

"Thumbless" Ed Wetzle Signs Contract to Hurl for Omaha Buffaloes

Barney Burch After Two Big League Pitchers

Owner of Western League Champions Losing No Time Strengthening Club for 1925 Campaign.

THUMBLESS" Ed Wetzle is coming back to the Western league! Barney Burch, owner of the Omaha Buffaloes, announced Saturday that he had signed Wetzle, pitcher, formerly with Denver and Des Moines, to an Omaha contract. Wetzle was with Denver in 1922 and 1923. At the close of the 1923 season "Thumbless" Ed was released by the Bears to Wichita, Falls, La. His arm went on the "fritz" and Wichita Falls made him a free agent. During the latter part of the 1924 season Des Moines signed him to a contract. Said contract called for a certain sum of money and if the money was not forthcoming at the end of the season Wetzle was to become a free agent. He was made a free agent.

Last week Wetzle was in Omaha for the sole purpose of conferring with Owner Barney Burch. The Buffaloes' boss sent for Ed and the result of the meeting was Wetzle's signature to a contract.

In 1922 Wetzle turned in 12 victories for Denver. He was credited with losing 13 games. His record for that year didn't set the world afire, but it wasn't such a bad record considering the strength of the Bears in 1922. Denver finished in seventh place in 1922.

The pitching staff of the Omaha club after Wetzle's signing consists of Harry Lee, Arnold Stone, Harris, Bailey and of course, Wetzle.

Burch also handed out the "info" yesterday that he was aniling for two more hurlers, all of the right-hand variety. The two pitchers he has in mind have been with a major league club for the last three years and if Barney can sign them to an Omaha contract he hopes that he will have the strongest hurling corps in the circuit.

As the Omaha club stands this morning Burch has Art Griggs on first base. Art will also manage the team. At second will be Munroe, late of the Houston club of the Texas league and at short will be Jimmy O'Neill. Jimmy Wilcox will take care of third base, while "Red" Wilder and Roy Luebke will do the backstopping. If Art Swartz, the Omaha amateur, shows enough catching ability Burch says he will carry three catchers.

The outfield will be composed of "Chief" Robinson, Frank Osborn and Art King, the latter a newcomer.

MARTIN MAY GET RING SUSPENSION

Eddie (Cannonball) Martin, champion of bantamweight boxers, may lose a trip to California, where he expected to appear under the new 12-round law as a result of his failure to fight during a contest in Brooklyn Wednesday night. Martin and his opponent, Augie Pisano, were ordered out of the ring after three rounds of pushing and mauling. The title was not at stake, as Pisano weighed four pounds more than the bantamweight limit of 118. Martin may draw a suspension from the New York state athletic commission, and yet his previous good record may react to his favor.

