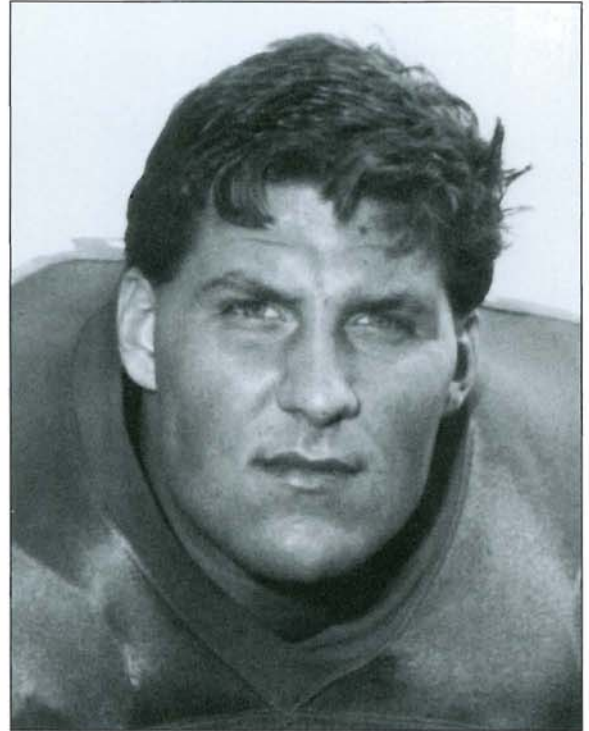


EVERETT LINDSAY



**FROM WALK-ON
TO
ALL-AMERICAN
University of Mississippi
6-5 290 OT**

Normally walk-on is a dirty word. They are the last in getting equipment, last in getting food and used as fodder on the scout team. You get no respect. Why would anybody do it? Well, sometimes an athlete will persevere. He will buck the odds through hard work, confidence and faith in himself. Such a man is Everett Lindsey.

Everett attended Millbrook High School in Raleigh, North Carolina. As a ninth grader, he was big at 6-1 200 pounds but he only played baseball. The following year Everett, 6-2, 200 pounds, tried football but quit after only one week. He just kept growing but as a 6-4 235 pound junior he still only played baseball. Everett made the varsity but did not start. That wouldn't happen until his senior year.

All of Everett's friends played football and urged him to try out. "The coaches were nice," remembered Everett, "so I decided to give it a shot." He began lifting weights but says he wasn't really that strong. Everett Benchded 250, Squatted 375 and Power Cleaned 220 pounds. Not

bad but Everett was huge at 6-5 260 pounds. Millbrook made the playoffs and Everett was put at defensive end. "I had a lot of fun," Everett said, "It was a learning experience. After I finally started to play, I became fascinated by it. I guess I had a lot of natural ability, size and speed; that helped me overcome a lack of experience."

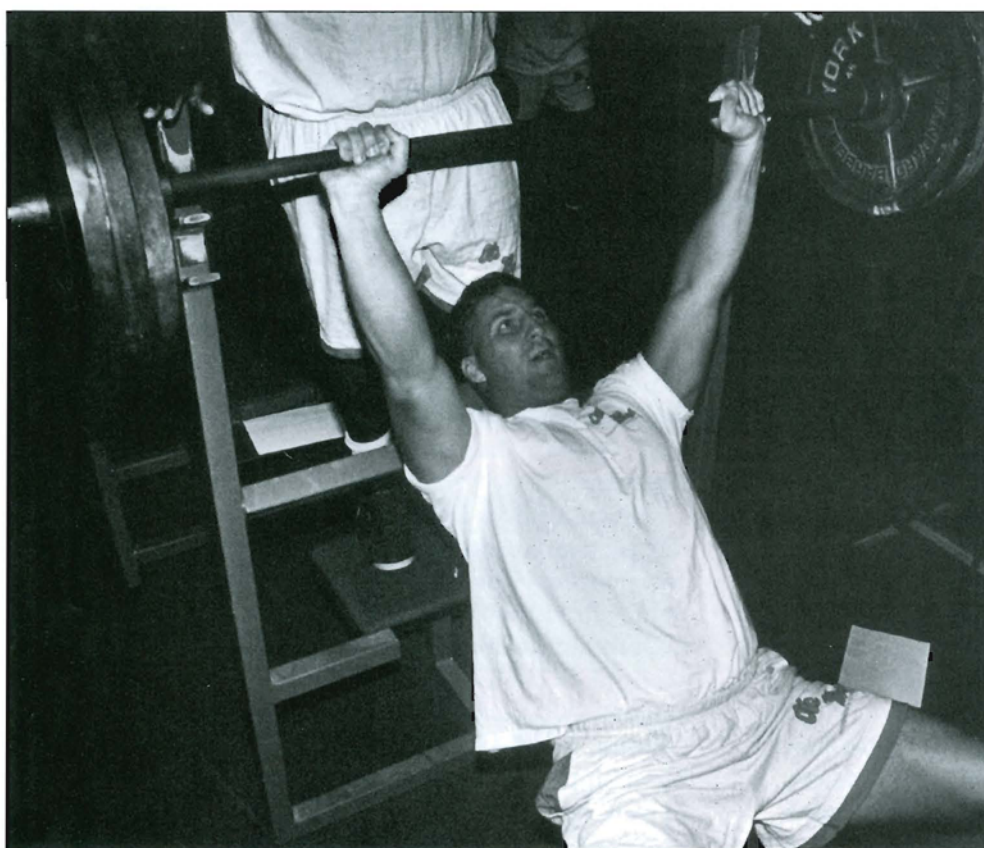
Everett never started but by the end of the year, he did get more playing time. It was all he needed. Everett was hooked. However, now that he was motivated finally in his life, changes had to be made. Everett only had a 2.3 GPA in high school. Therefore, he had to get his head on straight in many areas. He applied to several S.E.C. schools. Obviously, no one was going to give him a Division I scholarship but finally Ole Miss (University of Mississippi) became interested and gave Everett a chance to walk-on.

