

# Sign Up Your Umps, Mr. Zehrung, We're Ready for the Call

## SPRING GRID WORK AT NEBRASKA SOON

Practice Will Start Within Two Weeks with Dick Rutherford in Charge Temporarily.

### ALL SET FOR FLOOR TOURNEY

By JAMES E. LAWRENCE. LINCOLN, Feb. 18.—(Special.)—Spring football practice at the University of Nebraska will be started within the next two weeks, Athletic Manager G. E. Reed announced today, under the direction of Assistant Coach Richard B. Rutherford.

The Nebraska gridiron, which was flooded for skating during the winter, is being drained, and, with favorable weather, will be in condition for playing the first week in March. The actual course of instruction will not be mapped out until Dr. E. J. Stewart, Nebraska's new athletic director, arrives in Lincoln the second week in March. Stewart and Rutherford will then confer and decide upon the program of training for the spring months.

Reed anticipates a squad of seventy football men reporting for spring training by all odds the most formidable in the history of the school. The long trip to the coast which the Huskers will take next fall has aroused more than usual interest among the football men, and Reed is basing his prediction upon the number who have already applied for equipment.

The coming of Dr. Stewart has aroused quite a furore among the athletes at Nebraska. Plans are being made now for the Huskers in all branches of athletics to tender Dr. Stewart a banquet, probably on Tuesday evening. The high school tournament starts the following day, and Reed wants the Huskers, including Dr. Stewart, to devote as much attention to the high school boys as possible.

### Cub Willey Is Back.

The moderate weather has quickened the preparations of the track squad which is one of the best Nebraska has had since 1911. "Cub" Willey, the former New York star, who, in the opinion of Coach Reed, is the greatest track athlete Nebraska has ever had, is back in school, having straightened out his scholarship difficulties and will be able to compete. The return of Willey brought a lot of joy to the Husker camp. He is a wonderful high jumper and sprinter, and there is very little on the track that he cannot do.

Coach Reed has decided to send a Husker relay team to Kansas City for the indoor meet there, February 25. His team will include Owen, Scott, Bates and Townsend, and will take part in the mile race.

Reed now has 145 Nebraska high schools as prospective entrants in the annual high school basketball tournament under the auspices of the state university the second week in March. Three more high schools, Ansel, Franklin and the School of Agriculture, sent in requests for entry blanks this week. Entries are supposed to close February 21, next Monday, but the field has been practically covered and but few more are expected.

### Loving Cups and Medals.

It now seems certain that 120 Nebraska high school teams will be on hand at the opening of the tournament. Reed expects that twenty-five schools will enter for the Division A championship, the remainder will be divided between Class B and Class C. Beautiful loving cups will be awarded the champion in each division and individual medals go to the winning teams.

The two committees which will have practical supervision of the tournament were named by Reed today. They are: Committee on Adjustments—Harold Corey, chairman; Dick Rutherford and A. C. Henderson.

Committee on Officials—Ed Hugg, chairman; George Racey and Paul Shields. All of the members of the Lincoln state meet with Reed during the week and agreed to offer especially reduced rates to the high school students. Reed managed to secure a rate of 50 cents for rooms without bath and 75 cents for rooms with bath.

The Lincoln Young Men's Christian association has arranged to meet all of the trains at the depot and escort the high school students to hotels and rooming houses. In addition, the Lincoln high school boys have planned to organize parties and conduct the visitors on sight-seeing trips through the city, and the Lincoln Commercial club has planned a big dinner for the visitors and all of the fraternities will entertain groups.

The Husker basketball squad will next week play the last games of the season away from home, including two with the Ames Aggie and two with Drake at Des Moines. These games will wind up the Husker season. Nebraska has a clean record so far and is tied with Missouri for championship honors in the Missouri Valley conference. The Tigers have six more games—all away from home. If the Huskers can clean up next Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, then they will have a fairly clear title to the honors for Missouri must win all of the six it plays to tie.

