

UNSIGNED CAPTAIN OF THE PHILLIES MAY BE SLIPPING BUT AVERAGES DO NOT PROVE IT

LUDEBUS LED PHILS IN DRIVING IN RUNS, ACCOUNTING FOR 66

Veteran Infielder Still Among the Topnotchers, Finishing Fourth in Knocking Home Tallies and Leading the Heavy Hitters—Gavvy's 129 Record Safe

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

THEY say Fred Luderus is slipping, but it can't be proved by consulting the grand old dope. The captain of the Phils, who has not yet sent in his contract, was there forty years last season, playing a swell fielding game at first base and topping all of the heavy hitters. Cap'n Fred had an average of .234, which is twenty-three points better than in 1917.

Where Ludy more than made good, however, was in batting in runs for his team. During the season he was responsible for sixty-six scores, fifty-six coming in on hits and the other ten on putouts. This dope is correct, because it is furnished by Ernie Lantigan, the catch-as-catch-can statistician. Ernie says Luderus is the George Burns of the Phillies, and we are wiping the line to introduce our captain.

Ludy did not lead the league or anything like that. He was fourth, trailing Fred Merkle with seventy-one, Sherry Magee with sixty-nine and Dode Daskert with sixty-seven. However, it must be considered that the Phils did not play a whole of a game last year. More games were lost than won, and a guy who can slam sixty-six markers over the pan is going some. For that reason we must hand a boost to Ludy. The husky captain also closed the season with a record of playing in 392 consecutive games, and has a chance to break the "iron man" record of 478 consecutive games established by Eddie Collins.

Gavvy Cravath still holds the National League record for batting in runs, with a mark of 129 tallies in 1913. Other leaders have been Honus Wagner, three times; Sherry Magee, Heino Zimmerman and Cravath, twice, and Chase, Merkle and Schulte.

Because of the poor pitching last year it is strange that several records were not broken in the batting line. However, it seemed as if the hitters slumped along with the hurlers, making it a sort of a fifty-fifty break. As it was, Zack Wheat was responsible for 14.65 per cent of Brooklyn's scores and Roph for 12.77 of Cincinnati's. Ernie Lantigan says this is true, and we are not going to contradict him.

Table with columns: Player, On hits, On putouts, Total, On hits, On putouts, Total. Lists players like Loderus, Magee, Cravath, etc.

A Cop Was to Blame for Trouble, Says Fan

BILL DONOVAN'S version of the famous seventeen-inning ball game in 1907 seems to have struck a snag in one spot. Bill says a spectator became excited and ran out on the field when Crawford tried to catch Davis's long drive. A fan, who does not wish to have his name published, writes an interesting account of the play and states it was a policeman, not a spectator, who pulled the "bone" out in center field. Having seen the coppers perform out at the ball park, we are inclined to side with the fan. His letter follows:

"I have been a baseball fan for a great many years and an admirer of the Philadelphia Athletics. Today I was quite surprised at some of the statements in your interesting column attributed to Pitcher Donovan. I failed to get inside the ball ground the day of that memorable seventeen-inning game, so paid a dollar to get on a roof directly back of center field. The play on the ball which Davis hit was right below me and I remember it as distinctly as if it occurred but yesterday.

"It was a policeman who was supposed to have interfered with Crawford. As the ball came soaring to the crowd behind the ropes this policeman, who was twenty-five feet or more from the spot where the ball was headed, got excited and ran out on the field. He ran in a semicircle between Crawford and the infield, and at no time was nearer than fifteen feet to the outfielder.

"The crowd gave way, as they do, to let Crawford make the catch, but the ball struck the tips of his fingers and he himself fell back into the crowd. Crawford's manner, after he got upon his feet, indicated he had no cause for protest as he started to adjust his cap and take his place in the field, when he suddenly noticed the commotion in the infield and immediately made a dash to get into the argument.

"This is, to my certain knowledge, how the whole thing happened, as no one could have had a better view of the entire performance than I. Crawford may have felt that the actions of the policeman bothered him, but the fact was the officer was not at any time very close to him. The ball went fairly into the crowd, and it would have been impossible, I think, for any fielder to have made the catch.

"I AM writing this because I will recollect how indignant I felt at the decision that was given."

