The first athletic field was where Hayes & Derby Halls now stand. The second field was located west of Neil Avenue and just north of 11th Avenue. The first official football team (1890) played on this second field. In 1898, Ohio Field, pictured above, was built and located in the area of High Street and 17th & Woodruff Avenues. The original seating capacity was 500. Ohio Field could handle 14,000 by the time the Stadium was built.
Ghosts of Buckeyes May Still Roam the Old Sod

Robert B. Stevenson, DDS, MS, MA

Ohio Medical University (OMU) had its own football team, and first played Ohio State University on this site October 3, 1896. Buckeyes prevailed 24-0, led by Captain Edward H. French, whose brother Thomas would spearhead the Ohio Stadium dream. OMU forfeited the next meeting, recorded as a 0-0 tie. The last time they met on Dorm Field, OSU won again, 12-0, November 21, 1896.

Buckeyes scheduled OMU three times that year, the only OSU season that ever happened, but it was really not too strange. From 1892-95, Ohio State scheduled home/away games in the same year with Oberlin, Kenyon and Wittenberg, respectively. In 1886, Harvard played MIT three times, and Yale played Wesleyan three times in '86 and '88.

Ohio State began the 1896 season with an interim coach, Sid Farrar, a student enrolled at Starling Medical College who played football at Princeton. Charles Hickey took over as coach mid-season. It was not the only time a medical student coached Ohio State football. John Woodworth Wilce played football at Wisconsin and was OSU head coach 1912-1928. During World War One, Wilce attended medical school, graduating 1919.

OMU and OSU met four more times. Medics finally scored at the last game, in 1900, but lost 11-6. Today, no signs or plaques honor the site of Ohio State's first measured fields; where wooden bleachers held 200 fans and a season football ticket cost one dollar.

A Surprise Ending: To The History Of American Medicine

By John C. Burnham, PhD

For several years as an Associated (sometimes Resident) Scholar of the Medical Heritage Center, I have been working on a single-volume history of American medicine, with a title more appropriate for the present: 400 Years of American Healthcare. The book is still undergoing revision and has not been submitted for publication, but I have reached the end of the story, which I find surprising.

A Surprise Ending, continued on page 3