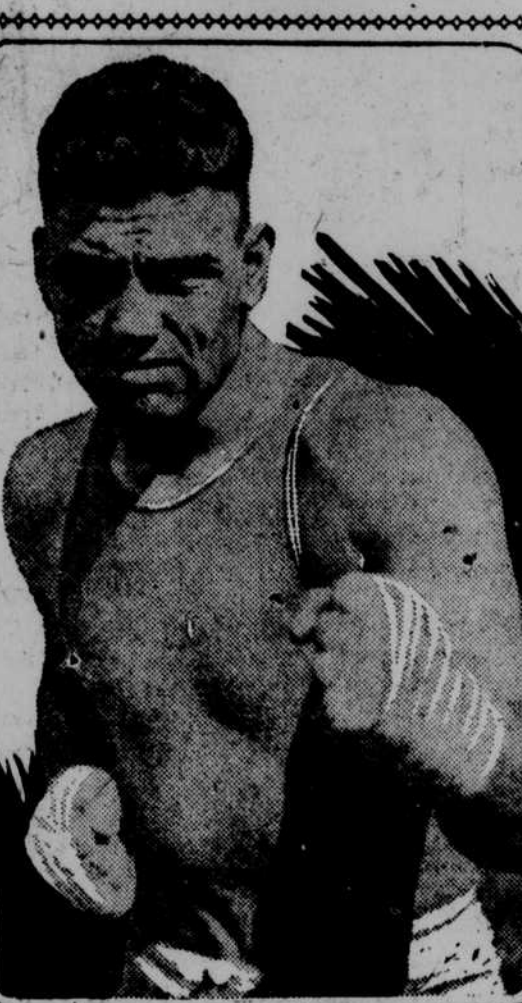
GOLF CHAMPIONS WINTER IN FLORIDA

Three champions of the links will spend the winter in Florida courses. Walter Hagen, British open champion, will serve as president of a St. Petersburg club, of which Joe Kirkwood, Australian champion, is professional. Cyril Walker, national open champion, the third of the trio, will act as professional during the winter season for a Winter Haven club, where he will be associated with Dave Kober, permanent club professional.

New Orleans Race Officials After Better Racing

New Orleans, La., Jan. 10.—Determined to give the public clean racing here for the winter season of 1925, the stewards took quick action during the first week of the sport by setting down jockeys for apparent listless riding and warning all riders to do their best in every race, otherwise their licenses would be revoked. Owners and trainers were also called to task, with a warning that they must send their horses fit to the post. The activity of the racing officials evidently has had the desired effect among the turf colony and the slothful clean racing, no doubt will be carried out throughout the 47 days of racing at the Fair Grounds. The first jockey to be punished at the meeting was Ivan Parke, one of America's premier riders. He was set down for rough riding and the racing officials intend to issue drastic rulings whenever necessary.

If He's In This Mood THEN WE'LL HAVE SOME ACTION



If He Feels This Way TWILL BE DULL YEAR IN BOXING



Jack Dempsey the fighter and Jack Dempsey the movie star.

AS the heavyweight champion goes, so goes the fight game. This is an accepted axiom of the boxing world. In other words, if the king of them all is active his activities are reflected throughout the game and interest in every class is increased. If he twiddles his thumbs there is little hope of stirring up much interest in the smaller divisions. So upon Jack Dempsey's shoulders rests the fate of boxing in 1925. In Dempsey's case this is more true than ever before. He is one of the most colorful fighters in the realm of fistiana. His work every time he steps into the ring. He carries with him into the ring but two things—love for the game. Dempsey is a fighting wildcat when he enters the ring. He carries with him into the ring but two things—the hardest body-punching machinery ever discovered and the desire to lay his opponent low. A heavyweight champion must be a man-killing demon to be popular. Dempsey is that. When Dempsey was fighting his way to fame he lived constantly with but one desire—to sock somebody. He socked 'em for nothing to start with. The money was a secondary matter until Jack Kearns taught him the A. B. C. of high finance. Even after winning the title Dempsey harbored a

desire to do battle often. Kearns played the game from the box office end. For 16 months Dempsey has confined himself to the movie lot. He has donned togs only for hippodrome stuff in connection with his work before the films. He is much more at home in a tuxedo these days than a pair of fighting trunks. His footwork has been confined mainly to patent-leather stuff on movie location instead of the rosin-covered canvas of the ring. He hasn't been real peevish once in those 16 months, unless it has been at an undiplomatic taxi driver. Has he lost the natural pugnaosity, belligerent nature that made him a terror in the ring? There is easy picking on the shelf for Dempsey. Tommy Gibbons would be willing to take a real beating for another big purse. Harry Willis is waiting patiently for a chance at the champ. Quintin Romero Rojas, much talked-of Chilean heavy, may be a challenger timber by late summer. There is time for one or two other men to come to the front before another Labor Day rolls around. The opportunities are there. Will Dempsey fight or fiddle? If he fights leave considerable space in the year's diary for doings in the boxing world. If he continues his movie work hang some crepe on the page. Is he in a mean mood or inclined to the lipstick and rouge?

