

# Schedule of Western League Calls for New Arrangement of Playing Games

## Circuit Moguls Decide That Inter-Series Clashes Must Be Four Contests This Season

Playing Chart Calls for Opening and Closing Games to Be Held in South, Which Should Benefit Southern Clubs—Create New Office in League—Burch Expected Home Soon.

By RALPH WAGNER.

WITH the opening of the Western league season less than three weeks off, club owners and managers are doing double time trying to get their teams whipped into condition for the initial contests.

The Western league teams will play a 168-game schedule again this season, opening the season in the southern section of the circuit on Thursday, April 12. The Omaha Buffaloes open at Tulsa.

Each club in the circuit got off to a late start in spring training. This was due to the repeated delays in drawing up the 1923 schedule. When the moguls finally got together at Oklahoma City last Sunday they decided on a 168-game playing chart.

The decision on the part of the league members to play a long schedule opens the season one week earlier than had been expected. The teams open and close in the south, which is more of a benefit to the southern circuit teams than the northern clubs.

Helps Southern Clubs.

To start the season with Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Wichita and St. Joseph play at their respective lots during the first two weeks of the schedule. This means a whole lot to these clubs, which have been working out in the morning before games and in the afternoon in the evening. On the other hand, the visiting clubs must wait until the afternoon game before getting into action. This all counts up during the start of the season.

The schedule closes in the south and again favors the southern clubs, should one of these teams be in the running against a northern club during the last two weeks of the league race. A club manager always figures on winning more games at home than on foreign ground, and the Western is no exception.

The Western opened and closed in the south last year and it looks like it will continue to open and close in the south as long as certain parties hold the upper hand. We mean Jack Holland of Oklahoma City, Frank Isbell of Wichita and the owners of the Tulsa club, together with the Minneapolis club owners, who also own the St. Joseph franchise.

Burch Satisfied.

According to a letter received from Barney Burch, owner of the Omaha Buffaloes, the 1923 schedule satisfies him, so we guess there's no kick coming from this end.

Burch states that the playing chart calls for a new arrangement of playing games. Elimination of a lot of double headers by stretching out the season is one of the big features.

In 1922 three northern trips of four games at each town were scheduled. The moguls at their recent meeting registered plenty of kicks against the four-game trips. Teams were away from home too long and the fans grew tired of seeing the same club in action for four straight contests.

The northern trips, that is, when southern clubs come north, will be three-game series affairs in each town with four trips around the northern loop of the league during the season. This will allow the clubs to take shorter trips and be at the home park earlier and not so long on the road.

Interseries Games.

Then there's the interseries games. By this we mean series between northern club and northern club, and southern club and southern club. These interseries games will be four contests as last year.

By this arrangement the league expects to save money in railroad fares, also remedy the situation of long home stays.

Another important feature of the Western league meeting last Sunday was the recommendation on the part of the club owners that a new office be created. That office is sort of a combined probate secretary, assistant president, statistician and general league publicity man.

According to Barney Burch's letter, the league made no kick at Irving

## Notre Dame to Represent Irish

Des Moines, Ia., March 31.—Spurred on by the fine showing made last year, Coach Knute Rockne, of Notre Dame, will bring another strong aggregation of track and field athletes to the 14th annual Drake university relay meet, April 27-28, according to present indications.

For the dashes, Rockne has Barr, Desch and L. Walsh, all star step-ers, who, when they are going right, are mighty hard to beat.

In the middle distance events, Kennedy and Cox are the Notre Dame mainstays, with Connell on deck for the distance events.

Tom Lieb, of football fame, and Flynn will be strong contenders in the shot put as they have excelled in 43-foot mark several times in recent indoor competition.

L. Walsh, in the hurdles, and L. Walsh, in the quarter-mile, have been the class of the Notre Dame squad to date.

Elected Mat Captain.

Cambridge, Mass., March 31.—Edward H. Bates of Carpentier, Ed., was elected captain of the Harvard wrestling team for the 1922-23 season last night.

## "They Never Come Back" - By Ed Hughes



Father Time to Jess: "Let's talk of graves, or worms, or epitaphs." Jess (to himself): "One bout in four years before meeting Jack Dempsey. No ring action in three and a half years since."

