

# BASKETBALL IN COLLEGES SUFFERS FROM LACK OF FORESIGHT IN OFFICIAL LEGISLATION

## INTERCOLLEGIATE LEAGUE NEEDS LEGISLATION FOR PLAYING OFF TIES IN CAGE

### Officials of Organization Were Not Prepared When Penn and Princeton Finished Season With Same Percentage

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA basketball authorities deserve commendation for arranging to play off the tie for the intercollegiate championship with Princeton. The American public likes decisions, and while either team would have been well within its rights in declining to take part in a post-season series, such a refusal would have hurt the collegiate game.

With the two teams willing to decide the question of superiority, the officials of the Intercollegiate League should pass some legislation that will automatically provide for the playing off of such ties before the season starts. There should be some such agreement between the six teams before their first games are played. Pennsylvania and Princeton are doing their part in setting a happy precedent without compulsion, but a matter of such importance ought not to be left to chance.

Since the season ended, Princeton men have been confident that they could beat Pennsylvania in any kind of a series agreed upon. And now that the Quaker team is likely to be weakened by the ineligibility of one or more men who starred in making the league race a tie, the Tigers' chances are brighter than ever.

Donald G. Herring, the famous Tiger athlete and critic, figures it out thus in the Princeton Alumni Weekly:

"On recent form there appears to be some little difference between the league leaders. McNichol's wonderful foul shooting, of course, is a great asset to his team, but attention must be called to the fact that Princeton is not fouling much lately. Against Dartmouth Princeton fouled six times to their opponents' ten, against Cornell three times to their opponents' four. As a field goal scoring team Princeton is superior to Penn, while Princeton also guards more closely."

### Leuhring Proves to be Excellent Coach

Pennsylvania has been given much credit for its wonderful fight against great odds in the Intercollegiate Basketball League struggle—and the credit is deserved—but no one should overlook Princeton in handing out bouquets. Pennsylvania has won basketball championships before; Princeton has not. Basketball for many years was nothing more than a farce, as it was played by Orange and Black teams. Such well-versed basketball men as Marvin A. Rifley, Gus Enderbrook, Fred Cooper and Harry Hough all tried to turn out winners at Princeton and all were dismal failures.

Then came Fred Leuhring with the system that won championships for the University of Chicago, and immediately Princeton began to pick up in the intercollegiate struggle. The Tigers won five games in a row, and then faltered on the homestretch because of injuries to the players.

The Jungletown five lost two of their first three games this year, and then went through the season without another defeat. The two games in which they were defeated were only lost by one and two points. Leuhring's strength will be told in the team that he develops next year, for McTigue, the best center in the league; Ferec, a rattling fine forward, and Davies, a guard of the first water, all graduate this June. Gilck, substitute guard, and Butterworth, substitute center, are others who graduate.

### Tennis Committee "Shoots" at Westerners

The recommendation of the Executive Committee of the United States National Lawn Tennis Association to prohibit clubs paying expenses, is a direct slap at the Westerners who have been successful on Eastern courts. It is a long way from the Golden Gate to Forty-second street and there is no reason why some of the Western cracks should not be assisted financially in making their annual jaunts to enter the tournaments in the East.

Then, too, their stand on the amateur question is by no means sound or logical. If the association does what the executive committee desires Tom Bundy, Maurice McLaughlin, Wallace Johnson and others will have to give up their positions in order to play in open tournaments. The committee states, and very properly, that a man should not be declared a professional because he sells sporting goods or allows his name to be used in their sale. They want, however, to keep men who do these things barred at the time they are engaged in such business.

### Great Walking Marvel Discovered

Toronto has uncovered another walking sensation. Wallace Jackson, tutored by George Goulding, the greatest of all walkers, is turning out miles in exhibitions in the Canadian city in better than 6:40. Jackson has been walking the heel-and-toe way less than six months, and gives every indication of developing even faster than Goulding. The latter was a distance runner—or thought he was. He ran in the Olympic marathon in London in 1908 and finished so far in the ruck that he took to heel and toe walking, and in less than a year he was the best in the world. Now it is an uncommon thing for him to walk a mile slower than six minutes and 30 seconds.

