Professional in College Athletics

The following is taken from Tuesday’s Daily Republican.

The Iowa Daily, a weekly newspaper published at Iowa City, Iowa, contains an editorial section recently charging the University, consisting of four professors and two national institutions of learning of recognizing professionalism in college sports. The University, located at Iowa City, is a public institution.

The charges of the editorial are

- Professionalism in college athletics
- The University’s failure to recognize professional athletes
- The Iowa Daily’s stance against professionalism

The University, on the other hand, is responding to the charges of professionalism in college sports. The University argues that

- Professionalism is not a concern in college sports
- The Iowa Daily’s editorial is unwarranted
- The University is committed to upholding ethical standards in college athletics

The debate continues as both parties present their arguments in the public forum of the Iowa Daily and the University. The issue of professionalism in college athletics remains a central topic of discussion in the educational community.
The success achieved in the two debates this year is probably the cause of the general desire to engage in more contests of the same sort. All that has been said with regard to the benefit derived from contests like those held this year is undoubtedly true, but ere we engage in any great number of such debates it should be made as to the effect. There is unquestionably enough material in the society to furnish quite as interesting a contest with some other university as those at present included in the league. Indeed, with the aid of the Law Society there would be no difficulty in securing enough representatives for several more debates. But the consideration which is of great importance, and which is not so easily met, is the cost. The expense of holding both preliminary and final contests is much greater than usually supposed, and until some reliable source of income can be provided the wisdom of giving out the present tendency may be questioned.

It is encouraging to note that the popularity of debate is increasing considerably. The large audience which attended the Chicago contest almost paid the expense. Nevertheless it would be quite a serious matter to undertake a contest with an insertion further away, as the expense must be proportionally increased. The societies as now managed do excellent work, but they should consider the matter of increased expenditure very gravely ere undertaking further conquests.

The much vexed question as to what constitutes professionalism in athletics receives some attention from the editor of the Unit in the last issue of that worthy paper. This special article was called forth by the action of the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Association in re-instating Mr. Pratt of S. U. I. The editor concludes that no power can make an amateur out of a professional, and thus objects to Mr. Pratt’s taking part in the coming State Meet. In view of the recent declaration of Mr. Pratt, published in Tuesday’s VIDETTE-REPORTER, the discussion would appear unnecessary. We fear, however, in view of circumstances well known to the Unit, that the object in view is rather the exclusion of a man of excellent promise than the securing of a purely amateur meet. No matter what strained construction of technical language may plainly prove, it must remain quite apparent that the intent of the rules regarding professionalism would in no sense be violated by the admission of the gentleman in question to the meet.

We hope a satisfactory disposition of the case will be secured ultimately, but in fairness to Mr. Pratt the action of the association must be awaited ere he can be termed a professional. One thing seems very marked in this matter; however, were the same spirit of fairness present in the consideration of the case which characterized the action of Mr. Pratt in voluntarily furnishing the information which is now used against him, he would ere this have been declared an amateur, or at least such articles as the one referred to would be limited to journals of less repute.

Ninety-two of Yale’s alumni have been college presidents.

LeLand Stanford University of California has a volunteer fire company composed of students. Its purpose is to train the men in case of any emergency, as no regular company is near the university. The monotony of proceedings around the college is often broken by false signals given at unexpected times in order to drill the men.

The Stanford track team will go to Chicago to represent California in the Western Intercollegiate contests on June 6. An application has been made for membership in the Western Intercollegiate Association, and on June 1 the team will start for Chicago.
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Fact and Rumor.

S. E. Shambaugh, of Clinton, is in

the city to-day.

The Hammond Law Senate Intend
to give a banquet in the near future.

Professor Patrick gave his class in

Psychology an examination this morn-

ing.

Walt Hoie, L 96, was a sufferer from

nervousgia the fore part of the

week.

Mrs. H. Hart, of Postville, was the guest of

C. G. Burling the first of

the week.

Miss Ozias, a member of '97 at S.

U. l. last year, is now a Sophomore

at the University of Minnesota.

The Muscatine High School boys

passed through the city to-day on

their way to Cedar Rapids.

Professor Loos will address the stud-

ents and Faculty of the Iowa State

College at Ames Sunday, May 24.

Gus Touncil, the efficient janitor of

the University buildings, “Jimmie’s"

companion, is confined to his room by

illness.

P. W. Beckman has accepted a po-

tion as field expert with the Deer-

ing Harvest Co. for the coming

summer.

Tabur initiated the following six

last night: Professor and Mrs. Pat-

rick, Professor and Mrs. Weis, Miss

Alice Chase and Miss Bath Poston.

The trip of the base ball team to

Aimes and Omaha has been declared

off until the completion of the Omaha

management in cancelling their game.

CALL ON BLOOM & MAYER FOR CLOTHING AND HATS.
The dual athletic meet between S. U. I. and Iowa College will be held in Grinnell, Saturday, May 23. A large delegation from here will be in attendance. Starbuck has a good chance to win the bicycle events, as Spalding of Grinnell, has been suspended by the national L. A. W., for three months, for riding in a race without the sanction of the league.

It was Crum, the Iowa wonder, who outran every college sprinter who was brought against him last summer. St. Cloud, Minn., claims to have a young man who is to break the record this year. His name is James H. Maxby, and he is a student at the Wisconsin University. He has improved very much since his contact with Crum last summer. If the Iowa boy's time is to be beaten the Democrat would rather see it done by a Minnesota, led by one of those eastern follows.—Davenport Democrat.

College Notes.

In the baseball series between Harvard and Princeton since 1875, Harvard has won twenty-eight games, Princeton fifteen, and two have been tied.

Miss Helen Glaspode, in an article on the admission of women to the Cambridge degree, calls attention to the fact that no fewer than six Cambridge colleges were founded by women for men.

The tendency of modern athleticism is to overvalue results, to carry rivalry to an extreme, forgetting that the benefitting of the body lies at the foundation of athletics. This same spirit in different guise now rules college athletics. Specialization sets the standard of ability so high that only the strongest men—the men who really need athletics far less than the weaker ones—are encouraged to train.

The University of Pennsylvania in again the recipient of a large gift of money, and this latest example of generosity comes from one who has already given much, both in time and money, to aid in the development of the educational resources of this institution. Mr. Thomas McKee, of the class of '92, who has within the past few years made two gifts to the university of fifty thousand dollars each, now gives one hundred thousand dollars more, to be used at the discretion of the Board of Trustees, and as a condition of this gift, Provost Harris undertakes the task of raising another million dollars within a certain specified time. This magnificent increase in Pennsylvania's financial resources will go far toward relieving some of her most pressing needs, and there is none of it which is not imperatively needed in more than one direction.—The Pennsylvania.

Notice.

There will be a meeting of the Tennis Association tonight at Cute Hall at 7 o'clock. Arrangements will be made for holding a tournament, and a full attendance is desired.

J. A. Devitt.

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