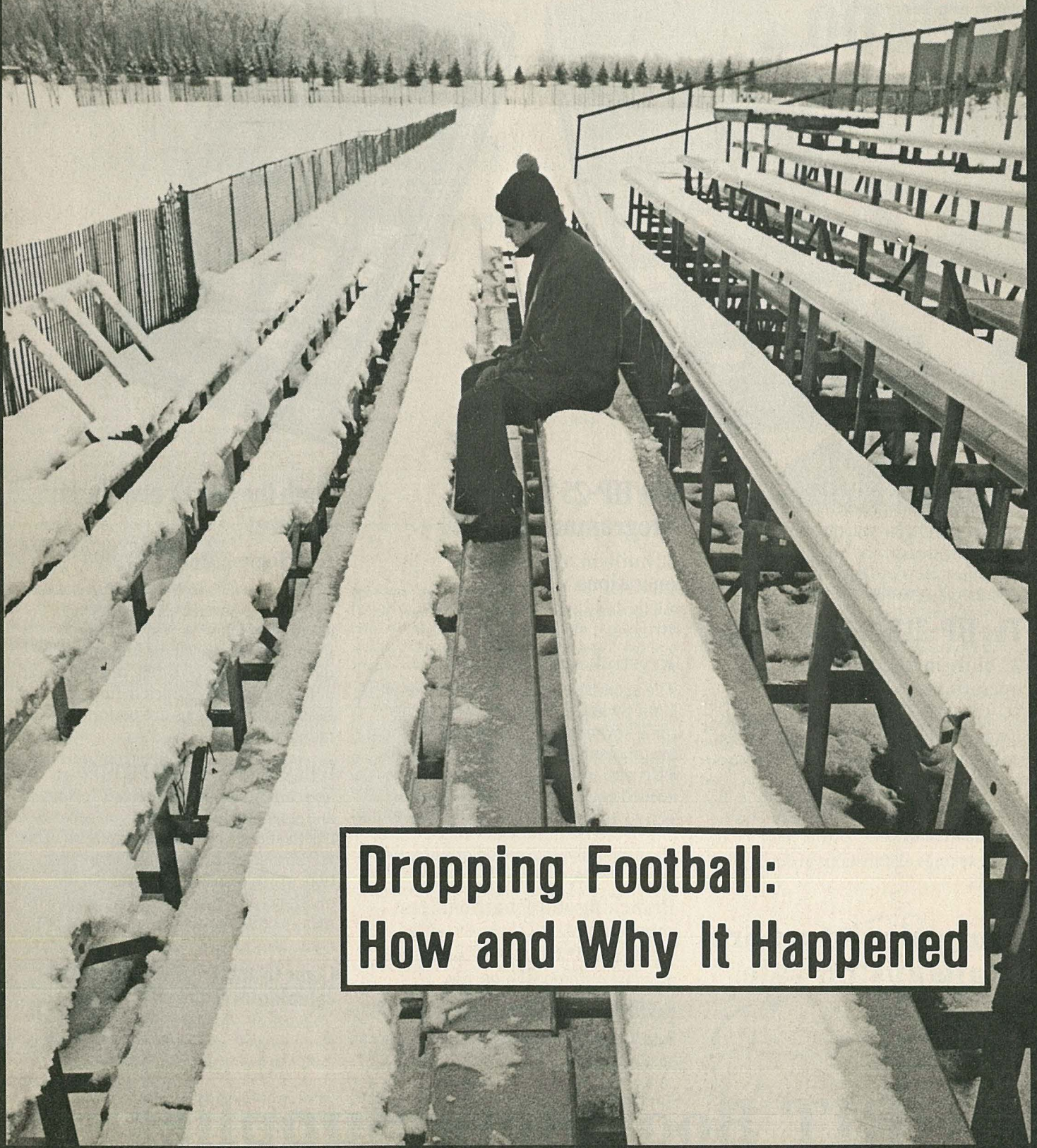


Student Newspapers

REPORTER

January 13, 1978



**Dropping Football:
How and Why It Happened**

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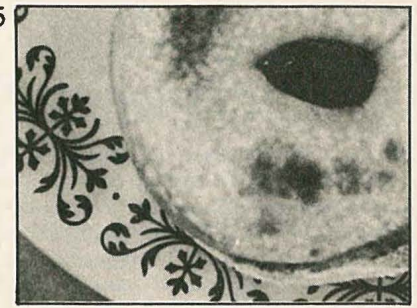
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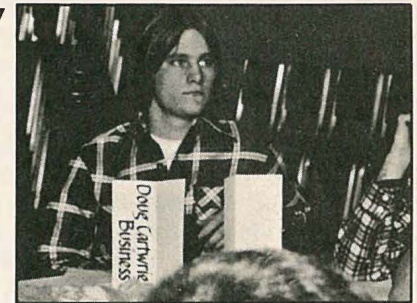
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Cover: Photograph by Kurt Mutchler

REPROFILE

As everyone probably knows by now, RIT's Football program was abruptly dropped in December. Dr. Smith took the action in response to a directive from Dr. Miller, to decide whether to continue the program by 1977. The action is based on some rather good rationale. First, student interest is not behind the football program. Attendance at the games was very low—often the visiting school outnumbered RIT in the stands. Also, the cost of maintaining a Football program is becoming unreasonably high. The Institute spent some \$33,000 supporting the football team this fall. That includes only direct costs such as coaches salaries and equipment and traveling; it does not include such indirect costs as field maintenance. These costs are expected to skyrocket in the near future. The decision included considerations for other teams as well. The funds from football will stay in the Athletic Department, raising the level of funding for other sports.

In this editor's opinion, the decision to drop football was a good one. The method used to arrive at that decision leaves some serious questions in my mind.

The administration failed again to seek student input in the decision-making

process. In an area which so obviously involves the students, not one student was consulted prior to making the announcement. Not one student was asked, "Do you think this is a wise decision?" The administration went on its autocratic way, talking out of both sides of its collective mouth. One side talks about increasing student awareness and involvement by letting them become a part of RIT, while the other side decides to drop football. One side says we must have student representation on the selection committee for the new dean of General Studies, while the other side claims that no student "could represent the diverse interests of the majority of the students in the School of Photography", in their search for a new director.

