Players from 'the Blacks' included J.W. Blacket and A.H. Limb.

The performance of the 'B' grade side improved dramatically in this season, with the team winning its first three games against St. Peter's II, Adelaide High and Belair. Towards the end of the season the team had won five out of ten games.

### 1914 Season

The 1914 season saw the inauguration of the Adelaide Students' Football Association, in which the University 'B' grade team competed. Mr Ern Guymen was Secretary, Professor Darnley Naylor was Patron and Mr Adey of Adelaide High School was President. This Association consisted of many of Adelaide's Colleges and larger High Schools and remains in existence today without University long gone, of course.

Mr Jack Gillen, who also starred in the forward lines for the B-grade team, arranged the matches. Mr J.G. Sweeney was elected Practice Captain and T. Turner was the Captain. Under their leadership, the 'B' grade team only played short once when a Law graduate was admitted to the Bar. The team advanced to defeat Adelaide High School for the Premiership.

The team also played some country sides during the year and it was noted that *"on the trip to Gumeracha, the local ladies showed great enthusiasm over Timcke's calves and O'Neill's auburn hair"*.

The 'A' grade team under the leadership of J.W. Blacket (Captain) and L.A. Hayward (Vice- captain) once again performed creditably, winning nine of the 11 matches reported in the *Register* (two by over 20 goals, which was a large margin at that time). The team was thus certain to have finished in the top four. The two matches that were lost were to Kenilworth by two points as a result of poor kicking and to Semaphore Central, the Minor Premier and eventual Premiership winners, by two points. In this game 'Varsity led by 17 points at halftime and lost in the last moments of the game.

During the season the name of C.E. Pellew featured in the best players each week, with other good performances being put in by L.A. Hayward, D.M. Steele, W.O. Jose and W.A. Rollison.

The 1914 season was also the year in which Adelaide University defeated Melbourne University in the Inter-Varsity competition for the first time.



## 1914 INTER-VARSITY TEAM - FIRST TO DEFEAT MELBOURNE UNI

Back Row: J.B. Laurie, W.J. Price, Dorsch  
 Third Row: T.B.C. Sard, W.J.E. Phillips, A.E. Williams, C.R. Cole, A.H. Limb, L. Carthew, J.D. Northex, C. Gurner.  
 Second Row: N.V. Mengerson, C.E. Pellew, L.A. Hayward, J.W. Blacket (Capt.), D.M. Steele, W.A. Rollison.  
 Front Row: L.G. Holmes, F.E. Williams, N.C. Thrush, W.O. Jose.

The Premiership table at the end of the minor round is shown below.

### Premiership Table 1914

| Club                | Pl | W  | L  | D | Pts |
|---------------------|----|----|----|---|-----|
| Semaphore Central   | 16 | 15 | 1  | 0 | 30  |
| <b>University</b>   | 16 | 14 | 2  | 0 | 28  |
| Kingswood           | 16 | 11 | 5  | 0 | 22  |
| Kenilworth          | 16 | 10 | 6  | 0 | 20  |
| Glenferrie          | 16 | 10 | 6  | 0 | 20  |
| Prince Alfred Col.  | 16 | 5  | 11 | 0 | 10  |
| St. Francis Xavier  | 16 | 3  | 12 | 1 | 7   |
| St. Peter's College | 16 | 2  | 14 | 0 | 4   |
| St. Bartholomew     | 16 | 1  | 14 | 1 | 3   |

Both Semi-finals were close affairs. Semaphore Central defeated Kingswood at Unley Oval 7.9 to 7.4 and University beat Kenilworth at Hindmarsh Oval 5.13 to 4.16.

The Final was played at Norwood Oval, with Semaphore beating University 4.11 to 6.12 to win its first SAAFL Premiership.

### 1915 Season

World War I began in late 1914, and thus many players were in camp during 1915. The composition of the University team was often not known until the beginning of the second quarter.

A total of 12 games were due to be played during the minor round. With increasing concern over the state of the War, it was decided to start the Finals when only two teams (University and Prince Alfred College) had completed all their minor round matches. University had the most points at that time as can be seen in the Premiership table below.

However, Kingswood had played one less game. It was decided on a 7-2 vote that, as Kingswood had a much better percentage than University, despite winning one less game, it would be awarded the Minor Premiership.

Kingswood then defeated St. Francis Xavier in the Semi-final 11.11 to 6.9, while Semaphore beat University 5.7 to 7.10.

