CONNIE MACK HAS WONDERFUL RECRUIT FOR THIRD BASEMAN IN LAWTON WITT

HARRY DAVIS PICKED UP ABLE YOUNGSTER TO FILL FRANKLIN BAKER'S SHOES

Traveling Man Who Has Found Many Stars Declares Witt Will Make Mack Great Third Baseman

TF A CERTAIN traveling gentleman who knows baseball from the ground up 1s to be believed, a lad named Lawton Witt, a schooboy from Goddard Seminary, in Massachusetts, has the third base position on the Athletics clinched for next summer, despite the fact that Manager Mack spent a fairly large sum for Charley Pick, of the Richmond International League Club. This gentleman claims that Witt is one of the best-looking prospects he has seen in years.

According to his information Arthur Irwin, the former New York American Club scout, confused Ritter and Witt, when he boosted the former so strongly a few weeks ago. Witt played in the Maine Summer League and it was there that Harry Davis picked him up after watching him bat against major league pitchers imported for the purpose.

Witt graduated from Goddard Seminary last June and went to Shawheagon, Me., to play with a hotel team. A friend of Mask's from Boston tipped him off to the youngster and Harry Davis was sent to look him over. Davis was so impressed with what he saw that he immediately signed him to a contract, but to satisfy himself that he had made no mistake, remained in the vicinity for three weeks watching Witt.

Mack Has Confidence in Witt

When asked if he was really counting upon Witt and was not merely taking him South to fill in, hoping he would develop in a few years, Manager Mack said: "To tell you the truth I am banking very strongly on this youngster. He is more than an experiment because I am pretty certain of what he can do. He may be slow starting, but he is going to be a great ball player,

"I have had my eye on him for a couple of years, and when I was told he was starring up in a summer league in Maine, I thought I had better pull him in. Yes, he was at Shawheagon, but I don't think he will play in any more small towns like that. A lot of young ball players go to pieces unexpectedly and he may do the same thing, but I doubt it very much. He looks mighty good."

Getting information out of Mack about some of his future prospects, one of whom is his shortstop who is going to join the team in June, is like questioning the Sphinx. The wizard manager has many youngsters under cover who are to report to the Athletics this summer, but the one of greatest importance is the shortstop who is now attending college. Mack told the EVENING LEDGER representative early in the winter that this unknown is going to star from the first day he joins the team. Unless Connie is overestimating his own ability, it will not be long before the fanz will see a powerful team at Shibe Park.

Mrs. "Pop" Anson Never Was Official Scorer

We hate to spoil a perfectly good story, the one intimating that "Cap" Anson's wife was a great help to him in compiling his famous batting average, and that Mrs. Anson, who died a few days ago, was official scorer for the National League in Chicago for years, although Anson kept the fact a secret until after he had retired from the game.

Anson never needed any help to get his batting average, and what is more, Mrs. Anson was never official scorer and seldom attended the game in Chicago. As a matter of fact, the official scorer was a woman, whose name was kept secret for years, but her name was Mrs. Robert Brown and she was the mother of Charley Williams, the present secretary of the Chicago National League club.

Mrs. Brown Shrewd Enough to Become Manager

Mrs. Brown was related to Jim Hart and was known as one of the shrewdest baseball experts in the country, and had it not been for her sex would have had no trouble managing a ball team. She held the position because Manager Anson though she was better suited for the work than any newspaperman in pointed to a Hervard victory. The Crimson and her identity was kent secret at her own request. Chicago, and her identity was kept secret at her own request.

Charley Williams, Mrs. Brown's son, was secretary of the Cubs for years until the Federal League entered the field. He jumped to the Feds and handled the business end of the Whales, but when peace was made he was immediately given his old position by President Weeghman. Williams is rated as one of the game's cleverest business men.

Same's eleverest business men.