The inconsistency of the administration in these matters is confusing. For one appointment they allow student input, on another they don't. One major decision goes to the Policy Council where students are represented and another goes to the "Administrative Committee".

Specific guidelines should be drawn for student participation in the decision-making process. It should not be the whim of the administration. There may well be

situations where the students do not have the appropriate expertise to make decisions, or to help make decisions, but certainly the football decision was not one of those times.

* * *

The SA election process is upon us once again. For those of you who are not familiar with the process as it has been bungled in the past, you are in for a treat. There hasn't been an uncontested SA election in years, and I doubt if they'll break that fine tradition this year. What is important about this is that anyone can grow up to be president of SA. Obviously.

Scholarship Endowed

An endowed scholarship of \$150,000, one of the largest the Institute has ever received, has been donated by Mr. and Mrs. Brackett Clark as the Alfred L. and Ruby C. Davis Scholarship Fund.

The scholarship will be used to aid adult students enrolled in the College of Continuing Education and for students who have shown the determination and ability to become dedicated campus leaders.

The gift by the Clarks has been given in conjunction with RIT's 150th Anniversary Campaign. Both the Clarks and the Davises, have been associated with RIT for a number of years. Mr. Brackett Clark was elected to RIT's Board of Trustees in 1933. He has served as treasurer of the Institute for over 30 years. Mr. Alfred Davis has been with RIT since 1938. Serving in various capacities, he was appointed vice-president for development and public relations in 1960 and currently serves as administrative secretary to the Board of Trustees.

According to Mr. Clark, 70 per cent of the annual income from the scholarship fund will be used to aid students in CCE, the remaining 30 per cent to aid students who have shown the ability to become student leaders.