Heavyweights Now May Battle in Nevada

THE passage of the boxing bill in Nevada will be a great thing for Tex Rickard, for he now has a spot to stage the Willard-Dempsey thing on July 4. Some time ago a mantle of gloom was spread all over the big \$127,000 match for the heavyweight championship when the Governor out there put his foot down and vetoed the measure, which had passed both houses. Everybody called it a closed incident at that time, but they don't take the count easily in that section of the country.

Instead of telling each other hard-luck stories, the noble statesmen got together, put their shoulders to the well-known wheel and in plain language told the Governor to jump in the lake, or words to that effect. Then they passed the bill over his veto in the House and yesterday the Senate followed suit. Now everything is serene and lovely and one is led to believe that the mastodontic fuss will be staged out there.

If Rickard did not have designs on Nevada, why was the bill changed this year, and why was it passed anyway after the Governor put the parade out of step? The promoter evidently made it known to the senators that he would like to bring some more fame to the state of Nevada, and the way was made easy for him.

It looks like Nevada now and Rickard can rest easy. He can look over the propositions submitted by other states and write his own ticket. He has an ace in the hole, and the public is assured that the championship battle really will take place.

RICKARD has said May 1 to announce the spot where the bout will be held and will not let out a whisper until that day. In the meantime all we can do is guess.

Rains to Stage Bouts at Phillies' Park

PHILADELPHIA fight fans will witness some high-class boxing this summer. Leon Rains, business manager of the Olympia, announces he has secured the Philadelphia Ball Park to hold bouts and all of the topnotchers will be seen in action. Rains stepped to the front last year when he successfully staged the Tender-Cline battle. It was a success from every angle, as the spectators were well taken care of, there was no difficulty in finding the proper seats and it was a high-class show from start to finish.

Rains expects to run five or six big shows during the summer. If weather conditions are favorable, the first will be held in May and the others will follow every two weeks.

THE new promoter is a thorough business man, knows the boxing game and is bound to be successful.