### Durborow to Attempt Chesapeake Bay Swim

Charles Durborow, Philadelphia's famous long-distance swimmer, who is rated as the finest endurance and long-distance speed swimmer in the world, and the one man who will eventually swim the English Channel as soon as the hostile fleets and submarines vacate, has just arranged to make his second attempt at the most difficult swimming feat this country provides.

The Philadelphian will endeavor to swim across the mouth of Chesapeake Bay, from Cape Henry to Fisherman's Island, a distance of more than 30 miles, entailing swimming through rough seas and buffeted by treacherous currents and forced to detour frequently because of shoals. He has set Saturday, June 24, for the attempt, and will start at 10:30 o'clock at night with the expectation of swimming all night and finishing Sunday afternoon before dark.

Last year Durborow attempted this task, but was forced to give up after he had covered more than 25 miles, and had been in the water nearly 12 hours. He was forced to discontinue by the rough water. Since that time the Quaker "water dog" has made a close study of the waters in the vicinity of the Virginia Capes and of the currents and tides, with the result that he hopes to escape many of the baffling cross-currents and tides by making his start late at night.

While the individual wrestling feats of Mike Dorias, of Penn, fully occupy all of the time and attention of wrestling men in this section, the feats of Penn State on the mat have been generally overlooked. The up-State collegians have made a remarkable record since they took up the wrestling game in 1910. In the seven years that W. T. Lewis coached the team it won 28 out of 35 meets. Cornell is the only college in the Intercollegiate Wrestling League Association which has defeated Penn State. Singularly enough, the Middies have won three out of four times from State. In all probability the State team will enter the intercollegiate next season.

There are three members of last season's Richmond (International League) team at the Athletics' camp. They are Pick, Thompson and Morrietta. Mack already has sent three or four players to Dunn as part payment for these men, and it is likely that one left and two right-handed pitchers, an infielder and a catcher also will be sent to Jack Dunn for further seasoning when the Mackmen return to Philadelphia.

The passage by the New Jersey Legislature of a bill which permits boxing under amateur rules and its subsequent enactment into a law by the stamp of Governor Fielder on it paved the way for big things in a boxing way in Jersey. Already promoters are getting busy, and in North Jersey no less than a dozen tournaments are planned.

The bouts cannot exceed four rounds, and the rules which govern A. A. U. boxing will have to be adhered to.

Following precedent established by James E. Sullivan and Gustavus Towne Kirby, George J. Turner, the president of the Amateur Athletic Union, is to make a tour of the country in the interest of amateur athletics. Turner is the most popular president of the A. A. U. since Sullivan held the job, and if any one can bring order out of chaos Turner is the man who can do it.

Catcher Bill Meyers, of the Athletics, is only 23 years old, but has a good deal of baseball experience. Almost everybody has been marveling at the knowledge Meyers has of the fine points of catching and could not understand where he had picked them up, until Meyers informed Mack that he had been under the wing of Bill Sullivan, the veteran catcher, while with the White Sox, four years ago.

In general appearance, Stellbauer reminds one of Rube Oldring, and several of the young pitchers who work against him declare that he hits like Oldring. As the latter was cloaking the ball unusually hard, it is easy to see that the pitchers believe Stellbauer is worthy of great praise. Thompson or Walsh may beat him for a regular position this season, but after Stellbauer gets more experience he will make some one hustle to hold a position.

## KELLY—A TICKET TO THE FIGHT



## CRANE'S BATTING TO BE IMPROVED BY HARRY DAVIS

### Acting Manager Peeved at Athletics' Poor Game With Braves

### THOMPSON SHOWS WELL

MIAMI, Fla., March 24.—Very much peeved at the work of the Mackmen yesterday afternoon, Acting Manager Harry Davis ordered the men out to practice this morning. It is unusual for a ball team to practice on the road. Davis believed that it was necessary if the Mackmen were to make a decent showing during the remainder of the series with the Braves. Permission was secured to use the old field, which is a few squares away from the handsome little park constructed by the Braves this winter.