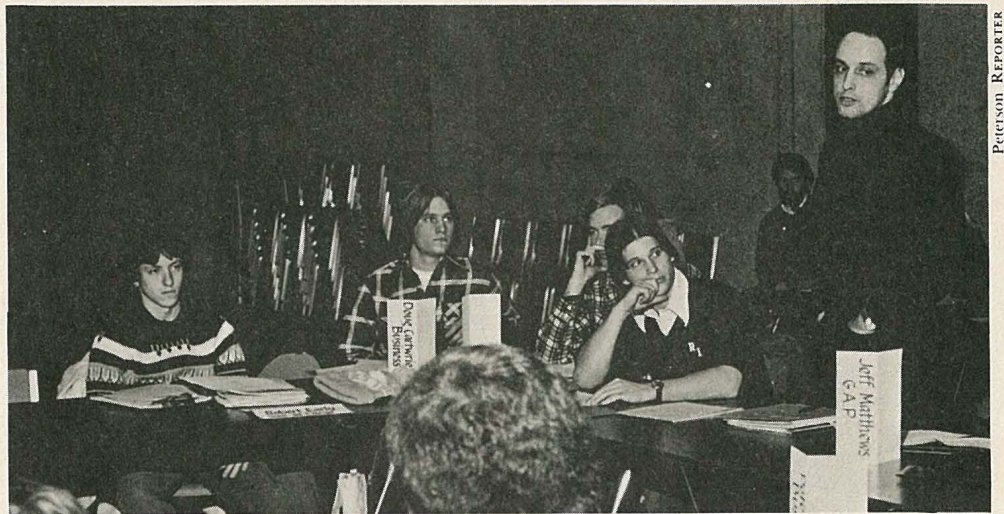
"We have long felt that there is a great need for these specific types of scholarship assistance," explained Mr. Clark, "and that they would be most beneficial to the educational growth of the Institute."

"In our experience at RIT," added Mr. Davis, "we have felt that the special needs of the adult student were of particular importance. The establishment of the scholarship fund, for which we are deeply honored, also enables further support for the needs of student leaders, whom we think deserve special recognition."

Salaries Go Up

If you are a part time student employee of the Institute, you'll be receiving a \$.25 per hour increase in your next paycheck. The \$.25 per hour raise is in compliance with the new federal minimum wage rate. The quarter raise will be given to all student employees in order to keep the present salary spread. This increase will be accomplished automatically with no departmental paperwork required to make the change.

By law, the Institute is eligible to pay its full time students at a rate as low as 35% below the minimum wage or \$2.25. The Institute does not, however, with some students being paid up to \$4.35 per hour. This is the fourth level job with nine quarters of experience in the same department.



Peterson REPORTER

Head Coach Lou Spiotti enlists the aid of the SA Senate.

Spiotti Goes To SA

Members of the defunct RIT football team and Head Coach Lou Spiotti came to the Student Association (SA) Senate asking for support and found exactly what they were looking for. Senate Resolution 27 S/SF passed with only one vote not cast in its favor. The resolution, authored by Mr. Marc Freedman, former senator from the College of Business and present Election Board of Controls (EBC) Chairman, is entitled, *Discontinued Varsity Football*. The major aim of the bill is that the "intercollegiate football program be reviewed and considered for reinstatement."

The Institute cited financial problems as one reason for dropping the football program. Coach Spiotti and members of the 1977 football team presented their case to the Senate, arguing that the Institute was not taking the funds out of the athletic budget but just reappropriating the money in other areas. Coach Spiotti brought up the fact that the football program, through its recruiting efforts, brings students on campus and therefore generates money for the Institute. RIT athletes receive no scholarships for playing on athletic teams and pay tuition just like everyone else.

In other Senate activity, a recommendation to the finance committee was made to allocate \$100 to each presidential candidate and his running mate for campaigning in the upcoming election.

Mr. Ted Franceschi was named to the position of Senator from the College of Business, a seat vacated by Mr. Freedman when he was elected EBC Chairman. The senate also has a new secretary, Ms. Denise Ammaccapane, filling the vacancy left by Ms. Rachel Miller.

Mr. Chuck Hunter, affiliated with NTID and Student Affairs, was ratified by the Senate to serve as advisor to the EBC Chairman, Mr. Freedman. Mr. Hunter's duties as advisor are to aid and assist the EBC in preparing for the SA elections. The advisor also participates in the final counting and recording of the votes.

