

Pierce 1926 film star

IU athlete early Tarzan

In the fall of 1916, a 6-foot, 4-inch, 220-pound youth by the name of James Hubert Pierce arrived in Bloomington from Freedom in Owen County to enroll in Indiana University.

IT IS NOT KNOWN whether he caught the eye of the IU football coach or simply turned up on the first day of practice, but he soon earned himself a place on the freshman squad, as well as on the basketball and baseball teams.

Looking back

By Rose McIlveen

Another place he found for himself was a room in the Phi Delta Theta fraternity house, which was then

located in the area of the IU Library parking lot. Though Pierce was personable in his own right, the young man may have been selected by the Phi Deltis for another reason — the annual interfraternity basketball tournament.

He certainly soon proved to be an asset to the house, playing center on the teams that for two years in a row defeated the Sigma Nus in the finals. The 1918 *Arbutus* reported that
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