

SURPRISES MARK PLAY IN OMAHA FLOOR LEAGUES

Favorites in Both Commercial and Church Leagues Suffer Reverses at Hands of Under-rated Opponents.

How They Stand CHURCH LEAGUE. Pearl Memorial... 5 3 0 1,000. William Wops... 5 3 2 600. Hanson Park M. E. 5 3 2 600. First M. E. 5 3 2 400. Benson M. E. 5 3 2 400. Walnut Hill M. E. 5 3 2 400. COMMERCIAL LEAGUE. Naksens... 7 6 1 360. Townsends... 7 6 1 350. M. E. Smith... 7 4 3 370. Commerce High... 7 3 4 430. Central Furniture... 7 3 4 430. Y. M. H. A. 7 0 7 0. GAMES THIS WEEK. CHURCH LEAGUE. Tuesday. Walnut Hills against William Wops, 7:30. Benson M. E. against Hanson Parks, 8:10. First M. E. against Pearl Memorial, 8:40. COMMERCIAL LEAGUE. Thursday. Naksens against Y. M. H. A. at 7:30. Central Furniture against M. E. Smith at 8:10. Commerce High against Townsends at 8:10.

The past week has been one of surprises in both the Church and the Commercial leagues. The Bensons beat the William Wops, the Naksens were humbled by the Central Furniture team and the M. E. Smiths defeated the Townsends. Although the respective positions of the teams in the Commercial league remain the same, one change occurred in the Church league when the First M. E. team and the Hanson Park five changed places on the championship ladder.

The contest between the William Wops and the Walnut Hills in the Church league Tuesday night will probably result in a victory for the Wops, if the past performances of both teams are considered. The Benson M. E. and the Hanson Parks may well match and no close game may safely be predicted. A victory for the Hanson Parks is necessary if that team is to maintain its position of second place in which it is tied by the Wops. The contest between the First M. E. and the Pearl Memorial quintet should give the league leaders little trouble unless the unexpected again happens and the mighty are humbled.

The Naksens undoubtedly will have an easy time with the Y. M. H. A. team, which has not a single game to its credit. The Central Furniture-M. E. Smith clash will probably develop some excitement in the opinion of those who claim a special knowledge of league affairs. The Townsends will meet the Y. M. H. A. team, and if it continues to improve, should have a gay time with the holders of the cellar position.

Hornsby Down in Draft, But Up on Salary Claim. Shortstop Roger Hornsby of the St. Louis Cardinals, over whose draft status there has been some concern, has been placed in class 3, division B, on the ground that his mother and sister are dependent on him. In the meantime Hornsby's appeal for a raise from the St. Louis club to \$10,000 a year, so that his dependents will not suffer, is pending, with every chance that it will be overruled.

Bill James is Hurt When He is Left in Old League. Pitcher Lefty Bill James of the Portland Northwestern league club is said to be peeved because he was not included in the list of players assigned to the Sacramento Coast league club and he threatens to quit baseball to show his displeasure. Judge McCredie has told him, however, that he expects him to be a big card with the Northwesterners and James may be satisfied.

Shropshire Sticks to Old Game Despite Announcement. At the annual meeting of the Nashville Southern league club Clyde Shropshire was re-elected president of the club. Some time back Mr. Shropshire announced he would retire from baseball to pursue his political aspirations, but he evidently has changed his mind. Roy Elam also was formally appointed manager of the Nashville team for 1918.

Signin Demands More Coin If He is to Boss Portland. Even the title of manager does not appeal to Paddy Signin, just named to lead the Portland Northwestern league team, unless the salary is right, according to his message of conditional acceptance received in Portland, and there is a hint that he may not after all be chosen and that he will instead be disposed of to Salt Lake in the Coast league, where the pay is larger.

Tesreau Has Tonsils Cut, As Pcr Muggys's Orders. Jeff Tesreau, first to sign a new contract with the Giants, now has been the first to obey Manager McGraw's request for removal of tonsils. Tesreau had the operation performed in New York last week. Jeff evidently means to stage a comeback this year.

