

B. U. HOCKEY GAME ON FRIDAY OPENS WINTER ATHLETIC PROGRAM

From The Sports Desk

Missing—A Varsity Basketball Coach

It is too bad that just when the Engineer basketball team seems set for a top notch season it should stumble into this difficulty regarding a coach. The game here is very young, having been started during the winter of 1920-1921, and after naturally rather gummying the works during its debut season, the Cardinal and Gray five made a very encouraging stand last year, winning every contest on the home floor, and quite a few of the later, important games played elsewhere. The improvement shown in 12 months was really phenomenal.

This fall, with practically a veteran team ready for action, it seemed that the Engineers were going to shinny up a few more notches toward the top, but a serious setback has occurred. After two weeks' delay, Lieut. Byerley was secured as varsity mentor and attended four or five practices. Now he seems to be on the ragged edge of leaving the team, and we've got the curious situation of a mess with nobody to blame.

Hochsteler, elected manager last

spring, attended the exercises of October 3 this fall, and officially resigned on October 7, neglecting to inform the A. A. until two weeks later. At its next meeting that body picked D. W. Murdoch and according to Joe Nowell he very briskly took hold. This was about one week before Field Day. Getting a coach is no cinch when there is so small an allowance, and so there was another delay until Byerley was found. Now he must go to New York with the championship team of his ship, which he is coaching, and begins to believe that he will not have the time for the Technology position. He was receiving no salary, and no one can blame him for leaving.

All this is history. What is really important is that the team lacks a leader and if the season is to be successful must have one at once. The management is doing its best, but it's up to all of us to speak up if we have had any experience in college basketball, and think we can help or if we know of some man who could fill the job and would do it for very little money.

Helpful Criticism Wanted, Not Gossip

One of the things most liable to prevent a crew, or any other combination from being successful, is strife within its own organization. If every one of the individuals does not believe that all his mates are doing their share and doing it properly and feel in thorough sympathy with their aims, there is little chance for victory. In any athletic outfit the coach is probably the most important unit, and if he is to get anywhere must have the respect and the confidence of the competitors.

When Pat Manning was handling the Technology oarsmen there was a lot of foolish grunting and mumbling about his ability. Pat isn't this and Pat isn't that clamorings on the part

of some of the crew men didn't make Manning's job any easier. Now Arthur W. Stevens is the coach, and these same senseless critics proceed to hammer him and let the world know how much better Pat used to be.

There may be real objections to the work of Mr. Stevens and if there are he will certainly be the gladdest man in the world to hear them. He is freely giving his time and his energy to improve Technology crews and any suggestions as to how he may better accomplish this end are sure to be welcome. However the smallness of men who will indulge in petty grumbling and not speak out in regular man-fashion is not wanted in crew or any other Engineer sport.

No Disappointments in Hockey This Year

Last winter's hockey team was one of the most disappointing fiascos in Technology sport history. The sextet won a fair proportion of its games but it lacked the punch when it was most needed and there was never the full time of good, fast hockey. The reason was obvious. Mr. Volstead was far from preventing a majority of the players from breaking training and doing it at any time they pleased, which was quite frequently.

This fall the new coach, Mr. Black-

lock, starts off by saying that the team which cannot put in sixty solid minutes' worth of the hardest sort of hockey is worthless. This means that every skater, from the lowliest candidate to the flashiest star, will have to keep himself in top shape to merit the attention of the coach. Captain Hayden's men don't need any grandfatherly line of advice full chatter. They may not win every time but they are going to play the game clean and hard—and that's what really matters.

Nearly \$40,000 from Corporation a Record

Mr. Horace S. Ford, bursar, while talking at the Field Day banquet, nearly a month ago, remarked that during the past year the Corporation has spent roughly \$39,000 on athletics, what with one thing and another, which as we remember consisted of buying the boat house, paying the amount of the student tax which formerly went to Walker, and building the new gym in the airplane kennel. Mr. Ford didn't exaggerate a bit when

he went on to tell of the devastating effect an announcement of this sort would have had in Dr. Rowe's day, around 1900. By no means a small part of the boom in athletics this year is due to the generosity of the Corporation and this thorough endorsement of sport by a body of serious minded business men is about as emphatic a testimonial to the value of competitive athletics as could be asked.

Ex-Managers' Experience Should Be Used

In the regular order of events all the sport manager jobs are filled by Juniors, of whom only a minor part receive Senior positions in the A. A. These veteran bosses of a season usually find plenty to do during their last year but it seems that the association could make better use of their

experience than is now customary. Of course the present managers would not thank them for messing around in their old roles but, perhaps, organized into a sort of advisory board, they would be able to offer some really valuable suggestions, at small cost of time on their part and energy on the part of the A. A.

Faculty Members Also to Indulge

Frank Kanaly's assistant is in charge of several corrective gym classes and almost seventy men who are a little twisted out of shape here or there are getting a lot of benefit out of them. There will also be a class of men not freshmen next term

and also a set of faculty members. Engineers have a sort of a rep for being scrappy, hard individuals, well able to take care of themselves, asking odds from nobody. A big factor in that is physical o.k.ness, whether gotten through regulated gym drill or competitive sport.

