

SPORTS



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Batting From Either Side of Plate Trims Players' Averages

By FRANK G. MENKE.

It is the advice of Mark Twain about "put all your eggs in one basket"—and then watch that basket—that is applicable to the batting bloke who likes to execute the ambidextrous stuff.

Facts and figures of ballroom can be trotted forth to prove that the best plan for ye clodsmith is to determine from which side of the plate he can hit them with the most vim and the most vigor—and then to stick to that side of the rubber permanently.

For the bulk of those who attempt the "turn-over" method of batting, finish up with a sad and sick looking mark. Of all the men in the game at the present time who hit left handed against right handed slingers and shift to the other side of the plate when confronted by southpaws, only a rare few have compiled averages that are beyond the mediocre.

It is a noticeable fact that the batter who hits from his natural batting position bangs the ball from 20 to 60 points beyond that which he achieves when he executes the "turn-over." All of which proves that nature endowed him to hit from one particular position and that when he turns over, he defies said nature and his batting average suffers as a consequence.

Twenty-Three in Majors.

The big leagues at the present time embrace 23 men who are ambidextrous swingers. Of that total number, six hit the ball beyond the .300 mark. The prime reason why they batted so high is that their success from the natural side of the plate offset the loss in hits through "turn-overs."

The Giants possess two of the ambidextrous swatters in the persons of Dave Bancroft and Frank Frisch. The latter hit for .326 while Bancroft poked them for .321. Both men, hitting from their natural side of the plate, rapped the ball for something close to .350, whereas, batting from the opposite side, the best they could do was around .290 or .295.

The kingpin amongst them among the "turn-over" hitters is Max Carey of the Pirates. Here is an athlete who undoubtedly is the greatest ambidextrous batter of all time—a natural "turn-over" man—the only one in the game. Carey, unlike the other clodsmen, hits equally well from either side of the plate. But there's a real reason.

Natural for Carey.

Carey, who hit .329 last season, is a right handed batter. In 1921 he discovered years ago that if he batted left handed, his tremendous speed would enable him to beat out hits which, poked from the other side of the pan, would have resulted in errors. For the left handed batter is always one step nearer to first base than is the right handed.

Carey, unlike the other "turn-over" boys, doesn't shift his position at the plate to conform with the style of pitching which is served up to him. He oftentimes will hit right handed when a long walloping smash is needed, no matter what sort of pitching is served up to him. He can drive them farther from the right side. He will shift to the left side of the plate, irrespective of the pitching, when merely a single is a vital necessity. In other words, Carey hits from the position which best suits his purpose.

The other .300 hitters among the "turn-over" boys were Gooch, the Pirate catcher; Wally Schang, another catcher, and Lew Blue of the Tigers. The balance of the ambidextrous persons scaled down from .290 to .138.

"Bad Stuff."

Whenever the average "turn-over" hitter is presented with the fact that he hits from 20 to 60 points better in his natural way than he does when he turns over, he will make this answer:

"That is true. It may be that I will hit .350 in my natural position and can hit only .290 from the other side of the plate, but if I am a natural left handed batter and have to go to that side of the plate when faced with southpaw pitching, I wouldn't be able to hit for the .290 which I make by the "turn-over."

Which may—or may not—be true. But the fact is indisputable that the "turn-over" method of hitting is a bad one for about 90 per cent of the men who try the ambidextrous stuff.

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Use in Championships Refused Pending Investigation of Its Merits.

New York, Dec. 19.—Asserting its refusal to permit use of steel-shafted golf clubs in national championships had been misconstrued, the executive committee of the United States Golf association issued a statement today explaining its attitude and announcing that official tests of the new style shafts would be authorized.

"A number of people seem to have misconstrued the action taken by the executive committee of the United States Golf association with regard to the steel shaft," a statement said.

"We were asked to approve its use; we felt that it was a distinct departure from the accepted form and make of golf clubs, and that no one at that time knew enough about its possibilities to be sure that its use was for the best interests of the game.

"We, accordingly, refused to permit its use in the national championships. Our feelings are still the same. The executive committee itself will try out the shafts and request that a number of the leading amateurs do the same and report their findings to the committee. They also will request that all other players who use the shaft and who desire to, should submit their views to the committee."

Pennsylvania State Squad Starts for California

State College, Pa., Dec. 19.—Twenty-two Pennsylvania State college football players left here today on the first lap of their 1,000-mile journey to Pasadena, where they will meet the University of Southern California eleven on New Year's day in the big intercollegiate game of the Carnival of Roses. Coach Bezdak, Assistant Coach Martin, Graduate Manager Fleming and Student Manager Parsons completed the party. They are due in Chicago early tomorrow and will spend the day there. Their special car will be attached to the California Limited out of Chicago tomorrow night. The car will be dropped at Williams, Ariz., Friday night, and Saturday will be devoted to a tour of the Grand canyon. The players are due to arrive in Pasadena Sunday.

