

IN THE WORLD OF SPORT

Opening of the Foot Ball Season is Propitious for the Popular Game.

OMAHA HIGH SCHOOL BOYS WORKING HARD

All Kinds of Autumnal Sports Are Receiving the Attention of the Country—Over-Optimism Among Anglers Having Good Sport.

The eastern teams have all played a game or two since with minor college teams, but little can be gleaned from the records made in these games. The Harvard varsity team had an easy opponent in Williams, and in two ten-minute halves ran up a score of 29 to 0. Although it was apparent from the first kickoff that the Williams men would have no chance of scoring the Harvard for an length of time, yet in the eyes of the Harvard coaches the game was one of which the Crimson should be ashamed. To quote William H. Lewis, the play was the poorest varsity work ever seen on a gridiron. In the first half the Harvard team was composed wholly of varsity men, but before the second half ended only two varsity men remained in the line. Those were C. Sargent at center and Boal at left guard. All the other men were substitutes. The feature of the game came as if Ben Tibbles, who played at quarterback and half, made two runs of forty-five yards each around Williams' left end, both times scoring a touchdown. It was clever work, and the brilliant dodging brought forth much applause. It seemed very much as if Ben Tibbles was flying the flag, especially as both men are about the same in height and movements. Sawin kicked easy goals, and before time was called he succeeded in adding another touchdown, besides kicking a goal, making the total score 29 to 0. The substitute in the second half played up in much better style than was expected, but the varsity men failed to do themselves justice.

Pennsylvania ran up a score of 26 on Lehigh at Franklin Field, of which only fifteen points were made in the first half. The fumbling of the Quakers was atrocious, they losing the ball once on Lehigh's ten-yard line when a touch-down seemed imminent.

In Yale's first game it defeated Amherst by a score of 23 to 0. Sharp and Dupee, Yale's new backs, had little difficulty in getting through the Amherst line for good gains. Perry Kiefer, who is somewhat of a sensational work on the Yale field two years ago, clinched Amherst's ends for repeated short gains, and for two runs of forty yards each. The work of some of the players was very poor, especially that of Finkle at quarter and McConell at center. The unsatisfactory feature of the absorption made by Yale's new players was that the best playing by the new men in the rush line was done at the tackles and on the ends of the line. Yale wants now men most for the center of the line, and there the play was weakest. The game, however, showed that such veterans as Stillman and Coy and Hubbell will be lucky if they hold their positions this season.

Cornell played Hamilton college, and although this is usually a weak opponent succeeded in scoring only 12 to 0. Kansas university started the season with a game with the Haskell Indians, and won by 12 to 0. The Indians played a fast, snappy game in the first half and neither side was able to score. In the second half Harrie, the Indian quarterback, was injured and had to leave the game, after which the Indians lost heart and allowed Kansas two touchdowns. Had Harris stayed in the game it is doubtful if Kansas could have won.

Northwestern started the season last Saturday by losing to the alumni team 18 to 0. It was practically a contest between Van Dusen and the present team, and at no stage did the players who are to wear the purple this fall start the least show of winning. The old star back tore through the line as if it was made of paper.

Cornell is rapidly coming to the front with claims for recognition in first-class company, and when we remember that last season it beat Princeton 6 to 0 and Pennsylvania 12 to 6, both by a one touchdown in each case, we are forced to the conclusion that the Ithacans know a thing or two about the game, and that if they could but once break into the charmed circle they would be likely to form a considerable part in the final positions of the different teams.

Though the Carleton Indians are fully in Cornell's class on the average, they could never hope to be classed as true rivals of the best college teams. They will always be attractive for their uniqueness, simplicity, pluck and dash. They will be respected for their manliness. They will be plentifully applauded if they win from any of our first-class college teams. But they cannot be classed as college players, and for that reason cannot be said in the true sense of the word to be rivals of the college teams.

Neither should they be reckoned as of the athletic club class. They are organized, disciplined and responsible. They are in a class of their own and have nothing to be ashamed of. No matter where they play they have their hosts of admirers and sympathizers, both among the spectators and opponents.

The idea that the eastern foot ball teams are so far ahead of those of the west was exploded last fall by the record of the Chicago team with Pennsylvania, and the year before when Harvard had a hard task to win from Michigan by a score of 4 to 0.