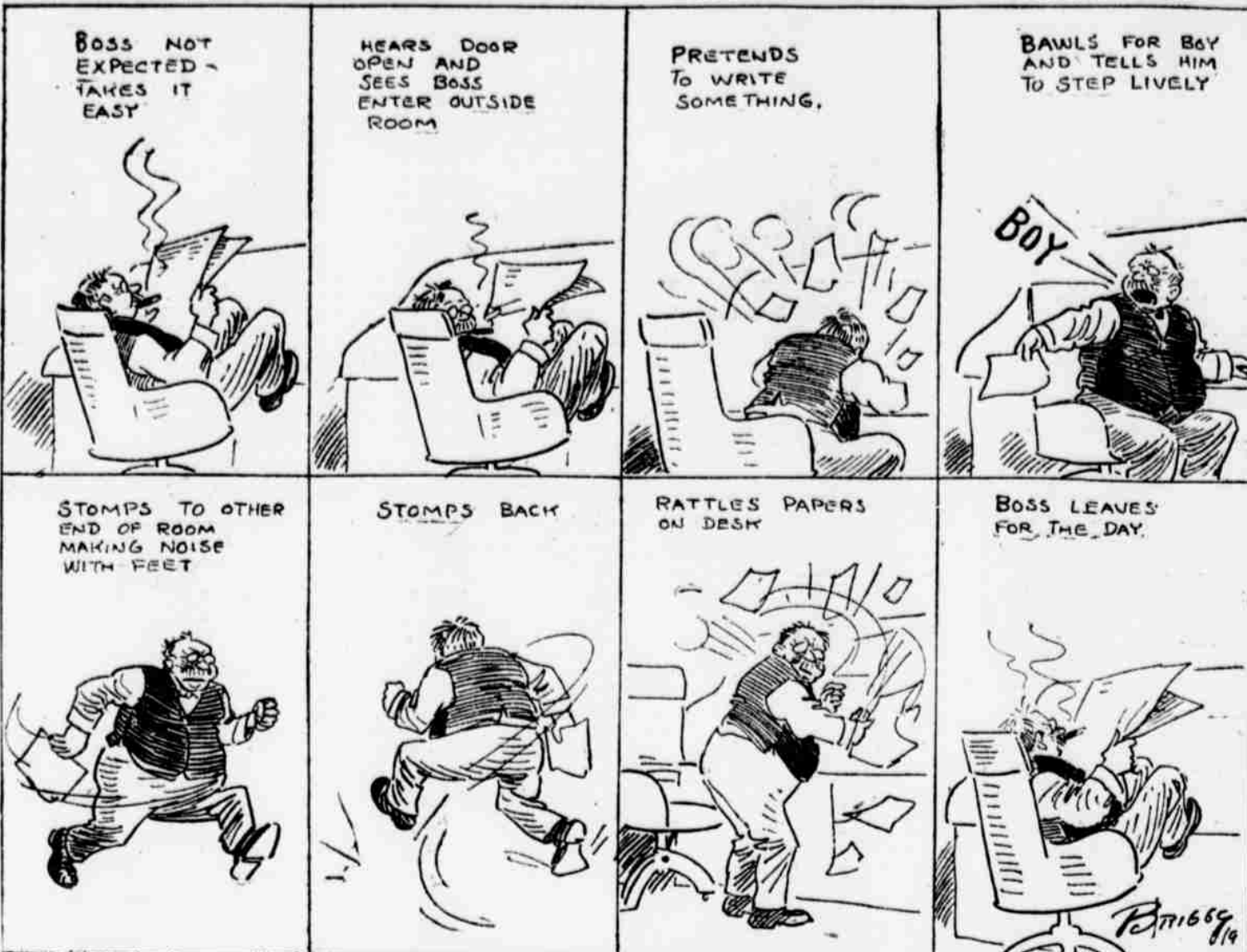
New York Again Gets Army-Navy Game

THE Army and Navy football game will be played in New York next fall after a layoff of two years. During the war the government placed a ban on the annual contest, as the cadets and middies were too busy with their regular work to go away on pleasure trips.

During that time Gilmore Dobie built up a formidable machine at Annapolis. West Point lost many of its star players and the sailors are looking for revenge.

THE Navy hasn't won a game since 1912 and believe the time has come for a change.

MOVIE OF A MAN PRETENDING TO BE BUSY WHEN THE BOSS ARRIVES



SAINTS RETAIN CAGE LAURELS

Yours Truly Proves Easy in Final Game for American Title

A POOR EXHIBITION

St. Columba's basketball team retained its title as champions of the American League by defeating Yours Truly in the second game of the title series played last night by the score of 36-17.

Yours Truly played a most miserable article of basketball, and in the opening minutes of the first half the Saints duplicated, but they later found their bearings and came through in fairly good shape. The first-half champions gave a wonderful exhibition of how not to score and throw chance after chance away. At one time during the initial period Knipe "blew" two perfectly good goals by wretched tossing.

Smith and Lawrence at center spoiled the play by their defensive tactics. Referee Baetzel cautioned them on numerous occasions, but they paid little attention to his warnings. The fight between this pair had been decidedly personal and Smith kept on fouling out without a field goal, the only player not to score.

There was no star in the Saints' line-up and the merit of the game was about evenly distributed. Brown, Martin and Gallagher each made two goals apiece, but while Dunleavy made but one, he came through with some fine floor work.

The field goals were 16 for the winners and 9 for the losers, and Jimmy Brown was the individual star. He was high and got with fourteen points, followed by Gallagher with 13 and Dunleavy 12.

Penn Meets Rutgers in Tennis

New York, March 7.—Columbia has been added to the Rutgers tennis schedule. The complete Rutgers schedule, announced last night, follows:

April 16 Lafayette, 28 Columbia, May 10 Penn State, 28 Rutgers, 28 University of Pennsylvania.

SCRAPS ABOUT SCRAPPERS

JOE BORRELL will beat the Cambria tonight. This only has been known for the last two weeks, but President Burns insists that the fans continue to be apprised of this news. As has been told at least a half dozen times, this will be Joe Borrell's first battle in two years and it is a comeback, for he came back after a self-imposed "middleweight" championship of France.

Johnny Wolgast, of Lancaster, has drawn the assignment to oppose the Kenningtonian. The fight is scheduled to go six rounds, and looks like a regular battle. Borrell may go in all his exhibitions in France, and says he is ready to make a fight for the American middleweight title.

