



# sports round-up

(Following is a recent column by Sid Ziff of the Los Angeles Times concerning the University of Southern California's great All-American prospect, Mike Garrett.)

His name is Michael Lockett Garrett. He's a sociology major and a halfback at USC. Coach John McKay calls him, "The greatest player I ever coached." Barring a tremendous upset he'll be an All-American by the end of the season.

He was born April 12, 1944, in East L.A. His father and mother were divorced when he was very young. He lived with his mother, who remarried.



Mike Garrett

"I had a very happy childhood," he recalls. "We had nothing else to do but play football and baseball."

He learned elusiveness and the art of faking by playing against much older boys when he was a kid. They were so much bigger, it was the only way he could stay alive.

"I have not set my sights on the All-America," he says. "My goal is to have a winning season and play in the Rose Bowl. If the All-America comes, fine, I'll enjoy it. But I want to deserve it. I want it on its merits or not at all."

"Playing was more fun last year," he says, "because people didn't know who I was. They didn't hit me as often or as hard. Or after the whistle. They didn't gang tackle. It's more of a business now."

He reads everything in the sports pages because he likes to know what others think. "Last year it used to excite me when I read something nice. I still find it pleasant. For instance, I didn't run very well in the Oklahoma game. I was disappointed. But the writers liked the way I blocked. To me, it was no big deal. I block for you, you block for me. I take it for granted. But it made me very happy to read about it."

(See SPORTS, page 10)

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