



Friedman recalled Thomsen saying, “When you get out of high school, be sure and look me up.”

“Mr. Thompson [sic],” Tom replied. “You don’t want me. I got kicked out of South School for spitting tobacco juice in an inkwell when I was in second grade and never went back.” Disgusted, Fred Thompson [sic] went on about his business.” Based on Friedman’s single account, Thomsen scouted the white players only.

Integration at the UA would not happen until 1948 when Silas Hunt entered its law school. And more than a couple decades would pass after that until the Razorback football program signed its first black player to a scholarship.

Coach Thomsen probably missed seeing the Black Razorbacks at their best. When they played the Bulldogs closer to home in the Hollow, they usually won. “With the black maidens cheering them on from the sidelines, we didn’t have a chance,” Friedman recalled. “They dragged us up on one side of the field and down the other. The game