

SEVEN TEAMS READY FOR BELL IN SCHOLASTIC

WRESTLING LEAGUE--- INDEPENDENTS WIN

TY COBB WINS BATTING HONORS

Regains American Championship After Slump One Year Ago; Interesting Figures



Chicago, Dec. 17.—In regaining his batting crown, lost to Tris Speaker in 1916, Tyrus Raymond Cobb, of the Tigers, had to hit .383 to annex the 1917 honor of the American League.

The Georgian, however, did not have much difficulty to come back after his slight stumble from the primrose path of 1916. George Sisler, of the Browns, and Speaker were the only opponents who worried Tyrus and he left them so far behind in the closing weeks of the American League dash that it was a foregone conclusion that the Peach was going to repeat his methodical method of adding another batting crown to his already overstocked trophy room.

Ty was the only man in either league to knock the old pill for 200 or more hits. In his 152 games he maltrated the opposing pitchers for 225 sacrifices, second baseman ballplayers would give a year of their baseball life to attain, Sisler finished with a .355 average, with 190 hits in 195 games, while Speaker had a .352 mark with 184 safe ones in 155 games.

Ninth Championship In coming into his own again, Cobb wins his ninth batting championship, a feat no other player has ever achieved. John Henry Wagner, the venerable star of the Pittsburgh Pirates, has eight National League titles, but as he is now past the heyday of his career and virtually on the retired list, Cobb's mark of nine championships will stand for many years for other players to shoot at.

Three members of the World's Championship White Sox landed in the .300 hit, the men being Murphy, with .314, Felsch, .308, and Jackson, .301. All together nineteen players hit .300 or better, but eight of these took part in less than fifty-five games.

Stuffy McInnis, the only one left of the old guard on the Athletics, was the only Mack player to swing an average of .285. The tail-end Athletics were second with .254, and the champion Sox were third with .253.

SHOT TEN-PRONG BUCK West Fairview, Pa., Dec. 17.—Clinton Eckert, of West Fairview, was one of the many successful deer hunters this year, hitting with a ten-prong buck near Hunters Run last Monday.

Skates Ground While You Wait Federal Machine Shop CRANBERRY ST. NEAR COURT

Don't Put It Off If you desire to get some of the prettiest Christmas Cards you ever had the pleasure of sending to your friends, we must have your order NOW.

The Telegraph Printing Co. Printing, Binding, Designing, Photo-Engraving, Die Stamping, Plate Printing FEDERAL SQUARE HARRISBURG, PA.

PENN-STATE LOSES STAR WRESTLERS THROUGH WAR; GOOD MATERIAL ON HAND

State College, Pa., Dec. 17.—With the coach and seven regulars from last season's undefeated wrestling team in the Army, Penn-State's grapplers are confronted with a gloomy outlook for their first appearance in the Intercollegiate Wrestling League. Only three matmen with varsity experience are in college and available for the blue and white's initial contest for intercollegiate honors. They are Captain Long, in the 145-pound class; Schultz, the 155-pound man, and Czarnicki, the undefeated heavy-weight.

At the head of the list of missing men stands W. E. Lewis, the wrestling mentor who has put the mat game on a high plane at State College, and who has instructed the wrestlers here since the sport was introduced eight years ago. He has been commissioned a first lieutenant in the Officers Reserve Corps, and is on duty at Camp Lee, Va.

In Ordnance Department Smoley, the 115-pound man, is enlisted in the ordnance department. Ostermayer, the 125-pound grappler, was assigned to duty at Fort Niagara in service. Mills, the 135-pound representative, won a commission as second lieutenant in the first of October, eight years ago. He has been commissioned a first lieutenant in the Officers Reserve Corps, and is on duty at Camp Lee, Va.

The Sportlight by Grandland Rice Copyright, 1917, The Tribune Association (New York Tribune)

Here comes the one doubtful position of the team—the one position where there is greater opinion.

From Charley Comiskey to George Sisler is a long gap—and in that gap it seems that no one man has ever risen to undisputed heights.

Among the first basemen there has been no Buck Ewing, no Christy Mathewson.

Comiskey was the first of the great first basemen, the original entry to range away from the bag and cover his share of territory.