All Business Completed, Muggie Hikes for Havana. With Herzog off his mind and practically all his players safely signed, Manager McGraw of the New York Giants started on his delayed trip to Havana, where he will bask in Cuban sunshine until near time for the team to report at Marlin.

Smith Followers Sore. Transfer of Larry Doyle to the Giants to play second base is a great disappointment to admirers of Jimmy Smith, the Pittsburgh lad, as they had it all figured out that McGraw would make him the regular second baseman.

GREAT STRIDES ARE BEING MADE ON CINDER PATH

Remarkable Advance in Track and Field Athletics Shown by Amateur Athletic Union Charts.

The remarkable advance made in track and field athletics by American performers in recent years is strikingly demonstrated by the latest charts of the Amateur Athletic union. With the exception of two or three events, the records show that almost every standard contest has repeatedly been bettered during the period since the early eighties when the Amateur Athletic union was organized.

The 100-yard dash record was cut down 2-5 of a second in a trifle less than 30 years. Between 1883 and 1918 it was broken twice, and no less than 11 sprinters participated in breaking or tying the time. In the 220-yard dash 4-5 of a second was lopped off the time in a similar period, the record being broken twice and eight runners receiving credit for exceeding or equalling the previous clocking. The quarter-mile event is one of the exceptions to the general rule. Wendell Baker ran the 440 yards in 47 3/4 seconds in 1896 and in 1910 Maxey Long reduced the time to 47 seconds flat. Since that date no sprinter has ever equaled the performance.

Coming to the longer distances, the half-mile run has been bettered twice, 3 1/2 seconds having been cut off the time made by Lon Myers in 1885. This time was lowered twice and four athletes are credited with tying or breaking the record. In the mile run 8-4-5 seconds marks the improvement. W. G. George ran the distance in 1882 in 4:21 2-5, and in turn Tommy Conneff, John Paul Jones and Norman Taber each clipped the time until, at present it stands at 4:12 3-5. The five-mile record has been broken three times and equaled once since 1887 and the total gain amounts 54 2-5 seconds. The ten-mile run shows a gain of 1:55 1-5 since 1886, the record of that date having been bettered three times.

Cornhuskers to Meet Representatives of East, Middle West, Missouri Valley, Rockies and Far West. Nebraska university's 1918 gridiron schedule now is complete. Negotiations with Denver were closed yesterday, thus completing the schedule of eight games. Denver will play at Nebraska field November 2. When Doc Stewart, athletic director at Nebraska, announced the first seven games of the schedule, November 2 was an open date. It was reported negotiations were under way with Denver, California and Washington university. The chance to land a California game, however, went by the boards when the native sons decided to "take keer" about arranging a 1918 card for fear there would be no foot ball next fall. Then Washington was eliminated from the running and Denver had a clear field.

