# IN THE WORLD OF SPORTS

## Aspirants for Positions on Omaha Team Are All on Hand.

## MEN SHOW UP WELL IN PRELIMINARY WORK

### Manager Rourke Expects to Select a Team that Will Be a "Ten-Time Winner"—Excellent Material from Which to Choose.

With but two exceptions the men who have been signed by Manager Rourke as members of the Omaha base ball team have arrived in the city and the past week has been a busy one for them. The exceptions noted are Pitcher McGreevy of Bloomington, Ill., and Tom Hess, the star catcher from Brooklyn. They are expected to drift in within the next few days. The material now on hand is of the A No. 1 brand and both President Keith and Manager Rourke are confident that from the candidates they will be able to select a team that will be a ten-time winner and a veritable prize package.

This notion has been strengthened during the past few days that training has been in progress. Owing to the non-completion of the park at Fifteenth and Vinton streets the players have been exercising themselves on the old Fort Omaha grounds and each afternoon has been spent in diligent practice. The abilities of the different aspirants for team positions have been shown up in good shape, although it is a trifle early yet to reach definite conclusions, for the reason that all of the men are a trifle soft and unable to enter into practice work with as great vigor as they will in the course of a week or so.

The pitching talent has come in for the greatest share of attention and the slab artists have been given ample opportunity to warm themselves up. From the aggregation on hand Rourke believes that he will be able to select two or three wizards and the balance of the pitching talent will be composed of good, reliable "stand-bys," who can always be depended upon for steady, capable work.

The players who have reported and who have been participating in the preliminary practice are: Catchers, Lauzon, McCausland; pitchers, Hughes, Newmeyer, Dillon, LeGore, Potter, Burrell, Mackey; infielders, Rebsman, O'Connell, Hoye, Toman, Dunn, Hankey; outfielders, Baer, Hurlburt, McVicker and Ferris.

Lauzon and McCausland have both shown up in good shape at the home plate. The former has had more experience in the game than his colleague, but McCausland is energetic, willing and ambitious and some star work is expected from him. It is likely that both men will be retained on the team. So far as the pitching talent is concerned an interesting condition has been established as a result of the practice games. It has been shown that the younger fellows, the amateurs who are aspiring for their first professional engagements, are better conditioned than the old-timers, and they are making even better showing than the veterans. Of course the "vets" can be depended upon to do good work when the season is in progress and do not consider it so essential to strive to make a record in the preliminary work. Consequently the star performers in the box thus far have been the youngsters. Hughes, the Chicago lad who was recruited from the ranks of the Chicago City league players, promises to be a star of the first magnitude and there is little doubt of his being able to hold a steady "sit" during the coming season. Newmeyer, an accession from Denver, is also a steady pitcher and is showing up in good form. Of the old-timers Mackey, Dillon and Burrell have done fairly good work and their experience insures that they will perform capably when the team gets into active service. The pitching force will consist of five members and it is a certainty that some of the candidates will be seeking other vocations within a few weeks. LeGore, who was "cracked up" so highly by Jack Crooks, has proved somewhat of a disappointment. His shoulder, however, has been exceedingly sore since his arrival in Omaha, but when this is improved he may do better work and come up to the expectations created by Crooks' high endorsement.

It will be a difficult task to select the fielding force since all the men trying for positions at the bases and in the field are doing excellent work. Jimmy Hoye has been covering third bag in a manner exciting considerable commendation. If he continues his present gait he will be easily the star member of the team. Rebsman covers the initial bag in fairly good shape, although there is room for improvement. His position on the team is practically safe because of his hitting ability. Jack O'Connell, the Beau Brummel of the team, floated in from Lincoln a day or two after having coached the Nebraska State university team and is now covering the second bag. O'Connell is an allround good player and will be able to hold his position nicely. In the outfield Baer, Hurlburt and McVicker are doing very good work and it will be a nip and tuck race between them and the other aspirants for these places, with the odds a little in favor of the trio just mentioned.