New York Coach to Officiate at International Games

New York, Dec. 19.—Tom Thorpe, football coach at New York university, will officiate as umpire at all games of the east-west intercollegiate gridiron games on the Pacific coast during the holidays.

The three contests are between West Virginia and Gonzaga university at San Diego on Christmas day, Pittsburgh university and DeLand Stanford at Palo Alto, Cal., December 30, and Penn State and Southern California at Pasadena, Cal., on New Year's day.

Toledo to Meet Corvallis in New Year's Football Game

Corvallis, Ore., Dec. 19.—The argument between Corvallis and Medford, Oregon high schools, as to which is to play the New Year's game with Toledo (O.) team, was settled, according to an announcement today of receipt of a telegram from the Scott High school of Toledo giving its vote to Corvallis. Both Medford and Corvallis raised a guaranty fund.

Mondamin Wins.

Mondamin, Ia., Dec. 19.—Mondamin won its fifth straight victory Saturday night by defeating the fast Dunlap team, 47 to 1. Dunlap's team work was good, but it experienced trouble in penetrating the defense of the home team. The offensive play of Mondamin was a salient feature of the contest.

Basket-Ball Facts You Should Know

By Ed Shorp

Q. Players in uniform on side of court, not in game, talk to and coach players in game. Can a foul be called on their team?

A. Yes.

Q. Would it be legal to have a ground rule not to count a basket scored if the ball at first hit the supports before going into the basket?

A. If both captains agree, a ground rule of this kind is legal.

Q. While dribbling a ball, may I go around an opponent alternating the dribble one hand after the other, without stopping?

A. Yes, you may alternate each hand dribbling, providing you do not stop. This is legal in both amateur and professional rules.

Q. What is meant by carrying the ball?

A. Running with or walking with the ball without dribbling.

Q. Does play continue after a foul on each time committing a foul?

A. No, time is out when the referee calls a double foul. After the last shot the ball is put in play at center.

How to Play Basketball.

Shooting—Shooting from a distance greater than that considered in yesterday's article on "Close Up Shots" is done by holding the ball lightly but firmly by the fingers, resting on the palms of the hands, palms slightly to the rear. Start the shot from about neck high and bring the ball up past and close to the nose. The toe of the foot should be about six inches in advance of the other, knees slightly bent. The ball does not leave the hands until they are above the eyes. In this manner, the ball describes a loop as it passes through the air and thus enters the basket on a line very nearly perpendicular to the basket rim. The player must aim to shoot all such shots clean. He will then have the additional advantage of a bank, should the shot be too long, and a chance to recover the ball on his follow up if it falls short.

His Smile Comes Back



Georges Carpentier (right, with Luis Vayer, boxing promoter, in Berlin Sport palace), seems to have recovered in Germany from Siki's socking.

Legion After Gene Tunney and Harry Foley for January Card

Matchmakers of Boston and Omaha are engaged in a battle of finances and the longer purse of the Boston promoters enabled them to emerge winners.

Here's how:

Shelvin and Shade fought at Boston recently and Shelvin won the decision. Shade let out a squawk that sounded to the heavens, expatiating that he had been robbed—and what not.

And Shade is not the only one that claims he was entitled to a draw. Many Boston fight followers contend that he was at least entitled to an even break. So Boston became embroiled in a verbal conflict as to who won.

"They're Highwaymen."

Boston promoters were quick to realize that another bout would draw bigger than the first. So they offered each \$3,000 to pummel the other again.

Both tentatively accepted terms, but no articles were signed. Boston promoters felt that they didn't need any contracts, for they didn't figure there was another city in the little 'ol' U. S. A. which would top that mark.

But they had never heard of Omaha and the long purses they pay knuckle whirlers who can delight the loyal vox populi.

Shade made such a hit here when he beat Schoell that he's just as popular with the natives as if he were born and reared in this neck of the woods. So local promoters began casting about for some good boy to take on Omaha's adopted fighter. Some "set-up" wouldn't draw, they knew. Some suggested Shelvin.

"I'll fight him for \$4,000 and a guaranty," said Shade. "I'd rather battle him here than in Boston, for the referees in that city only need a mask and a blackjack to be accomplished highwaymen."

"Get Shelvin."

So promoters offered Shelvin the same amount as Shade.

The offer listened sweet to Shelvin and he was about ready to "close" the deal.

Tip for Big Boys.

The Greenwich Village fighter has been showing a great improvement since he dropped the title to the Pittsburgh "Windmill," and it is believed that he will beat Greb the next time they meet, for Greb is rumored to be on the downward grade on the pugilistic highway.

