

The Madding Crowd Not Too Far From Here

THERE SEEMS to have been a... sometime over the weekend. A rumor has been flying indiscriminately...

THE FIRST indication of an... game we noticed was the sudden... cars. Everywhere we turned, someone...

Anywhere, there were a lot of cars... going at top speed where there were... at top speed. Furthermore, everyone...

ELSEWHERE ON campus the... mad swirling pace. Down by the... Government building the cars were...

LATER IN the evening, the... fill up again. Immediately after the... everyone took his car out on the...

The fraternities bounced up... and down and (hic) up and thud... big fraternity court at one of the...

"I haven't got anything to drink!" "What?" "I haven't got anything else to drink!" "Oh, no!" "Oh, yes!"

One Round To Stevenson

A political discussion of the... being inevitable, we wish we could... more speeches like Adlai E. Stevenson...

Former Gov. Stevenson, addressing... sin state Democratic convention, criticized... ministration's farm policy of flexible...

This was not a fire-eating political... was moderate, temperate and... Stevenson tried to grapple with the...

Secretary Benson charged that... has "flatly" rejected flexible price... true—and has called for re-examination...

Is "Brannan plan," then, to be... smear word? Is it impossible for... to discuss rationally why it is not better...

Why is Mr. Benson applying this... to wool, if it is so evil? Why does he... it would involve more "strangling"...

Former Gov. Stevenson, in our... off far ahead in this exchange. He... once again his unique talent for...

Time For Collegiate Athletics To Return To Amateur Standing

Whitney Griswold Sports Illustrated

(Yale University President Whitney Griswold is one of the nation's leading educators. In this article, reprinted in part from Sports Illustrated with permission, Griswold cites the hard facts about college athletics today—that they have been professionalized by spectator pressure. After clearly drawing this accurate picture of the college athletic scene, Griswold offers a solution to the problem.)

(The Daily Tar Heel feels that the Yale President has an answer to this University's big-time athletic problem. And that is why we present this timely article.—Editors)

In some such fashion the question of relationship between athletics and education enters the lives of most American university and college presidents. How did it gain such proportions as it has? How did a handful of liberal arts colleges, during the very time they were growing into universities and assuming the intellectual and moral responsibilities of that status become involved in an intercollegiate enterprise that today owns and manages some 100 major football stadiums, many of which would make their classical prototype, the Roman Colosseum, look like a teacup, with a total season's paid attendance of 15 million and aggregate receipts of over \$40 million—not to mention basketball arenas with an attendance of 8 million and baseball diamonds, track field and rowing facilities in proportion? College football attendance is roughly equal to major league baseball's, and exceeds professional football's by five times. How did all this start? What is it doing to our colleges and universities and what can they do about it?

It started in the love of sport, which anthropology has traced to nearly every people and country in the world, and archaeologists have pushed far back into the pre-Christian era. As modern team sports developed in colleges of the undergraduates, which still occasionally spill over in campus riots, were channeled into organized athletics. English and American colleges, with their common attachment to the classics of ancient Greece, found in these specific sanction for physical training as part of the education process. The very fact that the new sports were organized

petition as intensive as their rivalry on the field and differing from professional baseball only in its pretensions of amateurism. Competitive methods varied from outright awards of room, board, tuition and other prerequisites, such as automobiles and spending allowances, to disguised subsidies by alumni; from artificial majors in physical education and even false enrollments in college to individual favors and dispensations by boards of admission, and eligibility and scholarship committees.

This, I think, is the real evil organized athletics inflicted upon our colleges and universities. To label it "over-emphasis" barely scratches its surface. Undue deference to spectators has led the colleges to default to a certain extent on their professional competence, to forfeit a measure of their proper authority over their own affairs. This was tantamount to a surrender of academic freedom on the athletic field while this was being defended in the classroom.

These principles were not foisted upon our colleges and universities. They grew out of their intrinsic character. Through them the colleges, in addition to devising and refining the techniques of so many of our athletic sports, contributed largely to their moral value to us as a nation. Moreover, the collegiate influence transcended its own sphere to make itself strongly felt through its code of sportsmanship in professional athletics. These, too, have a stake in its survival. When a professional team overcomes a handicap or comes from behind to win against seemingly impossible odds, sportswriters often call it "a Frank Merriwell finish" or "the old college try."

This is more than sentimental—or satiric—metaphor. It is professionalism at its best, earning its highest professional praise in the language and image of amateurism. The colleges have been seduced away from these principles by spectators who as parents and citizens are their ultimate beneficiaries.