Secretary of Legal Affairs, Mr. Bill Lawler, announced that Mr. Ramsey Clark is coming to campus February 1 to conduct a seminar on consumer affairs.

In the president's report, Mr. Craig Schwabach made an announcement pertaining to the January 18 Career Day and asked for the Senate's support in publicizing the event. When he spoke in favor of a Senate nominee, he was jeered at. "That's one reason I'm not voting for him," came a comment from the Senate floor.

In December meetings, the Senate was somewhat less than cooperative, and concerned with what social organizations Senate nominees belonged to, rather than their qualifications to work in student government. Mr. Pete Rank and Mr. David Neff were both ratified by the Senate to fill vacant College of Graphic Arts and Photography Senate seats.

Other ratifications also took place in December Senate meetings. Mr. Jon Cowgill is the new Secretary of Communications. Mr. Cowgill's appointment is in answer to the motion made by the Senate in November requiring that a permanent Secretary of Communications be appointed. Ms. Jean Waterhouse now holds the position of Secretary of Campus Affairs. The new Business Manager for the SA is Ms. Linda Lang.

Through the efforts of Senator Paul Medenbach, Mr. Jim Fox, Mr. Jim Bingham, and Mr. Craig Neal, Food Service Personnel, there will be brunch and an evening meal on Sundays on a trial basis. The Sundays involved are January 29, February 5 and 12th. Brunch will be served from 10:30 am to 1 pm and dinner from 4 to 6 pm. The success of the trials will determine whether brunch and Sunday dinner will become permanent meals.

Other December accomplishments include a newly ratified SA constitution. Mr. Steve LaBour and the By-Laws committee are responsible for the simplification of the constitution. The new constitution comes after almost a year of questions regarding the validity of the old document.

Dropping Football: How and Why It Happened

By THOMAS ANDERSON

On December 20, the varsity football program at RIT was terminated, thus calling to an end the largest intercollegiate sport ever offered by RIT. This decision also concluded a seven year existence of football on the varsity level. It had been a club sport for two years previous to its conception on the varsity level of the Independent College Athletic Conference in 1970.

The decision to eliminate football was disclosed by Dr. Fred Smith, vice president for Student Affairs, at an open press conference held on campus December 20. Dr. Smith stated, "The decision to drop football is based primarily on RIT's conclusion that to continue football would require a long term commitment of funds that may not be feasible." He also said that the decision on football does not signify an intended de-emphasis of athletics at RIT. Dr. Smith also made it known to the public that the money previously allocated for football would remain in the athletic department for reappropriation as seen fit by Athletic Director William Carey and his staff.

The decision to terminate football at RIT was obviously very hard to accept by Coach Lou Spiotti, his staff and his 58 players, most of whom were confused and shocked. One RIT football player was quoted as stating, "It's like a death in the family." It seemed to those student athletes at RIT that in a matter of minutes their football careers had been stifled.

In the press conference Dr. Smith stated that in no way was Coach Spiotti "fired". He and his assistant coach Fred Recchio could remain indefinitely at RIT as physical education instructors, a position both men had always filled in the past in addition to coaching football. Coach Recchio is also the head lacrosse coach at RIT.

After the initial press conference, Coach Spiotti went before local Rochester television to answer several inevitable questions. Spiotti was asked what his initial reaction to the decision was. "I'm shocked and heartbroken. The worst part about the whole issue is losing the 'family-like' relationship between a football coach and his players." When asked if he would look elsewhere for a head coaching position, Spiotti replied that he would have to step back and evaluate his situation. "I must consult with my family, especially my wife, as to where we should go from here." Coach Spiotti was also asked whether he person-

ally felt that the Institute had made the proper decision or not. Mr. Spiotti replied by saying, "It's not my position to second guess the administration."

Mr. Spiotti commented further that, "This decision to drop football at RIT is definitely a watershed in my career." He was an assistant coach at the University of Rochester for three years prior to coming to RIT in 1973. Coach Spiotti was also asked when he was first made aware of the decision. He said that he was aware that the executive committee had voted to back Dr. Miller as early as Friday night December 16. It then became obvious that the coaching staff was aware of the outcome prior to attending their annual banquet held Sunday, December 18. At this event a \$100 scholarship was announced in the name of team co-captain, Mr. Kevin Loveland's grandfather. Loveland said that he and other players had a deep respect for their coaches, "who must have felt like they were at their own funeral", knowing before the gathering that the sport was condemned to die. Mr. Loveland further commented that being a senior he had an express interest in returning to RIT next year an alumnus of the football program and now he realizes that this interest is in severe question.