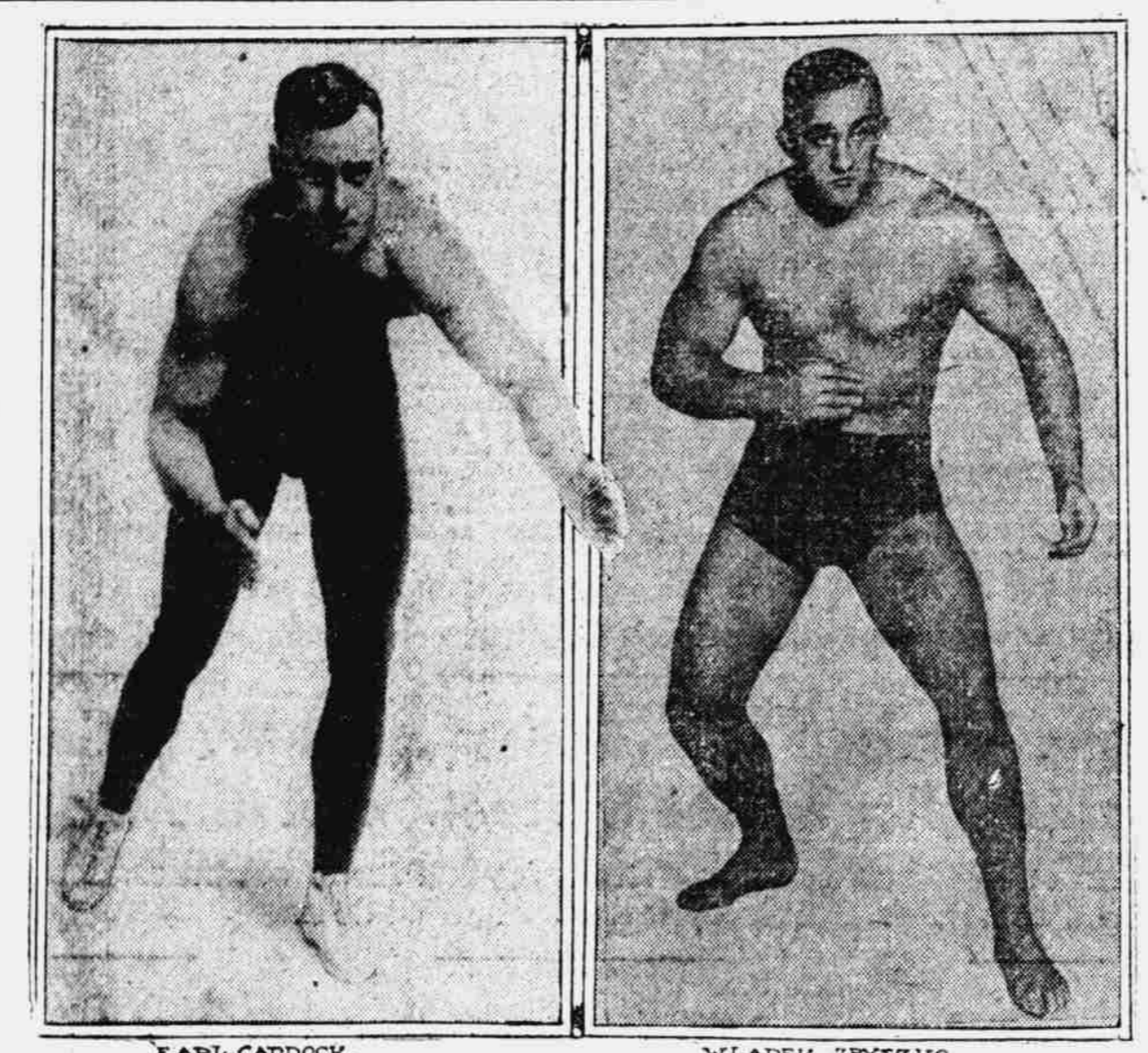
Denver last year won the Rocky Mountain championship and the boys with the coughing yell got real chesty over it; so chesty in fact they challenged the Huskers to a post-season game. This led to the Nebraska-Denver game which will be played next fall. It's the toughest schedule in years that Stewart has outlined for his charges. Syracuse, as good as the east has to offer; Notre Dame and Northwestern, Class A in the middle west; Kansas, a topnotcher in the Missouri valley; Denver, the class of the Rocky Mountains, and Washington state, a champion of the far west, that's what Nebraska faces. It means that the Cornhuskers battle a championship foe from every part of the country except the south and, if by a stroke of good fortune, should clean up on that schedule, the name of the Cornhuskers will ring out in every household in the land.

Peoria Already Plans For Big Minor Meeting. Peoria, which entertains the National association convention next November, announces that it will have an entertainment fund of \$3,500, and the base ball fans already have set about to raise the money. The first move is a boxing tournament.