So far as completed at present the roster of the teams in the Western league outside of Omaha is as follows:

Denver—Catchers, Hansen and A. Hickey; pitchers, Price, Walsh, Kight, McNeely and Kane; infielders, Tebeau, Ramey, Holland, Barnes, W. A. Hickey Shirk and Tinker; outfielders, Parrot, Preston, Vizard and Bissell.

Pueblo—Catchers, Morrow and Stanley; infielders, Hanlon, Anderson, O'Dea and Hulen; pitchers, Andrews and Lane; outfielders, McCarthy, McLaughlin and McHale.

Des Moines—Catchers, Holmes and Siesler; pitchers, Harker, Callahan, Weimer, Breenahan, Roach, Beckwith, Lally and Brennan; infielders, Parker, Quigley, Lewer, Warner, Brain and Ball; outfielders, Fear, Burke, Hopkins and Myers.

Sioux City has not completed its roster, but has signed the following men: Ferguson, Niles, McQuaid, Reitz, Bremer, Coffey, Jessup, Valdois, Holmes, McIlvane and Nichols.

St. Joe—Catchers, Kling and Brown; pitchers, Goodell, Whited, Maupin, Herman and Underwood; infielders, McKibben, Strang, Hall, Shelton; outfielders, Brown, Bristow and Aiken.

# PALAVER OF THE PUGILISTS

### Matters Pugilistic Begin to Liven Up—Sharkey and McCoy Scheduled to Meet June 25.

The trend of things pugilistic for the last two weeks has been of much interest to the followers of the prize ring. Three of the prominent figures in heavyweight circles have been the leading characters in a farce-comedy, wherein the scenic part has been of importance and the scene-shifters have been the managers of these same three prominent heavyweight pugilists. Whether the finale of this affair has been reached is yet a question. At any rate a climax was finally reached when Sharkey and "Kid" McCoy decided to meet each other in a twenty-five round contest before the Seaside Athletic club June 25.

The completion of arrangements for this fight suggests a peculiar condition of prize ring affairs existing at this time. Since Champion Jeffries practically retired himself from the active stage of pugilism by announcing that he would meet Corbett interest of fight-followers has been centered in Sharkey and Fitzsimmons. A match between them was eagerly desired and when these two men got together and agreed to a contest there was great rejoicing. This was turned to disappointment when the match was declared off, the only tangible explanation appearing in the avarice of Sharkey's manager, Tom O'Rourke. It seems that O'Rourke set his foot down on the match because his Coney Island Athletic club was outbid for the fight by the Westchester club. As soon as it became public that the match was declared off and the news floated out that the bid of the Westchester club was a better one than O'Rourke's the older heads in pugilism attributed the unsatisfactory ending of the affair, which promised so much for pugilistic history, to this very fact. Subsequent events have proved the logic of this belief.

Within a few days from the time that the Sharkey-Fitzsimmons match was declared off an agreement was drawn up for a meeting between Fizsimmons and McCoy. This promised well, but the ink on the articles of agreement between the two pugs was hardly dried before this match, too, was declared off. McCoy stated the reason of it was that Fitzsimmons had not put up his $2,500 forfeit at the appointed time, but it looks as though it were a rebuke to Fitzsimmons administered by O'Rourke because the ex-champion had favored the Westchester club.

It is no wonder that protests are going up from the sporting contingent at this ruthless canceling of matches entered into, so far as the public can ascertain, in good faith on the part of the contestants. And all because this or that manager is sore because a club in which he is personally interested is not chosen for the presentation of the fight. No wonder New York sporting men, who are right on the scene where these little, petty proceedings are enacted, have become so disgusted that they endorse the repeal of the Horton law as accomplished by the New York legislature.

Fortunately, however, the cancellation of the McCoy-Fitzsimmons fight does not remove all possibility of a contest between fighters in whom the people will be able to take an interest. Even before it was known that this match was off articles of agreement had been signed between McCoy and Sharkey and the plucky sailor will not be deprived of an opportunity of demonstrating his ability in the prize ring, even though handicapped by a manager who interfered with the best fight possible for Sharkey to participate in at this time—that with Fitzsimmons.