Having a trick play, the powers of the Chicago-Pennsylvania game was 1 to 12, and when it was over, and Pennsylvania had escaped with only one more tally from Hershberger's phenomenal kicking, the Quakers found relief behind a smile of calm superiority. The score was 23 to 11, but Pennsylvania had made eleven of its surplus points by means of a trick play. Hence, when we subtract and the remaining points are 12 to 11, we are inclined to eagerly watch Pennsylvania's schedule when we read: "October 25, Chicago at Chicago." "November 11, Michigan at Philadelphia," and we are led to wonder if Pennsylvania can pull both of these games out of the fire. This question is all the more persistent when we remember that old Michigan beat Chicago last fall by a score of 12 to 11.

The phenomenal part of last year's records was the great lesson given by individual players. We refer to the numerous kickers of the Harvard, Chicago and Wisconsin teams. Haughton, Hirschberger and O'Dea are kickers who must be remembered as the best and greatest of any season since foot ball became a recognized college sport. O'Dea, while probably not the equal of Hirschberger in running and distance punting, is still a better punter to better advantage because he punted high and always placed the ball within reach of the end rushes. Haughton's kicking was invaluable for this reason, that he had the knack of putting the ball high enough in the air so that his whole line could get it, while Hirschberger's kicking was so phenomenally high that few men could catch it. As a result in the Pennsylvania game alone he won 256 yards of clear ground, gained by the recovery by his end rushes of high punts muffed by the Pennsylvania backs. This alone was enough to insure Harvard a victory. Hirschberger is in a class by himself as a kicker. It is enough to say that once in the Pennsylvania game he punted the ball from Chicago's fifteen-yard line to Pennsylvania's twenty-five-yard line without any wind in his favor, and when the ball was caught by the Pennsylvania back it was flying toward the Quaker goal on the fly. His kick was so phenomenally high that few men could catch it. As a result in the Pennsylvania game alone he won 256 yards of clear ground, gained by the recovery by his end rushes of high punts muffed by the Pennsylvania backs. This alone was enough to insure Harvard a victory.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOT BALL

Omaha Boys in Steady Practice—Points About Some of the Players.

King foot ball is on the high tide of enthusiasm in the Omaha High school. Never in the history of the game has such interest been evidenced in the High school squad. At first only a few men appeared upon the campus for practice, but as the season has progressed the number has increased from day to day until now an average of thirty to forty men come daily to be instructed in the fine points of the game. A slight indifference is noticeable among several of the players, but as a rule all the candidates enter the play with a commendable vim and determination. All are doing hard, systematic work. The practice thus far has been confined to a few regular plays, with a view of familiarizing the players with the game, and also their signals, but this will now give way to practice in special offensive and defensive plays.

The personnel of the team has not yet been determined, but it will be a strong one. Coach Whipple and Captain Tracy have the matter in hand and have been closely scrutinizing the work of each and every man, and will soon announce the names of those chosen.

Owing to the large number of candidates, an innovation will be made this year in the form of a permanent "second team." This is used in developing novices who are delayed in coming out to practice and to prepare material for the team next season. Captain Randall has in their "line-ups" against the first eleven they have made good gains. The second eleven will, however, be in a class of several good games having already been secured.

The uniform will be one of the most handsome ever seen on the local gridiron, and will consist of moleskin and striped purple and white jerseys and stockings. The managers have been depending on the Board of Education for some support in the way of headgear and sweaters, but have thus far been disappointed.

The schedule has not been fully completed, but will consist of games with Tekamah, Lincoln and Red Oak of the Iowa-Nebraska Inter-Scholastic Foot Ball League, Fremont and Sioux City High schools and Bellevue, Creighton and Taylor colleges. The dates thus far arranged are: Bellevue at Omaha, October 9; Tekamah at Omaha, October 14; Lincoln at Lincoln, November 11; Red Oak at Red Oak, November 30.

Personal Points.

Eugene Tracy will again claim the High school title last season he nobly demonstrated that he possessed all the qualifications necessary to the success of this enormous pursuit. He has excellent judgment, plenty of nerve and plays the game to win. He is especially strong on the team. Captain Tracy is 17 years of age and weighs 130 pounds, and will fill the position of left half this year.