Junior Gary Brashear, the other co-captain on the 1977 squad, was extremely upset with the decision made by Dr. Miller. Mr. Brashear, a defensive back from Oneida, New York, said the fact that he only had one year left at RIT is the most disappointing drawback for him. According to Coach Spiotti, "Gary is a strong but quiet leader within the team and it's obvious that he had felt that he let the other players down." Mr. Brashear himself commented that he felt the decision "unfair" and "not given enough consideration by the administration. They [the administration] said that the decision to discontinue football was based on a lack of money to further commit to the program. Well, in my opinion, they never gave football enough money to make it. It was a sport doomed to die and was never given the opportunity to live." Mr. Brashear was further discouraged by the amount of effort he, the coaches and the other players had put into the program in relation to what he termed "little help" from the Institute.

In order to get a more in-depth look at how the decision was made and the circumstances which surrounded the situation, several key administrators and staff members were questioned informally.

Dr. Tom Plough, associate vice president of Student Affairs, commented freely about the situation. When asked if he agreed

with the decision, he said he did. He further commended however, that he was in favor of football at RIT and backed Coach Spiotti 100% in the presentation in defense of football to Dr. Miller. This might seem quite a contradictory way of thinking but Dr. Plough went on to explain. "As a division of Student Affairs, I am quite interested in the betterment of athletics to insure a good social atmosphere at RIT and football was no exception. I felt that football would require an increased commitment of funds in order to remain competitive. I, along with Mr. Bill Carey [Director of Athletics] took two years of evaluation on football compiled by Coach Spiotti to Dr. Miller in defense of the sport. In all honesty, I felt that I did my best to present a solid factual defense of football. Coach Spiotti and his staff should be commended for the extremely thorough job done in preparing the in-depth evaluation of football. These evaluations included information pertaining to students recruited by football to attend RIT, goals of the program, contribution to student life, costs, and so on.

"It later became apparent to me that the Institute was not willing to pay for the increase in expense and for this reason I felt that the program should be terminated in all fairness to the players and coaches involved. RIT competes against schools with bigger budgets, scholarship athletes, better equipment and facilities and to ask our athletes to continue to play under such conditions was not justifiable."

However, in respect to Dr. Miller's decision, he felt that RIT could not easily make the increased financial commitment. "An increase which would probably continue along with the cost of living and inflation," Dr. Plough continued. The increased cost which Dr. Plough spoke of also included "indirect costs", costs which are not directly related to the program nor are they within the confines of the specific budget. These costs included such inevitable expenditures as improved seating at the football field, a new practice site and more. Dr. Plough mentioned that, "because it was Dr. Miller's decision to allow football at RIT to become a varsity sport, and his alone, he felt that it should further be his decision to either continue or discontinue the sport. With Dr. Miller's direct decision to grant varsity status to the football program came several stipulations to its destiny. One was that in seven years the football program at RIT would be evaluated and its future decided by himself." "He (Dr. Miller) also stipulated that no additional funds would be allocated to the athletic department at that time (1970)."

The major arguments brought forth by those opposed to the decision were that the decision was "made with haste, lacked total consideration, not to mention student

input or any other input for that matter, and was made by one and only one person". Dr.

Plough said, "in reference to the complaints lodged by those who felt a decision of such magnitude was made in haste and also at a bad time (just prior to Christmas break), both Mr. Carey and myself agreed that a decision before the holiday break was the best solution in fairness to Coach Spiotti and his team. I could not ask Coach Spiotti to continue recruiting and building the program over the holidays, when the future of his sport was in question." Dr. Plough closed his comments by saying, "I firmly believe that he did not want to be the one to make such a decision. I also feel strongly that he took a great deal of time to arrive at this conclusion. After all, Dr. Miller had to consider the bearing that his decision would have on both the Institute and the individuals involved."