Sharkey ought to be an easy winner in this match, although McCoy is by no means easy money, even if it is the general belief that McCoy was whipped and whipped good by Joe Choynski in their last contest, but still got the decision. If Sharkey imagines he can put McCoy on the shelf without any exertion and make him appear like a gift of dog meat from a neighboring butcher shop in the first round he will probably be treated to such a surprise as he gave Champion Jeffries when he stood game for twenty-five rounds in their last match. McCoy has a record in the prize ring and is known to be sufficiently well versed in the science of his calling to insure that he will make a good showing with the sailor and probably do his share in contributing to a clever exhibition. But if Sharkey has not deteriorated since his go with Jeffries, and there is no reason for believing that he has, he will, according to general belief, administer such a decisive defeat to the Hoosier that the "Kid" will ever regret the afternoon of March 26 when Tom O'Rourke dropped into his New York cafe and persuaded him to meet Sharkey instead of Fitzsimmons.

The Sharkey-McCoy contest will be the second meeting between the pair. January 10, 1899, Sharkey knocked the "Kid" out in the tenth round after a sensational battle, in which McCoy looked an easy winner from the start until the sailor gathered himself together and put the Hoosier product to sleep.

Beside his go with McCoy, Sharkey has a match scheduled with Gus Ruhlin, to take place in near future at the Coney Island club. Billy Madden and Tom O'Rourke, respectively the managers for Ruhlin and Sharkey, met in New York last week and made arrangements for the match. It will be a twenty-five round encounter. The men will fight for 60 per cent of the gate receipts and Tim Hurst is slated to referee the bout. This match was made before the Sharkey-McCoy contest was arranged, but it is probable that it will be postponed until after that event comes off.

Apropos of the recent lightweight championship bout between Champion Frank Erne and Joe Gans, it is of interest to note how Al Herford, Gans' manager, takes the defeat of his protege. Herford's confidence in Gans is sustained by the opinion of many sporting men. Few of the majority who predicted that Gans would best Erne have lost their confidence in him and are even now ready to give odds, as they did before, on a return match. Herford says:

"Erne deserves great credit for his gameness. He is an exceptionally clever and fast boy, and can put up a rattling fight. His recuperative powers are wonderful. My confidence in Gans is not shaken by the loss of the fight. On the contrary, it is stronger than ever. He will yet be the lightweight champion. By an agreement between the boys before the fight they were to meet for a second battle if the loser desired it. Now, that is what Gans and I want. We don't want the champion to rush into another fight. We are satisfied to wait not two, but four or five months, even six.

"Then will I be willing to bet on my boy. I will ask no odds, but will bet my money even up and any amount.

"Up to that unfortunate collision in the twelfth round it looked a victory all over. I was confident Joe would soon end matters. But that unfortunate accident put an end to my hopes. Joe was unable to see and stopped.

"That shows great coolness. Were it a broken nose or a cut lip he could have continued, but not with his eye almost hanging out. I am sorry the affair occurred, and hope for better luck next time.

"Why, in the eleventh round, Joe came to his corner and said: 'Al, it is all right. I feel strong and will win before the fifteenth round.' He seemed satisfied, and so did I. He bears not a mark of the battle outside of the cut eye. He is feeling as well as he ever did, and hopes for an early return match.

"He still has confidence in his ability to win, and does not want a cent if he loses. Just to show that he is the real thing, he will take on several good men from now until he meets Erne. First come will be first served, provided they are topnotchers. Gans will soon be lightweight champion. That is what I feel sure of, and my money talks."

If a dispatch telegraphed a Chicago paper from San Francisco just prior to the departure of Champion Jim Jeffries for the east be genuine, the heavyweight champion himself has endorsed the view which not only this writer, but many of the best informed sporting authorities in the country have taken, relative to his forthcoming encounter with Corbett. This dispatch goes on to state:

"Jeffries does not regard his match with Corbett as a settled thing by any means. Just before he boarded the train he said that the handling of the arrangements for the contest had been so bad that he doubted if the public now had any confidence in the affair. He believed that a fight with Fitzsimmons or a return match with Sharkey would be a much better drawing attraction, and thinks such a bout may yet be arranged."