PURKEY Lee takes on Tommy O'Toole, of Albany, in the semi-final. The other bouts will present Hubby O'Brien vs. Willie McLintock, Terry Hanlon vs. Kid Knits and Jimmy McGinnis vs. Johnny Mar.

George Chaner appears at the National tonight. Tim Brannan, of Lancaster, has agreed to make 135 pounds for the Baltimore slinger and both boys will be in shape for a slugging match. Chaner and Chaner performed on the same card here a few weeks ago, both coming through with victories.

Just before Herman Taylor departed for Atlanta last night, where Johnny Thomas meets Johnny Griffiths this evening, he announced that the Atlantic City sporting club would open for the 1919 season on March 15. Jim Smith, of Baltimore, will meet Jim Hooker, the colored shere battler, in the right-round wind-up. Patry Johnson and Dave Kelly clash in the eight-round semi-final.

Just to prove that Johnny Kilbane is any thing but a poor drawing card, Business Manager Leon Rains of the Olympia announced another record sale for Monday night. The promoter says he will want to see the smaller featherweight champion and get no time in making reservations. Kilbane meets Frankie Brown, a rugged New York featherweight.

Johnny Cobb will drop down from Allentown to entertain with Hucho Hutchinson in the National semi-final. Both boys made good in recent battles in this city. The other bouts on the program are: Eddie Tremby vs. Young Jimmie Higgins, and Kid Seaton faces Frankie Rice.

Harry Kid Brown opposes Freddy Reese in the National semi-final. Professor Phil Lou Swartz faces Young McFadden, Jesse James takes on Leo Flynn and Billy Devine meets Joe Belmont.

Roy McFarland wants a chance to show again. He led to Johnny Mahoney in the first start in a big club. Joe Bailey, the former welterweight, also will be seen here soon. John McDermott is handling the business affairs for the two boys.

Al Thompson, of the United States marine, wants to get started at one of the local clubs. The section lightweight is anxious to meet Young Hobbsideau.

Central and West Phila. to Play for Cage Title

Southern Deprived of Championship When Committee Declares "Bunny" Freeman Was Ineligible

DATE NOT SELECTED

By PAUL PREP

CENTRAL HIGH and West Philadelphia High now will battle it out for the pennant, laurels and what-not of the Interscholastic Basketball League. The date and site for this great game still are pending, but one thing is sure, it must be played on or before March 18. The basketball committee said so, and what they rule is final. Germantown High is the favorite place to hold the game.

Central and West Philadelphia finished in a tie for second place in the league with Southern in front by a game. But the last four games of the downtown quintet, which resulted in three victories and one defeat, were thrown out of the standing yesterday at a special meeting of the basketball committee in the Central High school gym. The only thing wrong with the Southern victories was the playing of "Bunny" Freeman, the star forward, who was ineligible all the while.

It was stated at yesterday's trial that Freeman had "faked" his mid-year examinations. No one was present to defend the action of Southern in playing Freeman, so that committee took time for more proof that they were in the wrong. Why South Philadelphia took a chance on playing Freeman is not known and no doubt will remain one of the scholastic mysteries for years to come.

After this discussion, in which a plea was made for Southern, the committee of the National Interscholastic League, brought forth the basketball schedule for 1920. This was adopted without much discussion. Chairman Lewis has arranged a new system, and during the second half each team will play but one game a week. It was voted that the colleges will accept, with one amendment—that a player may return to a game once.

ST. COLUMBA

Table with columns: Player, Field Goals, Free Throws, Assists, Total Points. Lists players like Dunleavy, Gallagher, Lawrence, Smith, Martin, Brown.

YOURS TRULY

Table with columns: Player, Field Goals, Free Throws, Assists, Total Points. Lists players like Black, Eagle, Smith, Herbolto, Schwartz.

