

FOOTBALL ABOUT TO OPEN ITS GATES FOR THE GREATEST SEASON IN HISTORY OF SPORT

FOOTBALL DUE FOR MOST SUCCESSFUL SEASON IN HISTORY

Return of Harvard, Yale and Princeton and Increased Interest in Sport Due to Its Popularity in Army Should Aid in Revival

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL, Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

UNLESS the sport barometer is a trifle wrong and registering spurious notices, football is about to step into one of the most successful seasons in history. Gridiron fans throughout the country are anxiously awaiting the opening acts after having suffered through two long, dismal years of inactivity. The big war put the procession out of step because the most promising athletes found it more to their liking to shove the Hun all over the map instead of sinking their cleats in a chalk-marked field. Football players did wonderful work in France and served their country as well as any other brand of athletes.

While the world was being made safe for democracy, sports in the colleges did not prosper. A few teams were developed, but Pittsburgh alone played a high-class game. Yale, Harvard, Princeton and Cornell did not attempt to do anything last year, and their withdrawal took the edge off the autumn pastime. War regulations, which prohibited overseas trips until the month of November, and the influenza epidemic also ruined perfectly good schedules, and the rabid fan had little opportunity to become interested in his favorite sport.

Now, however, everything has changed. The cards have been shuffled for a new deal. The "Big Three" have returned to the fold and the players are willing, eager and anxious to don the mole-skins and play a game in which their lives are not at stake. Military training will help considerably, for the men are accustomed to discipline and will carry out the orders of their coaches without question.

But the big thing is the return of Yale, Harvard and Princeton after two years of that alleged football, label "informal." Those colleges set the pace each year.

THEY are the real leaders and every voice is clearly followed. They give the game the necessary boost, arouse interest in every section of the country and blaze the trail.

Expect Protests Over Eligibility of Veterans IN A SHORT time some one will look over the list of players on the various teams and raise a big howl about the eligibility of many of the 1919 stars who were supposed to have finished their athletic careers. These years is a long time in the athletic world, and it will be said that the old men should be disqualified.

For example, Penn State has three captains trying for the team. After one entered the service, another was elected and when he enlisted the third was named. When the last man joined the army, no further elections were held because there wasn't a veteran left. The S. A. T. C. students played out the schedule. There also are men on the University of Pennsylvania, Cornell, Dartmouth, Pittsburgh, Yale, Harvard—in fact nearly every college will be affected.

The war wiped out eligibility rules for this year. There should be no question as to the right of any bona fide college student to play, for he is in college to resume his studies and get his degree. He left school because it was his patriotic duty to do so, and after giving everything he had to his country and gambled with life itself, he should be received with open arms. In the West, the Conference rules will take care of the eligibility of the players, but in the East it will be up to the different colleges. If a certain university rules that certain men are eligible, everything should drop right there. The soldier athletes are entitled to the utmost consideration. Informal football does not count. If a man played two years on Yale, Harvard or Princeton and was not a regular member of the team in 1916, he still is eligible to play three years. If a player made the team for the first time in 1916, he still is eligible for the seasons of 1919 and 1920. This is no more than right, for the men cannot be blamed for entering the war any more than returning to school to finish their education.

The thing to do is to forget all the past and start all over again, wipe off the slate and forget to protest the star players. Look at the military records instead of those they made in college.

ANYWAY, the college faculties are not lax in their methods. They are fair and seldom give themselves any the best of it.

Eligibility Question Will Not Annoy Princeton ONE college, however, will not be annoyed by the eligibility question, and that is Princeton. Not one letter man will return this fall, and an entirely new team will be developed. This is something unusual, and the work of Head Coach Bill Roper will be watched with interest. Marion Wilson, captain-elect of the 1917 eleven, has left college, and others went into business at the close of the year.

However, Roper will have his informal team of last year to fall back on, and judging from reports, it was a good one. The Princeton tutor says he will have one of the best teams in the country, and the chances are he will. He knows the material with which he will have to work, and there will be some classy candidates from the scrubs and freshmen teams.

Roper coached the informals last year and got a good line on the men. While his task is one of the hardest that confronts a big college coach, he has some promising stuff to work on. Incidentally, Bill returns to Princeton after an absence of eight years. He was head coach in 1906, '07, '08, '10 and '11, and had charge of Swarthmore in 1915 and '16.

