

BIG CROWDS ATTENDING GAMES OF THE EASTERN BASKETBALL LEAGUE THIS SEASON

PHILADELPHIA BASKETBALL FANS BELIEVE SCHEFFER HAS SAVED THE LEAGUE

Eastern League President Has Put Organization on High Basis and Proved Integrity of the Game

AFTER the fiasco of the 1914-1915 season of the Eastern Basketball League, it was freely predicted that the game would be a losing venture this season...

The Christmas Day crowds at Reading, De Neri and Greystock prove conclusively that the fans have great faith in the honesty of the game...

The defeats of Greystock within the last fortnight have increased the interest in the race and now several teams have an excellent chance to overhaul the Greys...

If McWilliams' injury proves severe enough to keep him out of the game for a time, it would be no great surprise if the race was tightened up still more...

Veterans Have Been Out of Game

Trenton's two star veterans, Joe Fogarty and Harry Hough, have been out of many games, almost all of which have been lost.

When Fogarty and Hough are in the game the Jerseymen compare favorably with any team in the league. The team is composed of veterans and is not as fast as Greystock or De Neri...

The greatest disappointment of the season has been the miserable playing of Camden. The Skeeters finished the 1914-1915 season with a wonderful spirit...

Brown Playing Far Below Form

Last season the Skeeters played well together, but so far this year there has been too much individual play and two or three men do not get along well...

Jasper's showing has also been disappointing, but the fans have stuck to the team well and it will be a money-maker if it can take a spurt in the near future...

Difference Between Eastern and Western Football

Buck O'Neill, coach of Syracuse's varsity eleven, declares that the difference between football in the far West and in the East is fundamental.

The Eastern coach, whose team played three of the representative elevens of the far West, thinks that the material is naturally better, as the men are bigger and faster...

Montana and Oregon Linesmen Strong

Bill Horr, All-America Syracuse guard of 1908, who once matriculated at Penn and then suddenly disappeared, declares that the Syracuse line was outplayed by the forwards of both Montana and Oregon Aggies.

"There isn't enough difference between Eastern and Western football to distinguish," says O'Neill. "After watching Montana and the Aggies play and talking with coaches and players in the West I am convinced that the only differences are of such a slight character that they will entirely disappear within the next few years."

"The West plays football like it does everything else. There is the same characteristic hustle and bustle about the gridiron warriors that one finds in the people engaged in commercial and industrial pursuits."

"In the East they think Western football very crude, and it is to a certain extent. The absence of preparatory schools causes a lack of well-trained beginners in college at the game."

Work Ahead for the Boxing Commission

It is hoped that the New York State Boxing Commission will investigate conditions at the Clermont A. C., where a boxer was killed by a punch under the name of Tommy O'Keefe, of Philadelphia, on Christmas afternoon...

Not Much Stir in the Boxing World

The probable postponement of the Jess Willard-Fred Fulton match has caused hardly a stir in the pugilistic game. The fans must be shown, and until some first class men, the public will not look upon him as a contender for the crown.

If Frank Moran can again stop Jim Coffey, the Dublin Giant, or clearly outpoint him in their coming bout in New York, he will be the logical opponent for Willard.

State College's soccer team received but little credit for its work during the last season in the summing up of the Eastern championship, despite the fact that the up-State collegians romped away with an easy victory over Haverford College's intercollegiate championship eleven.

Charley O'Donnell, Reading's great veteran, made a wonderful record in the double-header against Camden on Christmas Day. In the two games O'Donnell made 11 field goals and six assists, besides going up for the jump successfully time after time.

Frank Baker was in Philadelphia yesterday and still insists that they will have to come to him with a large contract if any team wants him to return to the game. If what the magnates broached on the subject at the peace meeting can be taken as a criterion Baker is due to remain out of the game for another season unless he drops his price.

Vernon Gibson won the Fort Richmond Business Men's Association run on Christmas Day. In a sort of vague, hazy way, "Vernon" and "Gibson" suggest something to us that is rather far removed from outdoor athletics.

WHEN A FELLER NEEDS A FRIEND



"SUMMER BALL" WILL BE THEME AT CONVENTION

College Men Will Discuss This Important Matter at Gathering in New York

AN AMATEUR DEFINED

By EDWARD R. BUSHNELL The National Collegiate Athletic Association, when it holds its annual convention in New York this week, will concentrate most of its time through the medium of papers, speeches and debates on the poor "summer baseball" player.

I am convinced, however, that no permanent cure will be provided by the N. C. A. A. unless it changes its rules and makes them mandatory on all members of the association.

There are just two ways to deal effectively with this problem. One is for the association to agree upon certain legislation which shall be binding upon all its members.

It is not likely that the big universities would consent to be bound by a majority vote of such a big organization. If they did they would be at the mercy of a group of small colleges.

The second suggestion is the more applicable. College baseball has never had an association as other sports have, and of them all it needs one the most.

It seems to me that the best way to do this is to permit college students to play during the summer under certain conditions. The practice now most prevalent is for college men to accept positions for the summer with industrial establishments or hotels and to play for the baseball teams of such organizations once or twice a week.

STATE CHAMPIONS IN GOLFING YEAR

Table listing state champions in golfing for various states including Alabama, Colorado, Connecticut, etc.

WOMEN

Table listing women state champions in golfing for various states including California, Florida, Michigan, etc.

OPEN

Table listing open state champions in golfing for various states including Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, etc.

Industrial organizations maintain baseball teams which play other organizations on Saturday afternoons or during the week. These students are supposed to do certain work in return for their salary, just as do the other non-student employees.