### Board Will Meet.

The Cornhusker athletic board at its meeting Monday evening is expected to close of the Chamberlain case. There is no question but the board will accept the report of the eligibility committee and bar Chamberlain from further participation in athletics in the Missouri valley.

When Chamberlain takes his degree next June he will retire to business, he announced yesterday, probably taking up the banking business. His parents are wealthy and he has a splendid opening. Jimmy McGill and Buck Ehrlich tried to snare Chamberlain for their Western league clubs. McGill made a particularly tempting offer, but after the two had held a conference Chamberlain decided it was business for him.

### Automobile Dealer Banquets Employees

PERIA, Ia., Feb. 18.—(Special.)—J. E. Peterson, a local automobile dealer, Wednesday evening gave his first annual banquet to his employees in the private dining room of the Hotel Seelye. Covers were laid for sixteen.

Mr. Peterson is one of Peria's foremost business men, being manager of a large garage and machine shop, the Peria Electric Light & Power company, and the Peria ice plant.

## YOUNG PIN TUMBLER WHO WON CITY TITLE.



ART PEDERSON.

## OMAHA IS PUT ON THE RACING MAP

Becomes One of the Stations on the Great Western Trotting Circuit.

### BIG STABLE OF FAST HORSES

By G. K. MURRAY.

Edward Peterson and Otis Smith went to Chicago last week to attend the annual meeting of the Great Western Trotting circuit, and the result was that Omaha was installed as a member of the second biggest harness racing circuit in the world.

This accomplishment was in accordance with the forecast often previously made and published in these columns. The secret of successful progress has been discovered, and it would be unfair to the world to conceal it. Here it is:

Just predict that whatever Messrs. Smith and Peterson say they are going to pull off, will happen on schedule time. Had this rule been known in former ages, prophecy would now be classed as one of the respectable arts, instead of being in disrepute.

### Means Much for Omaha.

The placing of Omaha on the harness racing map with Cleveland, Detroit, Peoria, Galena, Burlington, Des Moines, Hamline, Milwaukee, Springfield, Sedalia, Albuquerque and Phoenix, appeals to the biggest business men and sportsmen of the city as one of the most important accomplishments from the booster's standpoint, which this metropolis has known in a long time.

Great Western circuit racing is not only of such high class as to attract large crowds to Omaha, but it commands the respect throughout the country, and will result in much favorable advertising. Associated Press wires will carry the results to scores of newspapers, and Omaha will be boosted as a progressive city.

### Meet at Speedway.

Plans for the meeting, which will be held at the plant of the Omaha Driving club at the East Omaha speedway, call for either four or five days of racing during the week which begins August 21, according to Secretary Smith. Omaha will precede the Iowa State fair at Des Moines, which always has a highly successful meeting.

It is probable that the Nebraska Speed association will find it to its advantage to fill the interval between the newly organized Nebraska Midway circuit and the Omaha meeting, in which event Omaha will again be a member of the local circuit.

The directors of the Omaha Driving club, in addition to Messrs. Peterson and Smith, are John D. Croighton, T. C. Byrne, J. A. Kuhn, Ed. P. Peck and E. Buckingham.

Following is a list of cities which this year will comprise the Great Western circuit, with the dates assigned to them: July 21—North Randall (Cleveland), O. July 24—Detroit, Mich. July 27—Peoria, Ill. August 1—Galena, Ill. August 4—Burlington, Ia. August 7—Omaha, Neb. August 10—Des Moines, Ia. August 13—Hamline, Minn. August 16—Milwaukee, Wis. August 19—Springfield, Ill. August 22—Sedalia, Mo. October 23—Albuquerque, N. M. October 26—Phoenix, Ariz.

### Local Relay Team Defeats Davidson

Harley Davidson, world's champion roller skater, was defeated in a mile relay race at the Auditorium roller rink last night by the same team which eliminated him Tuesday night. As a result of this race Dick Britton, the fastest of the local skaters, has challenged Davidson to a half-mile race, which will take place tonight. In the event that Britton wins this race, he will be presented with a gold medal.