Navin Thinks Braves' Owners Have Hard Fight on Hands

At the annual banquet of the "Winter League" in Boston, Percy Haughton, new president of the "Braves," said: "I thought I was falling into something soft when I entered baseball, but in my short career as the president of a major league club I find that I was a d—fool for thinking so. There is more to this game, from a business standpoint, than one imagines; but I am big enough for the job and am going to make a success of it."

Haughton's remark that he finds baseball a tougher proposition than he list favorite distance.

Haughton's remark that he finds baseball a tougher proposition than he imagined recalls some interesting comment by President Navin, of the Detroit Club, a few moments before the American League magnates went into session in New York a week ago. Fresidents Lannin, of Boston; Navin, of Detroit; With Lippincott uninjured he would be a better man than Leanon, but the latter may the condition of 1915. Lennon has proved nagers Griffith, of Washington and Carrigan of Boston and several paper men were discussing the situation in Boston, when Navin voiced his views on the subject:

First Three Years Will be Hard on New Owners

"The new owners of the Boston Club will be very lucky indeed if they can | 3 hold up under the financial burden they are carrying," said Navin. "The Boston National League franchise is one of the best in the game if the property had been included in the sale; but it will take a pennant winner and the receipts of a world's series or two within the first five years to enable Haughton and his associates to get back the money they have put in the club.

"The published purchase price has probably been exaggerated; but, any way you look at it, the new owners have a fight on their hands. The enormous rent of Gaffney's new park is a great handleap. In the long run Haughton and his associates must make a lot of money, as the game is growing rapidly. The first two or three years will be their hardest. If they stick to their guns, if the breaks go against them, they must make good."

Bill Carrigan, who understands the situation in Boston about as well as anybody, then voiced his opinion as to where Gaffney stands with his marvelous and expensive new park. Bill said that plans were under way to build business places beneath the mammoth stands, and that these will enable Gaffney to clear a tidy sum on the investment if he can keep them tenanted. According to Carrigan there should be no trouble doing this, as the park is ideally situated and can be made attractive and profitable for automobile concerns. Carrigan thinks the garage privilege also is certain of netting Caffney a large profit.

The New York Giants are taking Roy Elsh, the Upland outfielder, to the training camp at Marlin. This lad looks like a natural hitter and has a chance to stick as utility outfielder, but it is said he is already under contract with the Chicago Cubs. If this is so, Tinker probably will say nothing until he learns 149 and 233. what McGraw thinks of the youngster. If Elsh looks good Tinker will claim him, while if he falls the Cub leader probably will say nothing,

Otto Knabe claims that Hickman, who played in the outfield for the Baltimore Feds under the name of Hicks, during the latter part of last season, is one of the best looking youngsters he has seen in years, and cannot understand why some major league club has not picked him up. We mentioned this some time ago. He appears to be a better prospect than several veterans who have been purchased.

It was reported here last night that Billy Gibson, manager of Benny Leonard, He was dickering for a bout between the new lightweight sensation and Champion Fred Weish in New York. It is probable that the Briton will insist on Leonard establishing a reputation or have some other foolish alibi. Leonard will have trouble getting Weish into the ring, and it is a safe bet that Fred will have an up-to-date reason for passing up the New York knockerout.

The New York American League club has signed a long-term contract with the owners of the Giants for the use of the Polo Grounds and it is doubtful if Huston and Ruppert will exercise the option they hold on a property upon which they were going to build a new park. The terms were not made public, but it is understood that it calls for an enormous sum per year,

It is rather difficult to get a line on the relative strength of the independent collegiate basketball teams of the State. Pitt apparently had a clear road to the title when it defeated Yale, Swarthmore and State so easily, but the Blue and Gold fell before Lehigh in a close battle, after which State, which had previously been easily beaten by Pitt, came back and outclassed Lehigh.