Mr. Carey agreed that the decision was a difficult one for Dr. Miller to make. "However, I really thought football had at least a 50-50 chance to continue after presenting the evaluation to Dr. Miller with Dr. Plough. The program was making real progress and the great job done by the coaches and players themselves was the reason."

When asked his personal feeling about the decision, Carey replied, "I was deeply hurt because of those involved. I feel that the student athletes brought here by the football program these last seven years will be missed. The players on Coach Spiotti's squad had good character and were an asset to the athletic program as a whole." Mr. Carey also substantiated that Coach Spiotti is not and was not in danger of losing his job as a physical education instructor. But the question arose, what about those students who came to RIT specifically to play football as an integral part of rounding their educations. Carey said, "I honestly feel that many will transfer if they can correlate majors with other schools. But for those who cannot easily transfer because of credit losses or co-op commitments this decision will more than likely mean the end of their football careers." Another question was brought to light soon after the decision was made. Was the record of the 1977 Tiger football team (0-8-1) a factor in the decision? Mr. Carey replied, "I have been told that the seasonal record was not taken into account during the decision making process but I find it hard to believe that football would have been discontinued at RIT had their record been 8-0-1!"

When Dr. Plough and Mr. Carey were questioned about the chance that football might be reinstated, neither were very optimistic about the chances. Dr. Plough elaborated that the decision was not totally a one man determination. Dr. Miller had called upon the executive committee of the Board of Trustees to vote on the subject and

they voted to back Dr. Miller's decision to discontinue the football program.

Soon after the decision was released to the public the players themselves had banded together in an attempt to reverse the decision. Within hours, there were petitions being circulated throughout the Institute by the players and other interested students. Organizing the players movement is former assistant RIT football coach Mr. Bob Peters. He has been aided by Mr. Tom Caruso and other alumni of the football program at RIT.

Realizing a considerable amount of discontent within the RIT community about the decision to drop football, Dr. Fred Smith arranged an open forum on Thursday, December 22nd in an attempt to answer questions concerning the situation. Dr. Smith said, "I feel obligated to try and clear up some of the misunderstandings that surrounded the decision." The real purpose of such a session would be to accurately convey information on the subject.

In attendance at the forum, in addition to Dr. Smith, were many players, coaches, students, faculty and other concerned people on the campus. After an opening statement by Dr. Smith, in which he reiterated that the coaches involved had not been relieved of their positions in physical education nor were athletics being discarded at RIT, the floor was opened to questioning of him about the discontinuation of football.

Freshman football player Joe Bujalski opened the forum by asking Dr. Smith if attendance was a factor in the decision. Dr. Smith replied by saying, "the fact that attendance has been relatively poor over the past seven years is in itself indirect proof that the students themselves did not care particularly if the sport continued at RIT or not." Dr. Smith went on, "it wasn't until the sport had been discontinued that so many followers of the program came forth to voice their disapproval. In other words they had taken the football program at RIT for granted until it was gone and that is possibly too late." Mr. Bujalski asked then, "if Dr. Miller and the administration of RIT knew that attendance was poor, what did they do about alleviating such a problem to support the program? They moved the field from in back of Grace Watson Dining Hall, to one of the most ideally located spots on campus, directly between the academic and dormitory facilities on campus."

After Dr. Smith answered the question, Junior football player Mr. Joe Comfort, the team's spokesman, made a statement on behalf of the other players. Mr. Comfort directed his narrative towards Dr. Smith as if to be pleading for reconsideration. He began by saying that they (the team) felt the decision unfair and totally unjust. Mr. Comfort continued to state that the team would not let football at RIT be condemned

without a struggle. "We want to appeal the decision to Dr. Miller himself and only wish that he was here now to answer himself the questions we have concerning his decree to discontinue football at this college." Mr. Comfort continued, "we feel strongly that we have a valid case for football and demand the opportunity to present that case to Dr. Miller himself."

The forum continued for almost three and a half hours with Dr. Smith being confronted by many questions which he could not answer fully and many which he explained satisfactorily in detail.