Free Show: Fulton Threatens to Punch Willard on Jaw on Street

The most reasonably priced championship fight in the history of the world will be staged when Fred Fulton and Jess Willard meet, according to Mike Collins, Fulton's manager and strategist extraordinary. "There will be no \$25 ringside seats. Neither will Uncle Sam get any 10 per cent of the gate receipts. There will be no gate receipts. For it is going to be a free show, avers Collins; Fulton is going to punch Jess Willard on the jaw the first time he sees him. Collins has been pursuing Jess Willard for more than two years with no luck. Willard would not crawl out of his hole to meet Fred. Collins says he is getting weary of Willard's stalling to he declares he and Fred will take drastic measures. "Fred and Jess are sure to meet face to face within the near future," says Collins. "It may be on the street, in a hotel lobby or in an alley—we don't care where—but the first moment Fred gets his lamps on Willard he will poke him on the jaw. We don't care anything about the gate receipts. It will be a free show with all the world invited. We have dem-

Mat Gladiators Who Will Clash for World's Championship at Des Moines



NEBRASKA GRID CARD COMPLETE AS DENVER SIGNS

Omaha Alley Manager to Stage Fourth Pin Classic February 16 to 24; Open to All.

"Dad" Huntington's fourth annual handicap bowling tournament will be staged on the Omaha alleys February 16 to 24. Three classes of events will be held. They are five-men team, two-men team and individual events. Entry fees are \$7.50 for each club, \$3 for each two-man team, and \$1.50 for each individual. Special prizes of \$5 will be given in addition to the regular prizes for high single game, high three games and high nine games.

All games will be shot across six alleys. The system of handicapping will be from 155 to 180. That is the man whose average is 155 or less will receive 25 pins a game. If the participant's average is above 155 he will receive pins to make the average 180. Handicaps will be determined upon league averages. If a competing team or player is a member of no league and therefore has no league average, the handicaps will be computed from any match games that may have been rolled by the bowlers in question this season. Rakekin and Eidson constitute the handicap committee.

Entries for the tourney may be sent to Dad Huntington or Harry Eidson at 1816 Harney street. The annual city bowling tournament starts at the Farnam alleys February 8, so Omaha pin enthusiasts will have two tournaments to occupy their time next month.

Ebbets Finds Way to Make His Ball Park Pay Profit. President Ebbets of Brooklyn has tried several plans in the past to make use of Ebbets field while the Dodgers are on the road, but none has panned out well. Now he has a new idea. Tennis courts will be fitted up and leased for tournaments. There is great interest in tennis in Brooklyn and not enough available courts, and Mr. Ebbets believes he can fill a long felt want.

Cards Swipe Scout From Browns Again; Fifty-Fifty. President Branch Rickey has shared another asset from the St. Louis Browns for his Cardinals. The new acquisition is Charley Kelschner, scout, who will be the representative of the Cardinals in the East, while Charley Barrett will hunt for budding talent in the south and west. Kelschner had been with the Browns for several years. The Browns got even by taking on Scout Eddie Herr from the Cardinals several weeks ago.

Stengel Pays Respects To Boss After Exchange. President Ebbets of the Brooklyn Dodgers says one reason he traded Casey Stengel was that the team had too many left-handed batters. It is still believed, however, that the real reason was the left-handed complications the player handed the magnate. Stengel is out in Kansas City now, paying his "respects" to Ebbets because he wasn't traded to Chicago instead of to Pittsburgh.

Plant at Yankee Camp is Wrecked by Souther Storm. The grandstand and club house of the ball park at Macon, Ga., where the Yankees will train were wrecked by a storm recently. It is promised that repairs will be made in time for use by the Yankees. The New York club has leased an entire floor of the Hotel Dempsey in Macon for its training squad and the hotel management is fitting up special accommodations for the players.

Pug Griffin Among Five Others Canned by Connie. Having disposed of his stars, Manager Connie Mack now is disposing of his lesser lights. Announcement was made last week of the release of First Baseman Pug Griffin, Catcher Bill Myers, Infielder Palmer, and Pitcher Farmland.

RUSSELL LEADS CHURCH LEAGUE IN POINTS MADE

Benson Lad Rolls Up Total of 50 Points for His Team; Gary of First Methodist is Second.