PENNSYLVANIA RELAY TEAM IS **AGAIN STRONG**

If Record for Mile Event Is Again Broken, Red and Blue Should Do It

THE BIG FEATURES

The University of Pennsylvania ought to have another invincible one-mile relay team. Not only that, but if their present world record of 3 minutes 18 seconds, when they heat Harvard, is to be broken, the Quakers themselves are the team to break it. This is the only possible con-clusion from the way one Quaker quartet ran away from Harvard's famous team on Monday night.

All indications in advance of the race while Pennsylvania was running two new men. But the new men made good and showed that they are better than the men they displaced

From the Pennsylvania standpoint the feature of the race was the fine running his favorite distance.

there is no reason why he should not beat 50 seconds outdoors. Joe Lockwood is be-ginning to round into condition, so that any way the team is viewed the Quakers ought to be faster than they were last

in 1915. The present one-mile team is the same that Penn beat indoors a year the same that Penn beat indoors a year ago, but not the same as the Quakers beat outdoors. Pennypacker and Teschner, who ran indoors, were succeeded by Capper and Tower for the outdoor race. The latter two have now graduated so that Pennypacker and Teschner are the best of the quarter-milers left.

Bowling Alley Topics

"Count" John Gengler, the mysterious Ba-arian bowler who failed to appear on local lbests, will try his skill as a member of a loboken, N. J., twe-man team, which will own at the American Congress tourney start-ng in Toledo March 4.

The Strawbridge & Clothier teams are to ill their weekly matches on Casino Alleya night, and the outerine is awaited with in-rest by devotees of the pastime in the hig-partment store.

The leaders of the Aritsan League were bumped last night. Underdown, No. 1, which is in first place in Section A series, dropped two games to Hartram. Only one of the latter team reached the double century figures, this being Hopkins, who knocked down 214 in his dual game.

The Keystone League squads are scheduled tonight on Keystone Alleys, while the National Hank League will resume its games on the Terminal drives. George Moss smashed out a 207 count Progressives in the first game last night.

Progressive was in fair form for a squad high is in seventh place, by registering scores \$29, 219 and \$96 against Adelphi, who is second position. The defeat was in the sal game, when the runner-up totaled \$19.

McCorkie, of Adelphi, hung up a 622-pin acore lest night, improving with each game. He began with 180, and followed with 218 and 224, the latter score helping to turn the tide against Progressive.

Possters falled to gain an Northwestern of suffered a triple reverse. The team, as whole, falled to solve the alleys to any tent. Such seas-tied experts as likel, John and Hayes falled to reach 170 pins in of their games.

THIS YEAR FOR LAST TIME

MATHEWSON MAY GO SOUTH

"Old Master" Starts His Sixteenth Major League Campaign When Giants Open the 1916 Season

ers by the score.

Close to Everything

The Last Stand

Mathewson

the game has meant to him.

pitching.

By GRANTLAND RICE Because he had the stuff.

THRISTY MALHEWSON is packing his | Ugrip today for his sixteenth trip to the training zone of Sunland.

The question now is-will this be his last jaunt over Dixle's spring border, or will be be able to foil Fate for a few sea-sons longer by eliminating the malady in his left shoulder, while bolling out under Texas skies?

An Institution

Matty, we started to say, was a New York institution. But he is also a national institution through the great credit he has given his country's leading sport. But he is peculiarly a New York institution, as he has never pitched a ball for any other major league club in his entire career.

July, 1900

Mathewson joined the Giants in July, 1900, and pitched his first game against Brooklyn on July 17. In that first battle he lasted but four

innings before a fusillade of swats drove him to cover. He made three starts that first campaign and each brought him defeat. So his first year's average was exactly and precisely .000.

The March of Time

Matty has been going South with the Glants each spring for so many years that few can believe that this may be his last journey to Balldom's sunbelt. Youngsters who from the bleachers

watched his first games are now approaching the rim of middle age. He has gone along at such enduring, even strides that few have noticed the march of time. In these 15 years of service Mathewson average of 35 games c year, and has put

away nearly 46d victories.