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* NATIONAL A. A. SAT. NIGHT JACK LESTER vs. JIMMY MYNEN MONDAY EVENING MARCH 10 BILLY DEVINE vs. Young Joe Belmont JESSE JAMES vs. Leo Flynn LEO SWARTZ vs. Young Jimmie Higgins JOHNNY COB vs. HUGHIE NUTTHINSON K. O. GEO. CHANEY

TIM DRONEY TICKETS DONAGHY'S, 33 E. 17TH ST. OLYMPIA A. A. Broad and Bainbridge MONDAY EVENING MARCH 10 BILLY DEVINE vs. Young Joe Belmont JESSE JAMES vs. Leo Flynn LEO SWARTZ vs. Young Jimmie Higgins JOHNNY COB vs. HUGHIE NUTTHINSON K. O. GEO. CHANEY

HARRY (KID) BROWN vs. FREDDY REESE JOHNNY KILBANE vs. FRANKIE BROWN

Cambria A. C. Burns & Foster, Nears Friday Evening and Shows Another Battle and Show JOE BORRELL vs. JOHNNY WOLGAST

PENN ARRANGES BIG SPORTING CAMPAIGN

Interfraternal, Interdepartment and Interclass Games Planned in Many Branches of Athletics

NEW BASEBALL LEAGUES

By EDWIN J. POLLOCK

THE biggest sports campaign ever launched at Pennsylvania set sail yesterday, when Major Mylin J. Pickering, the graduate manager, and a committee of undergraduates, comprised mainly of managers, decided on a program that will bring as many students into athletics as equipment and room will permit.

Interdepartmental, interclass and interfraternal matches will be staged in various branches of sports and Franklin Field, Museum Field and all other spots around the campus will be in use at all hours when the undergraduates are free from their studies. The scheme is the nearest approach to athletics for all that facilities warrant, but the competitive feature will be maintained throughout.

For baseball, Manager Sam Harrell is planning interfraternal and interdepartmental leagues. So far the Wharton, Arts, Engineering and Dental Schools have promised to put teams in the field, and it is likely that other departments will be added. All the fraternities are eligible to enter the Interfraternal League and it is probable that several circuits will be formed, with a "world's series" to decide the champion of the leagues.

The interfraternal track meet will be revived and Coach Lawson Robertson will be given full charge. But the brothers of the various secret societies will not be able to enter as they please, as has been the case in previous years.

MATTY RELEASED BY CINCINNATI

Big Six, Now Free Agent, Can Sign Contract With Any Club

MAY GO WITH GIANTS

Cincinnati, O., March 7.—Christy Mathewson, former manager of the Cincinnati Nationals, was notified by President August Herrmann yesterday that he will at once be given his unconditional release, and that he can sign with any club desiring his services.

It was said at Cincinnati club headquarters that Mathewson probably would join the New York Nationals as assistant to Vice President and Manager John J. McGraw.

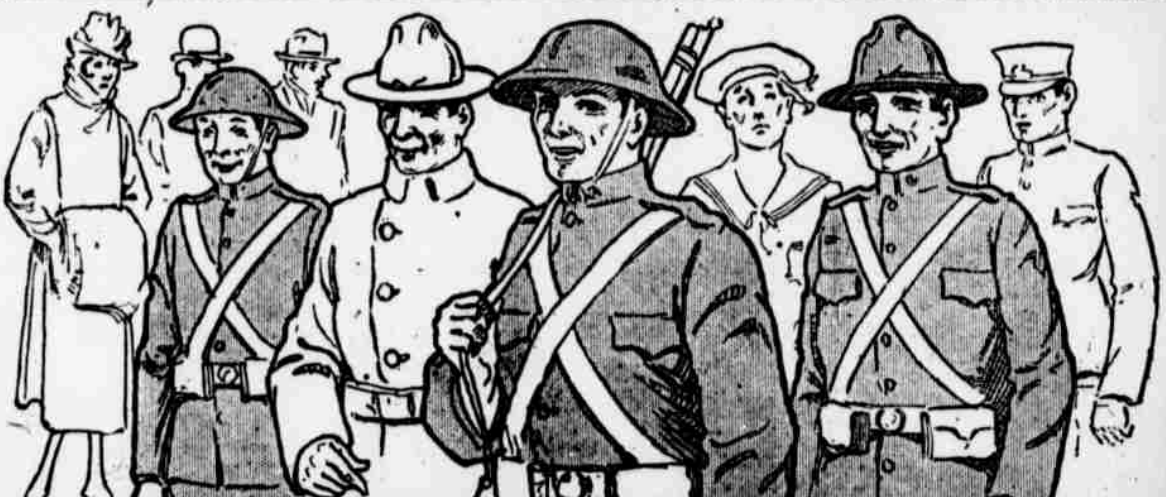
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