Russell of the Benson Methodists is the leading point getter of the Church basketball league of Omaha, according to averages just issued. The Benson star has rolled up a total of 50 points for his team. He has scored 22 field goals and six foul goals. Gary of the First Methodist ranks second, with a total of 47 points, made by 13 field goals and 21 foul goals. Parrish of the Pearl Memorials is third with 12 field goals and 16 foul goals, making a total of 40 points.

Russell also leads the league in field goals thrown. His record of 22 hits is eight more than his nearest competitor, Klepar of the Pearl Memorials, who has registered 14. Gary is the foul goal expert, with 21, four more than Fullington of the Hanson Parks.

Dodds of the First Methodists has more fouls marked up against him than any other player in the league. He has been caught 10 times. The figures are as follows: Goals—Fouls Field. Foul. Cmt. Pts. Russell, Benson M. E. 22 6 50. Gary, First M. E. 13 21 47. Parrish, Pearl Mem. 12 16 40. Fullington, Hanson P. 12 17 37. K. Klepar, Pearl M. 11 13 29. Maxwell, Wms. Wops. 9 8 37. McShole, First M. F. I. 8 6 24. Anderson, Wms. Wops. 8 6 19. Montague, Hanson P. 7 8 14. Watson, Walnut Hill. 6 8 14. Lucas, Benson, M. E. 6 8 14. Dodds, First M. E. 6 8 12. Sigmond, Walnut Hill. 6 7 12. Brown, Wms. Wops. 6 7 12. Davis, Pearl Mem. 5 13 11. Bass, Hanson Park. 5 10 10. Wierich, Wms. Wops. 5 8 10. Hitch, Benson M. E. 5 8 10. Hanson, First M. E. 4 8 8. Barnum, Wms. Wops. 4 8 8.

See how this machine is made. Hipp theater, Monday, 10:50 p. m. Admission free.

NEBRASKA PUPPIES ENTER NATIONAL GREYHOUND RACE

The National Greyhound Futurity list for 1918 shows that 142 candidates have been entered. This is the most important coursing event run in the United States and takes place in the month of October each year. The stake is for puppies running their first season whelped on or after January 1, 1917. Entries have been received from Pennsylvania, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Iowa and Minnesota.

NEBEGAN TAKES BREWERS TO PEORIA FOR TRAINING

Ned Egan, manager of the Milwaukee Brewers, has about closed arrangements for his team to do its spring training in Peoria. Much depends on the opening date of the association season. The story now is that the association may rescind its action for a late opening and decide to start April 16 along with the majors.

DR. BALDERSON MAKES NEW RECORD ON INDOOR COURSE

Dr. G. A. Balderson established a new record for the Burgess-Nash indoor golf course yesterday afternoon when he won a 36-hole putting competition. Dr. Balderson shot the 36 holes in even 60, the lowest ever scored. Hatch shot a 62 for second money. A large number of indoor enthusiasts took part.

BEZDEK ENTHUSIASTIC OVER THIRD SACKER FROM SPOKANE

Manager Hugo Bezdek of the Pirates came back east with glowing accounts of the prospects of Tony Boeckel making good as his third baseman. He says Boeckel has been hard at work all fall and has taken off fully 15 pounds of surplus weight. One of the handicaps to the youth from the Northwestern last summer was his height and he set about reducing as soon as the season closed.

MCGRAW TO GIVE SCHOOL KID PHENOM ANOTHER SHOT AT JOB

Pitcher Waite Hoyt, the schoolboy phenomenon, though he has failed for two or three seasons past to set the season afire, will get another chance with John McGraw. Hoyt was taken on as a 17-year-old boy several years ago and since then McGraw has had him with various minor league clubs in hopes of some day developing him into major league class.

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GARFIELD WINS ANNUAL SCHOOL SPORT CONTEST

Charles Johnson, Philip Moeller and Arthur Backes Are Individual Medal Winners in City-Wide Meet.