Puckchasers on Ice for First Time with Game Only Week Away

30 Varsity Candidates Don Skates at Initial Practice

A turnout of about 30 varsity candidates answered the first call for practice at the Arena Saturday afternoon, and spent some time getting the kinks out of their skating machinery. Due to the lateness of the notice of the practice not all the squad was able to attend but a good sized crowd was on hand.

Coach Blacklock, who has been in Boston for a few weeks, was called home during the week-end by the death of a relative, and so was unable to attend the practice Saturday, but will probably be on the job by tomorrow at the latest. Practice will be held this afternoon from 5 to 6 o'clock, under the direction of Captain Herb Hayden and as the opener of the season is a game with Boston University on Friday night, some fast work will have to be done in order to shape up a practically green team in three or four days. However, hockey is an innovation at Boston University this year, and while Coach "Brick" O'Hare of the Boston team has a large squad to work with, he is also handicapped by the fact that they have never played together before.

The majority of the hockey team men have been out on the track for preliminary training for the last two weeks, and this conditioning should help them considerably in hitting their stride.

In addition to the games already announced, negotiations are now under way for contests with Harvard, Boston College, and possibly the Mass. Aggie team, and as soon as dates at the Arena can be definitely established, it is expected that several more will be added.

Due to the loss of five of last year's regulars, hockey at the Institute has suffered a momentary setback which can be made up only by consistent hard work and strict training on the part of those left, and if this is done, the material coming up from the freshman teams of the last few years should be able to fill all the gaps.

A large number of men handed in cards at the meeting, and it is hoped that all Varsity candidates will be on hand this afternoon in order that some idea of conditions may be had before the tussle with Boston University Friday night. The freshmen are not to report with the varsity material, and arrangements as to practice for the yearling men will be announced later.



Those patches of new boards showing in the banks of the track signify to track men that somebody is looking out for their safety. A weak board in a bank, and a sprinter tearing around a curve in a time trial make a combination that is bound to end in disaster. Exposed continuously to the elements as the old board speedway is, constant care is necessary to keep it in shape.

While we are speaking of conditions on the boards we might mention that the other evening when we were out at practice we noticed that the central lighting system leaves the banks in shadows which are deceptive, especially if the runner is going at a good pace. Diagonal lights from the back of the grandstand would remedy the trouble and since the wiring for such lights is already in place there (there used to be lights there in the past but no one knows why they were removed) it would be neither a long nor an expensive procedure to install two reflectors.

Coach Kanaly's notice that track practice closes December 9, the same date as the last period of monkey drill for the frosh reminds us of the time we had to practice three extra periods the final week to get a clear record. Every yearling who desires a pass in physical training must have made up all absences and have a clear record by this Saturday.

Coach Hinks of the gym team was on hand Friday afternoon, and a satisfactory practice was held in spite of the fact that effects of the Thanksgiving dinner had not entirely worn off.

Basketball Rule Changes as Seen from Sidelines

There has been a great deal said about the many changes in basketball rules. Briefly stated the differences in the game from the spectator's viewpoint are two: first, there will be no free toss from technical fouls, as running with the ball or jumping illegally, possession of the sphere being given to the opposite side which throws it from the sidelines nearest where the violation took place; two, when the ball is held anywhere within the free throw line or circle the jump will take place at the foul line and not only when the holding takes place directly under the net.

Wrestling Eliminations Expected to Begin Today

Coach Cyclone Burns expects to stage several of the first elimination bouts of the wrestling team this afternoon. Before the end of the week all members of the mat squad will have had at least one fight and the coach will be able to close work before the Christmas vacation with at least a fairly accurate idea of the material he has to depend on.

One of the hardest scraps of the series is counted on in the 135 pound class.

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Coach Byerley May Resign Since He Is Unable to Give Time

In regard to securing a permanent coach for the basketball squad, the situation has become as difficult as before any coach was selected. When Coach Byerley was offered the position, he was afraid he could not accept, as it took more of his time than he could give to it. After taking charge of the squad, it was hoped by all the team members that he would be able to continue to coach them as it was plainly seen that rapid progress would be made if he was to continue to coach them regularly. But his duties on the ship, as Byerley is a naval officer, stationed on the Florida, have taken so much of his time that it is impossible for him to coach the squad regularly.

As every day of the week lost in practice counts now as the season is progressing rapidly, and real progress cannot be made unless the team members have continued intensive drill now, it is necessary to obtain some one who is able to give the squad the necessary amount of time in order to develop a good team. It is especially unfortunate that Byerley cannot give the time as his training under a navy coach particularly fits him for the position here, but as he cannot come for the necessary hours, it leaves but one alternate, that of obtaining some one who is able to give the necessary time.

A number of new men have been mentioned, although nothing definite has been settled yet, the management has got in touch with some men, and it can be expected that something definite will be given out by the middle of the week.

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