

THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE FREQUENTLY WIELDS A GOLF CLUB THESE DAYS

UMP HILDEBRAND FIRST TO SEE THE SPITBALL, AND HE IS GOING TO SEE LAST OF WET DELIVERY

By ROBERT W. MAXWELL Sports Editor Evening Public Ledger

MUCH has been written about the spitball in the past. But after this year it will pass into history. This is not new or startling, for it has been known for months that the saliva artists in the big leagues will be allowed to use this style of delivery for this season only, and after that they must use something else or start driving trucks, or something.

Eighteen years ago the spitball was discovered. Several athletes have claimed credit for pulling the Columbus act, but the real discoverer is none other than George Hildebrand, the American League umpire, who is working here this week with Billy Evans. George was the one and only Christopher Columbus.

He saw the first spitball pitched, and also will see the last. That makes him a pretty important guy—even more important than the fans imagined when they escorted him to the dugout last Saturday.

George is a mighty good umpire. He is a very unpretentious bloke, doing his work day after day and attracting no attention. He has had but one jam on the home lot, and that was when he made a correct ruling on a correct ruling on a correct ruling.

Walker, but the fans didn't understand it. Still, he saw the spitball for the first time, and here's how it happened.

One day when Hildebrand was warming up with Frank the Fiddler he noticed that his companion was throwing a slow ball with quite a break on it. This was done by wiggling the fingers before pitching.

George watched with interest, and saw that the ball took a sudden downward sweep before it reached the catcher. Corridon did not seem to know what he was doing, and finally Hildebrand said:

"Frank, let me show you how to throw a real drop. Get behind and wait."

HILDEBRAND, instead of moistening his fingers, "slabbed" all over the ball, the same as the spitball experts do nowadays when the sphere is breaking well. The experiment was a big success and the catcher didn't know where the ball was going.

Wet More—Better Break

"I HELD the ball the same as Corridon," related Hildebrand yesterday in his dressing room before the game. "Only I wet it more. When I threw it, the ball broke a great deal more than Frank's and hit Bill McCauley, who was catching, on the knee. Corridon noticed the quick break and started experimenting with the wet ball, later getting it under control.

"To my mind, this was the birth of the spitball. I do not claim credit of originating it, for that belongs to Corridon, but I believe I was the first to see it. It was in the fall of 1902 I returned to my home on the Pacific coast. The season out there had a couple of more months to go, so I joined the Sacramento club. I used the moist delivery occasionally, but couldn't depend on it because of poor control. However, I saw the possibilities of the spitball and helped one pitcher hold his job.

"I met Elmer Stricklett out there and found him sad and discouraged. His arm had gone back and he was about to be released. I showed him the spitball and he started experimenting. Then, with that ban arm, he finally mastered it, told his manager he was in shape again, took his turn on the mound and won eleven straight games.

"That same year the All-Americans and All-Nationals came out to California on a barnstorming tour.

PHILLIES TACKLE DODGERS TODAY

Teams Will Battle in Game Postponed From First Series Because of Rain

Brooklyn, N. Y., May 27.—The first real spring day Brooklyn fans have seen this year was on tap today for the game between the Phillies and the Dodgers. It will be a game postponed from the first series of the season, when rain put off four contests. Tomorrow the Braves come to Brooklyn and the Phillies will be in New York where the Giants are pulling off a double-header with the Braves today.

The Dodgers got back to their home town half a game behind the Pirates leaders of the league, but in third place. They won six out of nine in their last eleven. Their record in the West was the best in Brooklyn since they came there for a number of years. "The road" does not include the game last Sunday in Brooklyn in which the Pirates beat the Dodgers 1 to 0, when both teams made a special appeal to Pittsburgh. That game was lifted forward from the Pirates' regular dates in Brooklyn, and did not come out of the Brooklyn dates in Pittsburgh. Including the Sunday setback the Dodgers have won six out of ten from Western teams.

The last game the Dodgers played before departing for the West was with the Phillies at Ebbets Field on Sunday, May 9, and the Phillies lost. Leon Cadore started that day for the Dodgers and was knocked out of the box. Starnes Smith, starting, pitched the contest and won out. Smith is the first pitcher to start today against the Dais.

Chuck Ward, the Dodger shortstop, is out with a shoulder injury. That has caused Tom Olson to get into the line-out to short, and Pete Kiloff (now third to second). Doug Baird played third yesterday in Pittsburgh, but the Dodgers won 3 to 2.

TITLE SWIMS TONIGHT

Women Race for Crowns in Columbia Pool

Jack Chesbro, who had just signed with the New York Americans, was with the crowd, and was much impressed with the work of Stricklett, who by that time was the sensation of the Coast League. Stricklett showed Chesbro how the ball was delivered and Jack practiced all winter. He used it in 1903 a few times, but it was not until 1904 that he had it down right. In that year, it will be remembered, Jack pitched in more than fifty games, but the Yankees close to the pennant, only to lose it in the last game of the season with a wild pitch.