Harry Foley has been getting into the limelight more than ever of late and a bout between these two mitten disciples should be a most interesting affair, brim full of slam-bang action.

Blouin Retains Title.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—Jimmy Blouin of Chicago, world's champion brawler, retained his title here, when he defeated Jimmy Smith of Milwaukee in the sixth block of their 60-game match, Blouin's total points being 278 for the six blocks, while Smith's was credited with 278 27-50.

Mountaineers Start West.

Morgantown, W. Va., Dec. 19.—The West Virginia university football squad of 23 men, including coaches and trainers, left here in a private car for San Diego, Cal. The Mountaineers will meet Gonzaga university on Christmas day.

Veteran Pitcher Sent Into Box in Lawsuit Against John McGraw

New York, Dec. 19.—John Montgomery Ward, who pitched himself into the baseball hall of fame with a no-hit game back in 1879, while John J. McGraw was still in short pants, was sent into the "box" in supreme court by the veteran Giant manager in an effort to save a \$30,000 game.

The old pitcher, now a New York lawyer, appeared as counsel for McGraw in a damage suit brought by Mrs. Mary A. Butterfield, who alleges McGraw's automobile ran her down and seriously injured her in October, 1917. McGraw's defense is that the car was being driven without authorization at the time of the accident by his chauffeur, Frank Kauff—brother of Benny Kauff, a former big league player.

Ward was in his heyday in 1879 and 1880, as a pitcher for the Providence club of the old National league. He helped the club to a championship in 1879, and in the pennant chase of 1880 entered the no-hit class with a 5-0 game against Buffalo.

No Report on Bribe Received by State Boxing Commission

Lincoln, Dec. 19.—The boxing commission had received no report Monday of the investigation which was started when the charge was circulated that referee Dave Miller stated after the Dave Shade-Frankie Schoell bout at Omaha, that he had been offered \$500 to throw the fight to Schoell.

Assistant Commissioner Kilmartin of Omaha is conducting the investigation. H. H. Antles, chairman of the commission, stated that it was fully an hour after the bout was over before he heard of Miller's alleged statement charging Omaha gamblers with offering the bribe.

"If true, this constitutes a very serious offense," Antles said. "Mr. Miller, I presume, has returned to his home in Chicago. If he was approached in the matter of accepting a bribe we will certainly conduct a thorough investigation."

National Grid Title Opposed

By COLLIER'S NEWS BUREAU.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—The suggestion that the large universities should arrange their football schedule to permit the annual determination of a national championship does not meet with the approval of the leading educators of the country. In letters to Bert E. Collier, who made the suggestion in behalf of the general sports public, the college authorities take the position that the striving for championships would interfere with the educational work of the schools. Following are the opinions of some of the most noted educators:

President A. A. Murphy, University of Florida: "There is danger of commercialism through increased interest of the sporting world in college athletics."

President David Kinley, University of Illinois: "We must all remember that colleges and universities are established for educational purposes, and not as arenas for public entertainments."

President Harry Pratt Judson, University of Chicago: "The championship is of wholly secondary importance in which we take little interest. This is a point in which these college games are entirely different from the professional baseball games."

Dean E. S. Keene, North Dakota Agricultural college: "No one has yet shown that a national collegiate athletic championship is desired. Most westerners believe that the mild west would easily defeat the east, but who is to referee? I question that an established championship would greatly benefit education."

St. Louis Man Pays \$850 to Keep "Lost" Golf Balls

St. Louis, Dec. 19.—Retrieving lost golf balls on the municipal links has been so lucrative to Matt C. Malley that he bid \$550 for the 1923 privileges. This bid was accepted this afternoon by the board of public safety.

Malley, who holds this year's concession under an informal contract for which he paid \$25, employs boys to search for the balls. If found immediately they are returned to the owner. Many balls, however, are not found until the owners leave the links, and Mr. Malley pays the boys 5 cents apiece for these, repays them and sells them for from 10 to 40 cents. It was explained.

N. Y. Giants Choose Rings as Championship Emblems

New York, Dec. 19.—The New York Giants today chose diamond rings as emblems of their 1923 baseball championship, and forwarded the appropriate design to Leslie O'Connell, secretary to Commissioner K. M. Landis.

Last year the Giants received diamond-studded watch fobs from Commissioner Landis for their victory in the world's series.

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White Sox Handy Man Slated for Boxing Commission Job

Word From East to Effect That Johnny Evers Will Give Up Berth With Chicago Team—Three "Ivory Hunters" to Scout for Cubs Next Spring—Landis Too Busy to Talk.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—Bill Gleason probably will have to scout around for a new assistant. Johnny Evers, who did the handy man stunt for the White Sox manager last season, will not return. At least this is the word brought back from the east, where the big and little men of the ball assembled for their annual golf fest last week.

