

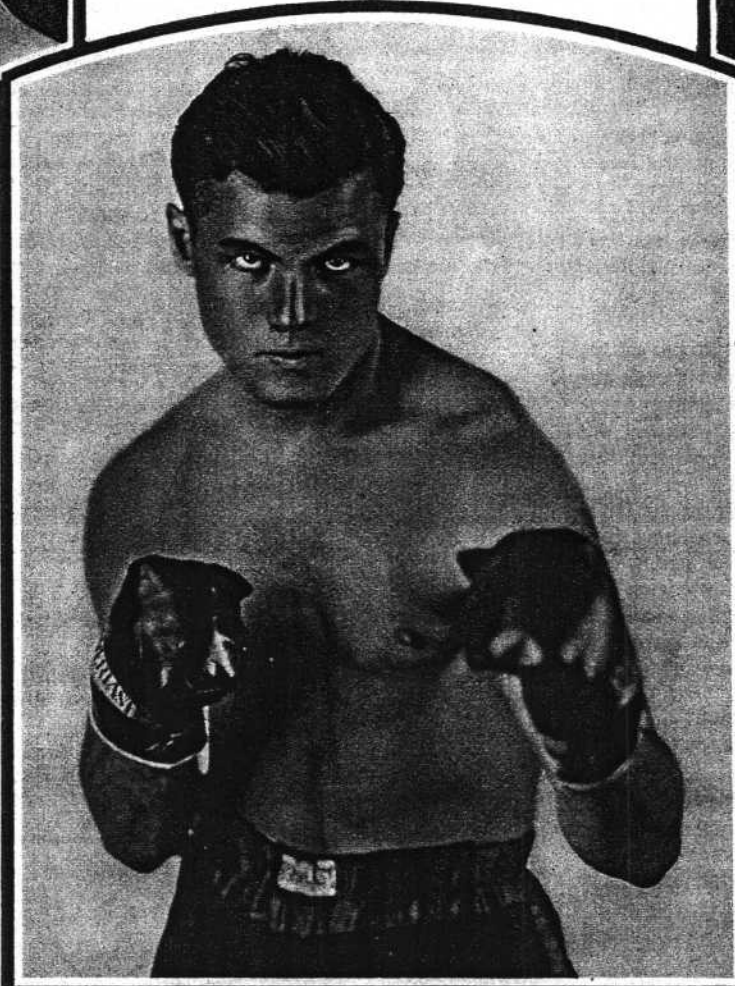
THOSE CAMPUS WOWS



Monte Munn, Nebraska football star, who could punch and take it, but lacked speed



Allie Woolf, another Penn State athlete who may yet develop into a top notcher



Steve Hamas, best collegiate heavyweight prospect turned out in years

THE remarkable rise of wrestling as entertainment for the sports loving public has been coincident with the appearance in the professional mat game of numerous collegians.

The names of Dynamite Gus Sonnenberg of Dartmouth, Don George of Michigan, Jim McMillen of Illinois, Herb Freeman of the College of the City of New York, and Sandor Szabo of Budapest University are featured in almost every major wrestling carnival to which the fans flock by thousands.

Others, moving up as replacements, have not yet achieved stardom but probably will have their names in the lights in a year or so, fellows like Jumping Joe Savoldi of Notre Dame and Tiny Roebuck of the Haskell Indian Institute.

Earl McCready of the Oklahoma Agricultural College, Firpo Wilson of Oklahoma University, Dr. Ralph Wilson of Indiana, Billy Bartush of Ohio State, Billy Middlekauf of Florida, Paul Harter of Dallas University, Dick Daviscount of the Franklin (Calif.) Normal College and Harold Cornsweet of Brown are doing yeoman service on the mat, fattening their own bank-rolls and entertaining a sports-loving public.

Here and there in the past a collegian rose to prominence in the wrestling game. Dr. Roller, contemporaneous with Gotch and Hackenschmidt, held degrees from DePauw, Indiana and Pennsylvania universities. He worked his way through school by washing dishes and doing other odd jobs and at the same time learning to wrestle under the tutelage of college athletic instructors. Wayne (Big) Munn of Nebraska followed years later.

But it is only of late that the collegians have entered the mat sport in mass formation. It seems there must be some connection between the sudden popularity of the sport and

the appearance of the collegians.

At this writing wrestling has taken the play away from boxing to such an extent that fistic promoters are beginning to wonder what it is all about. If, as seems likely, the influx of collegiate figures has whipped up interest in wrestling, can the sock market be revived by a blood transfusion of a similar nature?

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I ASKED a well-known wrestling promoter how much the collegians had helped wrestling. He waxed enthusiastic.

"Gus Sonnenberg of Dartmouth has done more for wrestling than any other single individual," said this promoter. "Gus recruited a new and enthusiastic class of patronage. Those who have followed him from the college campus have heightened it. The game has taken on an entirely new aspect."

Jack Curley, New York mat impresario who has several times sold out Madison Square Garden with his wrestling spectacles, was asked if he deemed it likely the collegians would ever play such important roles in boxing as they now fill in the grappling sport.

Curley is doubtful.

"There is a great deal of difference," he says. "In wrestling it is a much more simple matter to bring along a promising collegian. A defeat on the mat does not leave such an impression on the physical and mental makeup of the athlete as a knockout in boxing.

"One knockout does more harm than the loss of thirty pin falls. There is no especial shock to the nervous system in wrestling. It is different in a fight. One knockout may ruin a promising boxer. Two or three early knockouts usually are fatal to a boxer's chances. Wrestlers never become punch drunk. Fighters do, whether they come from the gutter or the campus."