No wonder Giant fans will anxiously scan reports on his condition as they read daily bulletins announcing the progress of his work.

The Why of It Why, you may ask, has Mathewson been lifted to such a pedestal?

Schools Agree to Stage Grid-

iron Match on Polo Grounds

ARMY AND NAVY AGAIN IN NEW YORK TODAY TO PLAY IN NEW YORK

Representatives of Service Saratoga to Begin Training Anew

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—While no official anouncement of the fact has been made as yet, the Army-Navy football game this fall will be played at the Polo grounds. Representatives of the service schools met President Harry N. Hempstead of the Glants, at the Biltmore Hotel yesterday when, it is understood, a tentative agreement was reached as to the scene of the gridiron classic of 1918. An official announcement will be made Friday.

A year ago the Army and Navy offi-cials had a very serious argument over the matter of grounds, so serious that at one time it appeared as if the institutions might sever football relations. The Navy, which had been beaten on its first trip to New York, offered serious objections to New York, offered serious objections to

the Polo grounds. It was asserted that the trip from Annanoils to New York was altogether too tedious. Finally a compromise was ef-fected whereby it was agreed for a period of five years to alternate between the Polo grounds and any field the Navy directors might select. This assured the codets of appearing at the Polo grounds cadets of appearing at the Polo grounds in 1917 and 1919.

Driving Club Election

Election of officers of the Philadelphia County Driving Club follows: President, James S. Morrison; vice president, Walter H. Worthington; secretary, S. M. Bus-singer; treasurer, Ralph Simons; board singer; treasurer, Raiph Simons; noard of directors, E. O. Mauger, James Keenan, W. H. Worthington, J. W. Babbington, William L. Hayes, William H. Lingo, S. M. Bussinger, George V. Doan, Samuel P. Knight, A. S. Paxson, Ralph Simons and C. H. Medford.

Penn Crews on River Saturday Pann's crews will get out on the water Saturday afternoon, according to Coact Wright. The Hed and line aspirants have been tagging at the machine for a monti-and are in fairly good shape.

JESS WILLARD DUE

And still more, because he mixed more

You have heard of his brain and his courage; of his fadeaway and his control;

But with this he also had a great speed. "I have pitched a good many games," he told us recently, "back in the old days—

or the young days-when I relied entirely

upon my fast one. I must confess I like to bust 'em through just to see how fast I could make the ball travel."

He had everything—but what is even more to the focus, he knew how, why and

Being the sort of an institution he is, there is more than local interest in Matty's battle against Time and Fate at Mariin.

A youngster would have a better chance. But Big Six is close upon 36 years of age—mere-youth in some pro-

fessions, but beyond the gray prime of

whether he will be able to take his regu-lar turn this summer. But we happen to know that he feels keener about pitch-

ing now than he ever felt before. As much as he has meant to the game, he has never realized before just how much

himself doesn't

of his curve ball and his judgment.

Frank Moran Will Depart for

NEW YORK, Feb. 24. - Jess Willard, the pale and interesting invalid, of Chi-cago, is due here today. About the same time Charles Francis Moran is due to leave for another sojourn at Saratogs Springs. The chances are that the two wealthy gladiators will not meet until they hop into the same ring at Madison Square Carden on the night of March 25. Tom Jones wires that the big cowboy was never in better health since the days when he tossed the literal bull on the wind-swept plains of distant Kansas. Frank Moran is a walking advertisement as to the state of his own health.

Jack Curley, the eminent wrestling moter, officially notified Rickard and Mc-Cracken that he had chartered the Pioneer Athletic Club, where Willard will do his formal conditioning. As was hinted earlier in the month, the public will be welcomed every afternoon at from 25 cents to 50 cents per welcome. This is done to keep the objectionable persons out of the way. In the bright and practical lexicon of Jack Curley and Tom. Jones, any person who is shy 25 cents or 50 cents is an objectionable perso

Huhn and Brooke Win

Although they had to give their op-ponents half the game, W. H. T. Huhn and George Brooke defeated James Pot-ter and John B. Longacre in the final round of the court tennis doubles handicap of 1915, at the Racquet Club yester-day, by three sets to none.

