

# New Team and Individual Records Hung Up in Western League During 1922

## George Boehler Sets Mark for Most Victories

**Carl East Hammers Sphere for Total of 433 Bases, Beating His Former Mark of 418 Made in '22.**

When Joe Berger and his walloping Witches wrecked nearly every batting record in the Western league in 1921, it was predicted there never again would be such a massacre of pitching in this circuit. It didn't seem possible that any aggregation would be able to hammer the ball as hard as it was pounded that year.

But events of the 1922 season proved that nothing is impossible in the slugging line in the Western league. According to the official records which have just made their appearance, a score of records went tumbling, most of them team and league marks.

A new record was set in the number of men who went to bat, 47,091 being charged with walking to the plate and falling to draw a base on balls or hit or sacrifice. The former record was 45,062 in 1921.

A new record was set in the number of runs made—8,004 against 7,421 in 1921.

A new record was set in number of home runs—3,024, as compared to 2,877 in 1921.

A new record was set in number of home runs—632, as compared to 555 in 1921.

A new record was set in number of total bases—20,276, as compared to 19,061 in 1921.

A new record was set in batting percentage—301, as compared to 296 in 1921, and it was the first time in the history of the league that it was a .300 circuit.

Tulsa set a new league record by having 6,029 men charged with a time at bat, the previous record being 5,940, made by Wichita in 1921.

Tulsa set a new league record by making 1,954 hits. Wichita with 1,907, also batted in the previous record of 1,892 made in 1921.

East Breaks Record. Wichita set a new league record by chasing in 1,190 runs as compared to the previous record set by the same club in 1921 which was 1,180. Tulsa also batted the former mark by putting over 1,184.

## Walter Mails Becomes Discard for Failing to Grasp Chances

One reason for the scarcity of good ball players is the inability of some of the good ones to stay good.

Generally speaking, there are three groups of players, today's stars, yesterday's luminaries (more commonly known as "has-beens") and Sprinkled through the first two groups are many performers who might have been, could have been, or would have been great, if—More often than otherwise, that "if" is their own fault.

The foregoing reflections were prompted by a four-line item, almost buried at the bottom of a sporting page, telling of the release of Walter Mails by the Cleveland club to a minor league team. Not that the tall Indian

left-hander was a more glaring illustration than any other that might be selected. But he furnishes a timely hint to the future greats who have yet to fight and win the battle to keep prosperity from mastering them.

Two Chances at Greatness. Mails had two chances at greatness, but only partially grasped one of them, and was too indifferent to success to hang on. He broke into the majors in the fall of 1915 with Brooklyn, pitching a couple of games so promising that Charley Ebbets, enthused about him, impressed itself on the memories of any one who chanced to converse with the veteran manager during the following winter and spring. Mails was given every chance to live up to his lithograph in 1916, but in spite of repeated tryouts he did not realize expectations.

Not until near the end of that season did Ebbets give up hope regarding Mails. Barney Dreyfus thought well enough of the young southpaw to save him from going back to the minors in 1917, then came the world war, into which Mails was drafted.

At its conclusion he was allowed to gravitate to the level from which he came.

When Tris Speaker brought Mails into the limelight in 1920 in plenty of time to make him eligible to the world's series, the southpaw at once made good. His brilliant work in the last month of the American league season, when he pitched the first game of the Ohio metropolis in the first inning of its history. In spite of that, the Brooklyn players did not worry about Mails in advance of the world's championship. They knew his disposition and his failings and anticipated no trouble in beating him.

Some sort of tactics were used at Princeton where Cleveland skinned the ends of all opponents on the famous Tiger sweeps. In fact, this player is deserving of a lot of credit for Princeton's great record on the gridiron this last fall. The Tigers were one of the undefeated eleven of the country and many critics in the east have stated it was the most powerful in the section. At any rate Princeton achieved what it has tried to accomplish year in and year out and that was to defeat both Yale and Harvard in the same season.

Cornell, Army, Undefeated. Cornell was another undefeated eleven of the east, as was the Army. The Cardinals, who were held to a tie score by Notre Dame, which afterward was defeated by Nebraska. This is the only blot on the Army's record, but its victory over the Navy was the morsel most cherished every year.

The south west Virginia and Yankton, out prominent. The Mountaineers were every bit as strong as any eleven in the east and are entitled to national championship consideration. They defeated Pittsburgh and Washington and Jefferson, two of the really powerful eleven of the section. Vanderbilt won its southern title in the championship. Its scorching tie with Michigan was one of its season's accomplishments.

## Development of Game Changes Style of Play—Fullbacks Can't Get by on Line Playing Alone

The 1922 football season, one of the greatest in history, emphasized the absolute necessity of developing fullbacks who can run the ends as well as drive through the line.

In the old days the leading qualification of a back was his plunging ability. Regardless of his other capabilities, he was considered a fixture on any team if he could buck through an opposing line for the yards which resulted in first downs.

Owen and Luck Examples. The end-running fullback is now a matter of right necessity. Harvard showed what could be accomplished with such a player by the way George Owen, one of the greatest backs in the country, plunged through the line and ran the ends. The same condition was true in the middle west where Gordon Locke of Iowa did practically the same thing.