Do I exaggerate the evil? I do not think so. Standards that should be pure have been compromised and corrupted, and this is common knowledge among our college students and their faculties. Deliberate departures from principle of this sort cannot fail to damage the reputation of an institution consecrated to truth and excellence by its very charter. Upholding one ideal of truth as applied to education and another as applied to athletics has already caused woeful moral and intellectual confusion in the minds of young men who found themselves subjected to such double standards, not to mention cynicism and disgust in the

educational institution is education. The main purposes of organized athletics are recreation and exercise. Both of these are essential to good work in education as in every other calling. Neither is a substitute for such work, much less its equal or its master. This suggests a line of demarcation, a watershed, on one side of which organized athletics serve the cause of education while on the other they hurt it; and it further suggests that it is the duty of each educational institution to draw that line and defend it. This, after all, is asking no more of educational institutions than the Pure Food and Drug Act requires of the manufacturers of those products or, for that matter than a major league manager might ask of his players if they keep skipping batting practice to study history.

From the standpoint of athletics as well as education the fact has logical consequences. The aspiration of most American colleges has been to achieve the standing if not the shape and size of universities, and the aspiration of most American universities has been to do full justice to that status. In its original and proper meaning the word university signifies standards—the highest standards of integrity and quality pertaining to their activities anywhere in society. Any trifling with those standards, however slight or for whatever expedient reason, is a contradiction in terms.

Since these standards can apply to everything a university does, they apply to athletics as well as to education. The application of the standards to college and university athletics was twofold. In the first place, they were to be amateur athletics, a principle early laid down by the colleges and periodically reaffirmed by their presidents, governing boards, athletic directors, coaches and team captains, as well as by their various rules committees and intercollegiate associations. The principle was first and last a players' concept. It said nothing about the entertainment of spectators or the raising of college revenue, and it expressly forbade participation for financial or other material remuneration.

The second standard is succinctly stated in the preamble to the revised Ivy Group Agreement of 1954 for organized athletic programs: In the total life of the campus

the colleges a new lease on life, and exciting, enjoyable and much more healthful alternative to previous forms of student recreation. They released new energies, infused undergraduate life with new unity and zeal—which, if not prima facie assets to higher education, certainly strengthened the foundations of the colleges as residential communities. As long as organized athletics remained within the bounds of amateurism they imparted its object lessons and its values to the whole community. In these ways they served the general interests of the colleges, educational as well as social. They have become so much a part of college life that it is hard to conceive of that life without them, even harder to imagine what might take their place.

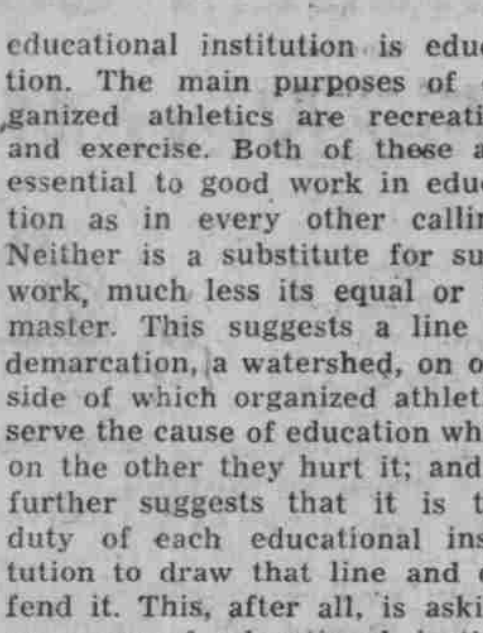
Wherein lies the evil? For a time some of it stemmed from playing rules, particularly those of football (which once resembled legalized mayhem); but these have been so much improved as virtually to eliminate this source of trouble. The real evil, the one that has been but scotched not yet killed, lay not in the actual playing or organized athletic sports but in the managing of them.

Managing them was a responsibility that reached out much more widely into other areas than drafting and supervising their playing rules did. Managing them meant, or soon came to mean, catering to spectators as well as to participants. It meant not merely providing players with proper instruction and equipment, scheduling trips and keeping the books on playing expenses, but calculating grand strategy, staging and producing contests that rapidly assumed the character (and dimensions) of public spectacles, scouting, recruiting and fielding players equal to these public responsibilities—and at the same time ensuring that the academic life of each particular institution continued to prosper. The sheer weight of this problem fell heavily upon a group of institutions inexperienced in such matters and on the whole ill-equipped to deal with them. Most colleges and universities were conscientiously trying to improve their academic standards and many were succeeding in that effort. But as the standards rose, so did the demand for athletic victories and championships, and the two were not always consistent. It was as though the major league baseball teams were suddenly put under levy to win not only the pennants but also Rhodes Scholarships and Nobel Prizes.