The Captain of the University side was C.E. ('Nip') Pellew who capped off a brilliant season by winning the Naylor Medal for the Best and Fairest player in Amateur League. (This award was the predecessor to the Hone and Pfitzner Medals). In the matches reported in *The Register*, he was University's best player on five occasions and he appeared in the best players in all other games except the losing Semi-final match.

Other players to perform consistently were F.E. Williams (Vice-captain), L. Carthew, Mengerson, Strempel and H.L. Rayner, the Rhodes Scholar for 1915.

The 'B' grade team had a rather varied season due to difficulties in turning out a side - anything from six to 15 players constituted a side. The fact that the team finished third was a

credit to the six regular players. The team could have gone higher except for a forfeit in the Semi-finals.

*The Medical Students' Society Review* of December 1915 records the fact that the University Football Club holds a proud record in the number of recruits provided to the War effort, with the casualties being few, but regrets were expressed at the death of 1914 Football Blue L.G. Holmes.

#### **Premiership Table 1915 at the end of the minor round.**

| Club                | P l | W  | L  | D | P ts |
|---------------------|-----|----|----|---|------|
| <b>Un iver sity</b> | 12  | 10 | 2  | 0 | 20   |
| Kingswood           | 11  | 9  | 2  | 0 | 18   |
| St. Francis Xavier  | 11  | 8  | 3  | 0 | 16   |
| Semaphore Central   | 11  | 6  | 4  | 1 | 13   |
| Prince Alfred Col.  | 12  | 5  | 6  | 1 | 11   |
| Glenferrie          | 11  | 3  | 8  | 0 | 6    |
| Kenilworth          | 11  | 2  | 9  | 0 | 4    |
| St. Peter's College | 11  | 1  | 10 | 0 | 2    |
|                     |     |    |    |   |      |



### **C.E. ('Nip') Pellew**

C.E. ('Nip') Pellew was only at the University for three years (1913 to 1915) before War Service interrupted his course. He was such an outstanding all-round sportsman, however, that in that time he was awarded Blues for Football (1914), Athletics (1914) and Cricket (1915). He also won the University Athletics Cup in 1914. 'Nip' also took an interest in University affairs and in

1914 was the Secretary of the Sports Association.

As a footballer, 'Nip' played mainly as a rover or at centre half back (although he was only 5 ft 8 in tall). He was prominent in the best player lists each week. His career peaked in the 1915 season when, as Captain of the side, he won the Naylor Medal for the Best and Fairest Player in Amateur League. (This Medal was donated by the League to the War Fund.) He only played in one Inter-Varsity match during this time - the 1914 match that was won by Adelaide.

After World War I 'Nip' played' one League game with North Adelaide. He also played for several country teams, principally in the Salisbury and Willunga areas. In later years he turned to umpiring and in 1931 was one of the A1 umpires.

'Nip' Pellew is probably best remembered for his cricketing prowess and he first represented South Australia in 1913 whilst in his first year at University. Some of the highlights of his cricketing career were touring England with the first AIF team in 1919, representing Australia in Tests against England in 1920-1921, scoring 271 runs for South Australia against Victoria on Adelaide Oval. 'Nip' was the SACA Coach from 1930 until World War II and again in 1958.

His brother, L.V. Pellew, was also a serviceable player in the 'A' grade team at about the same time. He was a talented athlete who held the Inter-Varsity record for the 220 yards in 1922.

L.V. Pellew also won the 'A' grade batting aggregate for the Cricket Club in 1922-23 and 1923-24, with a top score of 158. He played ten games for South Australia.



### **O.J. Murphy**

O.J. Murphy began playing for the University Club in the Inter-Varsity competition in 1908 and 1910. During this period (1907 to 1910) he was a Norwood League player of some ability and had been the youngest member of their Premiership side in 1907. Norwood also defeated Carlton to become the Champions of Australia that season.

O.J. Murphy was one of the League players who joined the University Football Club upon the formation of the Amateur League in 1911 and played with the Club for two years. He received a Football Blue in 1910.



### **J. W. (Jack) Londrigan**

J.W. (Jack) Londrigan only played for the University Football Club on a regular basis for one season, 1911. He was one of the players who left League football to help with the formation of the Amateur League. He had played 47 games with Sturt between 1907 and 1910.

Jack did play Inter-Varsity football in the 1910 season and again in 1911, and was awarded a Blue in 1910. He was selected in the Combined Amateur League team, which played the Gawler Association in 1911.