Football Expert Predicts Grid Game to Become Standardized

EW YORK, Jan. 10.—Robert F. Kelley, football expert, says that football, for the last 10 years the victim of changes in its rules every season, is fast on the way to becoming a standardized game at last. The report of E. K. Hall, chairman of the rules committee, to the National Intercollegiate Athletic association, makes this rather plain. "Considerations like these," he said in conclusion, after quoting illustrations of the game's present state of affairs, "are responsible for the feeling on the part of your committee that the committee's task is to endeavor to hold the game as it is and to experiment with proposed changes only with extreme conservatism." Thus is the end put to the long line of changes. Football at last is made into a game which pleases the vast majority. It is pleasing to find this same viewpoint expressed by the men in charge of the rules. There is no denying the fact that there is a strong inclination toward a resentment at any additional fiddling with the fundamentals of the game. The report of Chairman Hall would seem to be the finishing blow at the heads of those who have been demanding that the forward pass be restricted. There is an overwhelming sentiment among the coaches, players and followers of the game—the majority of them—toward halting the forward pass as the final welding infusing which has made football the great game that it is today.



It Happened in Baseball

Jack Kearns, manager of Jack Dempsey, will fight this year. Then he denies having signed for any battles for the champion. Great stuff. OXFORD university is sending its 10 best boxers to the U. S. in March to meet Yale's rink squad. In view of the feeling now prevalent in England that the nation's hopes of finding a real ring champion lie in the ranks of the student or the nobility the work of these Oxford mild fighters will be watched closely by American experts. British sportsmen have had the feeling for some time that the exclusive clubs could produce a heavyweight, for instance, worthy of consideration were he convinced that it was his duty to attempt to restore England's fame in the ring. "Strangler" Lewis Improving. Kansas City, Jan. 10.—"Strangler" Lewis, injured here Thursday night in his wrestling match with Wayne (Big Munn), in which he lost his heavyweight championship was resting comfortably today. Lewis suffered a sprain in the ankle joint when he slipped or was thrown outside the ring. Amateur Boxing Champion Sings in Church Choir. The New York state amateur boxing champions crowned at last week's tournament at Madison Square Garden include Tommy Law, 135-pound title holder, who is a choir singer; Harry Traub, young artist, who topped the flyweight division, and Tony Canzoneri, high school youth, who proved the best of the bantams.

Coach McGahan Developing Good Varsity Material

Diesing, Coffey, Moylan, Hayes, Mitchell and Fogarty Will Make Strong Bid for 1925 Team.

Creighton university has long been famed for its fiery and impetuous freshman terms. In football the freshmen have even held their own with the basket ball team which has been traditionally of superior merit. The freshman football team of last season was a whirlwind and contained who will undoubtedly be placed on the 1925 Bluejay eleven. And now, on the basket ball court, freshmen Coach Lusk McGahan has a squad of hoodies working out nightly who look to be the class of any similar aggregation every assembly on a Hilltop court. They have the experience, fight, and knack of caging the leather that leads wearers of the Blue and White who have been following the impetuous yearlings in their daily scrimmages against the varsity to aver that the team looks to have the possibilities of being one of the greatest of all-time Creighton machines.

They have formed the best possible sort of opposition, and much of the credit displayed by the Creighton quintet can be attributed to the work of the freshman in scrimmage. Coach McGahan has in Diesing, Coffey, Moylan, Hayes, Mitchell, and Fogarty, forwards, six men who have experience, and ability plus fight. Diesing, Coffey and Moylan are from the state championship Creighton Prep team of last year and have been going good with the freshmen.

Hayes is an Elkton, (S. D.) had the same town which sent to Creighton such stars as Charles Kearney, Jimmy Lovely, and Johnny Trautman. Mitchell is a former Central high career, who, through failing to make the school team in his regular term, has been showing up to advantage at both forward and guard with the freshmen.

Fogarty is another of the inter-class stars who is making a splash with the freshmen. Tall and rangy, he was deemed incapable of holding down a berth with the regular team at Creighton Prep, but once in a freshman suit he has shown with some degree of brilliance. The center candidates for the fresh team are both former Creighton Preparators. O'Brien and Dugan. O'Brien was all-state center last year, while Dugan was a strong link in the state championship junior Bluejay five.