"Chesbro was the first big leaguer to make a success of the spitball, but Frank Corridon threw the first one, I know it, because I saw it."

HILDEBRAND started to call balls and strikes in the Coast League in 1910 and joined the American League in 1913. He still is doing great work and is regarded as a capable arbiter.

George saw the spitball come, and he's now seeing it go.

Kinney Gets \$4000 Salary

FOR a long time the outside world imagined that Connie Mack was running his ball club on Woolworth salaries and his men could eat regularly only when on the road and the club paid all expenses. However, this impression has been changed in the last few days when the salary of Walter Kinney was announced. Walter jumped to the Franklin club and his desertion caused Connie to break a long silence.

Kinney, who was just an ordinary pitcher, was receiving a salary of \$4000. He signed for \$2500, but when the crowd increased at Shibe Park and on the road Connie handed him a \$1500 boost along with several others on the club. Now Kinney is getting a top-notch salary, and it is doubtful if he could get as much on any other team. The magnates are not opening their purses strings these days, despite the higher prices of admission.

Another big surprise is the salary of George Burns. George is not playing regularly, but is drawing his \$4200 per season just the same.

"Several managers have been after Burns this year," said Connie, "but dropped everything when I told them how much George was getting. They were very much surprised and said they thought the salary was too much. But I don't think so, for Burns is a great ball player and should be in the game regularly. Unfortunately, there is no place for him on my club and for that reason I am willing to trade him. He would help me out considerably this season if he were used only as a pinch hitter, but in justice to the boy I believe he should be in a regular line-up. If I could use him regularly I wouldn't part with him at any price."

Connie's ball club is playing good ball at present and made a creditable showing against the strong westerners. If he can get the pitching a lot of ball games will be won.

SPREADING of pitchers, there was a report yesterday that Scott Perry had jumped to the Franklin club. However, there was nothing to it. Scott is tied to a copper-riveted, iron-clad contract and couldn't leave if he wanted to. If another club gives him a job it will be liable for heavy damages. It is likely that in the future all big league contracts will contain this clause.

Football Officials to Be Picked

FOOTBALL officials for the most important games next fall will be selected at a meeting in New York tonight. Dr. James A. Babbitt, secretary of the central board of officials, will meet the graduate managers and coaches at the Biltmore. In the afternoon the list of officials will be revised and many names are to be placed on a supplementary list. The active officials will be classed accordingly.

The Yale-Harvard, Yale-Princeton, Princeton-Harvard, Penn-Pitt, Penn-Dartmouth, Penn-Cornell are among the big games to be taken up.

MISS BELL MEETS MRS. FOX IN FINAL

Mrs. Barlow and Mrs. Stetson Eliminated From Philadelphia Golf Championship

Merion Cricket Club, May 27.—Mrs. G. P. Fox, of the Huntingdon Valley Country Club, and Miss Mae Bell, of the Philadelphia Cricket Club, will meet in the final round for the women's golf championship of Philadelphia tomorrow.

In the semifinals today Miss Bell eliminated Mrs. Ronald H. Barlow, Merion, 2 and 2, and Mrs. Fox defeated Mrs. G. Henry Stetson, Huntingdon Valley, 2 and 1.

The odds for the semifinal round follow:

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WONDER WHAT FRENCH PASTRY THINKS ABOUT

Humorous cartoon panels with dialogue about French pastries and a man's appearance.

DOPE SHOWS PENN IS FAVORITE BY EYELASH

Quakers and Princeton Almost Even in Race for Track Title—Games Start Tomorrow

By Edwin J. Pollock

MANY are the wise persons who sit back and orate that it's folly to attempt to pick winners. But there are a lot of foolish persons in this world, as any bookmaker will assert. What holds true in horse racing is true in cinder track racing.

Particularly is it foolish this year to try to select a team victor in the intercollegiate track and field championships at Franklin Field tomorrow and Saturday. Four teams, Pennsylvania, Princeton, Cornell and Dartmouth, are so closely bunched that the slightest break may swing the meet.

Penn and Princeton are as close as two fingers in the dope race for the title and Cornell and Dartmouth aren't any further away than the thumb. The dope chart you may find interesting. It's a guess with the aid of dope on past performances. It's sure to do one thing—start an argument. According to the chart Penn will win by two points from Princeton with Cornell third and Dartmouth fourth.

Individuals Easier

When it comes to individual winners the selection is easier and not quite as foolish. There are thirteen individual guesses, and one should get a few of them right, at least.

If there's anything in dope at all, the surest winner is Morris Kirksey, of Leland Stanford, sprinter, who is credited with 9 1/2 for the hundred and 21 1/2 for the furlong. If he can do even time in both events he should win easily.

Frank Shea looks like the best of the quartermilers, although Earl Eby may nose out the Panther flash. Shea won the intercollegiate in 1918 in 47 3/5 seconds, but his best this year has been 46 1/2. This time will never with on Saturday, but it is believed Shea will go 48 2/5 or 48 3/5.