Some of the major points brought out in the forum were very involved, to the point where without proper background into the subject the average person in attendance would not understand but Dr. Smith did his best to answer any and all questions pertaining to the subject. One question which brought considerable stir from those gathered was asked by Mr. Alan Friedman, an instructor in the mathematics department at RIT. Mr. Friedman asked Dr. Smith, "is the single handed decision made by Dr. Miller an indication of how resolutions of this magnitude will be made in the future? In other words is RIT becoming an academic institute run by one man? Because if that's the case then I think that we are all in trouble!" Dr. Smith paused and then said, "there are certain exceptions to decision making and each case should be handled individually." He continued "football is one of those exceptions in which Dr. Miller himself had to 'bite the bullet' and make the decision."

Others attending said they felt the fact that input was not procured from other sources, students, faculty and parents to name a few, was unfair to those who have to live with major decisions such as this one. Several of the football players made statements to the effect that they could not accept a decision made by just one man, without accepting input by those the judgement would directly affect.

Then came the question of money and the intensity of the questions increased. Sophomore football player Mr. Ron Bucinell asked Dr. Smith to again state the major reason for discontinuing football. Dr. Smith stated that the decision to drop football was based on Dr. Miller's conclusion that RIT could not feasibly continue to commit funds on a long range basis to the football program. Mr. Bucinell then made the assertion that the total tuitions of the entire football team added together resulted in the lump sum of approximately \$350,000 that the fifty some team members paid to RIT annually for the right to attend this Institute. He further commented, "the total budget for football in 1977 including salaries was \$33,000 which is less than half of 1% rate of return on our investment. I would (continued on page 13)

SCOREBOARD

Football Dropped

(continued from page 9)

dare say that I think we are entitled to more than this meager amount and for this reason see no valid explanation for not increasing the amount allocated to football but in the least, keeping the program at the same economic level. We are happy with our program, so don't deprive us of it."

The point was made by Mr. Dave Evans, a 2nd year photography student at RIT that eliminating the football program did not save the Institute any money what so ever because it was openly stated that the money originally budgeted for football would stay in the Athletic Department for reappropriation by Mr. Carey. Mr. Evans, they said, "if the Institute is trying to save money I can see many areas where RIT could cutback without emotionally ending the careers of some fifty football players and at least two coaches."

Mr. Craig Schwabach, president of the Student Association at RIT, added that if he had been aware of the situation before a decision was made, he and the other leaders of student organizations at RIT would more than likely have been able to come up with additional funds to benefit the program.

Then, when it seemed as though the questioning of Dr. Smith would never end, Mr. Tom Caruso, alumni of RIT, stood and made the following statement: "Dr. Smith, on behalf of the RIT football team we appreciate your honesty and sincere concern for the players who have been affected by the decision to drop football. We want you to know that we are not attacking you or the Institute on a personal basis but feel that there is a strong motive for Dr. Miller to reconsider his decision with the possibility of reinstating the program; for this reason I want you to tell the players that this is not a dead issue as far as the Board of Trustees and Dr. Miller are concerned." Dr. Smith replied by saying, "I cannot promise you anything. I do not know that Dr. Miller would be the first to want to further discuss his decision if he were here. (At the time the Forum took place Dr. Miller had left on a previously planned trip to China and had no way of being in attendance.) For this reason I am sure a meeting similar to this one can be arranged with Dr. Miller as soon as he returns to Rochester, sometime in mid January," Smith continued.

So stands the decision to discontinue varsity football at RIT. The football team will meet with Dr. Miller when he returns and they will attempt to appeal the decision to Dr. Miller for full reinstatement. At the present time however, and unless Dr. Miller reconsiders this controversial decision, RIT will not sponsor intercollegiate football in the fall of 1978.

Tiger Tracks

BASKETBALL: Coach Bill Carey's young Tigers have shown well to date, sporting a 3-3 record. This includes victories over Clarkson 72-68, Brockport 82-74 and Marist College 67-61 in the Marist Tournament. The Tigers have fallen to RPI 78-69, highly touted St. Lawrence 70-56 and Pace University, the eventual Marist Tournament winners, 93-89. The Tiger cagers' next contest is January 13 against visiting Clarkson.

