

halftime



Narrow-Minded Profs—You Bet!

By JIM KARL
Sports Editor

Everyone seems to be aware that Penn State lost a potential All-American when Wayne Lundy's father yanked him out of school on the morning of Dec. 16, hours before a Rec Hall battle with West Virginia.

But the details leading up to that abrupt departure haven't been as widely publicized as Lundy's varied press clippings, and this department would like to shed a little light on the subject.

Lundy is gone because one of those profs who hate athletes simply because they are athletes (such narrow-minded people really exist, even at universities), never gave him a chance to get a passing grade.

Coach John Egli and a few other people went to bat to try and correct the injustice, but action wasn't moving fast enough for Wayne's father, who pulled him out of school just as it appeared something might be accomplished.

WAYNE'S CASE isn't an isolated one; similar instances happen to athletes and students who are not athletes—every term. It all boils down to the University's bureaucratic way of handling students like so much cold meat.

Sure, a University's not a democracy; the administration is supposed to know more than the students, but does that mean it's always right or that there are no intolerant, narrow-minded, and just plain stupid professors among the 2,000 who teach here.

Each term there are many cases of students who receive unfair grades, and usually nothing is done about it. There are various reasons for such injustices—a prof makes a mistake and won't admit it, or perhaps he has such an impersonal attitude toward his students that he doesn't give a . . .

Athletes run into the same problem, but for a different reason and to a greater extent. No one but the most naive, good-hearted soul still thinks that athletes never get any help grade-wise. Of course, no one will admit it, but athletes get special consideration in the various ROTC programs, and in a good many physical education classes.

But why complain. In the first place, no athlete gets into Penn State unless he has a little brains—the University's academic standards are just as high for athletes as they are for students.

And, most people don't realize how much time playing a varsity sport requires; a little help from a friendly prof or sports-minded instructor isn't a mortal sin, at least in this writer's opinion.

On the other hand, athletes are "branded from the time they walk in some classrooms," as one coach aptly put it. For some reason, there are profs who simply don't like athletes. Perhaps they are secretly jealous or disappointed that they never felt the thrill of combat, or the satisfaction of teamwork, or the salty taste of defeat that all people close to sports remember and cherish.

Or perhaps they regard themselves as equalizers, as people who deliberately flunk an athlete to offset the people who aid them.

IN ANY CASE one such misguided person is responsible for Wayne Lundy's father withdrawing him from school, and if you'll pardon the expression, it's a crying shame.

Lundy is not a good student. His coach admits this. Lundy's teammates admit it, and if Lundy were here now he would probably admit it.

But Lundy wanted to play basketball, and he'd already been on probation once. He knew that he would get no under-the-table help at State (set-up courses or pressure on a prof from a department head to raise a grade) All-American or no All-American. So he decided to really concentrate on his grades, and he was doing a fairly respectable job.

Midway through the term Egli called all of his profs and he got good reports. But Lundy was having trouble in one course, and no matter how hard he tried, he couldn't get a passing grade. When grades came in at the end of the term, Lundy got an F in the course, and that grade put him on probation by a few hundredths of a point.

Lehigh Powerhouse Threatens Grapplers' Unbeaten Record

By DEAN BILLYCK

Charlie Speidel's unbeaten grapplers meet the nation's number one team, Lehigh, tonight at Bethlehem, Pa., and if the Lions are nursing any ideas of a victory their hopes lie in the lightweight divisions.

In the lower four weights State has suffered only one loss while winning seven. However, their stiffest test will come against Lehigh.

The Engineer lower-weight wrestlers have amassed a match record of 13-2-1 in four meets.

If State is to win they must pick-up at least three victories in the four-light divisions. At 123, State's unbeaten Mark Piven will face unbeaten Bill Merriam. Piven has shown surprising strength with a 10-0 win in the West Virginia match and 4-0 victory over Navy's John Eller.

The 130-pound battle will also feature two undefeated wrestlers. Sophomore Bob Haney will lock horns with Pat Smartt of the Engineers. Haney copped a 5-0 verdict in the Navy match and then followed up his victory with a repeat performance against West Virginia.

At 137, State's Steve Erber, 1-1, will battle Curt Alexander, who has suffered one of the Engineers two losses. Alexander also has three victories.

Probably the Lions best chance for a victory in the lower-weight classes lie with 147-pound George Edwards. The Lion sophomore upset Navy captain John McGrath, 10-3. McGrath was a place-winner in the 1961 EIWA Tournament.

Speidel called Edwards' victory over McGrath the turning point of the match. Against West Virginia, Edwards again turned in a



JIM DITRIXHE
... unbeaten Engineer

fine performance with a 6-3 victory

After Edwards, the Lions may be in trouble. State has two unbeaten wrestlers in Ron Pifer at 157 and Phil Myer at either 177 or 191, but Lehigh has yet

to lose a match beyond the 147-pound division.

The best match of the evening could be in the 157-pound class where State's 147-pound Eastern Champion of last year, Pifer, is scheduled for a return engagement against Kirk Pendleton.

Pendleton captured last year's 157-pound Eastern championship and during the regular season humiliated Pifer by pinning him in a class match at University Park. The Lehigh champ held a slim 7-5 lead over Pifer as the Lion grappler was attempting an escape. Just when he appeared to be loose, Pendleton flipped Pifer on his back and it was all over.

Pifer came back after losing to Pendleton to capture the Eastern crown and then took the runner-up spot in nationals. In four bouts this season Pendleton has scored three falls.

Unbeaten Myer of State will probably tangle with Jim Ditrixhe at 177. Ditrixhe is also unbeaten.

Other matches will show State's John Barone, 1-1, facing Dave Angell, 3-0-1, at 167. Bill Polacsek, 0-1, will probably start for State at 191 against Chuck Moore, who is undefeated. Moore has scored two falls in his four wins.

Dick Walker or Bill Anders will wrestle in the heavyweight division against John Burns, who sports a 3-0 record for Lehigh.

State will be out to avenge a 24-8 shellacking Lehigh administered the Lions last year and also to attempt to break an eight-match Lehigh winning streak.

Cowboys Sign Pair

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys of the National Football League announced yesterday the signing of end Dave Edwards of Auburn and defense back Elbert Harris of Southern Louisiana.

JAM SESSION

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"The Bossmen"

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IFC RUSHING BEGINS

AT SCHWAB AUDITORIUM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7

6:45 P.M.

● All men who plan to rush during the winter term should attend this meeting.

● Registration for rushing may be done at this time. Bring your transcripts.

PIZZA PARTY

FOR

Episcopal Students

5 p.m. SUNDAY, JAN. 7

St. Andrews Parish House

S. Frazier and W. Foster