

PAST RECORDS OF ATHLETICS PROVE CONNIE MACK HAS BEEN DEVELOPER OF PITCHERS

CONNIE MACK HAS ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO DEVELOP A PITCHER WHEN IN A PINCH

Morgan, Coombs, Krause, Dygert and Others Hurlled Well Because the Athletic Leader Infused Unbounded Confidence in Them

CONNIE MACK needs no defender, and the veteran "sportsman" who has taken great delight in belittling everything the master manager has done in baseball will have a hard time convincing the fans that the Athletics will not come back within a year.

He says that in nine years Mack has not developed a twirler, and that only the great natural ability of Plank, Coombs and Bender enabled Mack to become famous.

All had great natural talent, but it would never have been brought out had it not been for Mack. Those who recall the first days of the Athletics in 1901 remember how Mack and Mike Powers worked with Plank every morning, and how "green" Bender was when he joined the Mackmen three years later.

Had Patience With Chief Bender

To have released Bender would have ruined him, as his disposition at that time would have caused him to go to pieces, but not one manager in a hundred would have had the patience, and with the aid of the brilliant Powers, developed Bender into a twirler.

Mack's greatest work probably was done with Coombs. Occasionally Coombs showed flashes of great ability, but for a year after his famous 24-inning battle with "Jumbo" Harris in Boston, Coombs was useless.

It is hard for the fans who have seen Coombs show such wonderful nerve and gameness in pinches to believe that fellow players accused him of lacking nerve until Jack had been made to believe by Mack that he was a great pitcher.

Coombs Game, But Lacked Confidence

Coombs always was game, but he lacked confidence, and when the breaks of the game went against him he went completely to pieces until Mack gave him the confidence which made him one of the greatest pitchers the game has produced.

Still Mack is accused of being a victim of circumstances because he happened to have three great twirlers. Mack was responsible for the success of the famous trio, and the claim that he has been unable to develop pitchers is proven false by the cases of "Cy" Morgan, Jimmy Dygert and Harry Krause.

Morgan Was Considered a Great Joke

When Mack sent Vic Schlitzler, last season in the Delaware County League, to Boston for Morgan, other managers laughed. They declared that Morgan was the joke pitcher of baseball.

When Bender was taken ill and Eddie Plank had a lame shoulder just at the time when they were needed most in 1910, Mack was up against it and proved himself a master developer of pitchers by making a star of Morgan.

There were other hurlers on the staff, but Mack took his two uncertainties and told them they were to carry the pitching burden alone for a few weeks.

Connie Demonstrated His Baseball Talent

Morgan and Coombs went to the mound every other day for almost three weeks and 14 out of 16 games were won, one of the defeats being charged against Jimmy Dygert who went to the mound in one game of a double-header.

Dygert and Krause were handicapped physically, and neither ever had a chance to be a star for more than a few years, but by wonderful handling, Mack won a pennant with the latter and nearly upset Detroit in 1907 with the other.

This game was started by Dygert, who had been pitching wonderful ball. He was not strong enough to stand the pace and being a poor fielder Detroit put him up in the air in the first inning when Jones, McIntyre and Cobb beat out bunts.

O'Loughlin Robbed Dygert of a Reputation

Eddie Plank finished the game, which was called at the end of the 17th inning on account of darkness. Had Dygert gotten away with the first game (a double-header having been scheduled), it is likely that Mackmen would have won the pennant and the hero would have been Jimmy Dygert—a pitcher who would never have been given a chance with the average manager.

Had it not been for Harry Krause's 11 victories out of his first 12 starts, the Mackmen would have been so far out of the race in 1910 that it would have been impossible for them to have won. Krause was never effective after that streak, and had really not shown enough to warrant the confidence Mack placed in him.

There has been no need for Mack to waste time on too many youngsters as long as he had his great veteran trio, but the fact remains that every time he has needed a new twirler to pull him through, the wizard-manager has uncovered him.