After that came a long list of renowned first basemen, who were mainly renowned for their batting. This list included such eminent veterans as Pop Adams, Roger Connor, Danu Brrouers, etc.

But none of these could range with modern first basemen, such men as Hal Chase, Stuffy McInnis or George Sisler.

They could lean against the ball with an undeniable crash—they carried the wallop—but they were not as good as the modern schools.

Extending over a ten-year period, we found the greater number of votes were divided between two men—Fred Tenney, of Boston, and Hal Chase, of New York and Cincinnati.

For sheer brilliancy and grace Hal Chase had no equal. He was the most spectacular of them all.

But Hal drew too many lapses at various portions of his career to hold as much adulation as he would otherwise have drawn.

If Chase, from the start, had worked as earnestly and as steadily as he has in Redland the last two years, there is no question but that to-day he would be top pick.

As it stands, the majority of votes were given to Fred Tenney, a brilliant, smart felder, who batted above .300 for eight years—a fine defensive player and a strong man on attack.

Chase should have outranked Tenney, but there were lean years where Hal's play fell off badly and where he was no great value to his clan.

Another good star who belongs with these is Frank Chance, hard hitter, good felder and aggressive leader.

OF THE PRESENT DAY George Sisler is the one who has the best chance of displacing Tenney from the top. He is a fine player and a strong pitcher. For a few more years, he will undoubtedly be the pick for future historians to consider.

As it is, the Brown star hasn't played long enough to be figured in. Among the others, McInnis has the better record, a trifle above Jake Daubert.

But for all-around value, field, batting, head work, aggressiveness, speed, agility, stamina, steadiness and brilliancy, Fred Tenney has the call. As a member of the old Boston quartet, he contributed a big share toward Boston's baseball fame. And, while not as great a player as other rivals as Ewing and Mathewson were, Tenney is far from being of merely normal caliber.

(Next—Second Base.)

Willie Ritchie Teaches Priest Self-Defense Art Camp Lewis, Wash., Dec. 17.—Willie Ritchie's latest pupil in the art of self-defense is Father J. Galvan, formerly pastor of an Oakland parish and now chaplain of the 363d Infantry.

Father Galvan believes that no man is really an athlete unless he knows something about boxing. The fighting champion is also fostering an interregimental soccer league.

LOCALS WIN IN BIG CAGE GAME

Rookwood Off in Field Tossing; Spectators Kick on Referee's Decisions

The Rookwood team of Philadelphia, was defeated by the Harrisburg Independents on the Chestnut street floor in a loosely played game, Saturday evening by a score of 28 to 23.

Spectators were unanimous in criticizing the referee on some of the decisions which without a doubt gave the home club an advantage over the visitors. This disapproval was emphasized by "the hooting and hissing" that followed several of the decisions.

Poor Refereeing It was thought that the refereeing would be improved upon instead of becoming worse. The game was loosely played by both teams and this added to poor officiating, made the following game the State's most interesting on the local floor this season.

The visitors displayed a skill in passing that eclipsed the teamwork of any visiting team on the local floor this season. Inability to shoot foul and field goals was the cause of the visitors' poor showing.

McCORD played sensational ball for the local court making several sensational field goals and shooting 24 out of 26 goals. The lineup and summary:

ROOKWOOD Van Osten, f. N. Ford, f. Thompson, f. McFord, f. Haag, c. S. Schriber, c. Deal, g. G. Ford, f. Frankel, g. McConnell, g.

INDEPENDENTS N. Ford, f. McFord, f. Schriber, c. G. Ford, f. Frankel, g. McConnell, g. Field goals, Independents, N. Ford, 2; Rookwood, Van Osten, 3; Thompson, 2; Frankel, 1.

Eppa Rixey to Enlist in Gas Defense Battalion Charlottesville, Va., Dec. 17.—Following close upon the news of the sales of Alexander and Killifer, it was learned here to-day that Eppa Rixey had filed an application to enter the gas defense department of the United States Army, and that he will be assigned to duty at Norfolk.