OLYMPIA A. A. Broad & Bainbridge.
MONDAY NIGHT, 8:30 SHARP
NEIL McCUE vs. BOHBY HANSEN
YOUNG PALMER vs. SOLLY WOODS
PRANKIE WHITE vs. LARRY HANSEN
JOHNNY MAYO vs. WILLIE DOYLE Pete Herman vs. Lew Tendler

PENN BUT HALF GAME IN LEAD **OVER TIGERS**

Victory for Princeton Keeps Team in Running for Collegiate Title

And because more than that, he has always given his best to the game through clean living and earnest effort. When called upon he was always ready to furnish his share, and a good bit more, in or JASPER BEATS CAMDEN

Standing of the Teams

brain with his brawn than any pitcher in a game that has had smart, brainy pitch-The knowledge that an unusual amount of brains and courage were working in the box on the day be pitched gave Mathewson the bulk of his fame and SCHEDULE FOR REMAINDER OF WEEK, Friday-Cornell vs. Columbia, at New York, Saturday-Vale vs. Pennsylvania, at Phila-delphia; Dartmouth vs. Princeton, at Princeadded measurably to the respect in which for 16 years he has been held, by home and hostile fan alike.

Penn's basketball team arrived home today with but a half game advantage over Princeton. The Tigers kept them-Mathewson, in his best years, came about as close to "having everything" as a mere mortal could come. selves in the running for the championship of the Intercollegiate Basketball League by taking a fast and hard fought game from the Quakers at Princeton last night by a 28 to 20 count.

It was one of the most hotly contested games of the season, and though Prince-ton led throughout, Pennsylvania was always within striking distance. The work of Captain McNichol alone kept the Pennsylvania team in the race, for during the first half no other Red and Blue player was able to score a goal, and not till the end of the game was there any semblance of accurate shooting by the other Pansylvania forwards.

scoring distance, the shooting power was acking. Time and again a basket would be missed by a hair's breadth, the closeness of many of the shots keeping the vast crowd gasping with excitement

Standing of the Teams

W.L.P.C. 21 10 .677 De Nert. . . 16 17 .485 20 14 .588 Jasper . . . 13 21 .882 16 17 .514 Trenton . . 12 21 .364 TONIGHT'S SCHEDULE. Greystock at Jasper

The Jasper quintet gave Camden's pennant hopes another jolt last night when the Kensington boys won an extra-period series by a score of 33 to 31. It was one of the most exciting finishes to any game played in the league this season.

In the extra period Adams and Sedran each tossed a foul goal, and then, on a long pass from Friedman, Fox got the ball and dropped the winning field goal.

BASKETBALL NOTES

That little setback by Reading will make De Neri work extremely hard if the Duddles wish to finish in the first division.

Greystock will invade the precinct of Kensington this ovening and give battle to the close-covering Jasper live. After Jasper's battle with Camden last night a victory for the Greys wouldn't surprise many.

For some reason or other former press agents of the Elastern League are taking falls out of the magnates these days. One would think to listen to the wait that the Eastern was going to close up shop, but it won't. A thorough overhauting wouldn't hurt the league, however.

Chestnut Hill Academy will play the alumni of the school Saturday evening. This is the main event on the Chestnut Hill schedule.

George Norman, the former Intersta-player, made a good Impression in the fo-minutes that he played with Reading again De Nert. He will replace Beggs in the Rea-ing formation, as the latter's ankle will pr-hibit him from playing any more this seaso



SWIMMING HAS SPEEDY GROWTH IN LAST 15 YEARS

Performance of Experts Shows Aquatics Have Risen to High Estate

NOW A MAJOR SPORT

Fifteen years ago swimming was an in-fant in swaddling clothes; today it is a vigorous lad past the period of adolescence and far advanced on the rosy highway of

reactively.