JV BASKETBALL: Under the direction of last year's assistant varsity Coach Gene DeCristofaro, the junior Tigers are 1-3 thus far. RIT defeated St. John Fisher 87-80 in their opener, then suffered three consecutive defeats at the hands of Nazareth, Alfred Tech and F.L.C.C.

WRESTLING: This is the 50th year of wrestling at RIT and Coach Fuller's grapplers are off to a solid start posting a 3-2 overall record and 1-1 in the ICAC. RIT hosted the 12th Annual Invitational won by Buffalo State. In their opening dual meet the Tigers defeated Geneseo 32-9, then downed Clarkson 30-13, lost to St. Lawrence 41-3 and Buffalo State by the same score. In a tri-meet they defeated Theil and Behrend and were defeated by Cal State. RIT's next match is at St. John Fisher on January 14.

HOCKEY: After a tremendous start the Tiger skaters have dropped their last four contests. Coach Daryl Sullivan's young team won their first three games defeating Hobart 10-2, St. John Fisher 5-2, and Lehigh 7-2. RIT then met Geneseo in the finals of the Geneseo Tournament and were soundly defeated 7-3. Since that time RIT has lost to Canisius 8-4, Brockport 6-5 and Potsdam 12-2, leaving their record at 3-4 overall. The Tigers take on a strong Potsdam team on January 15 at 5:45.

SWIMMING: The Tiger finmen are 1-1 thus far this season defeating Alfred on an ICAC meet and losing to Cortland in a close meet 57-50. The Tigers have been paced by veteran Ron Rice and freshman Jake Gulick, a welcome addition to Coach John Buckholtz' team. RIT's next meet is January 16 at Nazareth 7:00.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY: The women's hockey team is much improved this year and one major reason is the addition of Coach Bob Green. However, the lady Tiger skaters are 0-2 thus far, losing to Potsdam 10-1 and Brockport 4-1. The leading scorer is Becky Lucitte with one goal and one assist to her credit. Captain Sheila Stevenson has played well on defense for the Tigers.

Hockey Slumps

After going 3-0 early in the season and running Coach Daryl Sullivan's career record to 99 victories, the Tiger skaters have run into some tough opposition losing their last four games straight.

The Tigers decisively defeated Hobart, St. John Fisher and Lehigh before running into a strong Geneseo State team in the finals of the Geneseo Tourney where they were downed 7-3.

Since then RIT has lost to Canisius 8-4, Brockport 6-5 and Potsdam 12-2 in their most recent game. RIT's schedule is not any easy one however. In their four defeats, three have been to strong Division II teams.

Part of the blame for such a turn around is the long layover the team had between quarter vacation and their next game. Coach Sullivan also faces tremendous amount of inexperience on this year's squad. This year's team includes 14 players in either their first or second year. Also the Tigers only had one defenseman return and welcome the return of veteran Jeff Knisley, who returns from an injury which sidelined him until the Canisius contest.

The Tigers are young and aggressive and should come around soon. Their next contest is at home against Potsdam on January 15 at 5:45.

Grapplers Start 50th

Coach Earl Fuller's grapplers started their 50th season this year by hosting the 12th Annual RIT Wrestling Invitational which included such major schools as Kent State, Ashland University, Notre Dame University, SUNY at Buffalo and St. Lawrence. The tournament was won by Buffalo State with RIT finishing 14th out of 18 schools who competed.

Since that time the Tigers have been involved in seven dual meets, winning four and losing three. Tiger victories came over Geneseo 32-9, Clarkson 30-13, Theil 24-21 and Behrend 29-14. Coach Fuller's wrestlers suffered defeats to St. Lawrence 41-3, Buffalo 41-3 and Cal. St. 31-9, thus leaving the Tigers' record at 4-3 overall, 1-1 ICAC.

In individual competition for the Tigers Greg D'Alba has the best overall record with a 7-4 mark, including tournaments. John Reid is 6-6 followed by Bu Figliola and heavvweight Karl Geiger at 4-3 for the Tigers. Co-captains Jerry DeCausemaker and Bill Caterisano have both been sidelined with injuries and RIT promises to be much stronger when they return.