Yale also has a new coach in Dr. Al Sharpe, but the doctor has a nucleus around which to build a team. Jim Braden, Neville, Lay, La Roche, Murphy and French are candidates for the backfield, and Acosta, Galt and Captain Tim Callahan will try for jobs in the line. Sharpe comes from Cornell, where he was very successful. He placed the Ithaca team on the football map after years of failure, and should do the same for Yale. He knows football and is regarded as one of the best coaches in the country.

Bob Fisher succeeds Haughton at Harvard, and has some good players to help him along. Eddie Casey, the flashy back of 1916, has returned, and Bill Murray, Felton and Ralph Horvath also are on the job. Morris Phinney, an end, is another old man ready for work.

THERE are many linemen to select from, the principal ones being Hadley and Woods, tackles on the 1920 freshmen, and Thordike and Stubbs who played guards on the same eleven. Phibin and Morrison are the leading candidates for center.

Rush Will Rush at Cornell TAKING it all in all, Harvard seems to have the better material and should have a great team this year. Still, it's rather early to make predictions, and it must be remembered in football, as well as baseball, you never can tell.

Cornell also has a new coach. Speedy Rush, of Princeton, will be in charge, with Cool and Van Orman as assistants. Rush will have Silverick, one of the best backs ever developed at Ithaca, to lean on, and Breit and Benedict, halfbacks of the 1916 team, will be on hand to fill a couple of the other backfield positions. Gilles, the big tackle, and Miller, a guard, complete the list of veterans.

Dixon, Sutton and Taylor, substitute linemen in 1916, have announced their intention of returning, and John Shuler, the sensational halfback on the 1916 freshmen, will give some of the older men a battle for their jobs.

THERE is a spirit of optimism among the new coaches. Ask any one of them the prospects for a successful season and he will reply: "Fine. Never saw such material. We will have the best team in the country."

Hush! Hush! Football Commences THIS is the closed season for football games. Coaches in many realms where the pigskin flies high and the warriors fall hard have started ready to lock the gates on their proteges' work, so only the birds and the high-climbing bats can give the action the once over. Lafayette players cannot escape to see showers any more and the same principle is being carried out at Chicago and other gridiron places. The theory is that the results of the play is then to be divulged in a terrible victory over the opposition in the first game. If the hush and highly secretive team loses, then the gates are closed again, and the same theory of reconnaissance, it does not pay the hard-working coach to show too much of his hand before the machinery gets working.

Complete are on all hands, according to the hope, willing at all times to co-operate in the new system.



WEST PHILLY HAS MANY CANDIDATES

Howard Berry Has Tough Job to Weed Out Weaker Football Material

VETERANS HARD AT WORK

Howard Berry, greatest of Philadelphia's athletes, has an awfully big proposition on his hands. Forty-four candidates are lined up for the job of coach West Philadelphia High School's football team this year. There are only three score and ten candidates out of each afternoon and evening tryouts.

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DEVEREUX MILBURN JIM THORPE OF POLO

Meadowbrook Star's All-Around Work Makes Him Game's Best Combination Man

TITLE FOR ROCKAWAY

THE Jim Thorpe of polo—Devereux Milburn. In the famous reekin was to football the wonder Milburn is to polo. Milburn is a combination of everything that goes to make an ideal poloist.

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STRAUS IS LOST TO PENN ELEVEN

Veteran Halfback Suffers Rupture and May Be Unable to Play Remainder of Season

"VIC" FRANK MAKES GOOD

Joe Straus, veteran Penn halfback and hero of the 1917 campaign, will be lost to Coach Folsell for several weeks and probably for the rest of the season when an examination at the University Hospital this morning revealed that he had suffered a rupture in Friday's scrimmage.

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GROH WOULD BE ONLY N. L. ENTRY ON TEAM COMPOSED OF STARS

Great Players of National Pastime Are Clustered in American League—Heydler's Clubs Haven't Hitter to Compare With Cobb, Jackson, Sisler or Ruth

IN THE SPOTLIGHT—BY GRANTLAND RICE Copyright, 1919. All rights reserved.

