



Does Canada want big-time college sports?
 Frank Clair, coach of Ottawa Rough Riders suggested in a recent issue of Weekend Magazine that more Canadian football players would be produced if high school coaches (and presumably this could be carried over to college ones) were paid for their services. Then, he argues, competent men would have incentive to seek coaching positions and to put more effort into the work once they had secured the job.

Let us examine the result on a college level, using football as an example. A hired coach, be it in professional, intercollegiate, or high school ranks, is paid to do a job. That is, he is expected to win football games. It is sad, but true, that when a team wins, the players are lauded; when it loses, the coach is blamed, and, more often than not, canned.

In an attempt to win football games, three things are involved: finding good players, persuading them to attend your university, and teaching them how to play winning football.

The first of these involves a scouting system—either full time (paid, of course), or some type of monetary reward to high school coaches for sending players your way.

SCHOLARSHIPS GOOD

The second is solved by Clair. He suggests athletic scholarships are a good thing. He claims academic standards for such awards have been stiffened in many schools. The cost, according to the Ottawa coach, would be more than met by gate receipts.

Two problems arise here. First, consciously or otherwise, the scholarship player is expected to produce and live up to his scholarship. Second, someone has to encourage fan support to get the gate receipts. Another paid position appears.

In order to teach winning football, a win-or-else attitude must be engendered in the players, lest the coach lose his job. Practice is required—lots of it. This detracts from study time.

All of which brings us to the function of athletics at an institution of higher learning. It seems to this corner that athletic competition has an important

function for both the participant and the spectator; however, it must not get out of proportion when compared to the academic aspect.

Rev. L. J. McGinley, president of Fordham University in New York, suggested recently that scandals (such as have rocked college basketball south of the line twice in the past 10 years) resulted from the exaggeration of the value of the role of athletics in the educational picture. "Unless the role of sport in education is a subordinate one, it isn't a genuine one," Father McGinley said.

FOOTBALL ALL-IMPORTANT?

But what has Clair created? It would follow that football now becomes all-important—from the point of view of the coach, to win and save his job; from the point of view of the players, to earn their scholarships, and from the point of view of the administration, to sell football tickets in order to pay the first two groups.

Renovated bears to meet rockets

Hockey returns to varsity arena tonight when the Golden Bears play host to the Lacombe Rockets of the Central Alberta Intermediate League in an exhibition game.

The game will be the opener for the Bears and the fans should get a good look at what is in store for them this season.

Nine stalwarts are missing from last year's lineup, but returnees include such stars as Gerry Schults, Fred Lamb, Ed Brown, Bob Marik, Gerry Canadine, John Aubin and captain Austin Smith.

Bear faithfuls will also be seeing the abilities of newcomers Larry Creighton, Boston University; Duane Lundgren, Moose Jaw Canucks; Lorne Braithwaite, Edmonton Oil Kings; and starry Bobby Cox who will definitely play against Lacombe.

ROCKETS LINEUP

The Rockets are not without their array of stars also. U of A fans will recall names like Viv Dzurko, Ernie Braithwaite, Al Laplante and Dick Dunnigan, voted last year's most valuable Bear. Other players of note include Ed Zemrau, former pro with Winnipeg and Sault Ste. Marie who also doubles as PEB business manager, Bill Voss, ex-Brandon Regal, Murray Dea and Johnny Young.

Golden Bear coach Clare Drake will dress 20 men for tonight's encounter—two goalies, six defencemen and four forward lines. Normally only four defencemen will be used, cutting the squad to a workable eighteen. The fourth forward line is to be made up of players from the junior team who will rotate throughout the season. Drake informs us that Schults and Lamb will share goal tending duties against Lacombe.

along the blueline where Ed Brown is the only returning regular.

However Dick Wintermute and footballer Jack Nichol have been looking very good thus far. "Wintermute appears headed for a good year," said Drake. Nichol meanwhile is expected to replace Doug Messier in a policeman's role. This leaves only Braithwaite, and he should fill the gap with ease.

The cork will pop on the new season at 8 p.m.