No announcement regarding Evers has emanated from the South Side offices, but it is said that the former Cub star is as good as "set" for one of the deputy boxing commissioner's jobs in New York state. That he is a candidate for the job was made known last week, but it is now reported he has been accepted and the appointment will be announced shortly. The post carries an annual salary of \$4,000.

Dope All Wrong.

When Evers was named assistant to Gleason last winter many folks couldn't figure what prompted the move. Predictions were numerous that he would not last long with Gleason; that he wouldn't fit in with a fellow like Edgie Gelling and that his time-honored nagging tactics would not go with American league umpires. Jawn fooled 'em all. He and Collins were the next thing to pals; he never had a word with Gleason and for the first time in his life he went through a season without being given the air by the umpires.

Bar Johnson, president of the American league, returned from the New York gatherings today but had nothing to add to what he said at the joint meeting in regard to gambling in ball parks. In reply to a question about the New York base ball writers and the Ty Cobb hit, Johnson said he would have a statement later.

Drake Elects Captain.

Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 19.—William Boelter, star halfback on this year's undefeated Drake university football team, was unanimously elected captain for next season. Boelter was one of the main stays of the Drake team. He is a Junior. His home is in Greeley, Colo.

Hugh Duffy's Major League Record

From 1888 to 1906, inclusive (excluding seasons of 1902 and 1903).

Year	Club	League	Games	At Bats	Runs	Hits	Home Runs	RBIs	Stolen Bases	Fielding %
1888	Chicago	National	136	584	68	187	25	32	311	.882
1889	Chicago	National	137	591	101	194	37	67	328	.882
1890	Boston	American Ass'n.	134	511	124	174	43	88	340	.882
1891	Boston	National	146	609	125	184	51	61	392	.882
1892	Boston	National	134	577	140	206	37	49	458	.882
1893	Boston	National	134	577	140	206	37	49	458	.882
1894	Boston	National	134	577	140	206	37	49	458	.882
1895	Boston	National	134	577	140	206	37	49	458	.882
1896	Boston	National	134	577	140	206	37	49	458	.882
1897	Boston	National	134	577	140	206	37	49	458	.882
1898	Boston	National	134	577	140	206	37	49	458	.882
1899	Boston	National	134	577	140	206	37	49	458	.882
1900	Boston	National	134	577	140	206	37	49	458	.882
1901	Philadelphia	National	18	16	10	13	16	3	283	.882
1906	Philadelphia	National	15	10	7	13	16	3	283	.882
1902	Philadelphia	National	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
1903	Philadelphia	National	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	.000
Total			1722	6999	1545	2307	3174	584	330	.882

By FREDERICK G. LIEB.

An old timer who could sock with the best was Hughie Duffy, recently deposed as manager of the Red Sox, in his younger days one of Boston's most illustrious sluggers. Hughie's batting average of .488 with the old Boston Red Stockings in 1894 is the highest mark ever achieved by any major league batsman, with the exception of James E. O'Neil's mark of .492 with the St. Louis Browns in 1887. However, O'Neil acquired his average in the freak year when bases on balls counted as hits, the year producing 15,400 batsmen.

For a man of his size, Duffy was one of the hardest hitters the game ever produced, as he was a batsman who smashed his drives for terrific liners, and his hits totalled many bases. In 1894, when he led the National league in batting, his total bases reached the amazing figure of 875.

Hughie also was a marvel on the base paths and as a runner. He was one of the few players to steal over 500 bases, and in 1891 he filched 82 sacks.

He scored 1,528 runs during his career, scoring over 100 runs in seven successive seasons and in nine years out of his 14. He fetched in 161 runs with the Chicago Players league team in 1890, one more than he carried in for Boston in 1894 when he compiled his record smashing average of .488.

Duffy broke into the National league with Anson's Chicago White Stockings on June 23, 1888, and the kid helped Chicago defeat Pittsburgh by a score of 12 to 1. In six times at bat he got two hits and scored two runs. Anson started the youngster in right field, though on the Boston championships he did his best work as a center fielder.

Duffy played one season in the American league in 1901 with Milwaukee, and when that club left the Johnson organization for the Western league, Hughie went along, playing 140 games in 1902, and hitting .291, and the following year in 71 games, Hugh hit for .300.

In 1904, Duffy took charge of the Phillies in the National league, where he remained three years, during which time Hughie, besides managing the team, played his last 34 contests in the majors.

Here's a gift that can't go wrong if he smokes.

A box of Mozart cigars.

Mozart Cigar is made by Consolidated Cigar Corporation, New York.

Distributed by MCCORD-BRADY COMPANY, Omaha, Neb.

MOZART

Mild as a May Morning — and as fragrant

FIVE BEAUTIFUL SIZES—10c—2 for 25c—15c—3 for 50c

EDDIE'S FRIENDS