Who'll Cop the Series? (BLURB—A dashing novelette in six chapters by the author of 'The High Cost of Living, Prohibition, The League of Nations and 'I'll Say He Is.' Chapter One The Rival Leagues IN THIS erotic drama, 'Who'll Cop the Series?' which almost any reader can well afford to be without, there is one important detail that should be reached before any interclub discussion begins. This detail is practically as follows: Which is the stronger, faster league—the National or the American? NATURALLY, the best team in the best league isn't going to be held in as any rank outsider when the noisy fanfare gets under way next week. We know which the two best or the two better teams are—but which is the best or better league, as the case may be? The Old Order FROM 1905 through 1909 there is little question as to where the main strength lay. The National had all the best of it. Chicago had the old Cubs—Chance, Evers, Tinker, Brown, Kling, Beckford, etc.—one of the great clubs of all time. New York had Mathewson at his best, Brennan, Donlin, Devlin and other eminent athletes who rank around the peak. Pittsburgh, under Fred Clarke, had the immortal Wagner, Leach, Gibson, Camnitz, Adams and a powerful squad all the way through. In this period the National League was supreme, winning four of the five post-championships with ease. THOSE were the days of National League supremacy. But by 1910 a decided change had begun to take place. The New League Moves Forward AROUND 1907 and 1908 different American League clubs began to draw in new talent. Such ball players as Collins, Speaker, Baker, Barry, McInnis, Lewis, Hooper, etc. The American League here was building fast, and as Jackson, Sisler and other noted stars came on they also were added to the A. L. fold. So by the summer of 1910 the American League had moved into first place. The old Cubs had begun to fade out. The old Pirates had drifted through the mist. But the American League was bounding upward with the Athletics and Red Sox especially in charge of powerful clubs. The result has been shown in the figures. Out of the last eight championships the American League has won seven and the National one. IN MOST cases the American League clubs have won with ease. In turn they have already beaten the majority of National League entries—New York, Philadelphia, Brooklyn and Chicago—all taking sound beatings, with Boston the lone victor. American League Strength THERE is no vast difference in the pitching. This department has run to equal strength. But in offensive strength the American League has had a vast edge. The National League has no batsman—not even Roush—to match against Cobb, Sisler, Jackson, Veach, Collins, Ruth and Peckinpaugh. The Reds outclassed the rest of the National League by a greater margin than the White Sox outclassed American League rivals—but the latter club was fighting its way against rougher opposition with such clubs as Cleveland and Detroit barring the way, aided and abetted by others, such as New York, Boston and St. Louis. Here is another detail of comparison. Suppose you were picking an all-star club—if you were, how could you be forced to include, outside of the pitchers, Schalk, Sisler, Collins, Peckinpaugh, Cobb, Jackson and Speaker—seven regulars from the nine positions and all American League entries. GROH would be the sole National League entry to break into the combination, with the pitchers left to an open choice. SCRAPS ABOUT SCRAPPERS Tommy Jamison, the red-head southpaw, who was one of the few million Yanks to aid in shipping the K. O. on Kaiser Bill, will get into a different game at the shore Thursday night. Tom is slated to go 50 per cent of the first time under the City Squeezing Club, with Allentown Dundas as the party of the second part. Preston Brown vs. Jackie Moore, Joe Stanley vs. Walter Rennis and Jack Jensen vs. Ritchie Young, Medway vs. Kid Wagner and Billy Leonard are the other numbers. Billy Kramer vs. Joe Barrell will be the feature scraps of the local show scheduled in Philly. It will be put on at the Cambria A. C. Friday night. Puggy Lee will exchange punches with Tommy Jeffrey in the semi, preceded by George Christian vs. George Young, Medway vs. Kid Wagner and Charley O'Neil vs. K. O. Reilly. The Scotch won. Jann Dundas, will be among those present at the National Club Saturday night. At the change of the song in the final fight, Dundas will meet Eddie Mor of Allentown, Maxie Williamson will get started for the first time under the colors of All Leaps in a set-to with Bobby Doole. Johnny Mahoney is to meet George Reynolds. Young Medway vs. Kid Wagner and Billy Leonard are the other numbers. Albie Nelson, who can parley Francoise, speared Deutsch and cannel Francoise, is not taking the boxing game seriously at the present time. Since being demobilized he has been in the tailoring business and will remain in it while tailoring is good. Fred Jordan, Adam Ryan's big boy, is keeping in perfect fettle preparatory to a bout at a local club. Bob Jack Hanlon and Jack Friedman are endeavoring to die.

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DEVEREUX MILBURN



Allentown Fair

Sept. 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 \$35,000 in Purse and Premiums 16 Trotting and Pacing Races AUTOMOBILE RACES ON SATURDAY ADDED ATTRACTION Double-Team Race, Friday, Sept. 26, for \$2000 Purse Winner Takes All Largest Poultry and Pigeon Display in the World H. B. SCHALL, Secretary

Advertisement for Henrietta Admirals, featuring a drawing of a motorist and the text 'Because it burns so evenly motorists prefer'.

Advertisement for Trenton Fair, Sept. 29-Oct. 3, featuring a drawing of a horse and text 'TRENTON FAIR—SEPT. 29—OCT. 3'.