

The Little Fellow

5/21/41

If the average sports fan was told "there is athletic discrimination at Southern California" he would look up and laugh. To John Q. Public, who watches the representatives of Troy perform, the athlete is sacred. His name is usually a household word, and his deeds are spoken of with reverence and awe.

Naturally, this same John Q. Public believes this condition exists in the athlete's own school as well as other places. Little does he realize that in an institution, which has gained some of its fame through the deeds of its athletes, a large number of them are ignored.

Recently the Trojan club and the Trojaneers held a banquet in honor of Jeff Cravath, former line coach at SC. Guests at the dinner were senior members of the track, football, basketball, and baseball squads.

Where were the representatives from the various minor sports? Why wasn't Troy's array of senior tennis players, swimmers, ruggers, and hockey players invited to the affair?

The reasoning behind the actions of the Trojan club seems to imply that minor sports athletes are not worthy of comparison with the major and therefore they do not deserve the same privileges. Can an athlete's worth be judged by the amount of publicity the school receives through his performances or by his ability in his own sports, no matter in what field he competes?

Even minor athletes in major sports enjoy honors which are unknown to major athletes in minor sports. The third-string Spartan football player receives preference over the conference swimming champion.

Does it necessarily mean that because an athlete is competing in a major sport he works harder or deserves more recognition than the minor sport participant?—F.M.N.