The time for the race last night was 2:30 flat. All three of the relay racers, Sam Drulek, Wiley Compton and Dick Britton have been practicing on their sprint work and they were in perfect shape for the race.

### Callahan Signs Hookie.

Jimmy Smith, a product of Pittsburgh who played with the Chicago and Baltimore Feds last year, has been signed for a trial by Manager Callahan of the Pirates.

## END OF THE BASKET BALL SEASON NEAR

Three Teams in the City Leagues Continue On, Each Maintaining Perfect Scores to Date.

### GAME HELPS THE CHURCHES

Standing of Teams. TRI-CITY LEAGUE.

Brandeis Stores	4	1,000
Townsend Gym Co.	3	750
Walter G. Clark	2	600
Burgess-Nash	1	450
Omaha High School	0	300
University of Omaha	0	150
Bellevue College	0	0

COMMERCIAL LEAGUE.

Omaha National Bank	8	1,900
Ice Smiths	5	1,400
High School Reserve	4	1,100
Townsend Tigers	3	850
Omaha Independents	2	600
M. E. Smiths	1	450
Fairmont High School	0	300
High School of Commerce	0	150

CHURCH LEAGUE.

First Methodists	8	1,800
Hancock Park Methodists	4	1,100
Calvary Baptists	3	850
South Side Presbyterians	2	600
St. Mary's Congregationalists	1	450
First Side Baptists	0	300
South Christians	0	150

### Schedule for the Week.

Tuesday at Young Men's Christian Association—Omaha High School Reserve against Fairmont High School. Omaha High School against University of Omaha at 8. Brandeis Stores against University of Omaha at 8. Tuesday at University of Omaha—St. Mary's Congregationalists against First Christians at 7:30. South Side Presbyterians against Hancock Park Methodists at 8:30.

Wednesday at Council Bluffs—Joe Smiths against Omaha National Bank at 7:30.

Thursday at Young Men's Christian Association—Townsend Tigers against M. E. Smiths at 7. Omaha Independents against High School of Commerce at 8. Burgess-Nash against University of Omaha at 8. Thursday at University of Omaha—First Methodists against Calvary Baptists at 7:30. South Side Presbyterians against St. Mary's Congregationalists at 8:30.

Saturday at Young Men's Christian Association—Omaha High School Reserve against Omaha Independents at 8. Council Bluffs High School against Omaha High School at 8:45. Saturday at University of Omaha—M. E. Smiths against Omaha National Bank at 7:30. Townsend Tigers against Joe Smiths at 8:30.

The basket ball season which is drawing to a close has proven a boon to churches having five in the church leagues. Several of the churches have almost doubled their Sunday school attendance, while a marked increase is noted in many of the churches. This increase is due to the fact that a player representing a church must be a bona fide member of that organization, and in order to be eligible to participate in the contests must attend church regularly.

Some of the five, lacking material, have secured the city for toms, hence the increase of membership.

That the churches take a great interest in the floor game is evidenced by the large number of church fans who turn out to witness their favorites perform. The larger churches have organized bands of rooters, of their play to extend themselves to the utmost.

The popularity of the game was shown at the Hancock Park Methodist and First Methodist game Thursday evening at the Young Men's Christian association, before one of the largest crowds of church fans ever packed in the gym.

### Sickness Works Haves.

The playing of outside teams on schedule league dates and the church of players among some of the five has interfered to a considerable extent with the league games. There is hardly a five in the three leagues that has been able to stick to the schedule. As the remaining games will occupy all the basket ball courts, there seems little chance for the postponed frays to be played off.

With fourteen contests carded, this week promises to be one of the most active of the season.

The University of Omaha five, which has been dormant for some time, will be back in the ring with two Tri-City league games, the first with the Omaha High school Tuesday evening, and the second with the Burgess-Nash Thursday evening.