Jess Willard still drives a ponderous carcass through his daily calisthenics. Jess will meet young Floyd Johnson in the spring in New York. Eventually he hopes to prove to a skeptical world that they do "come back." Jess has ever been an obstinate fellow with heaps of self-assurance. It was just this self-assurance, by the way, which aided and abetted his gory downfall at Toledo against Dempsey. He underrated Dempsey and overrated himself. With but one real bout in seven and a half years under his belt, Mr. Willard still believes, at about 42 we should say, that he can step out against the diligent youth of the land and show them up.

Willard has shaped up well enough in his gym workouts. But what does that mean? Has the gym ever given a true line on any man's fighting form? Rarely to my knowledge. They all look good in the gym. There may be enough remnants of Jess' ancient power to subdue the smaller and comparatively inexperienced Floyd Johnson. But as for a complete "come-back," say against a Dempsey or a Villa, well it isn't in the books, in my opinion.

No fighter can indulge in long periods of idleness and not have his stamina and general ring usefulness impaired. Jim Jeffries, Bob Fitzsimmons, Jack Johnson, John L. Sullivan, Jim Corbett all tried the long lay-off and the belated "come-back." They all failed. What is there so extraordinary about Willard that he can succeed where these great ones failed? Particularly as he has been "out" much longer than any of them.

## Yankees Won't Have Walkaway in Flag Race

By DAVIS J. WALSH.  
By International News Service.  
New York, March 31.—For the first time in many, long disinteresting years, the American league race in 1923 promises to be something more than a two-team go-as-you-please. The Yankees, champions for two years, off season improvement in the Tigers, White Sox and Athletics should make the affair an open one from the outset.

As far as actual results in the training camp are concerned the Yanks are probably the worst looking ball club in the American league at the moment. However, the season runs through 154 games and the pitching of Hoyt, Bush, Shawkey, Mays, Jones and Penneck is certain to carry the club at a point near the top.

Bank on Mays.  
The Yankees figure to get even better pitching than they did last year because Mays and Hoyt are due for a comeback. Both are comparatively young, and Mays, who cannot show at his best until his fingers brush the grass in delivering his underhand ball, has reduced his generous waistline to reasonable proportions. Bush is not due to repeat the amazing results he obtained in 1922. He pitched somewhat above the well and widely known head on that occasion but Penneck will more than balance the difference if Huggins picks the spots for his left handed ways.

Ruth, now an earnest, somber individual, probably never will attain the heights that were once his, but he will be in there playing baseball. Otherwise, the Yanks are much the same ball club, except that Bob Meusel seems to have realized that business is business.

Browns Not in Running.  
The Tigers will muster a team latting well above .225 and with improved pitching are believed to be the logical contender. Give Cobb the working margin of a couple of consistent pitchers and it is more than likely that he would rush through the rest of the field like a prairie storm. He has everything else. So have the White Sox, thanks to the addition of Willie Kamm.

The Sox have nothing of a weakness outside of the box and are faster, brainier and more versatile outfit than the Tigers. It would not surprise the writer if the White Sox ran one-two. All Gleason needs is another winning pitcher to string along with Faber, Leverette and Blankenship.

And what of the Browns who finished a scant game outside the pennant last year? On paper they have not improved in any way. In fact they have retrograded. It is general understood now that Sisler is home hospital for the first month of the season. The Browns without Sisler are like Dr. Munger without the index finger. In addition, they have very careworn pitching unless Lee Fohl has developed a couple of plausible youngsters.

Nebraska City in Meet.  
Nebraska City, March 31.—The Nebraska City High school track team has begun practice and Coach Fohl expects to have a man in every event at the state meet in Lincoln in May.

## Four Former National Indoor Tennis Champions Competing in N. Y. Singles Championship

By VINCENT RICHARDS.  
National Tennis Doubles Champion.  
Universal Service Staff Correspondent.

Four former national indoor singles champions are competing in the indoor tennis championship which started yesterday at the Seventh Regiment armory. Francis T. Hunter, Frank and Fred Anderson, S. H. Voshell and myself will strive for the title now held by Hunter.

With Hunter in the defending role and several of the other high ranking players in excellent form, we are sure to see some real action before the last match is played.

S. H. Voshell is the only player in the country today who holds two legs on the handsome Seventh Regiment bowl. Were Voshell to win the event this year it would mean that this prized trophy would become his permanent property.

Voshell Believed Through.  
Unfortunately for the Brooklyn southpaw, he is not in what might be called his best form. He was recently defeated rather easily in the Palm Beach tournament by a player that he ordinarily should defeat.