Wyckoff Has Developed in Last Two Years

In 1914 he started to develop Wyckoff, but Bush fell away a trifle. The progress made with Wyckoff has not been so noticeable, because the Williamsport lad had a miserable team behind him in 1915, when he was just striking his stride.

At the recent meeting of the American League in New York, the Athletics were thoroughly dissected by the managers of other teams, all of whom were present but Flander Jones and Hughie Jennings.

In 1914 he started to develop Wyckoff, but Bush fell away a trifle. The progress made with Wyckoff has not been so noticeable, because the Williamsport lad had a miserable team behind him in 1915, when he was just striking his stride.

IT HAPPENS IN THE BEST REGULATED FAMILIES



STORIES IN PAPER WIN MAT BOUTS FOR JOE STECHER

Opponents Warned Against "Scissors," Often Leave Openings for Other Holds

ONLY 22 YEARS OLD

Joe Stecher, the phenomenal young wrestler, brought from oblivion by the revival of the mat game, says many of his matches have been won for him by newspapers.

"On account of the dope written about me I am known as the chap with a wonderful leg scissors hold," says Stecher.

"The unexpected counts in wrestling is in boxing, baseball or business," Stecher is called the "Boy in Overalls."

Stecher scales around 200, but seems small for the weight. At that, he is light for the heavyweight wrestling game.

The boy has had 61 bouts. His shoulders have never touched the mat. He won the American championship by defeating Charles Cutler, a veteran at the game.

In the international tournament at New York he defeated the sensational Masked Marvel and is in the running for the \$10,000 to be given to the winner of the tourney.

GUY NICKALLS CHEERFUL ON YALE CREW PROSPECTS

Eli Coach Believes Material Can Be Made Into Winning Boat

NEW HAVEN, Feb. 29.—Guy Nickalls, Yale's crew coach, who has just arrived from a three months' vacation in England, has taken charge of the development of Yale crews, and after looking over the men stated that he believed he had enough good material at hand out of which to build a winning varsity crew.

In discussing Yale's prospects in crew for 1916 Coach Nickalls said today: "The squad consists of excellent material, so there is no reason why we should not turn out another championship crew. It is true that seven members of the Harvard crew which rowed at New London in June are rowing in the first boat again this year, while four members of Yale's championship eight were lost by graduation.

Wilson Wins at Billiards

The Class B amateur pocket billiard tournament opened at Allinger's Academy last evening with eight entrants. The leading amateurs were Wilson and Belmont. Wilson got off with a good lead in the first two innings, while Belmont appeared a trifle nervous, and could not get going until the fourth inning.

F. C. Appleby Defeats Brother

NEW YORK, Feb. 29.—In the opening game of the 10th annual national amateur class A, 8-2 billiard championship tournament here tonight, Francis S. Appleby, of New York, defeated his brother, Edgar F. Appleby, by a score of 400 to 200.

MYSTERY OF WILLARD LENDS PSYCHIC EFFECT TO BIG BOUT

Thousands Will Visit Battle to Get Close View of Jess and Form Own Opinions as to His Calibre

The Veteran Speaks

"I know what's what," said the Veteran, as he looked one back to me: "The early sun in these trains' camps ain't hot like it used to be."

"My legs is good as they ever was," said the Veteran unto me: "But I wish to be—I could get this kink rubbed out of my aching knee; There ain't no heat in the sun," he snarled.

"I can hit that pill," said the Veteran, "I am there with the wallop still; And the old third baseman scowled again, As old third baseman will; 'It's funny,' he said, as he looked around To see that nobody heard— 'They got five kids in the draft this year And four of them play third.'"

Richard the Shrewd

Psychology of the Big Bout

The Willard Debate

TENNEY TO PLAY IN NEWARK

NEWARK, N. J., Feb. 29.—Fred Tenney, the new manager of the Newark International League baseball team, made a visit to this city and inspected both the Federal League grounds and Wiedenmayer's Park and declared he was undecided which would be more suitable for the coming season.