The job was offered Rixey by Prof. Francis P. Dunington, of the Chair of Chemistry at the University of Virginia, who was asked by the War Department to recommend two Virginia graduates in analytical chemistry. Rixey, who is in the employ of chemical plants at Richmond, came up from the state capital during the past week to secure the necessary papers to file with his application.

If Rixey is accepted, it is predicted that he will never again appear on the diamond.

Islander Ball Player Joins Uncle Sam's Forces Salt Lake City, Dec. 17.—Gard Gislason, the fast little second sacker on the Salt Lake City baseball club in the Pacific Coast League, who originally hailed from Iceland, is to join the United States Army. Gislason was raised in Ballard, a suburb of Seattle.

Sporting experts here declare Gislason is the only professional player to be born in Iceland; but he fills the bill so well that they would hail the arrival of more tossers from that northern country with delight.

Quits Circus Business Gutch had been with the circus, wrestling with Bob Managoff, Carl Caddock and others, only a short time when he was compelled to return to his home because of stomach trouble. He never regained his health fully, although he later rejoined the circus, being compelled to leave it again when he injured his ankle.

Discoveries the champion made regarding his condition that summer caused him to abandon all plans of a match with Stecher.

The following winter Gutch became no better and went to Hot Springs, Ark. He returned home last spring but gradually lost strength. Early in October he went to Chicago on his way to a Southern resort, but became seriously ill in a Chicago hotel. He was removed to a hospital, where he was kept until early in November when he was brought back to his home.

Builds Up Fortune Since that time he had been able to leave his home only two or three times, and then for only short strolls. Ten days ago he began gradually to grow worse.

Gutch built up a fortune in wrestling and by investing his earnings in Iowa farm lands. His estate was variously estimated at between \$200,000 and \$400,000, all of which represents money made through his ability as a wrestler.

Gutch won the American championship January 27, 1904, from Tom Jenkins and was awarded the toughest matches ever seen in this country. The bout was staged at Belingham, Wash. Gutch won the first fall, but was awarded the second after Jenkins had fouled him repeatedly by applying the strangle hold and by striking him.

Four years later the Humboldt man won the unduped championship of the world by defeating George Hackenschmidt, "The Russian Lion," at the Dexter Park Pavilion, Chicago. Gutch forfeited match after two hours of grueling wrestling. There was no fall in the match, but the invalid quit, extending the contest two hours in an effort against a man who plainly showed that he was superior in every respect.

Wins Championship Frank Gutch, who won the heavyweight wrestling championship of the world in 1908 in Chicago, by throwing forward Hackenschmidt, the Russian lion forfeiting the match after two hours and eight minutes. Wrestling enthusiasts called it the greatest wrestling match in history. Gutch lost nine pounds before his opponent was floored, and his tongue was so badly swollen that it was taken out before the match began.

By he wrestled with Hackenschmidt in the White Sox park here again in 1911, winning in short order. After the match it was made known that Gutch's opponent had entered the contest with a badly sprained knee and although he had conceded it at first, it prevented his exerting more than a feeble resistance to the champion. The gate receipts at that match were \$37,000, the most money ever taken in a wrestling show in the present days.

It was in his match with Hackenschmidt that Gutch introduced and perfected the toe hold against which no man was ever able to stand. The hold caused great anguish to the opponent and soon made the strongest of them weak.

The only man who ever publicly threw the champion was Fred Beell, of Marshfield, Wis., who in 1905 in New Orleans, took the first fall to Gutch's opponent and third in a three-fall match. Gutch later won from Beell with little effort.

The champion's wrestling weight was 215 pounds. The last year he had lost weight until he tipped the scales at less than 180 pounds. He entered a hospital here a month ago and was treated for stomach trouble, but gained rapidly and was soon discharged as cured.

Gutch and James Jeffries, former heavyweight champion, were intimate friends and before Jeffries lost his belt to Jack Johnson the two champions toured the country, meeting with great receptions everywhere.

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LEBANON VALLEY TEAM COMING

Play Hasset Five Wednesday Night at Cathedral Hall; Other Games

The Hasset School five will play their first college game of the season when they line up against Lebanon Valley College Wednesday evening. The game this week will be played on Wednesday instead of Thursday. From now on the Hasset five will play only college teams, games having been signed at home and abroad with Gettysburg, Juniata, Albright, State Forestry Academy, Drexel Institute, Carlisle Indians and Bucknell.