Waller, center, is 18 years of age and weighs 160 pounds. This is his first year at the game, but he is a willing student and must consequently "catch on." He is a little slow, but passes accurately.

Fairbrother, 18-10, is a beginner, but will evidently make a good man. He runs hard and tackles well, but is not thoroughly familiar with the game.

Pritchard, 18-10, played quarter on last year's successful team and will play the same position this season. He is the lightest man in the bunch, but has plenty of nerve and uses his head. He is sure in passing and gets into the interference and tackles well.

Roberts, 18-14, better known as "Dusty," played guard on last year's team and was one of the "star" players. He is playing his usual strong game, and has caught the knack of opening the hole at the right time. He is strong on defensive play and on interference.

Marsh, 18-10, is another new man and is a candidate for right half. He is a little slow for the position, but runs low and hard and will be of value in bucking the line.

Englehard, 20-15, played fullback last year and will probably play the same position this season. He is stocky built and especially strong on his feet. He is especially strong on interfering and hits the line like a cyclone. He was one of the best ground gainers among last season's players.

Veitch, 17-15, is another novice and is trying for tackle. He is a fearless player, tackles hard and sure, carries the ball well and will be a big factor in the championship chase.

Thomas, 18-14, played left end last year and is after the same position again this season. He is a good ground runner and sure tackle. He is the "kicker" of the team and is showing a remarkable improvement in punting.

Clarke, 17-10, was injured early in last season, but is again in the game. He is improving rapidly and will bear watching.

McKray, 16-14, is also a new one, but a most promising man. He is very compactly built and very athletic. He is a little slow but is full of ginger and nerve and will undoubtedly give a good account of himself before the season is finished.

MEN OF THE ROD AND GUN

Duck Shooting, Club Shoots and Coursing Meets Give the Sports Plenty to Do This Week.

Dr. Owens was at Omaha Monday and brought back twenty bass and six ducks.

Ed Krug is at Langdon, where the bass and crappies are both biting fat and furious.

Judge Munger, United States Marshal Thummel and Henry Homan have gone to Lake Washington to angle for bass.

Jack Hollowell, the favorite of favorites, is in town for a few days as a guest of Frank Parmelee, and incidentally to renew acquaintances on the Midway.

Fred Goodrich, Hans and Saphus Noble of the Danish Pioneer, F. Carpenter of the Carpenter Paper company, all went to Valerine on Wednesday to shoot ducks on the chain of lakes south of that place.

Dr. H. Miller and Frank Despatcher killed eighty-five ducks at Blue Lake Sunday, and brought them home with them as an evidence of their prowess.

All members of the Dupont and Omaha Gun clubs who wish to organize a bowling club will meet at the present gun store Monday evening at 8 o'clock.

C. W. Bishop, Gus Winheim, Joe Goldsmith and E. Morrill leave soon for John Hardin's ranch near Paxton, for a two weeks' shoot at the ducks, which reports are coming in fast.

Judge W. C. Ives and Dr. Conner went to the sandhills for ducks last week.

W. P. McFarland and J. C. Smead went to Coly last week, and Harry Root and party left Friday for the same place.

The Dupont Gun club will hold their annual medal shoot at the regular meeting this week.

George Scribner, Charles Metz, Billy Marsh, Charles Rogers and S. G. V. Griswold leave for Camp Merzenger tomorrow for their regular annual fall shoot.

John Schmelzer returned last week from Kansas City, where he took in the Elliott-Crosby match, where 197 birds were killed out of 200, Elliott killing his 100 straight.

J. C. Gilhausen and Herman Volter are going to the fallows around Cashion this afternoon to shoot squirrels, which are very plentiful in that district.

The fourth annual amateur tournament of the Glenwood Gun club will be held at Glenwood, Ia., Thursday and Friday, October 12-13. Experts will be prohibited from contesting for purses. Address: F. A. Weatherhead, secretary.

The second fall handicap tournament of the Omaha Gun club will be held at Omaha, Ia., October 12 and 13, at which meet professionals will be barred. There is plenty of duck shooting at Blue Lake, three miles west, and the secretary, George A. Oliver, will gladly furnish any information desired.

PALAYER OF THE PUGILISTS

GoSSIP ON MCCOY AND ALSO ON THE APPROACHING JEFFRIES-SHARKEY FIGHT.