He resumed playing with Port Adelaide in 1912 when they were runner-up and was elected Captain in 1913 and 1914. This was a successful era for the Magpies, winning Premierships in both years - the latter season being undefeated.

Jack Londrigan was also their Best and Fairest player in 1913, for which he received two guineas. His football career was interrupted by World War I.



### **H.B. (Hurtle) Willsmore**

Upon leaving school in 1908, H.B. (Hurtle) Willsmore played League football for West Torrens (as a centre half back) and joined University in 1911 - the year the SAAFL was formed. Hurtle had represented University at Inter-Varsity football in 1910 and did so again in 1912 as Vice-captain of the side. He was a member of the side that played a pre-season match against West Adelaide and narrowly lost, in 1913, but along with the other former League players, left the Club in that year to return to League ranks.

Hurtle had a fine reputation as a cricketer, making 160 not out in his 'A' Grade debut for West Torrens in 1908-09. He played for University from the 1910-11 season and won the batting aggregate in 1913 with 454 runs. He represented the State eight times from 1913-14 in the Sheffield Shield competition.

Renowned as one of the biggest hitters of his time, in the 1921-22 season, he hit eight sixes in an innings and took 34 from one over.



### **J. W. (John) Blacket**

J.W. (John) Blacket was involved with football at the University over a seven-year period from 1908 to 1914. John played Inter-Varsity football in 1908 and 1910 (there was no match in 1909).

During this time, the Club had no regular team and called upon League players and others to make up the side. John played 11 games for Norwood during the period 1907 to 1909.

John became a regular member of the University Football Club upon the formation of the Amateur League in 1911 and went on to captain the side in 1913 and 1914. He also played Inter- Varsity in these years except 1913 which he missed due to injury. John was awarded a Football Blue in 1912 and topped the Amateur League goalkicking in 1913.

He was a talented cricketer who was a wicket keeper for the University XI and gained a Cricket Blue in 1915.

In his capacity as a teacher at PAC, John coached the school First XVIII in 1913 and 1914 and also coached the school cadet team to the State Championship of 1913.

John was also interested in administration and was on the Committee of the PAC Old Scholars from 1913 to 1915, and became Chairman of the SAAFL in 1914.

At the outbreak of World War I, John enlisted and reached the rank of Brigadier Major at the age of 30. He was killed in action in France on 4 July 1916.

<https://uniblackscfc.com.au/written-history/ww1-veterans/>

All of our WW 1 veterans have biographies on our website via the above link. Courtesy of and many thanks to Rob O'Shannassy, Beth and Janne Filmer for researching.



### **S.W. (Shirley) Jeffries**

Perhaps one of the more famous people to have progressed through the ranks of the University Football Club was S.W. Jeffries, later to become Sir Shirley Jeffries. He began playing with the Club in 1906, the year of its formation, and played consecutive Inter- Varsities from this time until 1912, missing only the 1911 match. Shirley was awarded a Football Blue.

He was active on the Sports Association General Committee, being Treasurer in 1909, Secretary in 1910 and the Football Club delegate from 1911 to 1913. He was the Auditor in 1912. He also played a significant role on the Sports Ground Committee around the time that the oval complex was opened in 1910.

Few details of his playing career have been found, but between 1907 and 1910, he played for Norwood (ten games in 1907) and Sturt (nine games in 1908).

Shirley returned to the Club upon the formation of the Amateur League. He had been a key player in the formation of the Amateur League and was the League's inaugural Chairman, a post that he held for two years.

In later years he was elected to the South Australian Parliament and was at various times Attorney General, Minister of Education and Minister of Employment and Industry.



### **C.R. (Cyril) Cole**

C.R. (Cyril) Cole played for the Club for three years, between 1912 and 1914, before War service interrupted his career with 'the Blacks'. In this time he played servicably on the half back flank, was a member of the 1912 and victorious 1914 Inter-Varsity sides and was awarded a Football Blue in 1914.

Cyril continued playing football for the 32nd Battallion in 1st AIF and was Vice-captain of the 5th Division team. In this team he was the only player not to have played first-grade football. Upon his return from the War he continued playing at Williamstown, winning their Best and Fairest Award around 1921.

In 1965 Cyril was awarded an OBE for 50 years service to Australian Football. nominated for this award by the ACT Football League.

The Club is grateful to Cyril for the extensive and informative letters that he forwarded to the Editors of the 75th Year History, filling gaps in the Club's knowledge of the 'early days'.

## **A Great fundraiser**

One of the interesting things about this period is that spectators could be charged admission to games.

