

# Commerce Records

## Early Years \*\*\*

**SOURCE of all games listed---GHSFHA or  
GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL  
HISTORIANS ASSOCIATION [www.ghsfha.org](http://www.ghsfha.org)**

**\*\*\*---Commerce also had a football team as early as 1909.**

**We have team pictures from 1909 and 1916. However, we do not know the record of the 1909 team, although we do have complete records from the 1914, 1915, 1916 and 1923 teams as well as some partial records of teams from the following years:**

**1910, 1911, 1912, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1924 and 1925.**

**We also know that Commerce played football through the 1928 season, because of an article in *The Commerce News* from 9/4/40.**

**Commerce, we know from 1909-1925, usually only played four or five games in a season.**

**--- Jeff Prickett, 1/14/08**

### **1909 (0-0-0)**

**H(0-0-0), A(0-0-0) Coach – Professor Walker**

**We have no knowledge of the results of this season. However, we have a picture of the 1909 team. We believe that this was the first Commerce football team, although we are not completely certain of this.**

### **Members of this Commerce team were:**

**Meadow Williams, Claude Ila, Allie Ray, Grover Watkins, Bill Kelly, Sam Jolley, Herbert Wilbanks, Herman Lord, Berner Harber, Bill Aderhold and Emory Bolton**

**source: 1909 photograph, Commerce Public Library**

**---2/15/08\_\_\_Jeff Prickett**

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## Commerce Records Early Years

### 1910 (0-3-0) \*\*

H(0-1-0), A(0-2-0) Coach -- Unknown

	We	They		
O8Sat, Athens High	*	5 10	,rod	1/12/08
O15Sat, Athens High		5 16	,rod	“
N24Thu, Clarkesville A&M		<u>6 26</u>	,btaylor	2/24/08
		16 52		

\*----- Home games

\*\*----- From 1897-1911, five points was awarded for a touchdown and another point for a PAT. In 1912 the format that we use today was created with six points for a TD and 1-PAT. Therefore, the five points that Commerce scored in each of the two games listed above were touchdowns.

---Sources--GHSFHA.org-- rod-----en.wikipedia.org

---In these early days of high school football, travel for many of the teams of northeast Georgia centered around the train. Most teams that Commerce played in the 1910's and 1920's were located on railroad lines to make arriving at an opponents game site more accessible.

---Indeed, we have learned that Maysville had a team in 1910. They tied Athens (0-0) in a game played in Maysville. Athens had a (4-0-1) record that year and this tie was their only blemish to a possible perfect record. The article noted that Maysville played two college graduates in the contest. The game was called after three quarters of play, because the Athens team and its fans had to catch the train on its return trip from Gainesville to Athens...remarkable.

---Where the Maysville football field was located is unknown.

Source--- ghsfha.org-- rod- 1/17/08- ..Athens Daily Herald  
btaylor- 2/24/08- ..ghsfha.org, The Atlanta Journal  
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## Commerce Records Early Years

### 1911 (0-2-0)

H(0-1-0), A(0-1-0) Coach -- Unknown

		We	They		
O20Fri, Athens High	*	0	21	,rod	1/12/08
N18Sat, Athens High		<u>6</u>	<u>19</u>	,rod	“
		6	40		

\*----- Home games

---Sources-----GHSFHA.org-- rod- ..Athens Daily Herald

### 1912 (0-1-0)

H(0-1-0), A(0-0-0) Coach - Unknown

		We	They		
O17Thu, Athens High	*	<u>0</u>	<u>60</u>	,rod	1/12/08
		0	60		

\*-----Home games

---Sources-----GHSFHA.org-- rod- ..Athens Daily Herald

---1/12/08\_\_\_Jeff Prickett

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## Commerce Records Early Years

**1913 (0-0-0)**

H(0-0-0), A(0-0-0) Coach – Unknown

We They

No scores or opponents  
are known at this time.

**1914 (5-0-0) \*\*\***

H(2-0-0), A(3-0-0) Coach – York, --r od

	We	They	
O30Fri, Maysville	* 24	0	,rod 1/31/08
N7Sat, Monroe	45	0	“
N26Thu, Clarkesville A & M	32	0	“
?? Gainesville	19	0	“
?? Athens	* <u>25</u>	<u>12</u> ***	“
	145	12	

\*\*\*---According to one of the articles, the Commerce coach was York; the articles gave no first name.

Some of the better players listed in the articles were the captain of the team named \*\*Buck Smith; also \*\*Lawrence Hardman, Lamar Cooper, Verne Davis and \*\*Colquitt Sims were players on the team.

Another player on the Commerce squad whose last name was Caraker also played, and he was the son of the Commerce school superintendent in the city at that particular time.

\*\*-----I'm not positive of these first names, but players with the same last name played the next year in 1915.

&&-----The known records of the 1915-25 Commerce teams are listed on another page on the disc with the same title as is above in this paragraph.

---Source---- ghsfha.org-- rod- ..Athens Daily Herald