They have begun to talk and bet, too, for that matter, on the coming Jeffries-Sharkey fight down in New York. Although it was intimated by numerous so-called authorities that the proposition would be an even one by the time the men have been weighed in, we are, as usual, the authorities didn't know what they were talking about. In the estimation of every big-moneyed sport in the great metropolis there is but one in it, and he is the champion. One or two go so far as to say that the heavy Jack Farney will give the interesting for the champion for a number of rounds, but that is about all. Not one tip him off as a possible winner. Interest in the big fight is increasing daily and it is thought that one of the greatest throngs that ever assembled will witness a fair fight. It will be in New York on the 27th. Big excursion trains will be run from as far west as Chicago and from New Orleans and all points in the south, and altogether the event promises to cap the year's pugilistic cap sheaf.

Kid McCoy is certainly wise, if he has a report has it, declined to go on with his match with Peter Maher. As a reason the graceful Housler claims that he is as good as matched with Fitz, despite the latter's recently published denial to the contrary. He says that Robert will have to meet him at the middleweight limit or surrender the title. While, like many others, I give Peter Maher but small rating against game, clever men, there is no denying that he is a terrific puncher and always has a chance. At that, I think McCoy could out him to ribbons, and would easily stand off Fitz, too, at the weight he desires to meet him at. One more knockout at the hands of a stiff will settle McCoy as a big attraction, and we know it.

Although he reversed matters with Jack McCormick, he has been compelled to fight on the percentage plan ever since.

Questions and Answers.
LUSK, Wyo., Sept. 26.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: Tell me if the game of "puffs" is the same as craps, and if not, what kind of a game is it, and how is it played?—Johnson Bros.
Ans.—I know nothing of any such game.

must have plenty of preparatory work. He is better on the defensive than the offensive. "White," 18-10, is another novice. He is very muscular and compactly built, and, with proper coaching, will be a dangerous man.

McKray, 16-14, is also a new one, but a most promising man. He is very compactly built and very athletic. He is a little slow but is full of ginger and nerve and will undoubtedly give a good account of himself before the season is finished.

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WEST POINT, Oct. 2.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: In regards to the article of Sam Crawford in your issue last week I would like to make a few corrections, as it is giving Norfolk the credit where it is not due. Crawford never played with Norfolk. He got his start here in West Point, where he played in 1897, and was the star player. In 1898 he played with Superior and Randolph—Constant Reader.

PERSIA, Ia., Oct. 2.—To the Sporting Editor of The Bee: I notice that you list sportsmen in Sunday's Bee that the open season on quail began with the last of this month, which is wrong. As you will find by referring to the session laws of our state for 1898, the law was so amended to make the open season on quail the months of November and December instead of October and November—Robert Ivons. Ans.—You're was the tenth letter telling me of my mistake, so I stand corrected.

IN THE WHEELING WORLD.

Wheeling as a popular pastime has passed its meridian, and is putting on the "sere and yellow leaf" as unmistakable as nature. Whether it will imitate nature and bloom in the spring remains to be seen. At present the prospect is not as cheering as could be wished. In Omaha and vicinity wheel riding is steadily decreasing. Streets and highways were thronged with riders two years ago as now all but deserted. Riders are few and far between, most of them so forlorn that they ride slyly lest the whirr of the wheel arouse the ghosts of former days. Like conditions prevail all over the country. The New York World says, in its vicinity, "the melancholy weather brings with it the melancholy conviction that the bicycle is declining in public favor. That the wheel should disappear from the crowded streets of Manhattan was to be expected and desired. There is existence made safer alike for those who risk and for those who ride. It was also to be expected that the exclusive haunts of fashion should quickly drop a form of exercise which permits no distinction between fashionable and unfashionable people. But the real loss of popularity is not limited by these conditions. The suburban roads of Long Island and New Jersey which witnessed the growth and glory of wheeling are now watching its decay. It is melancholy not merely as an illustration of the fickleness of the public taste, but chiefly as an evidence of the inability of the average American to enjoy life." According to the reports of the park guards of Philadelphia there has been a noticeable decrease in the number of bicycle riders during the season now closing. Commenting on the report the Record says: "The bicycle craze has evidently reached its climax, and notwithstanding the recent extraordinary performances of a young rider from New York, there is a growing belief that henceforth the wheel will be used less and less as a sporting implement and more and more for purely utilitarian purposes. There must be some good reason for the marked falling off in bicycle riding for pleasure. In the first place, the natural tendency in this country is to overdo a thing. We rush into new pleasures with such vim and force that we soon exhaust our energies. In the next place we are constantly craving after novelty, and a popular amusement soon falls upon us. The coming fall (which will be confined for a time to the comparatively wealthy people) is the worst and last week in a trial against time broke both the half-mile and mile amateur records. The record for the former distance of 48.2 seconds was held by Bedell, the Englishman, and Smith's time was 45.2. The mile was made in 1:36 2-5, which is ahead of the former record of H. F. Kuehl of 1:39. Motor pace was used in the trial and Smith finished abreast of his pace. The trial was sanctioned by the National Cycling association and an application has been made to have the records allowed. Smith, who only weighs 107 pounds, rides a wheel geared to above the hundred mark. He has finished first in several races during the season about to close.