McDonald, another Creighton Prep student is probably the class of the guards. He was in the same boat with Fogarty and Mitchell in high school being unable to make the school team, but since joining the yearling ranks he has been the brunt of the varsity attack with a coolness and ability which stamps him as a likely candidate for barricading honors next season.

Leslie Quinn, who also hails from Elkton, S. D., has proved a strong running mate of McDonald, at the running guard position. HE is a snappy dresser on the links and the only man who can wear a tuxedo in a sand trap and look at home. John puts on the tuxedo because he knows that anybody who gets in the average bunkie is in for a formal evening of golf.

HAWKEYE FIVE DEFEATS PURDUE

Iowa City, Ia., Jan. 9.—Iowa's basket ball five continued its march toward conference championship by defeating Purdue here tonight, 35-20. Jumping to a four-point lead in the first two minutes the Hawkeyes were never seriously threatened by the Hoosiers. McConnell and VanDeusen, Hawkeye guards, held Purdue to long shots. Hoosier offense was ragged and fumbling frequent. Fast tricky floor work was responsible for many Hawkeye baskets. James, captain and star forward, was higher scorer for Hawks with 15 points. Laue accounted for 11 points. Purdue substituted freely in second half in effort to check Hawkeye offense. Barry, Iowa coach, used three second string men in last half.

MRS. WHITNEY BUYS ORDINANCE

New York, Jan. 10.—Ordinance, a rich blood gray accredited with having "the best hind leg since Tracery," is now the property of Mrs. Payne Whitney and will be sent to her new stud farm near Red Bank, N. J. The sale of Ordinance, one of the best performers of the late August Belmont string, was announced by the estate yesterday. Laddin, conqueror of the great French racer Eclair, will be sold at auction soon unless some leading stable purchaser has.

Nurmi Munches Apple Between Halves

Like most of the truly greats in their respective divisions, Paavo Nurmi, Finland's crack middle distance star, has no regard for the accepted fundamentals in training. Between races at Madison Square Garden Tuesday night Nurmi munched an apple, while Ray, Watson, Hahn, Booth and other American stars looked on in awe. But Nurmi only smiled, munched away and then stepped out and broke another world's record.

Heydler Comes Near Losing His Position

New York, Jan. 10.—John Heydler, president of the National League, came closer to losing his position than is generally accredited, according to information made available here this week. The failure of the directors of the Cincinnati baseball club to support Garry Herrmann in a revolt against Heydler proved the rock on which the rebellion was shattered.

Charles A. Stoneham and John McGraw of the Giants were out to "get" Heydler. They resented his handling of the O'Connell affair, believing that he should have called them in before appealing to Commissioner Landis, evidently on the theory that they could have hushed the whole thing up and thus saved the Giants from what threatened to hurt the gate. Herrmann was enlisted in the move, influenced, according to the story, by his financial obligations to Stoneham and by the lure of getting Kelly as first baseman for the Reds. Ebbets of Brooklyn and Baker of Philadelphia were to be enlisted and with New York, Cincinnati and Boston, the latter going any way New York went, they were sure of five clubs, but the directors of the Cincinnati club spoiled the coup.

Heydler, himself, was aware of the move and appeared in the office of the managing editor of a New York newspaper, admitting there was a plot against him and seeking support.

Says "bugs" Baer:

BEFORE getting into this any deeper we might as well explain that golf is a friendly game invented by two Scotchmen who hated each other. The government description of golf is that golf is the longest distance between two points traversed by elderly gentlemen wearing their office boys' pants.

Probably the best dabbler in maximums and minimums is the lad known by major in the artistic stencil located somewhere near this article. His name is Johnny Farrell, and he is soon to go to the jungles of Africa for some big divot hunting.

Johnny is the greatest medal player of the past year. He won qualifying medals in five major tournaments in 1924, with an average of 70.45 strokes per 18 holes.