This policy must have delighted the Club's administrators as it is reported in Dr F.A. (Fred) Bloch's excellent book *A History of the South Australian Amateur League 1911 – 1994...* *"the match between University and St. Francis Xavier on Thursday 22nd June at University Oval was attended by 5000 spectators, and if so, then the University must have declared a holiday especially for the event!"*

In 1911, the Management Committee of the Club decided to sell season tickets. This move was quite successful as indicated above and allowed the Club to defray the cost of its two Trainers.

## **WORLD WAR I INTERVENES - 1916 to 1919**

The Amateur League went into recess after 1915 for the duration of World War I, as many clubs had difficulty fielding sides. Though short on numbers at times, University still had enough players to make up one and on occasions two teams during these years.

Matches were arranged on an irregular basis against various teams - mainly school sides. Details of games with Prince Alfred College (PAC) and St. Peter's Scholastic College (SPSC) have been found in the *Prince Alfred College Chronicle* and the *St. Peter's School Magazine* and are certain to be contained in other school magazines.

A brief summary of the information that has been found follows.

### **1916 Season**

No regular program of matches was organised. Matches were played against PAC, SPSC, Adelaide High School (AHS), Christian Brothers College (CBC), School of Mines, Kingswood, St. Francis Xavier and Glenferrie.

University won at least two matches, although details of players and officials have not been found. The Club must have also fielded a 'B' grade side at this time, as H.W.B. Cairns, the 1916 Rhodes Scholar, is mentioned as having played in both the 'A' and 'B' grade sides during the season. There is no record of this side having played against school teams however.

### **1917 Season**

As in 1916, there was no regular match program and school teams were again played. The *Prince Alfred College Chronicle* records that there were difficulties in arranging matches for its First XVIII side, but three matches were played against University, of which University won only one.

'Varsity also played three matches against

SPSC, winning one by a large margin, but losing the other two by poor play in the last quarter. Other matches were probably played against Concordia and AHS.

No details of Club members or of a 'B' grade team have been found.

### **1918 Season**

Opposition teams were easier to find in 1918, and matches were played against PAC, SPSC and probably against East Adelaide, AHS, Concordia and YMCA. Of the four known results, University lost each time. Records have been found of the 'B' grade side playing two matches against a PAC Second XVIII team, with the side winning one and losing the other.

One of the major matches for the year was against a combined side from PAC and SPSC, played on Adelaide Oval. The School's team won 8.20 to 6.8, and net proceeds for the match, which amounted to between £60 and £70, were donated to the Australia Day fund. An extract from the match report states that *"the University team was the strongest that had donned the black and white this season, and they had even practised for two or three weeks prior to the match"*.

Best players for 'Varsity were listed as G.E. Jose, Pavy and F.B. Leditschke. Other players to be mentioned in the best players during the year were A.H. White, E.J. Swann, Florey, C. Gurney, G.I. Streich, A.T.B. Jones, E.J.K. Harbison and Hylton.

### **1919 Season**

University had a successful season in 1919, losing only three of 14 matches played. One loss was against East Adelaide after 11 wins in a row, with an average winning margin of 20 goals, and another was to Semaphore Central in the last match.

In addition, the side forfeited twice during the vacation and received one forfeit itself. Even though Inter-Varsity matches resumed during this season, interest in football at the 'Varsity was felt to be fairly low as the Club was able to field a full team only once.

Details of individual games are not known, although the best players through the season were D.J.R. Sumner, T.W. Tassie, C.I. Streich, E.J.K. Harbison, G.E. Jose (Vice-captain), A.J. Vawser, E.H. Johncock, L.V. Pellew, A.H. White (Captain and Club Secretary), K.R.H. Sinclair and H.G. Prest. The latter two players both kicked about 40 goals for the season.



### **E.J.K. Harbison**

E.J.K. Harbison played for the University Football Club from 1918 to 1924 and gained his Blue for Football in 1919. He played in the successful sides of this time, including Premierships in 1920, 1921 and 1922.

He was one of the outstanding all-round sportsmen of this period, being successful at whatever sport he turned his attention to;

He was awarded Blues in both Cricket and Lacrosse in 1924 and captained the Athletics Club in 1923. He finished third in the Australian Pole Vault Championships, behind his two cousins, at about this time.

His family had enjoyed an active association with University sport, with brothers G.H., A.T. and W.A. being prominent in playing and administering positions in the Lacrosse and Athletics Clubs.