Davis' first move was to take Sam Crane in hand and try to improve his style at the plate. Harry says he does not remember ever seeing a major league player with such poor style at the bat. Harry has noticed the peculiar movement of Crane's forward feet in batting, and insisted this morning that Sam keep both feet firmly planted on the ground while swinging.

The youngster had a great deal of trouble doing this, as the habit has grown on him, and it is doubtful if he will be able to break himself. Sam bungled horribly in the field in the first game of the series yesterday, but Davis is not worried about his fielding ability.

A neat little lecture was handed out on calling for fly balls, which fell just beyond the infield. Malone and Crane were taken to task for making bad plays which permitted runners caught between the bases yesterday to get back to their base safely or advance another peg. Three such plays occurred yesterday, and all were responsible for runs.

The first game was really much closer and more interesting than the score would indicate, despite the blundering which handed Boston most of its runs. Joe Bush and Sam Crane were the greatest offenders and they handed the Braves enough runs to clinch the victory.

The box score shows that the National Leaguers made 10 hits, and would make it appear that the Mack twirlers were batted rather hard, but such was not the case. Five of the 10 hits would have been outs under ordinary conditions, but the youngsters in Davis' line-up became badly rattled at times and stood still, while fly balls fell safe between them.

There is no question but what the Braves are the best team, but yesterday was one of those days that the best team should not have won. The Mackmen made three runs, two of which were earned and they bunched their hits in fine style. The Braves did not bungle at critical stages, either by errors of commission, which count in the box score, or errors of omission.

It was just the opposite with the Mackmen. They made only two errors which appear in the box score, but their pegging to the bases and general handling of the ball was amateurish at times. Just as soon as they got these miscues out of

## Big Fight for Life of the Boxing Game

By JOHN L. SULLIVAN  
NEW YORK, March 24.—Much more than the individual fortunes of Jess Willard and Frank Moran will be at stake when these two big men crawl through the ropes at Madison Square Garden tomorrow night.

They will be up there fighting for the life or death of the boxing game, and certainly the fate at least of the heavyweight class will be in their hands alone during those 10 rounds.

Therefore, there ought to be a decisive result. There really should be a knockout. Both Willard and Moran possess the punch to put an opponent to sleep and both men ought to be trying to land that punch. If Moran can do it, he will enjoy perhaps as great popularity as any champion we have ever had, and if Willard does it, his victory will do much to rehabilitate him in the eyes of the sporting public, which has grown rather weary of his hippodrome tactics since he won the title.

By a Staff Correspondent  
ST. PETERSBURG, Fla., March 24.—In the 15 playing days spent by the Phillies in camp no member of the party has shown so much general improvement as Bert Niehoff. The second-sacker is not only playing better ball than is customary during the opening days of the training period, but he is cavorting about the key-stone station with more class and proficiency than during the campaign last year.

Originally a third baseman, Niehoff, by the force of circumstance, was shoved into the breach at the middle station last year. Naturally, he had a difficult role to assume. He had to keep step with a championship aggregation and cover a position to which he was unaccustomed. His playing, however, was much better than is generally believed.

During the daily work-out Niehoff has improved to the extent of dispelling the reports that he would be replaced at second during the approaching campaign. He covers a larger patch of ground, glides along easily with Banerott, and is handling himself as though he was baseball's original second-sacker.

Bert has also shown to good advantage with the willow in the last four encounters with the Cubs. He has done his bit by connecting in eight out of 16 trips to the plate. His improvement over last season, when he was beguiled by many critics, is one of the stock topics around St. Pete.

Novice Wins at Court Tennis  
C. B. Jennings, a novice of only a few weeks' experience, managed to score an advantage by defeating O. B. Hart in a court tennis handi-capped at the Racquet Club. The court was sets to 1.

## NIEHOFF'S PLAY IMPROVES OVER LAST SEASON'S

### Phils' Second Baseman Routs Rumor That He Is to Lose Job

### IS SHOWING GREAT FORM

Seventeen experts pick Jess Willard to win, while 14 are for Frank Moran. According to tradition, this would give the contender a shade, and with Jim Jay Corbett among those who favor the champion, Moran should have two shades.