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Wolverines Well Pleased. Michigan and Iowa went through the western conference season undefeated. Both were represented by eleven players which played consistent football. Michigan was the most consistent of the two. The Wolverines' only blot on what otherwise would have been a great year. Despite this record, those in charge of the situation at Ann Arbor are well pleased with the season, because it is the first time since 1904 that Michigan can lay claim to a share of the conference championship.

Iowa, which won the championship in 1921, came back with another powerful eleven last fall. Aside from winning its Big Ten engagements, Iowa went east and defeated Yale, 6 to 0. The most important interest of the season was the meeting between Iowa and Nebraska, the two teams which were coached by Howard Jones, who has made the Hawkeyes institution a factor in western conference athletics.

Nebraska Finishes Strong. Nebraska was the strongest team in the Missouri Valley conference, although Drake completed its schedule without defeat. The Cornhuskers were defeated by Syracuse in an important interconference clash, but they wound up their season by winning from Notre Dame, 14 to 6, before the largest crowd which ever saw a football struggle in Lincoln.

Drake also had a successful season. While not having a record schedule as Nebraska, the fact remains it was not beaten and is entitled to some credit. It is seldom that Drake has been in a position to claim Missouri Valley conference honors, but its record is deserving of a few words of praise.

M. Fator Rides Many Winners. New Orleans, Dec. 30.—The winter racing meet at the Jefferson track ends with the conclusion of the six races carded for today. The meet opened on Thanksgiving day and there were 27 racing days.

## McGraw Pays Huge Prices for Stars Because Fans Demand It

New York, Dec. 30.—"The orgy of spending fabulous sums of money for minor league players is nearly at an end," John J. McGraw, manager of the New York Giants, says. He confesses he was instrumental in starting it with the purchase of Rube Marquard in 1908 from the Indianapolis club of the American association for \$11,000.

"That was the advent of this wild spending by the magnates," remarked the Giants' manager. "It has continued up to the present time, with clubs that are better able to spend the money doing the bulk of it—that is, the Chicago White Sox, the Giants and the Yankees."

"Since then that figure has been beaten by Charles Comiskey, who purchased Willie Kamm, another Pacific coast player, for \$100,000. But we have seen the worst of this high financing for minor league players."

"The war was responsible for the death of real stars. That was one of the contributing factors for all this spending. Then the White Sox scandal of 1919 played an important part in it. Comiskey always had a great club, and when that case shook the pillars of the national game the 'old Roman' with his pride for a good club, was forced to dig down deep into his pockets to purchase minor league stars."

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## White Sox and Giants Set Pace for 20 Seasons

Chicago continues to lead the two leagues in the aggregate number of games won by both teams. The Cubs are second in the National with a total of 1,753 wins, which is more than 100 greater than that of the White Sox for 20 years—1,620. The combined total for Chicago is 3,358, while New York's two teams have won 3,333 games between them.

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## Tennis Stadiums to Be Built in U. S.

New York, Dec. 30.—The era of lawn tennis stadium building appears destined to enter into its period of greatest activity just after the annual meeting of the United States Lawn Tennis Association in February. The British got the jump on the Americans with the great stand at Wimbledon, London, and two or three other of the centers of English lawn tennis last season.

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## Lewis and Jack in Mixed Bout

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 30.—Ed "Strangler" Lewis, champion wrestler, announced today that arrangements had been completed for a mixed match between Jack Dempsey and himself.

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## Composite Standing of Two Major Leagues Show Teams Have Been More Evenly Balanced in American

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### Reppy Pilots McArthur.

Jack Reppy, matchmaker for the St. Paul boxing club, writes that he has taken Earl McArthur, Sioux City bantam, under his wing.

McArthur will move to St. Paul, he says.

### Sarazen on Coast.

San Francisco, Dec. 30.—Gene Sarzen, golf champion, was due to arrive here today from Colorado Springs, Colo. He will play a number of exhibition games here.

### Badger Crews to Race

University of Wisconsin has arranged dual eight-oared shell races with Winnipeg university and St. Johns Military academy crews for next summer.

### Ex-Penn. Grid Player Dies.

Woodbury, N. J., Dec. 30.—Clarence Alexander Wray, a member of the 1919 University of Pennsylvania football team, and Lewis A. Brunner of Philadelphia died early today as a result of injuries received when a Pennsylvania railroad train struck their automobile here late last night.

### Stan Zbyszko Called to Aid of Poland

New Orleans, Dec. 30.—The winter racing meet at the Jefferson track ends with the conclusion of the six races carded for today. The meet opened on Thanksgiving day and there were 27 racing days.

### Referee Moran-Nilles Bout

Paris, Dec. 30.—For the first time in the history of French boxing an American referee, Hiram Johnson, Jr., of California, will be the third man in the ring when Frank Moran and Marcel Nilles meet today to settle the heavyweight championship of France. The title is claimed by Nilles.

### Miss Leitch Hopesful

Miss Cecil Leitch, the clever English golfer, although unable to lift anything with her right hand, is hopeful of recovery due to special treatment she is undergoing.

### Cup to Be Awarded Best Kick Artist

In order to stimulate a greater interest in winter football practice at the University of Indiana and to develop punters and drop and placement kickers, cups will be awarded to men who have been the most faithful and showed the most promise in the kicking game. The professors have donated the cups.