To the solution of the problem, more over, organized athletics brought not cool heads and collected thoughts but the passions of tribal warfare. These were normal enough to the extent that they reflected the competitive spirit of players and their undergraduate supporters. But there was something that gave them an abnormal force. This was the growing interest of spectators and the tendency of the colleges to cater to and commercialize that interest. To the colleges this meant a new source of revenue as well as (they hoped) a new focus of alumni loyalty and public support. To the spectators it meant excitement, thrills, broken records and victories.

THE PRESSURE MOUNTS The bargain seemed like a natural one at the time it was struck, mutually profitable and beneficial. Yet it soon imposed on the colleges hidden costs and unforeseen consequences. To keep up revenue and, presumably, alumni loyalty, winning teams were necessary; to be sure of winning teams competent players had to be recruited. If such players required financial inducements, the inducements had to be provided. If academic or amateur standards stood in the way, standards had to be compromised.

Bit by bit as the possibilities of revenue-producing sports were exploited, other sports, which meant virtually all save basketball, were budgeted against football. Each budgetary item thus added increased the pressure on coaches, players, athletic directors, presidents and governing boards to maintain the winning teams that ensured the gate receipts. As the game grew more specialized and the market for players more competitive, the colleges and universities found themselves in a managerial con-



William T. Polk

William T. Polk, whose death came Sunday in Washington, D. C., where he was attending a conference of the National Editorial Writers Association, was editor of the Tar Heel in its youth.

His tenure came in an early, but unquestionably golden, age. Within a few years before and after World War I, Polk, Thomas Wolfe and Jonathan Daniels, now editor of the Raleigh News and Observer, sat in the editor's chair. That was in the days when the editor often wrote the whole newspaper himself, and we recall that in one of our last conversations with Mr. Polk, he told us about his troubles with a picayunish shop-man who periodically tore the whole paper up and started again, just before press time.

As attorney, short-story writer and essayist, but particularly as a witty, erudite, searching editorial writer for The Greensboro Daily News (which he served as Associate Editor for a decade and a half), his name will not soon be lost to memory.

The thing we liked most about Mr. Polk was his fortunate, enlightening combination of journalism and scholarship. He knew classics, literature, history, and the lore of the South, which he dearly loved, and his native state, which he loved even more. He never saw passing events superficially; everything current was, for him, part of a continuum of history and the arts; and the fear (possessed by too many journalists, it seems to us) of appearing over-erudite never bothered him. If he wanted to quote from Buddha or Luc retius he quoted; and the fine thing about it was that the quotation was never strained or far-fetched.

He was never able to get far away from his love and understanding of the classics. At our last visit in his office he had been thumbing through a worn copy of Thucydides. Senator Knowland's gyrations over the Formosa issue were disturbing him; like others, he saw a portentous historical parallel between Knowland and the Greek, Alcibiades, who finally led the Athenians to ruin in the Peloponnesian War.

Mr. Polk liked to quote the great words; but seldom did those great words have anything more pertinent than his own to add to a situation. He gained nationwide attention as a scholar and critic of the South, particularly of the Old South in conflict or complement with the New. His latest, and since 1954 perhaps his biggest, editorial project had been the Supreme Court Decision on public school education. He wrote soundly and lucidly, as always, on that crisis; and it was not necessary always to agree with what he said to know that he made a staggering contribution to the moderate cause in the great debate.

North Carolina has reason to be proud of her newspapers — and particularly of the enlightened and progressive attitudes which most of their editorial pages reflect. They are worthy mirrors of the best that is in her and hoped for her; and Mr. Polk's contribution to them was not a small one.

Athletics & Integrity

College athletics have not been overemphasized—but rather overrun by catering to spectators.

That's the basic theme developed by Yale University President Whitney Griswold in the Sports Illustrated article reprinted in the adjoining columns. And, it so happens, this is precisely what The Daily Tar Heel has been pointing out about the Carolina big-time athletic scene.

As the Yale President puts it: "To label it 'over-emphasis' barely scratches its surface. Undue deference to spectators has led the colleges to default to a certain extent their professional competence, to forfeit a measure of their proper authority over their own affairs. This was tantamount to a surrender of academic freedom on the athletic field while this was being defended in the classroom."

Such a situation has developed here at the University, and if we are to maintain our academic integrity, it must cease.

The Daily Tar Heel

The official student publication of the Publications Board of the University of North Carolina, where it is published daily except Monday and examination and vacation periods and summer terms. Entered as second class matter in the post office in Chapel Hill, N. C., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates: mailed, \$4 per year, \$2.50 a semester; delivered, \$6 a year, \$3.50 a semester.

Editors LOUIS KRAAR, ED YODER
Managing Editor FRED POWLEDGE
News Editor JACKIE GOODMAN
Business Manager BILL BOB PEELE
Associate Editor J. A. C. DUNN