HE never heard of that four-fifths stroke before as most golfers seem to fib in fractions. But it will be no surprise to hear of a metropolitan sand thumper claiming he made a hole in four-fifths of a stroke.

Farrell has never won a major tournament, but he has so many medals that he jingles like sleigh bells in Canada. The best thing he ever did was to drive a ball from the mainland of Tampa to Davis Islands which lie 200 yards out in the bay. There is some suspicion that the islands aren't the only thing that lie about 200 yards.

HE is going to quit his medal play this year and is stepping out for championships. And any man who can drive 300 yards in four-fifths of a stroke ought to be able to knock off the best golfer who ever dove after a floater.

May Suspend Martin.

New York, Jan. 10.—"Cannonball" Eddie Martin, world's bantamweight champion, faces suspension as a result of his unsatisfactory showing against Augie Pisano of Brooklyn in a bout there Wednesday night. It was reported today. The boxing commission has summoned both fighters to appear for a hearing Tuesday. Referee James Crowley stopped the Martin-Pisano fight, the first in which the former engaged as a champion, in the third round, calling it "no contest."

Stars Long Ere He Gets Chance



Johnny Butler, star third baseman of the Wichita Western league club, found it to be true. But he found out also, that no mention is made of how long you have to wait. He waited years.

Johnny has been a member of the Wichita team and its regular third baseman for five seasons. Each one of these seasons he has rung up a batting average above .300. For the last three campaigns he has been the best at his post in the circuit. Despite this he has been overlooked, apparently, until this year.

Now the Chicago White Sox have bought him and will give him a trial. He'll probably be given an opportunity to hold down the shortstop berth.

Butler played on the Pacific coast before joining Wichita.

CROWLEY BACK TO SCHOOL SOON

Jim Crowley, one of the back field stars of the Notre Dame university football eleven, who has been ill in a San Francisco hospital since last Saturday, will probably be able to return to South Bend, Ind., some time next week, according to Dr. John Galway, the attending physician. Crowley's condition is satisfactory, although he is recovering his strength slowly. Dr. Galway reported today. The Notre Dame player suffered a collapse following the game with Stanford University, New Year's day at Pasadena.

"BILLY" WELLS DEFEATS ROACH

"Bermontsey" Billy Wells, English welterweight champion, got off to a flying start in his first appearance in California since last winter, when he handed out a lacing to Chick Roach in an eight-round bout at San Francisco last night. Wells seemed at home and easily captured every one of the eight rounds from his opponent, who is rated as one of the leading welterweights of the San Francisco bay region.

ENGLISH RUNNERS INVITED TO RELAYS

An invitation to compete in a special set of races at the Pennsylvania relay carnival April 24 and 25, has been sent Eric Liddell of the University of Edinburgh and Abraham of Oxford university. Dr. George Orton, manager of the carnival announced today. Both were Olympic winners at Paris last year. Liddell in the 400-meter event and Abrahams in the 100-meter race.

MAROON QUARTER JOINS RENTAL FIRM

Robert "Bob" Curley, quarterback of the University of Chicago football team, western conference champion, has started learning a new set of signals as a member of a firm of rental agents. He finished his college course in December.

Chases \$31 Into Bankroll of Five Figures at Tia Juana

San Diego, Cal., Jan. 10.—"Ed" Colton, whose colors were conspicuous on the race tracks of the west and middle west several years ago, staged a successful "come back" during the present meeting—running the proverbial shoe string into a tannery. Specifically, he is running a shoe string at Tia Juana with a bankroll. Always a "fast worker," Colton pressed his luck with the result that he purchased Rival and is credited with a bank balance generally accepted at approximately \$25,000. Those close to Colton state he will shortly branch out with a string of platers, several of which may be expected to arrive via the "halter" route. The announcement here of the ruling of the turf of Rex Cooper and printed exclusively in the Collyer publications caused quite a furore. Cooper was charged with having approached Jockey Moller with the request to use a "buzzer." When the lad refused Cooper grew abusive with his employer, "Slim" Lee, who immediately reported the matter to the stewards. (Copyright, 1925.)

