

Grandstand Views



It Was All In Vain

By Sandy Padwa Collegian Sports Editor

The basketball players involved in the point-shaving mess were only 10 or 11 when the first scandal broke a decade ago so they probably don't remember Sherman White, Ed Roman, Ralph Beard and Alex Groza.

These were just a few of the big name stars who saw their careers and lives change overnight because the temptation of \$1000 was too much.

There were others—Ed Warner, Floyd Layne, and Gene Melchiorre—but the names aren't important anymore. Time has healed their wounds somewhat but the memories never will be forgotten.

"I hope they don't make these kids go through what we did. Just don't crucify them. Don't be too quick to condemn," said one of the fixers who preferred not to be mentioned.

He spoke directly from experience because he knows the stigma attached to scandal and he knows what will happen when the details of the present case are made public.

Most of the players involved in the 1951 scandal have managed to carve a life for themselves but society is still wary. "People always look at us in a bad light. Nobody believes anything we say. Nobody realized we were just kids who made a mistake," the anonymous point-shaver said.

After the scandal talk died down 10 years ago, the National Basketball Association was off limits to the fixers but Harry Rudolph's Eastern League decided to take a chance.

White, Roman, Layne and Warner have been familiar names to Eastern League box score readers for years and on numerous occasions they have proved their ability to play big-league ball.

Roman, one of the league's all-time scoring leaders, is coaching the Williamsport team this season and has done an excellent job in a tough situation.

Layne, who teamed with Roman and Warner to bring CCNY the NIT and NCAA championships in 1950, is a teacher now in addition to playing for the Wilkes-Barre Barons. Warner also is with Wilkes-Barre and works as a factory foreman in New York during the week.

White, an LIU All-American before the fix, plays for the Baltimore Bullets and works for a whiskey distribution firm in New York.

For Alex Groza, things have turned out better than expected. The former Kentucky ace is the only fixer who has returned to the college game. He coaches Bellarmine College in Louisville, Ky.

When it comes time to recruit, Groza reminds his prospect that he is the same Alex Groza who once fixed games at Kentucky. He frankly tells his prospect about his experiences and then asks the boy for a decision.

Beard, one of Groza's teammates, had a harder adjustment than most of the other fixers.

He was playing pro ball with the Indianapolis Olympians of the NBA when the scandal hit the headlines and when it was all over he found himself banned from further competition.

His wife couldn't adjust to the pressures and divorced him. He couldn't get a decent job anywhere and when he returned to Kentucky to pick up 11 credits for a diploma no one would talk to him including coach Adolph Rupp.

His uniform, which was retired after his final year, was thrown away and his picture was removed from All-America Row.

Beard tried the Eastern League for a while and then he remarried. He was drafted soon after and Army life seemed to help him quite a bit.

Now he has started over again but readjustment hasn't been easy. It hasn't been easy for the others either but they were willing to accept their fate if someone else benefited from their experiences.

Last weekend the memories and bitterness came back again and they all shared the same feelings—all their suffering had been in vain.

Ohio State Battles St. Joseph's In NCAA Semi-Finals Tonight

By DON WEISS Associated Press Sports Writer KANSAS CITY (AP)— Ohio State's unbeaten Buckeyes,

confident they won the one game they might have lost, resume defense of their NCAA basketball championship tonight, meeting unsung St. Joseph's in the semifinals of the 23rd national showdown.

The top-ranked Bucks, (26-0) with Jerry Lucas and a 31-game winning streak, are 14-point favorites in the 7:30 p.m. CST, opener over the Hawks from Philadelphia, who have won 15 in a row for a 24-4 record.

Cincinnati, which has played 20 straight victories and a 25-3 record into the No. 2 national ranking, is a 6-point pick over Utah (23-6) in the other semifinal beginning at 9:15 p.m.

A capacity crowd of 10,500 will pack Municipal Auditorium to see if the experts are right in foreseeing an all-Ohio final in the title match Saturday night. The cloud of a new basketball scandal hasn't tempered enthusiasm here one bit.

Ohio State, unanimously acclaimed all season as college bas-



JACK EGAN . . . hawk-eye

ketball's best team, gave the other clubs more than a whisper of hope when it needed a scrambling, desperate comeback in the last couple of minutes to survive a Mideast regional semifinal with

Louisville, 56-55, a week ago. "Sometimes you have to win on a bad night," Buckeye Coach Fred Taylor said yesterday. "That was a bad night. Our free-throw shooting was way off and of course Jerry was held to the fewest points of his career (9 points). But we hit our top field goal percentage of the season against Kentucky the next night and looked much better.

"All of the boys were involved in major examinations all last week before we went to Louisville and I think they might have been tired mentally."

St. Joseph's, called the "most determined team I ever had" by Coach Jack Ramsay, picked up confidence with victories that started coming in a string after an 87-75 loss to Xavier of Ohio on Jan. 14. Jack Egan, a 6-6, 215-pound senior, is the key Hawk-leading scorer with a 21.7 average and leading rebounder with 12.1 per game.

The Cincinnati-Utah game figures to match the scrappy, tireless Bearcats' balance against Billy (the Hill) McGill, the 6-9 junior from Los Angeles who Coach Jack Gardner of Utah likes to call "the greatest offensive center in college basketball history."

East Squad Will Train At Buffalo University

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — The University of Buffalo was picked recently as the training base for the East squad in the All-American Graduation Bowl football game here June 23.

The sponsoring American Football Coaches Association hopes the game will be the first of an annual series. This year's game will be for the benefit of the Football Hall of Fame.

Penn State's Rip Engle and Bill Murray of Duke will coach the East squad while Minnesota's Murray Warmath and Washington's Jim Owens will coach the West.

Weiss Will Head New York Entry

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. (AP) — The new National League team in New York has made its most important move since its organization last year by luring George Weiss out of retirement to serve as its president for the next five years.

The famed baseball executive, who as general manager of the New York Yankees, was responsible for the creation of 10 pennant winners and seven world champions in 13 years, will assume duties immediately although the club will not begin operation until 1962.

AN UNPAID TESTIMONIAL



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*Napoleon's final defeat came at the hands of the Duke of Wellington in the Battle of Waterloo, June 18, 1815.



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