The bicyclists of Massachusetts have taken advantage of the race between Mr. John L. Bates and Mr. Curtis Guild, Jr., for the republican nomination to the lieutenant governorship to project the bicycle lamp into work and last week in a trial against time broke both the half-mile and mile amateur records. The record for the former distance of 48.2 seconds was held by Bedell, the Englishman, and Smith's time was 45.2. The mile was made in 1:36 2-5, which is ahead of the former record of H. F. Kuehl of 1:39. Motor pace was used in the trial and Smith finished abreast of his pace.

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Dayton Dumpling, who will spend two or three weeks there as his guest.

E. A. McDuffie, the rider who is to make an effort to ride a mile on the road in 48 seconds, has been a well known professional for several years. When the feat was first considered it was admitted that McDuffie was the one rider in the country whose physical make-up was of the sort needed in such a trial. At the National League of American Wheelmen meet at Boston McDuffie's riding was the feature of the last day. This was in the inter-city team pursuit race, Boston being represented by McDuffie, Nat and Frank Butler, and Philadelphia by Church, Cogan and Hall. The Philadelphia team were beaten four and a half miles. McDuffie rode with 115 gear, and his comparatively slow action in combination with his great speed caught on wonderfully with the spectators. His next notable work was at Brockton, August 16, when he defeated Gibson, the Cincinnati rider, in a fifteen-mile pace race. The race was cycling in 1:37. At New Bedford on September 13, McDuffie defeated Ben Monroe in one of the prettiest twenty-mile motor pace races ever seen in this country. More than 4,000 spectators were present. McDuffie broke all previous existing records for three to ten miles, making the race the most notable long-distance one of the year. McDuffie rode the third mile in 1:35 and the last in 1:28. The time for the twenty miles was 14:29. McDuffie finished in splendid shape, a full lap ahead on Monroe.

"Jimmy" Michael, the Welsh rider, intends to take up cycle racing again this winter, although last spring it was announced that in the future he would devote his time to horse racing. Michael makes a fortune in cycle racing and visions of big purses are probably the cause of his intention to return to this game. There are, however, many racing experts who say that Michael will not have such an easy time in gathering in purses as when he was in such particular favor a few years ago. Several other aspirants for the middle-distance championship honors have come to the front since Michael's retirement and all of these have beaten the records established by him when he was defeating all comers. Harry Elkes and E. A. McDuffie have each made better time in middle-distance races. Michael will find it an arduous task to get back into form.

Some of Michael's record rides were made behind human pace and his trainers predict that behind motor pace, as used at present, he will ride a bit faster than some of the present champions. Michael will take part in several match races at Madison Square Garden this winter. The American Cycle Racing association also intends to hold a six-day race, complying with the new law in every detail. There will be two relays, each riding twelve hours a day.

Waiber E. Smith, a 14-year-old boy, is at present the wonder in eastern cycling circles. He has been doing some remarkably fast work and last week in a trial against time broke both the half-mile and mile amateur records. The record for the former distance of 48.2 seconds was held by Bedell, the Englishman, and Smith's time was 45.2. The mile was made in 1:36 2-5, which is ahead of the former record of H. F. Kuehl of 1:39. Motor pace was used in the trial and Smith finished abreast of his pace.

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