Lamar Lundy Tops Purdue's Drive For Big Ten Title

LAFAYETTE, Ind. — (ANP) — Until four seasons ago, Purdue university had never produced an outstanding tan athlete. This year, on the football team, the team's most valuable player was a Negro — Lamar Lundy — and several others, including the Big Ten's outstanding fullback, Mel Dillard, also were Negroes.

Currently, the Boilermakers have more tan members on its basketball team — five — than any other Big Ten school.

As of last week, the Boilermakers were in a second-place tie with a 3-1 record.

Lundy, who was the first tan athlete to make good at Purdue, is a two-sport star. Just as soon as he donned his moleskins after writing fins to a fine football career, Lamar was on the basketball court. After a week's practice, he was the Boilermaker's starting center in its opening game.

CONTINUES IMPROVEMENT

This is Lundy's third season on the basketball team. In his junior season, he was regarded as the most improved player in the Big Ten and if he continues his improvement he might become one of the conference's standouts on the court this season.

Lundy's forte is defense. He is (6-6, 223 pounds) and his long arms and strength make him a great rebounder. He only has to perfect his shooting skill to become a truly outstanding basketball player.

Purdue also has four sophomore basketball aspirants — Harvey Austin, Wilson Elson, Willie Merriweather and Charles Lyons.

Elson, Merriweather and Lyons are Indiana high school basketball products. Austin was voted the outstanding athlete in Buffalo, N. Y., in his senior year in high school.

Austin is a good ball handler and might be Purdue's best playmaker this season. The sophomore guard is 6-1 and weighs 170 pounds.

REMOVES TROUBLES

If Elson overcomes academic difficulties, he could help considerably. The 6-6 180-pounder was Mr. Basketball in 1955 at Gary Roosevelt High school. He has a good shot and is an excellent rebounder.

Merriweather, a product of Indianapolis Crippus Attucks that beat Roosevelt and Elson for the Indiana championship in 1955, can play either forward or guard. He is a good rebounder and playmaker.

A southpaw shooter, Lyons is from Fort Wayne. Although he needs to show improvement to match the ability of the other sophomores, he is expected to stick with the team.

Erich Barnes, another football player, who played some with the basketball team in 1955-56, is devoting his time to his studies this year.