Many of the tennis critics are wont to believe that the former national indoor singles champion is almost through. At any rate, there is no denying the fact that Voshell is much too slow at the present time to compete with such players as the Anderson boys and the champion, Frank Hunter. His service no longer has the old sting-in-it and he does not

## Rickard Plans to Match McTigue With Either Tunney or Greb

New York, March 31.—Tex Rickard has made plans for staging a world's light boxing championship match, in addition to three others he has in mind, to be held either at the Yankee ball park or in his Jersey City arena during the coming summer.

The promoter cabled Mike McTigue in Ireland several days ago, asking him to come to New York, how soon he is coming back and when he will be ready to defend his laurels.

"I had an appointment with McTigue's manager, Joe Jacobs, to talk over terms," said Rickard, "but in the meanwhile I sent my congratulations to the new champ and inquired how soon he will be ready to box the most worthy contender."

"I was tickled to learn of Mike's victory over the Senegalese," continued Tex, "for it means renewed interest in a diversion which threatened to go into the discard after Siki trounced Carpentier. I know that a bout between McTigue and Tunney, or between McTigue and Greb, will draw a capacity crowd either in the ball lot or the big bowl in Jersey City."

"My offer will be transmitted by Jacobs to McTigue. I haven't a idea what my offer will be. I will

Jock Malone Matched to Meet Billy Wells  
Chicago, March 31.—Jock Malone, St. Paul scrapper, today was matched to meet Billy Wells of England, in a 10-round battle at St. Paul, April 13. It will be Malone's first fight since he defeated Mike O'Dowd.

## Scrambled Sports

WHAT HO!  
Johnny Kilbane hearing the end of the rope as champion of the featherweight division? This is the question ring fans are asking.

True it is that "Daddy" Kilbane has cleaned up on all the featherweight challenges on this side of the pond, but what about this Eugene Crigui person from France?

The featherweight division is getting pretty hot over here, when promoters have to cable over to Europe for feather batters. And that's just what they had done.

But to get back to Kilbane. Patrick has been the boss of the featherweight division for 10 years. He's an intelligent person and a step or two above the usual pugilistic grade. Just to illustrate how smart this champ is, what did he do the other day but come out and say he'd defend his crown against any challenger any promoter scared up.

Now, Kilbane realizes that his day has flickered out. There are a few battles left in his aged carcass, and he expects to capitalize those fights for all that traffic will bear. He's ready to come out of his shell and fight.

His next opponent, in all probability, will be the European feather champ, Crigui. The Frenchman was injured during one of the battles of the war. A bullet tore away part of his jaw, but this didn't end Crigui's ring career. He's still fighting.

WRESTLERS BUSY.  
The wrestlers are being kept pretty busy down in Kansas City these days.

It seems that the grapple has been picked on the great Jay-hawker state and have been making quite a success down there. More power to 'em! Wrestling, when conducted as it should be, is an interesting sport to watch. Omaha would welcome a good mat contest.

The John Pesek-Stanislaus Zyzasko match which will be held in Kansas City April 12, will be the real test of the grapple.

Win Bridge Prize.  
Toronto, March 31.—The team of S. S. Lenz of the Knickerbocker club, New York and H. E. Bidwell of Hartford, Conn., won first prize in the annual duplicate auction bridge competition of the Canadian Whist league congress at its second session yesterday. The contest was played under the Mitchell system.

Charlie Hollocher III.  
St. Louis, March 31.—Charlie Hollocher, shortstop and captain of the Chicago Nationals, was confined to bed at his home here today suffering from after effects of an attack of influenza last February. Hollocher returned home last night from the Cuba training camp at Santa Catalina island, Cal.

## North Dakota to Send Strong, But Unbalanced, Team to North Central Conference Track Meet

Grand Forks, N. D., March 31.—The University of North Dakota will be represented by a fairly strong, though unbalanced track team this season, according to present prospects. Nine letter men from last year and one from 1920, who has returned to school, together with three of four fair prospects.

The Flickertail squad is booked for three meets this year. Macalester college of St. Paul, will open the season here May 15, while the second dual meet is scheduled with St. Olaf college at Grand Forks for May 26.