To trace the progress of swimming would be to outline the march of events in the life of one our our most universal sports, one that had its inception in the old mill pond or the quarry hole, and one which today stands pre-eminent is our clubs and colleges. Its growth has been marvalous.

Swimming—competitive swimming—is the last la years has made such sensational strides that it can be likened to the midget in the Seven-league Boots. The records made in 1901 by experts, so-called, are today overshadowed and hidden in shame by the novice, the calibre of swimmer that 15 years ago was looked upon as meritorious.

The mateeric progression of the competency of the calibre of swimmer than 15 years ago was looked upon as meritorious.

The meteoric progress made by the sport is shown best by the American swimmers in competition. Our first big triumph of in competition. Our first big triumps of world-wide interest was scored back in 1906, at the Athens Olympic games, when Daniels captured the 190-metre event. In fact, this was the only success registered by the standard-bearers of the United States at these international games; all other representatives of this courty loss. other representatives of this country took

This first international triumph, how-ever, four years after showed itself to be the stepping stone to a larger success. In 1908 the American Olympic team competed in London, and, although our British hosts planned and plotted to fleec us out of the team prize—as shown by their jug-uling of the polymers. gling of the point score and the Dorando episode—they were unable to check among other victories, the recurrent success of Daniels in the sprints. Rich, of Boston, and Gaidzik, of Chicago, was places in the finals.

places in the finals.

But the best evidence of the steady growth of swimming in this country was manifested in the Olympic games at Stockohlm, Sweden, in 1912. At this international affair Charlie Daniels, twics victor in the Olympics, did not compete, but the interest and application of the sport in this country was not to be denied. The American watermen were crowned victors in many races. Hebner, a Chicagoan, came in first in the backa Chleasoan, came in first in the back-stroke race, and the American relay team landed second place in competition with the best amateur quartets in the world. In the 100-metre event this country came in for another big victory. Duke Kahanamoku, our Hawaiian representa-tive, and Husyaph another Chiescon

tive, and Huszagh, another Chicagoan, captured first and third respectively.

To the wonderful skill of Kahanamoku is accredited many records both in the tank and in open water. He is not a tank and in open water. He is not a Duke as many suppose, but simply carries this name because his parents did not choose to call him David or Denald. He is, in reality, a sen of the surf, spending most of his time in the big green combers that wash the shores of the Island of Ohau. His cousin, Akana played first base several years ago on the University of Hawaii baseball team that tours the United States every summer.

mer. Of course, this holder of many swiming the first half no other Red and Blue player was able to score a goal, and not till the end of the game was there any semblance of accurate shooting by the other Pennsylvania forwards.

The whirlwind passing and lightning shooting of the Tiger five completely bewildered the Pennsylvanians, and the visiting guards seemed entirely unable to cope with the fast attack of the Princeton men. Though the Pennsylvania five uncovered a swift passing game and continuity worked the ball up to within easy scoring distance, the shooting power was front as one of the less forms of exercise.

front as one of the best forms of exercise when taken in moderation. It develops when taken in moderation. It develops virtually every muscle in the system, is a producer of strength combined with grace, and fits one to the worldays of life In many of the schools and colleges-Prince-ton, for example-it is as much a part of the curriculum as algebra and English Should a person know how to cars for himself or herself there would be fewer drownings.

But an angle of the sport that is little considered is this: Swimming is unious inasmuch that athletes have won championships in the water at a time when, had they been track stars, baseball play-ers or footballers, they would be classed among the old-timers and placed on the list of the retired.

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EVENING LEDGER MOVIES-BUT THE GREATEST PUZZLE, CROESUS, IS WHY ARE THEY? ANSWER: IKE DORGAN AND TOM JONES