Continued on next page

EVERETT LINDSAY FROM WALK-ON



Notice Everett's Good Bar Placement and Eyes Focused Straight Ahead



Everett with 315 Incline: Duplicates Arm Blocking Angle.

"When I got accepted at college, I decided to get serious about everything. I'm sure my high school teachers would sure be surprised now," thought Everett. You see, Everett will graduate with a business degree next month with a 2.6 GPA. He continued, "After I got to Ole Miss, I found I had to start over and learn a whole new game. On that level a lineman can't get by on just size and speed. Everybody you play is big and fast. So you have to learn the offense and the techniques as well.

"I spent my first season as a red shirt on the scout team which was frustrating because I knew I had to make an impression on the coaches. At times I felt I wasn't getting to do much." Everett began lifting hard also under strength coach Chuck Okey. The gains came but he achieved only modest strength during his first year (6-5, 275, 5.0 forty, 350 Bench, 450 Squat and a 275 Clean). Everett remembered, "I guess the coaches were paying more attention to me than I thought, because after my red-shirt year they offered me a scholarship."

Thus, Ole Miss became Everett's home. Oxford was selected as the site of Mississippi's first state institution of higher learning way back in 1841. The selection seemed especially appropriate being named after the University city in England. It has certainly lived up to it's name as Ole Miss ranks seventh among our nation's public universities in the number of Rhodes Scholars (23). The University of Mississippi also boasts a long and colorful football history starting in 1893. Recently, under head coach Billy Brewer the Rebels have gone bowling four times and returned to the national rankings. Through the years, Ole Miss has produced 35 first-team All-Americans, and sent well over 140 players into the professional ranks. Now, you can add Everett Lindsey's name to that list. He made two All-America teams last year and was

TO ALL-AMERICAN TACKLE 6-5 290

selected to most pre-season All-America teams this year.

Coach Okey, who has in competition Squatted 825 and 545 for a State Powerlifting total record of 2,045 pounds has guided Everett to some good totals of his own. Everett is now 6-5 and 295 (on interview day) with a 415 Bench, 550 Squat, and 320 Power Clean while running a 4.8 to 4.9 forty.

After Everett's red-shirt year and during his first year of eligibility, he was a back up tackle for the first three games. Then, he became a starter and has remained so till this day. It took a lot of courage and confidence to accomplish this feat but as Everett puts it, "I've never been intimidated by anybody, so it was OK. We have a super strength program and that gave me added confidence. Also, in my younger years, back in high school, my younger brother and I were a team and got into fights sometimes. We were not in the habit of backing down from anybody on the streets of Raleigh."

When asked about peer pressure in relation to drugs and alcohol, Everett stated, "There's none here as far as steroids. We really have a clean program. With drugs like cocaine, I've never been asked ever. I've always hung out

with pretty good people. I've got a good home life with very supportive parents. They've moved to Nashville and have come to every one of my games.

"Alcohol has never been a real big deal. It can only hurt you. I might go with people to celebrate but I won't do what they do as far as partying. You just have got too much to lose and a lot to gain if you don't do it."

Everett believes to be successful that you've got to be aggressive with a positive mental attitude. "It's important to believe in yourself and surround yourself with good coaches, people and players. I felt all along I had potential. All I asked for was a chance and the coaches were willing to give it to me. I didn't have any sort of guarantee other than that I would be given an opportunity to prove myself. Just never give up on yourself."

We thank Coach Okey and the Ole Miss S.I. department for providing material for this article. We thank Everett for his upper limit tenacity and spirit and wish him good luck in his future goals of playing pro-ball and being a football coach.

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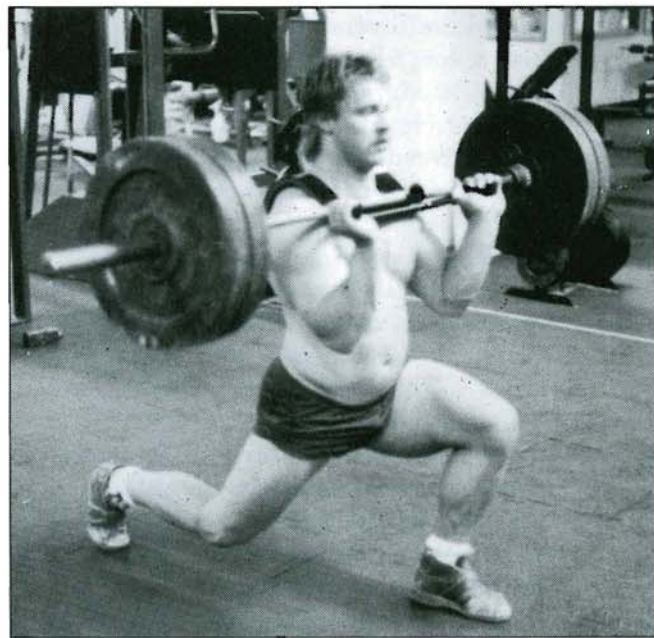
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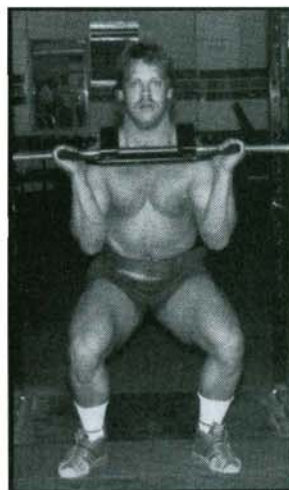
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