

62 Yard Pass Play Against Notre Dame Greatest Thrill

ED: Do you have any suggestions as to how to improve school spirit in some of these sports where we could raise our average a little?

CARL: I don't have any suggestions as to how. I do think that it does need improving. I know right now our baseball team is in sort of a slump and we need a lot of moral support from the student body. I hope that in the future we'll be able to get back in a winning streak. But we really need the support now.

ED: Carl, do you ever worry about what would happen to you if you were permanently injured on the playing field?

CARL: I tell you, here at the University, if you are injured you will not lose your scholarship. You will have it for all your four years. You will be able to go ahead and get our education. I think that that is a wonderful assurance. A boy can come up here and know, if he is injured while he is playing, that he will be able to go ahead and finish his college education.

ED: I think the fact that no athlete has ever received a crippling injury speaks well for Coach Wilkinson and his staff.

CARL: I think that the coaching staff wants to win. But I don't believe that they want to win at all costs. I don't think that they would play a person that had a chance of becoming permanently injured.

ED: Because of your activities in football and baseball, do you feel that you have missed any other college activities that you would liked to have participated in?

CARL: I don't think that I have. I think that football and baseball have both given me a lot of opportunities that I should be thankful for. I have been able to travel, and see a lot of things that I would not have otherwise been able to see. I feel that this has definitely added to my education.

ED: Carl, there are some people on the campus that feel that athletes are just a little apart or perhaps a good deal apart from the other students. Perhaps the athletes have the feeling that they are apart from other students too. Do you have such a feeling or do you think that there is such a feeling among the boys on the various squads?

CARL: I don't believe that there is. Some of my best friends are boys that are not participating in athletics, and I think

just as much of them as I do of the athletes.

ED: Carl, what was your biggest thrill as an athlete here at O.U.?

CARL: Well, I think my biggest thrill was catching a pass that Buddy Leake threw to me against the University of Notre Dame. I ran 62 yards, but I was caught from behind and didn't score. I think that was my biggest thrill.

ED: Considering all the time that your athletic activities take, the hours you have to put in on your studies to maintain your grades, tell me, just why does anyone want to play a sport at the University?

CARL: Well, I think that everyone can see that it does take long hours and hard work. I think that if an athlete wanted to he could probably quit the sport and get a job downtown, and make as much if not more than he can get on an athletic scholarship. But I believe that you have a desire that you want to play, and you want to show yourself and other people that you are able to play. I believe that the desire is the most important factor.

ED: If you had it to do all over again, would you do it the same way?

CARL: I definitely would, and I would advise others to do it the same way.

ED: You feel that the enjoyment you get out of football and baseball is well worth the effort and extra work?

CARL: That's right. That is probably the most important reason why a boy is willing to pay the price that it takes to be good. And I might also point out that, if a boy is going to play football or baseball or any other sport, he should try to do the best that he can. It definitely will take a lot of hard work.

ED: In looking at your future plans in the coaching field, do you feel you have earned a Master's degree by having played under Coach Wilkinson?

CARL: I feel I have had the greatest teacher in America today. I think that if you want to apply yourself you can learn more from Coach Wilkinson than anyone else. I believe that he is definitely one of the best teachers of the game today. He teaches sportsmanship and he also teaches you to be a gentleman. I think that is important.

ED: Carl, you have already discussed why O.U. gets so many of the top football

players. Do you feel that the coaching staff is responsible for this as much as anything else?

CARL: They are important. When a boy meets a coach, usually the first impression will stick with him. And you just can't meet Coach Wilkinson without liking him. And that goes for the rest of the coaching staff as well. I think that is one of the most important reasons why a lot of boys come to school at Oklahoma.

Hal Muldrow, Jr.

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