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ENGINEERS IN SPORTS

By FENWICK and MYERS

Don Scott—Versatile Athlete

IN the Sophomore class of Engineering this year is one of the most publicized first year men the Bucks have had for a decade. He is none other than nineteen year old Don Scott. Scott has all the qualifications of a great star, weighing 210, standing 6'2" in sox, and fast—despite rumors to the contrary.

Don hails from Stark County—up where Canton and Massillon annually dominate the schoolboy football situation. More pigskin stars are produced in that section per square foot than anywhere else in the country. Scott helped his team, the Canton McKinley Bulldogs, to be runners-up for the State championship on two consecutive years—both times being defeated only by Massillon. Just before his final contest in high school, Scott was injured and unable to play. Sitting on the bench, he watched his team take a humiliating 21-0 licking at the hands of the snarling Massillon Tigers for the State crown.

Undoubtedly all of you have heard of Scott's football prowess, yet few know that this "sliderule slipper" is able to more than hold his own in basketball and baseball as well. Yes, versatile is the word for Don. In high school he played on the team which for two consecutive years was a contender for the state basketball toga. Once they reached the finals and again the semi-finals. Scott played an integral role in his team's

drive toward the pinnacle. Last year he played on the Ohio Freshmen quintet, and perhaps this season we will see him cavorting on the varsity hardwoods. His height and ruggedness make him a prospect of Big Ten calibre.

Don Scott's baseball reputation has for the most part been established while with the Louisville American Legion team. Being aided by his catching, the nine advanced to the final round of the legion tourney. Here they were bewildered and defeated by a young pitcher named James Sexton, the same fellow who has of late been tossing the cowhide (not pigskin) for the Bucks. Last season Scott played on the Frosh baseball team, and next spring will take a crack at varsity competition—which all summed up says that Don Frank Scott will be one busy boy this school year, what with football, baseball, basketball, physics, calculus, etc., on the program.

Returning to football, which after all has made him famous in the sports world, we should find it of interest to learn Don's opinion of opposing players.

He says, "Opposing linemen are hard to rate since several are in on every tackle. However, backfield stars are easier to distinguish, for during the game each at some time is on his own. In my opinion Lansdell of U. S. C. and Nicholson of Indiana are the standouts. Lansdell's specialty is speed, while Nicholson is just an all around thorn in any opposing line."

The most thrilling moment in an athlete's career is a point all sports commentators harp upon. Usually a player picks on his latest feat as the one in which he takes most pride. Don Scott, however, goes back to his Junior year at McKinley to name his favorite play. His team was tusseling Massillon for the State title. In the last few moments of play with Massillon on the long end of a 6-0 count, he blocked a punt and fell on it near the Tiger payoff marker. This was at the time when his chief distinction was being an All-Ohio tackle.

Since early in his Freshman year Scott has been accorded nation-wide publicity for his promise of being a potential gridiron great. Last spring in the intra-squad tangle his performance was particularly brilliant and outstanding. He broke through the opposing line at will for lengthy gains and also showed promise of becoming quite a passer. Football fans everywhere looked forward to the time when Don Scott would make Ohio State again the feared "Scarlet Scourge". The season is too young at this writing for an opinion as to what measure of accomplishment has been attained. Thus far Scott has been a bulwark on defense and has impressed with his line bucking ability.

Off the athletic field we find Don a likable fellow who as a Senior in high school was elected vice-president of a class of 1000 students. Here at State last year in the Survey of Engineering assembly, he was selected along with Ted McQuaid as the most outstanding among Freshmen engineers. This citation speaks for itself as to his popularity with fellow students.

Being only a Sophomore, Scott has not made definite plans for his future work. However, he admitted, "Upon graduating I would like to enter engineering practice, but would consider a 'palm greasing' pro-football offer."

James Sexton

Another football-playing engineer who needs no introduction to Ohio State football fans is James Sexton, the Buck's passer and punter deluxe from Middletown, Ohio. Here we have a player who has had a tough assignment to fill and has handled it capably. Jim not only has had the handicap of being required to live up to a pre-season buildup, but also has had to compete with Co-captain Mike Kabealo for the quarterback post. Kabealo, because of his experience as well as ability has, of course, been given the nod over Sexton for the starting role, but Jimmy has been in there fighting a large part of every game. We all agree that for a Sophomore he has done well, and that Ohio State's quarterbacking will be handled capably for two years to come.

Jim lost no time in living up to his reputation this year. In the first game of the season you will remember that it was Sexton who shot that game winning pass to Don Scott for the Ohio State 6-0 victory over Indiana. This and other things have kept Sexton's reputation

equal to that built up by advance notice, and now when we see that player wearing the scarlet jersey with the big white five on the back running out on the field, we sit up on the edge of our seats because we know that there will be some action on the part of the Ohio State team.

Of course, the critics had a reason to expect a fine brand of football from Jim. Any player with a high-school record like his should be expected to make good. During two of the three years of Jim's high school football career his team was undefeated and unscored upon partly due to Jim's capable work as captain and quarterback.

Jim also starred in high school basketball, and he is an amateur baseball pitcher of some renown. Perhaps his first noteworthy athletic achievement came when he pitched the Middletown American Legion baseball team to the state championship several years ago.

Incidentally, Jim's love for baseball is second to nothing. Although we know him as a football player, he has shown considerable baseball-playing ability for a nineteen-year-old rookie. Jim chose spring football over baseball last year, but we know that it would help the Ohio State baseball team a great deal if Sexton were available to take his turn on the mound when next season gets underway.

When we asked Jim what he was going to do after graduation, we expected one of two answers. We thought he would either get a job as a metallurgical engineer, or he would go into professional football. He crossed us up, however, when he said he was going into professional baseball. He agreed that the baseball players' working hours of from two to four for six months a year were pretty good: especially for a pitcher, who will be called upon to perform not more than one day out of four during the season. Then there is the little matter of cash remuneration with which the professional baseball players are by no means slighted.

By this time we wonder what Sexton is doing in engineering anyway. Anyone with such a promising future in professional athletics should have nothing to worry about as far as a career is concerned. But Jim says he likes metallurgy and agrees that professional athletes can't go on forever. We need only to look at examples such as the Dean brothers and Schoolboy Rowe to see what can happen to that good right arm. Anyway, competition is keen among professional athletes, and when Jim slows up a bit, he will always have a career as a metallurgical engineer to fall back on.

Of course, the time when Jim is too slow for athletics is too far in the future to realize. Now he can be considered to be only a young man in his teens with a great future ahead of him, and there seems to be no reason why he shouldn't develop into an even better athlete than he is now.

Anyway here's hoping that his passes are straighter and faster as time goes on, and when he enters baseball, may the ball he throws never touch a bat.