YOUNG'S BIG PIER WILL BE 1916 SCENE OF WESTY HOGANS

Noted Shoot Scheduled for Million Dollar Structure in September

COOKE TO GET \$1800 CUP

By way of Christmas cheer for the trapshooters of the country, and of this city in particular, Neaf Apper, president of the Westy Hogans, noted shooting organization, which started here and spread all over the country, has just made an announcement that the event is meeting with great favor.

Apper writes the EVENING LEDGER since the old pier, on which this shoot was held until five years ago, was burned, there has been a steady demand among shooting men in all sections of the land that the Philadelphia shooters get together and put some pressure to bear to make it possible again to stage the shoot on a pier.

In all likelihood the 1916 event will be far superior to any ever staged in point of quality and quantity of attendance, with the possible exception of the Grand American Handicap of this year.

Special prizes will be built at the end and along the side of the pier far out over the shore. On these traps will be mounted with shooters' stands built on the pier itself. This will give ample room to the target then will be thrown out over the water, but at a sufficient distance from the bathing beach so that there will be no danger of shooting into the bathers.

Members of local clubs interested in the race and kennel are watching with wonderment the remarkable record being made by a young setter dog owned by a resident of the city, who is named "The Dog".

Coming into the field virtually unknown, "The Dog" has been the sensation of the year, and has gone right down the line winning honors after honors.

RACING DATES ANNOUNCED

British Steeplechasing Season Will Begin This Week LONDON, Dec. 27.—The important dates of the British steeplechasing season have just been announced, and despite the war most of the big fixtures will be held.

CLOSE CONTESTS MARK NATIONAL SOCCER CLASSIC

Number of Tie Games Played in Early Rounds. Disston Surprised

OTHER CORNER KICKS

This season's competition for the Dewar Trophy, the national soccer classic, is furnishing keener strife than ever before. In every district there were a number of drawn first and second round matches, and a few of these matches were again drawn when replayed.

The first round ties between Bethlehem, holders of the Dewar Trophy, 1914-15 American League champions and recognized everywhere as the country's leading soccer eleven, and Disston, of Tacoma, and between Viscose, of Marcus Hook, and Hibernians, of this city, were played off on Saturday and the result of each match was a distinct surprise.

In view of this excellent showing against the steel champs, Disston, while not necessarily the favorite, was expected to at least hold its own. But Bethlehem won as it pleased, by 3 goals to none. Disston's defeat may have been due to the absence of Captain McEwan and Clarence Halfback Fisher, who were injured early in the week in practice.

Bethlehem struck to the short passing game which, in the long run, is the best. Disston's play consisted principally of long passes to the wings, and most of these long passes were easily intercepted by Bethlehem's halfbacks. Quite early in the game it was evident that this type of attack would not prove successful, but instead of changing to the shorter and truer passes Disston clung to its original plan of attack.

Disston Boys' Club, present holders of the Philadelphia League championship, slipped further from the top by losing to Christ Church. Wisniewski, a newcomer in the league ranks at the opening of the season, gained a firmer hold on the lead by defeating the Boys' Club of the Church Club.

The Disston Boys' Club is not the only holder of a league championship that is experiencing difficulty in retaining its title. In the Allied League Putnam is having its hands full, while Pettorville has been making an uphill fight all season in the United League.

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MORE THAN 10,000 FANS SEE LOCAL CHRISTMAS BOUTS

Farrell, Ertle, Smith and Thomas Winners in Star Scraps

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Once again, as on all holidays we have special matinee boxing bouts are staged. Philadelphia proved itself one of the foremost fight centers in the country when five clubs played before capacity crowds Christmas afternoon.

In the wind-up to a crackjack show at the National, Mickey Pat Bradley made his first appearance in this city, and while he showed up as a tough and hard hitting fighter, Marty Farrell had him trouble in outpointing the Gray's Ferry man. Johnny Ertle had little trouble adding Joe O'Donnell's scalp to his string at the Olympia.

Homer Smith, heavyweight, who falls from Paw Paw, Mich., made good by a wide margin at the Nonspareil, while in the main mix at the Quaker City Charley Thomas gave a vocal exhibition when he proceeded to wallop Johnny Miller.

New York "smart guys" pulled over two jobs Saturday with a Philadelphia audience and a Philadelphia boxer as the lured as Tommy O'Keefe, of Philadelphia, was knocked out in less than a minute by Patsy Kline, of Newark. O'Keefe, the Billy Fitzsimmons, who was stopped by Young Jack Toland at a local club, was said to be not the original Fitzsimmons, who boxed in Albany Saturday.

CHRISTMAS FIGHT RESULTS NATIONAL—Solly Burns defeated Johnny Nelson. Johnny Ertle, who was stopped by Joe Azevedo, knocked out Eddie Watson. Eddie Watson, who was stopped by Johnny Ertle, was stopped by Johnny Ertle. Eddie Watson, who was stopped by Johnny Ertle, was stopped by Johnny Ertle.

QUAKER CITY—George Blackburn drew with Tommy Fitzsimmons. Blackburn drew with Tommy Fitzsimmons. Blackburn drew with Tommy Fitzsimmons.

ALBANY—Mickey Pat Bradley outpointed Freddie Brown. Mickey Pat Bradley outpointed Freddie Brown. Mickey Pat Bradley outpointed Freddie Brown.

SCRAPS ABOUT SCRAPPERS Willie Meehan, a 200-pound heavyweight, and Eddie Miller, a bantamweight, are in Philadelphia. Willie Meehan, a 200-pound heavyweight, and Eddie Miller, a bantamweight, are in Philadelphia.

THE JESS WILLARD-FRED FULTON MATCH Because local users would not lend their support to the match, the match was postponed. Because local users would not lend their support to the match, the match was postponed.

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EVENING LEDGER MOVIES—EVIDENTLY HE FINISHED THE RACE VERY STRONG, MARATHONUS

