## **CLAUDE "CUPE" PERRY**

## "UPE" WAS BORN IN GOODSPRINGS, ALABAMA, OCTOBER 31, 1901 AND WAS

raised near Parrish. He began his athletic career at Walker County High School (the only school with a football team) as a star on the very first football team in the history of Walker County. That first year, he played in the first football game he had ever seen, and they did not win a single game, but came back the next year in 1921. That year they were undefeated, untied and claimed the Alabama State Football Championship (Walker's first ever). This team scored 293 points while giving up only 13 points. He was selected as All-State and All-Southern and signed to play for the University of Alabama.

"Cupe" was a 6'1" 210 pound tackle-guard on Wallace Wade's 1925 undefeated National Championship Team where they defeated the Washington Huskies 20-19 in the Rose Bowl (Alabama's first National Championship). He went on to star on the 1926 Rose



Bowl Team that again was National Champion. At the end of the season, "Cupe" was selected to the All-Southern Team.

He then began a professional career, when he was drafted by coach Curly Lambeau of the Green Bay Packers. His career lasted 9 years and he was selected as an All-Pro player at offensive guard. After his pro career was over, he returned to Walker County and coached at Parrish and then Lynn where he finished his coaching career. He became a well known and respected football official and was a charter member of the first Walker County Football Officials Association.

He passed away in July of 1975 at the age of 74. He was never married but was a great brother and uncle, as well as a fine southern gentleman. "Cupe" is truly unique in that he played on a State Championship Team, a National Championship Team and a World Championship Team. A life well lived.