Charles Johnson of Franklin school, Philip Moeller of Kellom school and Arthur Backes of Mason school are the three winners of the special prizes in the seventh annual athletic badge contest of the Omaha public schools, returns of which have just been completed by Athletic Director Carns.

Johnson, Moeller and Backes are the only three boys in the city who passed all of the Class 1-A standards. These stands are four feet seven inches in the running high jump, 200 yards in 26 seconds, seven feet nine inches in the standing broad jump and 12 times at chinning. Nearly 3,500 school boys took part in these contests, but the three lads named above were the only ones to successfully pass all of the Class 1-A standards.

Thirty-eight boys passed the Class 1 standards which are a little less rigid than those of Class 1-A. Two hundred and sixty boys passed the Class 2 standards and 632 boys passed the Class 3 standards.

Garfield Wins Cup. Garfield school won the Charles Harding 10-year trophy. Garfield's mark was 83.8 per cent passing for all classes.

The Harding trophy is a silver loving cup and will be given to the school that wins it the most number of times in the 10 years of competition. Up to the present time no school has won it twice. The schools which hold a leg on the trophy are as follows: 1911.....Kellom 1912.....Howard Kennedy 1913.....McShoen 1914.....Clifton Hill 1915.....Garfield 1916.....Sherman

Cass is Second. Cass school gave the Garfield lads a run for the trophy by marking up a percentage of 79. Belvidere school marked up a percentage of 100, but was not eligible for the trophy because it had no entrants in Class 1.

Garfield school also was winner of two of the three team trophies offered. The South Side lads captured the first class championship banner with 100 per cent passing and the second class championship banner with 93.8 per cent passing. Third class championship banner was won by Belvidere with 100 per cent passing. The total figures show that 3,470 school boys took part in 12,705 events. The number of events passed was 8,143 for an average of 64.1 per cent.

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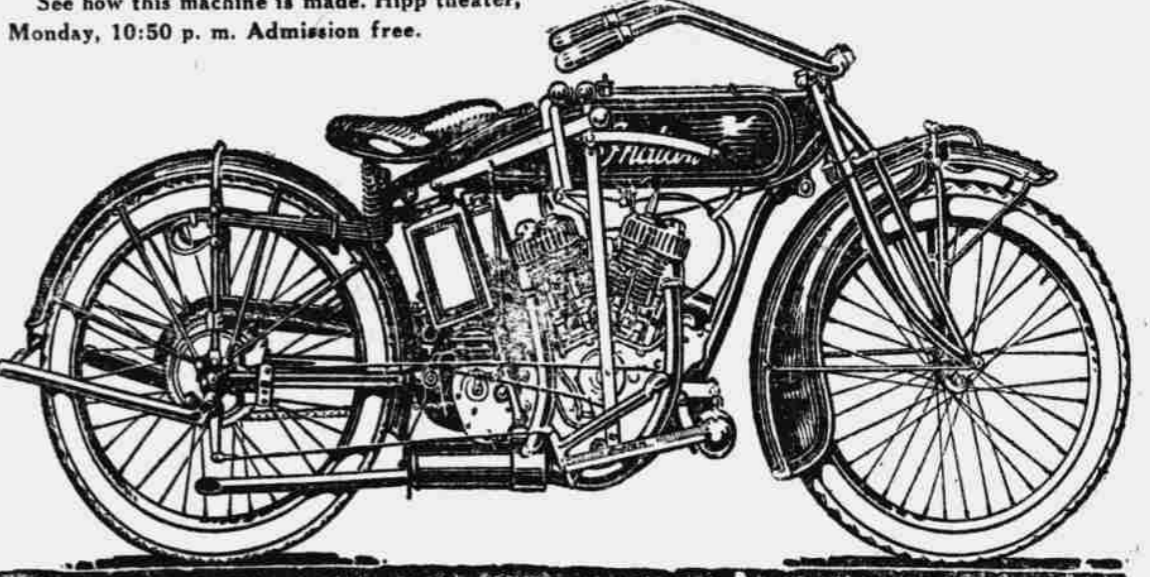
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