After a three weeks' layoff, the crack Brandeis team will also be seen in action. The department store players will cross sides with the Townsends for the second time this season. Since their defeat early in the season by the Brandeis, the Townsends have shown unusual form and there is every indication that the battle will be one of the hardest of the season. The contest will be one of the six charge games that officials of the Tri-City league inaugurated for the raising of sufficient wampum to defray the organization expenses. The game will be played Tuesday evening at the Young Men's Christian association, and will be preceded by the University of Omaha-Burgess-Nash and the Fairmont-High School Reserve games.

### Methodists Lose Out.

The Hancock Park Methodists were put out of the running last week for honors in the Church league when they handed their second defeat at the hands of the First Methodists. The First Methodists have defeated every five in the Church loop, their record to date being chalked up with eight consecutive wins.

The defeat of the Townsends by the Clarks was also one of the surprises of the week's play. The loss put a crimp in the Gunners' championship aspirations.

Failure of the Brandeis and Fort Dodge to agree upon a date will probably result in the game being called off. Some time ago the Townsends defeated the locals at Fort Dodge and a return match was to have taken place. The only big remaining game will take place the early part of March, when the crack Olympic team of California, on its way to Chicago to defend its title to the A. A. U., stop off to engage the Brandeis. The exact date has not been agreed upon.

### BOY SCOUTS ENGAGE IN FRIENDLY CONTESTS

In connection with the boys' circus at the Young Men's Christian association, Charles Trebhook and Kenneth Gayer of the Beaver troop Boy Scouts of America, won from Kenneth Sipple and Carroll Geesten of Troop Two in a close signal contest.

For Troop Two Harold Johnson, on leg bandage, and Jerome Dimick on head bandage were awarded first place over McKee Fluke of Beaver troop.

On the stretcher contest, Beryl Minton and Carl Reifenger of Beaver troop won over Harold Johnson, Edward Tracy, Max Herd and Fred McCreagr of Troop Two, in 30 seconds.

In the fire by friction contest, Joe Cleland and Joe Payne made a good fire in very quick time.

### Dunn Will Manage Cleveland Team

CHICAGO, Feb. 18.—The president Dunn will be in control of the Cleveland club and the new owners have sufficient money to go out and buy players to strengthen the Indians. President Johnson said on his return trip from New York today.

Mr. Dunn, he said, will announce the list of stockholders later. The Cleveland team would have purchased Frank Baker if New York had not beaten the new owners by a few hours, according to Mr. Johnson.

# SPORTS SECTION of THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 20, 1916.

## SCRIBNER GIRLS WHO ARE SOME BASKET BALL PLAYERS—Scribner High school basket ball team. From left to right: Peter L. Bauer, coach; Irma Mills, right guard; Cordelia Schultz, center; Irene Mills, left forward; Cordelia Rink, left guard; Anita Marquardt, right forward.



### WESLEYAN CROWS AS BEATS HUSKERS

Methodist University Five Trims Nebraska Second Time in the Season.

### WIN, TWENTY-THREE-NINETEEN

UNIVERSITY PLACE, Neb., Feb. 18.—(Special.)—Wesleyan won the basketball championship for the state of Nebraska by defeating the Cornhuskers 23 to 19 on the Wesleyan floor here last evening. The Coyotes took the lead at the beginning of the game and kept it throughout.

Nebraska got only two field goals in the first half, the total score at the end of the half being 14 to 8. At the beginning of the second half the Coyotes rushed the game until for a time the score was 9 to 9 in their favor. Injuries to Hughes and Johnson forced them to slow up and gave Nebraska a chance for two goals in quick succession.

Johnson stayed in the game and played remarkably well in spite of the fact that he was seriously injured in a game with Cornell college Wednesday night. Vifugin was forced out on personal fouls near the end of the game being replaced by Crozier.

The Cornhuskers played a defensive game during all of the first half, paying special attention to Hughes and Kline. Kline, however, played in his usual form and got two fine ones from the middle of the floor.