Strong College Five Lebanon Valley has a strong combination this year. Captain "Red" Atticks is playing with the college again this year and Walters, the star fullback, is playing a clever game at guard.

Hasset players are practicing hard and seem to be in excellent condition. They will go through two more suit practices before the game and any weak spots will be strengthened.

Extra bleachers have been erected to take care of the crowd and a usually good dance program will follow the game.

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WELLY'S CORNER

Notwithstanding the loss of many scholastic stars who are in the Army, the Pennsylvania Intercollegiate League will start next Saturday with bright prospects. The younger athletes, anxious to become stars, will be in evidence. Seven teams have entered the race and old-time rivalry is promised.

Since 1915, Manager Connie Mack has sold thirteen of his stars, the total price received is \$181,500. Who says baseball is not a paying sport?

The highest price paid for a single player to Connie Mack was \$50,000 for Eddie Collins, second baseman, who was sold to the White Sox.

To make basketball a profitable sport, the games should be made attractive. Referees are a big factor in increasing the popularity of the game. While Harrisburg fans are loyal to home teams, they also like to see fair play.

Bethlehem Girls Face Hard Basketball Schedule Bethlehem, Pa., Dec. 17.—Basketball is under way at the Moravian College for Women. Neal Kennedy, who plays guard on the Lehigh University varsity team, will do the coaching. Miss Marian Artman, of Narberth, will captain the team and Miss Josephine Chidsey, of Easton, will be the manager. Of last year's team, Miss Gertrude Miller, forward; Miss Artman, forward; and Miss Louise Kuehl, of Philadelphia, jumping center, are back. Prominent among the candidates are Miss Katharine Rebstock, a former star of the Moravian Prep team, and Miss Mary B. Wilkinson, a guard from Linden Hall, at Lititz.

The schedule calls for the following games: January 5, Lansdowne High away; 18, Moravian Prep School, at home; February 2, Temple University, at Philadelphia; 9, Beechwood, at home; 16, Easton High, at Easton; March 1, Moravian Prep School, away.

Elyrians Can't Bluff Trolley Conductor Lorain, O.—For more than two hours a Lorain street railway car on the Lorain-Elyria line pulled back and forth over a cut-off switch on the double tracked division. The cut-off was used so other cars could pass.

The one car remained far out in the country without progress until forty Elyria men surrendered and paid the fifteen cents fare demanded by the conductor.

The passengers protested when a new fare rate, an advance of nine cents, went into effect.

Chinese Aviator Here on Government Mission Tom Gunn, the noted Chinese aviator, and his wife arriving at San Francisco, enroute to Washington where he will confer with officials on the purchase of airplanes for use in the Chinese army. Gunn, who is now a captain in the Chinese army, is head of the Aviation Corps. He created a sensation here several years ago by his spectacular flying.

Perils Are Seen in Efficiency of the War

New York, N. Y.—"Unless some conscience is aroused that natural science is not to be used against man, but for him, then it will never be safe for this world," said Dr. Ira N. Hollis, retiring president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, at the annual meeting here. The keynote of his address was that training for citizenship is the safeguard for democracy.

"It is our task, as engineers," said Dr. Hollis, "to assist in making the world safe against the forces that we have unloosed, so that the century may not close with a total failure of the civilization of Christian races. It is we who have developed the applications of natural science, and it is we who are using it to destroy one another, forced into the struggle by the rulers of a nation that knows no right except might, and no mercy except that which is taught by the sword."

"The Twentieth Century is still young, and we do not yet know what it will represent to the future historian. Will it be the debacle of natural science, or will it mean a new birth to Christianity? It is the engineers' task to decide this. There are two tendencies: one toward greater comfort and luxury, and one toward greater service. The first can plunge us only deeper and deeper into war for the control of a commercial output. It can only bring us more firmly under a governing class derived either by birth or by commercial success. The second means complete emancipation of the individual trained to think of service as the chief source of good government and happiness in life. The only theory that will hold men together is that of service."

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