Earl Eby is the big favorite in the half-mile, and there are some who believe that he will crack Ted Meredith's intercollegiate record of 1:53, but this is scarcely likely after a hard race with Shea in the quarter. The half is set for seventy minutes after the four-furlong.

Earl Thomsen, the Dartmouth flash, is the big noise in the big hurdles, and it would not be surprising if he equals the record of fifteen seconds. Watt, of Cornell, and his teammate, Smith, in getting with Thomsen are favorites for the low hurdles. It looks like Watt, according to reports from Ilwaco, Watt has been tearing up in the lows.

Merchants of California, is a sure winner in the hammer unless he breaks a leg, and it is very probable that he will set up a new intercollegiate record. He is also the best of the broad jumpers. Halsey, of Princeton, has the golden chance in the shot, with Ted California, close up.

Myers, of Dartmouth, the present intercollegiate champion, is the likely pole vault victor, but he will have to do some lifting to beat Captain Petersen, of California, and Shern Landon, of Penn.

Landon, the Yale high jumper, is another champion whose prospects are bright. However, he will have tough competition from Templeton, of Leland Stanford.

De Palma Wins Pole for Auto Race

Indianapolis, Ind., May 27.—Ralph de Palma won the right to the pole in the 500-mile race for 25000, to be held at the Indianapolis motor speedway, Monday, May 30, when he finished around the track in 10:00:00. Further trials will be held tomorrow.

INTERCOLLEGIATE DOPE SHEET

Table showing college performance statistics for various events like 100 yards, 200 yards, 400 yards, etc.

Saturday, May 29 BASEBALL Tioga and B Streets

SCOTT-POWELL vs. MARSHALL E. SMITH & BRO.

MARTIN IS HURLER FOR MACKS TODAY

Cicotte Choice of White Sox Leader to Oppose Connie's Athletics

Connie Mack is so pleased with the recent performances of his athletes that he will send Martin to the mound this afternoon to try to make it three in a row from the near-champion Chicago White Sox. Eddie Cicotte, the celebrated comeback, will do the rough work for Kid Gleason.

Yesterday Scott Perry landed gold-tinted baseball for our A's. He allowed the slugging Sox but fire mostly hits, while the Mackmen piled up ten lucious runs. The Athletics hammered Williams and Payne to every conceivable spot in the lot where there were any White Sox players. In all they amassed sixteen blows for a total of twenty-five bases.

Among the spectacular events of the afternoon were home-run cracks by Perry and Dugan. Jimmy Dykes had a field day with the willow also. He strode to the rubber thrice and thrice did he connect safely.

The A's yesterday really looked like a ball club. That was because they had good pitching. Connie says that when he gets the pitching his club is right on a par with the best of them, and Connie knows whereof he speaks.

What May Happen in Baseball Today

Table with columns for Club, W, L, P.C., Win, Loss, Split, and National League.

SCHEDULE FOR TODAY

Phillies at Brooklyn—Clear, 3:30 p. m. Boston at New York (2 games)—Clear, 1:30 and 3:30 p. m. Cincinnati at St. Louis—Clear, 3 p. m. Other clubs not scheduled.

RESULTS OF YESTERDAY

AMERICAN LEAGUE Athletics, 10; Chicago, 2. Boston, 9; St. Louis, 5. New York, 4; Detroit, 1. Washington, 13; Cleveland, 9.

NATIONAL LEAGUE Brooklyn, 3; Pittsburgh, 2. St. Louis, 10; Cincinnati, 8. Other clubs not scheduled.

Montgomery & Co. Wins, 9 to 6

Dean Should Bid Strong for Title

Princeton Golfer Has Fine Record as Background for Championship

This has been a highly successful college golf year for J. Simpson Dean, captain of Princeton's link team, and if he holds his present pace he ought to make things interesting, you might say, in the intercollegiate at Nassau next month.

Dean had a very exciting 75 over the west coast when he yesterday had a victory over A. L. Walker, Jr., intercollegiate champion, in their match with Columbia a few weeks ago, and has been beating the No. 1 man of the opposing team of learning with very impressive golf.

Bobby Jones, finalist in the national amateur last year, is now at Georgia Tech., which will enter a team in the intercollegiate. It is said, and if Jones plays, too, he will, of course, be the favorite to win.

But Dean is said to be of the same "golf school" as Bobby—that is, he learned his game from Stewart Maiden, who taught Miss Alex Stirling, national champion; Jones and Perry Adair.

Dean is a six-footer, of athletic build, and hits the ball he gets "hold off" just about as far as it will go. He has a powerful confidence in his shots, which is always a certain percentage of the battle. He keeps tabs on the few shots he misses and takes a seeming pleasure in playing that shot again at the first opportunity to prove to himself that he can make it.

To make it short, Dean plays a particularly effective second shot, as well as a powerful midiron, while his approaching is always up there for punts which he can generally sink.

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