The Cornhuskers fought desperately and played a clean game all the time with the exception of Rutherford. Hugg at guard and Nelson at center were Nebraska's mainstays.

This makes two games won by Wesleyan from Nebraska this year, and as the Cornhuskers are at the top of the Missouri Valley aggregation, Wesleyan supporters have a right to rejoice.

WESLEYAN NEBRASKA Kline ..... B. P. R. P. Rutherford Anderson ..... L. E. L. E. Thiessen Hughes (C) ..... C. C. C. Nelson Johnson ..... R. G. R. G. Gardner Vifugin ..... G. G. G. Hugg (C) Substitutes: Fetz for Anderson; Grubb for Thiessen; Shields for Nelson. Referee E. C. Burch from Cedar Falls, Ia.

### Sick Basket Ball Men Back in Game

After a lapse of a week, due to injuries of players, Coach Kavan of the University of Omaha has again resumed basket ball practice. The short rest seems to have improved the team. Adams is back at his old position of forward, having completely recovered from blood poisoning. Bruce is again out and McBride is showing up regularly for practice. Jap Leach, who quit school this semester, has donned the scarlet and black and is again at his guard position. Leach returned last week.

It is possible that Klepper, who entered school this semester, will not be allowed to participate in basket ball games of the Tri-City league. Before entering the University of Omaha, Klepper was a member of the Walter G. Clark and before he can participate in league games with the University of Omaha, must secure his discharge from the Clark. Klepper has been promised his discharge. The University of Omaha team has found it necessary to curtail its collegiate schedule. Besides five Tri-City league contests, coach Kavan's men will meet York College at York, March 3.

### Superior Easy for Fairfield.

FAIRFIELD, Neb., Feb. 18.—(Special.)—Fairfield high school basket ball team defeated Superior high school basket ball team here last night, 39 to 14.

### Fort Dodge Beats Eagle Grove.

FORT DODGE, Neb., Feb. 18.—(Special.)—Fort Dodge high school defeated Eagle Grove, 19 to 8, in a rough basket ball game Friday night.

## Army and Navy in Conflict with Yale And Harvard Game

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.—It now seems likely that the Army-Navy game will be played on Franklin field November 25 next. This will mean a clash with the Yale-Harvard game in the bowl at New Haven, and while the service authorities do not relish this and are still trying to avoid the conflict, no alternative date which is satisfactory to both institutions has been named. The date now in mind is the Saturday before Thanksgiving day.

The Quakers had intended to arrange a game for that time, but the fact that this idea appears to have been dropped may be regarded as an indication that the Army and Navy have approached a definite agreement concerning November 25. George E. Nitzsche, rector of the University of Pennsylvania, is conducting negotiations with the two academies for the use of the field, and believes that all matters relating to the game will have been concluded by next week. After the 1915 game at the Polo Grounds it was indicated that the Navy might agree to a readjustment of the agreement which called for the playing of the 1916 contest at Philadelphia, but it is now understood that talk of this nature was not at all official.

### Wesleyan Crows As Beats Huskers

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### Wesleyan Nebraska

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## OMAHA WHISTERS SO FAR IN LEAD

Both in Team and Pair Play Local Cracks Are Ahead in Tourney.

### SCORES IN ALL THE EVENTS

Omaha players are well in the lead so far in both team and pair play in the twenty-second annual tournament of the Central Whist association, which opened Friday at the Hotel Fontenelle and will continue this afternoon and evening.

The team of the Omaha Whist club, winners of the team play last year, was the only team to win both of its matches yesterday, and bids fair to carry off this year's honors and the Richards challenge trophy, the chief prize of the tourney. This team consists of Albert Dreyfoos, captain; George McNitt, A. W. and Art Scribner. So far each of the other teams entered have won a match and lost one, excepting the Prairie Park Whist club of Omaha, which has lost both matches played.