On June 2, Coach Palm will take his squad to Sioux City, Ia., for the North Central conference tournament. The Flickertails will be strong in the middle distances and jumps. Henry Nelson, holder of the state interscholastic and university records for the half mile, will be a surprise winner at all the meets. He will get his record down close to two minutes this year, having won all his races with ease last year. His brother, Arthur Hanson, a freshman this year,

is one of the bright prospects for the mile. He captured that event in the interscholastic meet last year in 4:40.45. Both boys are from Esmond, S. D.

Shelver, star of the team last year, is expected to be one of the main point winners of the North Dakota outfit this spring. Shelver leaps the bar at six feet in the high jump and took first at the conference meet last year. He is expected to boost his record some this year if forced. He is also sure to score in the broad jump, having captured second place at Sioux Falls last year. He was the only man sent to the conference meet last year for the reason that the Flickertails had a dual meet scheduled for the same date, having made up their track schedule before a conference meet was decided on. Shelver also runs the hurdles.

Home Course Relay for Highs to Start Soon  
LINCOLN, NEB., March 31.—The 1923 Nebraska high school track program will be formally opened April 14 when the interscholastic tracksters compete in the first annual Nebraska home course relay championships.

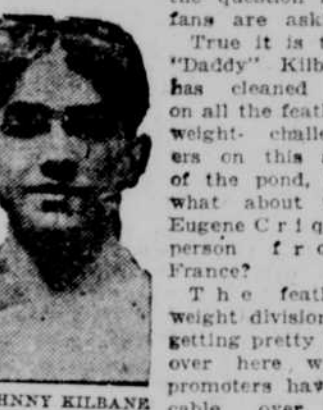
The relay championships over the home courses is a new wrinkle for Nebraska high athletes. The plan is patterned after the high school pentathlon, the final results being telegraphed to Coach Henry C. Schulte of the University of Nebraska at the close of the competition.

High school sprinters will compete in three relay events, the 880 yard relay, four men will each run 220 yards; in the mile relay, four runners will travel 440 yards each; in the middle relay one man will run 440 yards, two will run 220 yards each and the last man will run 880 yards.

In his instructions to high school coaches, Henry F. Schulte, head track mentor at Nebraska university, calls attention to the need for accuracy in all measurements and timing. Three watches must be used to clock the races. The men must carry a baton. It should be made of a piece of cane pole, 12 inches long and an inch in diameter. The baton must be successfully passed in a 20-yard zone, 10 yards on each side of the start.

Trophy banners will be awarded the winning teams in each event. The three winners will be entered in the Kansas university relays at Lawrence, April 27-28.

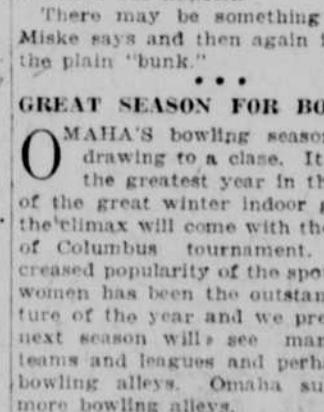
Star Shortstop Capitulates.  
Chicago, March 31.—Ernie Johnson, star shortstop of the Chicago White Sox, today signed his contract and will report to Manager Gleason at Dallas, Tex., Sunday. Johnson, who was a "holdout," came to an agreement with President Conkley and will leave tomorrow morning to join his teammates. Johnson is in good condition, having been in training here at a local gymnasium.



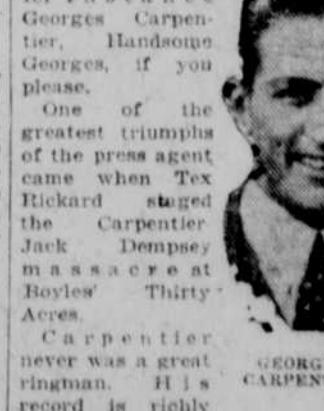
JOHNNY KILBANE



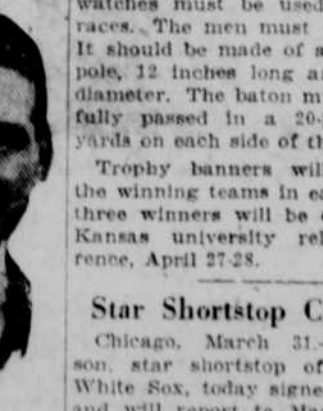
Mike.



Stanislaus Zyzasko



CHARLES HOLLOCHER III



ERNEST JOHNSON