At this writing the great card arranged for April 5 at Tattersall's in Chicago, when Champion Jeffries was scheduled to meet three heavyweights—McCoy, Sharkey and Fitzsimmons only being barred—seems in danger of failure to materialize. Mayor Harrison has put his foot down on the affair, asserting that he will not permit a match of more than six rounds and will allow the champion to meet not more than one opponent. "I understand," he says, "that Jeffries is booked to go against three men in one evening. That simply means that they will let him fight for eighteen rounds, six rounds to a fight, and hammer these scrubs within an inch of their lives." Jack McCormick of Philadelphia and Jim Barnes have been elected as two of the trio and the selection of the third lay between Peter Maher, Joe Choynski and Gus Ruhlin. Just what these men thought of Mayor Harrison when they learned of his designation of them as "scrubs" would be difficult to imagine. It is an odds-on bet, however, that Mayor Harrison means just what he says, and Jeffries' chances of meeting three opponents in one evening are pretty slim.

Terry McGovern's next bout is booked for April 21, when he will accommodate Eddie Santry with another engagement in New York. Santry believes he will profit by his previous mix-up with the "Brooklyn Terror" in their next fight, and promises to dish up a few surprises on his own hook. He explains that in the former fight he was taken off his pins by a chance blow and asserts that it would not happen again in a lifetime. The men are to meet at 124 pounds and interest is already beginning to crystallize over the meeting between the clever little fellows. In Louisville there is much disappointment because McGovern would not consent to meet Santry in that city. The featherweight champion promised to give the Kentuckians an exhibition of the peculiar manner in which he lays away all comers, offering to meet anyone who might be signed for a mix-up May 3. Santry dropped into the city a few days later and thoughtlessly signed an agreement to meet McGovern. His action has created all sorts of complications. Owing to the fight already scheduled to take place in New York, McGovern refused point-blank to meet Santry in Louisville and the latter is now trying to explain that he was "just fooling" when he agreed to meet the champion in the Blue Grass metropolis. It is expected that Oscar Gardner and McGovern will mix together for the delectation of the Kentuckians on Derby night, May 3.

"Ed" Parker, the fast Denver lightweight, and Dal Hawkins have been matched for a go in Chicago on April 19. Both are popular with the pugilistic contingent of the sporting world and an entertaining exhibition is anticipated. "Wilmington" Jack Daly, the eastern lightweight who was defeated by Parker in two rounds in their fight at Denver, attributes his defeat to the high altitude and to the additional fact that he was ill when he entered the ring. Daly asserts that Parker's strong card is fighting at home in Denver, where he is thoroughly acclimated. He says that anywhere else Parker would not amount to much and wants another meeting with the Denver "kid" in some eastern city. There is no doubt but that Parker's acclimation to the Colorado altitude stands him well in hand, but Daly's criticism is not supported by the record which the clever western lightweight has made for himself in fights outside the Colorado clime.

After all "Bob" Fitzsimmons is going to be able to participate in a fight which will arouse more than passing interest in the pugilistic world. The "hoodoo" which seemed to hover around him and prevent the consummation of the fights he has agreed to engage in has evidently been conquered at last and articles of agreement have been signed between him and Gus Ruhlin. The latter is looked upon as one of the coming heavyweights and his manager, Billy Madden, confidently insists that all he needs to establish his claim to a high rank in pugilistic circles is a chance to meet some of the recognized top-notchers. This chance has been given him at last and his showing with Fitzsimmons will be looked forward to with no small degree of interest. The go between "Fitz" and Ruhlin is scheduled for June 2 at the Westchester Athletic club, and George Siler was chosen as the referee. Inasmuch as both men agreed not to meet Sharkey, McCoy, Jeffries or Corbett before they fight, the contest between Sharkey and Ruhlin will doubtless be postponed until after the Sharkey-McCoy fight.

The great cards arranged in Chicago and New York for Champion Jim Jeffries to meet three heavyweights, six rounds each, in one night, have gone by the board. Mayor Harrison refused to countenance such an exhibition in Chicago, and the same fate has befallen the exhibition contemplated in New York. Champion Jeffries is now in West Baden training for his bout with Corbett, and the only contest he will participate in before that time, according to present indications, will be his exhibition in Detroit.