Following is the ranking of the six highest pairs so far in the pair play for the St. Joseph trophy:

First, Abbott and Chambers, Prairie Park Whist club, Omaha, plus 16.

Second, Ross and Jeffers, Prairie Park Whist club, Omaha, plus 8.

Third, Hiseaman and Wigton, Omaha Whist club, plus 4.

Fourth, Schiest and Lebbe, St. Joseph Whist club, plus 4.

Fifth, Barton and Reynolds, Prairie Park Whist club, Omaha, plus 2.

Sixth, Langfelder and Nelson, Prairie Park Whist club, Omaha, plus 2.

Standing in the team play is based on matches won; that in the pair play depends upon the points made. Play in both contests will close this afternoon with the third and final play, and in the evening a free-for-all pair contest will be held among all comers for the Schmeiser trophy, under the Mitchell progressive system.

The election of officers and selection of the next place for holding the annual tournament will take place early this afternoon before the contests. In accordance with custom, the officers will each be advanced to the next higher office.

Officers of the association are: W. B. Stewart, Jr., Omaha, president; V. P. Benjamin, Council Bluffs, vice president; Charles W. Martin, Omaha, secretary-treasurer.

### NEW NATIONAL UMPIRE IS FROM BILLY EVANS' TOWN

Pete Harrison, President Toner's new umpire, hails from Youngstown, O., which is also responsible for Billy Evans of the American league. Harrison is 39 years old and started umpiring five years ago in the now defunct Ohio and Pennsylvania leagues. He umpired two years in the New York State league and, during the past two years has been on the staff of the International league.

## OTTO MERZ SIGNS UP WITH ROURKES

Indianapolis Pitcher Accepts Terms and Will Appear on Hurling Mound for Omaha.

### GY FORSYTHE SIGNS CONTRACT

The signing of Otto Merz, last year a pitcher with the Indianapolis American association club, was announced by W. A. Rourke yesterday. Merz was made a free agent by Indianapolis and Rourke offered him a proposition to play with the locals. Acceptance of the offer was received yesterday.

Merz had somewhat of an off year at Indianapolis last year, but it wasn't all his fault as the team behind him was nothing to brag about.

He was used mostly as a relief pitcher. While he took part in thirty-five games, he pitched only six complete games. He won six games and lost ten. In the remainder the victory or defeat was recorded to other pitchers. He allowed on an average of 3.35 runs per game.

Merz was also at Indianapolis in 1914. That year he hurled forty-eight games, won twenty and lost nineteen.

Otto is a veteran and a fiery pitcher. Rourke expects him to be a winner in the Western and Manager Marty Krug is just as confident.

Makes Sixth Pitcher. Merz makes the sixth pitcher Rourke has signed. Two of last year's staff, Thompson and North, will be back, and three other new ones have been secured. Mack Allison, last year with Kansas City; Meyers, last year at Flint, Mich., and Brown, a Nebraska semi-pro. Merz, Allison, Thompson and North are experienced hurlers who are of established merit, while Meyers and Brown are youngsters who show great promise.

The Western league schedule meeting at Lincoln last week was an exceptionally pleasing event for Pa. Rourke and Marty Krug. Not so much because of the business, although that was in every way satisfactory, but because the Omaha men found other Western league club owners had been watching several of the players signed by Omaha and they pass out some flattering compliments regarding them.

Savage Boosts Miller. John Savage, owner of the Topoka club, slipped Rourke some information that made him grin from ear to ear. Savage tells Rourke that Ray Miller, new first sacker, and Pete Kilduff, shortstop, will be sensations in the Western.

Savage knew Miller when he was with Columbus. Savage was secretary of the Kansas City club for a number of years and saw Miller play for two seasons.

"I don't see how he ever got out of the association," said Savage. "It's a wonder to me the other clubs waived on him. He's a 250 hitter in any league and while he demom at fielding, he's a great ball player. Kilduff will make good."

"As for Kilduff," continued Savage, "he's no mere prospect as most rookies are, he's a ball player. I watched him all last