Paavo Nurmi May Compete in Valley Meet

Joine Ray and Ritola Will Also Be Asked to Run at Annual Conference Games.



FORMAN, Kan., Jan. 10.—Paavo Nurmi, the "Phantom Finn," distance runner, and Joie Ray former American world's champion, may come to Norman in May for an exhibition race at the Missouri Valley track meet. Efforts to induce these runners to come are being made by Track Coach John Jacobs, he said. The champions of the world have been running in the past at the races of the conference, and Jacobs declared he would try to engage them as an attraction for the games here. He expects to see them on February 17, when he is in Kansas City with his indoor track men, attending the Kansas City Athletic club's invitation meet. Willie Ritola, also a Finn, may come with Nurmi.

More than 30 Sooner trackmen are making preparations for participation in the best season of the track and field ever seen at the University of Oklahoma. Entries are to be made in eleven events on the schedule. Lindsay, Vogel, Andrews, Leahy and Bates are warming up for the 50-yard dash, while the 50-yard low and high hurdles will be entered by Andrews, Vogel and Leahy.

In the 440-yard dash there will be Frank, Ringler, Gutsch, Woodall and Cameron. Mack, Hankrick and Edsel have been picking up a dust in their conditions for the 880-yard dash. Only one man has been working out for entering the indoor mile. He is Stavros, a member of the Harvard squad. Rutherford, champion of the Missouri Valley in the 2-mile race, will take the two-mile indoor heat. Frank Potts, football star and state champion high school jumper, is to be the vaulting entry. Kinsey will also be on the field as a vaulter.

The same team which is to run in the 440-yard dash will make up the mile relay squad for the Sooners. Events and dates for the high jump meet and Lamm and Guffey are working for the shot.

BROOKINS TO KEEP AMATEUR STANDING

Iowa City, Jan. 10.—Charles Brookins, University of Iowa, holder of the world record of 23 2-10 seconds for the 200-yard hurdles and applicant for recognition of a mark of 23 seconds for the same event, will maintain his amateur standing during the coming season and make another attempt to smash the 23-second mark during the spring and summer. Brookins, who finished his collegiate athletic career at the end of January, will be graduated at the end of January.

RACE RESULTS FAIR GROUNDS.

First race: Six furlongs. Monday Morning (Fields) 1:41 1-1-1. Lyle Shanley (Will) 1:44 2-2-1. Leahardwood (W. Harvey) 1:45 3-3-1. Time 1:18 1-1. Monastery, Sarna, Dr. Galt, Sam, Suter, W. Harvey, W. Kowale, Tander, Selt, Kinburn and Mikado also ran.
Second race: Mile and seventy yards. Remnant (McGee) 3:44 1-1-1. J. P. McPherson (McGee) 3:45 2-2-1. Promising Tom (Dellin) 3:46 3-3-1. Time 2:52 1-1. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Third race: Six furlongs. Wild Arrow (W. Harvey) 1:44 1-1-1. Certain (H. Harvey) 1:45 2-2-1. Don't Be Homesick (W. Harvey) 1:46 3-3-1. Time 1:21 1-1. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Fourth race: One mile. Longshore (W. Harvey) 3:44 1-1-1. J. P. McPherson (McGee) 3:45 2-2-1. Promising Tom (Dellin) 3:46 3-3-1. Time 3:02 1-1. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Fifth race: One mile. J. P. McPherson (McGee) 3:44 1-1-1. Promising Tom (Dellin) 3:45 2-2-1. Time 3:02 1-1. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Sixth race: Mile and an eighth. Lewellyn (Moore) 1:44 1-1-1. Frisco (Galt) (Dellin) 1:45 2-2-1. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Seventh race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Eighth race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Ninth race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Tenth race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Eleventh race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Twelfth race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Thirteenth race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Fourteenth race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Fifteenth race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Sixteenth race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Seventeenth race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Eighteenth race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Nineteenth race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.
Twentieth race: Mile and 1-1/4th. Sutter, Selt, Pace, Pal and Condemn also ran.