SINCLAIR THROUGH WITH GAME

CLARK WINS FROM FINK

PHILADELPHIAN LOSES FIRST MATCH FOR POCKET BILLIARD TITLE

SPORTSMEN'S SHOW MAR. 4

WILSON WINS AT BILLIARDS

GREYSTOCK GAINS BIGGER LEAD IN EASTERN LEAGUE

Pace-Makers Score Easy Win by Trimming Trenton, 30 to 19

BUDD DEFEATS GIRARD

Eastern League Standing LAST NIGHT'S RESULTS.

Club Standing

The Greystock team again opened its lead in the Eastern League race. Last night at Trenton the Greys piled up a lead of 13 points in the first half of the game with the Tigers, and had no trouble in winning by a score of 30 to 19.

During the entire first half the visitors presented an impenetrable defense and Trenton failed to score a field goal.

Captain Barnett, Collins, Betmer, Lagner, Hanner, Gouwer and Elmer all played.

The calling of an extra "time out" after they had had their limit caused Girard to go down to defeat at the hands of E. G. Budd, at the Quaker City Athletic Club's Hall, last night, by the score of 23 to 22.

Card Pitcher's Contention Upheld, Tony Smith Turned Down

CINCINNATI, Feb. 29.—The national baseball commission has refused the application of Player Tony Smith, of the Galveston club, to be declared a free agent.

PHILADELPHIAN LOSES FIRST MATCH FOR POCKET BILLIARD TITLE

SPORTSMEN'S SHOW MAR. 4

WILSON WINS AT BILLIARDS

SCHOOL FIVES MAKING USUAL CLAIM ON TITLE

Basketball Teams Take Turns, Announcing They Are "Real Champions"

TAKE YOUR PICK

Scholastic Basketball Schedule for Today

HIGH SCHOOL LEAGUE

Table with 2 columns: School Name and Score. Includes Southern High vs. Northeast High, etc.

OTHER CONTESTS

High School League Standings

The usual winter competition among the preparatory school athletes, claiming the Eastern basketball title, has started with Piddle Institute and George School having a spirited controversy as to the winners for the season of 1915.

Perhaps Swarthmore Preparatory School, Bethlehem Preparatory, Haverford School and a few others have no claim. It is more than likely that two or three more claims will be made before the season comes to an end.

Locally speaking, scholastic contests are about ready to concede championship honors in the High School League to Central High School and in the Catholic Schools' championship series to the Joseph's College. Everything has a tendency in that direction.

A telephone call from an Ernest Jones correspondent brought the "official" information that the Central High School basketball team, which has been postponed until Wednesday to play this week's Philadelphia basketball league, is published for the benefit of the scholastic basketball fans.

At the same time it should be stated that the High School League office has failed to make any effort whatsoever to get the public through the changes made in the plan of the Philadelphia basketball league.

During the entire first half the visitors presented an impenetrable defense and Trenton failed to score a field goal.

Merioneth High School's basketball players made it 11 straight in the game with the Greystock team.

Captain Barnett, Collins, Betmer, Lagner, Hanner, Gouwer and Elmer all played.

The calling of an extra "time out" after they had had their limit caused Girard to go down to defeat at the hands of E. G. Budd, at the Quaker City Athletic Club's Hall, last night, by the score of 23 to 22.

Card Pitcher's Contention Upheld, Tony Smith Turned Down

CINCINNATI, Feb. 29.—The national baseball commission has refused the application of Player Tony Smith, of the Galveston club, to be declared a free agent.

PHILADELPHIAN LOSES FIRST MATCH FOR POCKET BILLIARD TITLE

SPORTSMEN'S SHOW MAR. 4

WILSON WINS AT BILLIARDS

Advertisement for eyeglasses featuring a cartoon of a man with a weak eye and text: 'I'D BE A WONDER IN THE RING... ONLY MY EYES IS WEAK... CAN YOU INFORM ME DOCTOR... THE REASON FOR THAT AILMENT? WELL CLARENCE, IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT YOU HAVE WEAK EYES... THEY'RE IN A WEAK PLACE... IF YOU CAN'T SEE THE JOKE, USE THIS TELESCOPE... AB-50-LUTEL GRATIS'