BLUELINE WORRIES?

With both netminders returning and plenty of obvious scoring punch in the line-up the only question marks for the Bears appears to be

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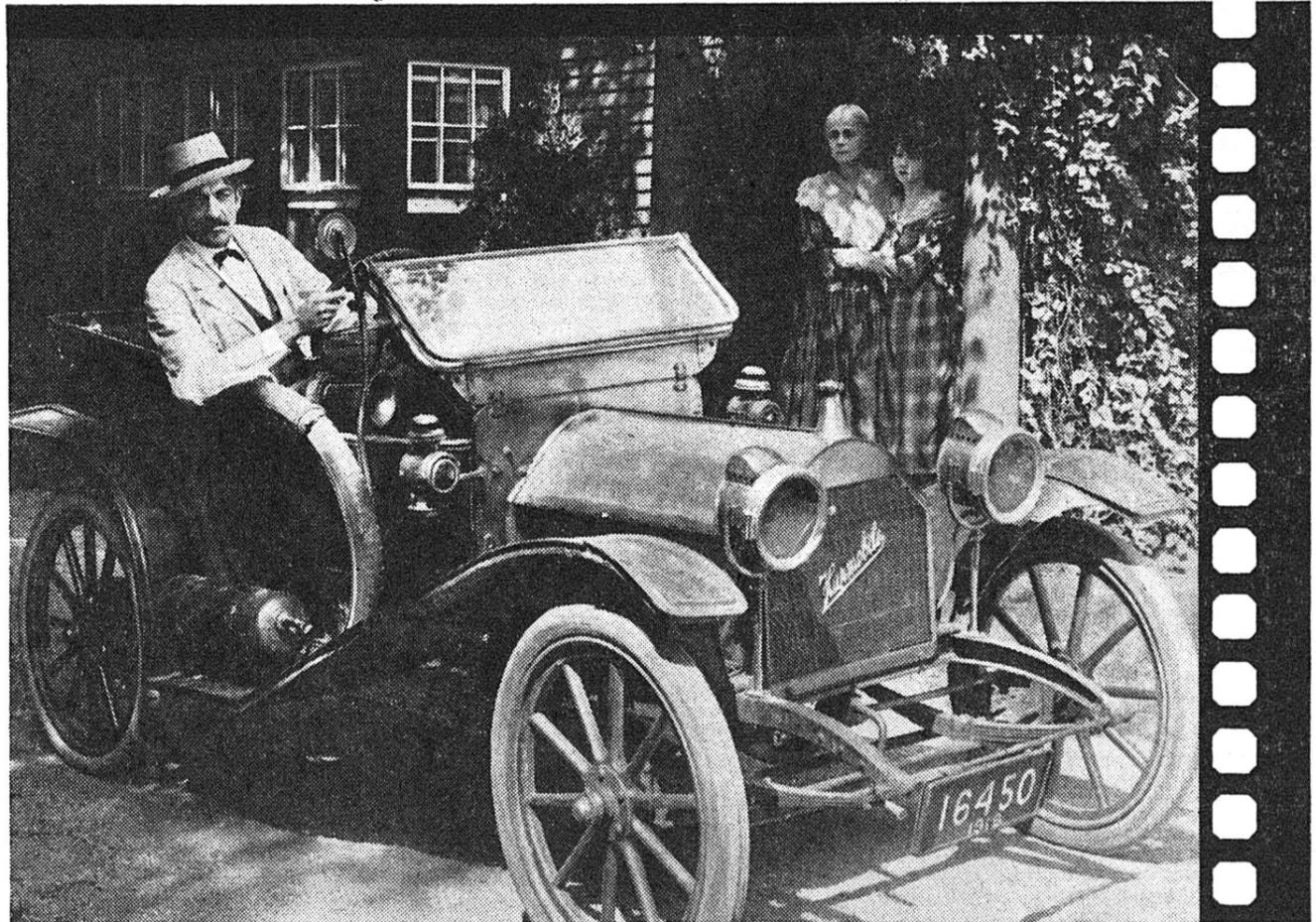
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