

Mike Greene . . . A. U. Star

by Tom Knapp '44

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Mike came to Alfred from Carmel, N. Y., on the recommendation of a loyal Alfred alumnus. He had acquired quite a reputation as an athlete and yet found time to study enough to win a state scholarship. Mike wasted no time in showing his potentialities. He broke an ankle in Frosh football but recovered fully in time to shatter the Freshman shot put and discus records. Every Spring since he set the current 16 lb. shot and the discus records with heaves of 47' 9" and 144' 3", respectively, but no one is betting that these marks will be standing two months from now. Right now Mike is pointing for his third Middle Atlantic Championships, and the chances are bright that he will come home with a title or two.

On the gridiron Mike made the supreme sacrifice in his junior year without a murmur of protest. He gave up the backfield to become a tackle. And what a tackle! His crashing strong-arm tactics made him virtually a fifth man in the opponents backfield and a man to run around, if possible, and not through.

His offensive value was overlooked by many but the holes opened up by Mike and his sidekick, Reggie Miner, were large enough to drive the proverbial Mack truck through. He also called the strategy in the defensive huddles which Coach Yunevich innovated this year. In his junior year, Mike's fame was restricted to the local area and the opposing linemen, being overshadowed elsewhere by the great Bo Johnson. But this year Mike came into his own with a berth on the New York Herald Tribune's Little All-American team and a contract to play with the professional Detroit Lions.

Football took up the Fall, track occupied him during the Spring, but Mike had nothing to do in the Winter, so he turned his talents to wrestling. Under Coach Yunevich's skillful tute-

lage, he soon became the Alfred ace and is probably better known nationally for his wrestling feats than anything else. Last year he went to the finals of the Tri-State meet before losing out to Porosky of Kent State. This year Mike was again undefeated during the regular season and turned the tables on Porosky by pinning him to take the Tri-State Championship. At the Nationals at Michigan State, Mike was bedeviled by a gruelling schedule and the old Porosky jinx, but emerged as the 4th ranking college wrestler in the country in the unlimited division.

Mike is more than an athlete of outstanding ability. He is also a leader admired and respected by his teammates. He was co-captain of the football team with Pike Trigilio and is the present captain of the track squad. He has what Coach McLane calls, "the perfect temperament". He is quiet, unassuming, eager to learn, cooperative in every respect. Recently he was elected to membership in the honorary Blue Key Society as an expression of his worth to Alfred.