Picking the winner of a big match seems to be a great indoor sport. Two local sportsmen who will leave tomorrow for New York

## BASKETBALL SHOULD BE MADE A MAJOR SPORT IN COLLEGES

IF ANY of the so-called minor sports has won the right to be classed as a "major," it is basketball. Not only at the University of Pennsylvania, but at other Eastern colleges, this midwinter pastime has beaten out all the other indoor sports. From the standpoint of popularity, with students and public it is on even terms with football, rowing and baseball. Yet at hardly any college in the country can a man win his letter in basketball.

Basketball has been knocking for admission to the hall of the major sports at Pennsylvania for a long time, but it has never been admitted. If the Quakers win the intercollegiate championship, doubtless the players will be permitted to wear the varsity letter. But when the game is put to the test which his supposed importance it ought not to be necessary to win a championship to be rewarded as a major.

These tests are two: Number of students who try for the team and its popularity with the public.

At Pennsylvania this year more than 100 students tried for the team, about the same number that tried for football, baseball and rowing. But it should be remembered that a basketball team is composed of five men, against 11 for football, nine for baseball and eight for a crew, not including the captain. So when it is considered that a man has from two to three times as many chances to win his letter in football, baseball or rowing that he has in basketball the size of the varsity letter, on what would have been really remarkable.

Finally, basketball is the only sport outside of football which earns a profit. At Pennsylvania this game has been more than earning its expenses for several years. The only reason that it pays is because it draws the crowds. And if it draws the students and crowds it certainly ought not to be expected to do anything else to gain recognition.

## SCRAPPY SCRAPS ABOUT SCRAPPERS

George Decher breaks into the spotlight tonight as a promoter. He will open the Lincoln Athletic Club, 49th street and Woodland avenue, with five bouts. The wind-up will be between Joe Hefner and Jack Toland. One of the bouts Eddie Hart meets Charley Kelly.

A territorial tilt will be decided tonight when Johnny Nelson and Eddie Mullen meet at the Nonparoli Club in the wind-up at the Quaker City. Johnny Miller will be opposed to Fighting Bob.

Joe Hrat, local welterweight, who is in Kansas City, probably will pair off with Ted Jimmy Murphy, of West Philadelphia, and Eddie McAndrew, of Manayunk, will meet in battle for supremacy in the state in the Olympia A. A. on Monday night. In the wind-up of the bouts, the center heavyweight from Felco, meets another Club formian, Sailor Jack Carroll.

## AMATEUR BASEBALL NOTES

The Harrow club would like to book games with 14-year-old teams for Saturday and Sunday during June, July and August. All such teams in and out of Philadelphia meeting this attraction address J. N. Lyman, 1314 Harlan street.

Philadelphia Hall, a colored team, has signed some of the leading colored players in the city and is open to meet such teams as St. North, Corley C. C., Aberdeen, etc. Address in H. Trull, 1238 Cambridge street.

Blue Bell, A. C. has organized for the season of 1916 and desires to schedule 10 or 15-year-old teams having grounds and paying a full guarantee. Address: Gus Troy, 810 South Lawrence street.

First Dutch will place a speedy semi-pro team on the field this season and is anxious to beat from teams in Philadelphia and vicinity, especially Fairhill A. C., Meadowbrook, Strawberry A. Club, Victor, Dewey, Heights, Hoshorn, Cape May, Willow, Delanco and others offering reasonable inducements. Communicate with E. B. Ritter, 210 North Park avenue, or phone Diamond 5405 W between 9 and 11 p. m.

The Talpohocken Reds, a semi-pro traveling team, has recruited E. W. Kalsbacher, manager and W. F. Little assistant. Robert Brimmar, the "Red" first-sacker, was re-elected captain. Manager Kalsbacher will be glad to hear from all clubs played in former years, and all other home teams offering an inducement. Address 414 North Cleveland avenue, or phone 1684 W.

Catholic High Players Awarded  
Captain McGowan, Glycerot, Dumphy, McBride, Padgerallo, Cole, Ferguson, Hunt and Manager Doris each was presented with Catholic High School letters for their work in the cage this year.

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