With so many excellent bouts in store for the near future devotees of the prize ring have not been disposed to complain particularly at the scarcity of contests during the last week. The only one of especial importance occurred in Philadelphia Monday night when Joe Gans knocked out Jack Daly of Chicago in the fifth round. The go was a whirlwind while it lasted, but the gait told on Daly and the Baltimore negro clearly had the lead after the first round. His recent defeat by Frank Erne probably caused him to fight with the ferocity and the bull-dog tenacity that characterized his performance Monday night.

# NEBRASKA COACH ON COAST

### Athlete Who Directed State University in a Fortunate Year Goes to Stanford University.

F. H. Yost, formerly of Nebraska, has been engaged to coach the Stanford university foot ball team and will undertake the task of elevating the cardinal to the prestige it enjoyed when its players were in the hands of "Pop" Bliss and Walter Camp. Under the tutelage of Yost the University of Nebraska won the western league championship and the following year, when he coached the Kansas team, the latter captured the league honors, winning 280 points to 32 scored against it.

Yost has the reputation of being a masterful teacher, a leader of men and a perfect gentleman. His height of six feet, weight of 195 pounds and a sound constitution make him ideally qualified for his work. He goes to Stanford at a salary of $1,200 for the season, in the face of an offer from Missouri of $1,700, preferring the opportunity to lead a Pacific coast eleven.

Yost's foot ball record is an enviable one. The year that Lafayette won over Pennsylvania and played a tie with Princeton he was halfback on the Lafayette eleven in the last contest, playing against "King" Kelly, who is to handle the University of California players next fall. One year after graduating from college he took a team that had never been heard of and defeated the champion team of Ohio, as well as tied the University of Michigan.

Walter Camp has just undertaken an interesting reform in Yale athletics in his new capacity of graduate adviser and counselor of the undergraduate athletic managers. Many of Yale's graduates have for years believed that there should be some important reforms made in the system of training for the various teams at Yale. Physicians have again and again attributed serious physical ills that have happened to athletes at Yale to the reckless way in which the average undergraduate conducts his training.

There never has been a system devised by which the undergraduate is instructed in regard to what is good diet and what is not. The athletic training tables provide a certain bill of fare, but they have never attempted to limit the quantity that each man should eat. From these training tables the athletes go to boarding houses where the food is often inferior, or if they have money indulge their increased appetites in excessive amounts of sweets, or in too much smoking or drinking immediately after a long period of rigid training.

The sudden change from the rigid training of an athlete to the careless life of an undergraduate has unquestionably done a great deal of harm, not only to the athletes themselves, but to the Yale teams. An athlete has frequently ended a season in fine condition, and at the beginning of the next season has been found to be badly out of condition.

The captains have not attempted to make any rules, but have pledged themselves to do all in their power to prevent athletes from breaking training violently and to urge them to be careful about their habits of eating, drinking, smoking and hours of sleep. The suggestion for this reform came from England and is one of the results of the trip of the Yale track team made last July.

Still another reform that has been brought about by Mr. Camp is a set of rules governing the award of the 'varsity "Y." The increase in the number of sports at Yale has resulted in a good deal of bitterness and hard feeling about the wearing of this "Y." Formerly only the members of the 'varsity teams who had taken part in championship contests were allowed to wear this "Y." This applied only to the crew, the base ball, the track and the foot ball teams. There are now a half a dozen teams that have come into existence, some of which are very creditable organizations and all of which believe that they should have the privilege of using the Yale "Y," just as the big teams have used it. The old restrictions, however, have been largely restored.


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# NOTABLE SCORES IN BOWLING

### Francis Potter and Herman Beselin Declared Local Champions in Cocked Hat and Four Back.

Two new records have been established in local bowling circles within the last few days. In the popular game of cocked hat Homer Kirk, superintendent of one of the prominent bowling resorts and one of the most expert bowlers in the city, had made a record of 52 points and rested content on his laurels, believing that they were safe. Francis Potter, however, undertook to wrest Kirk's laurels away from him and succeeded in making a score of 55 out of a possible 90. This is considered a splendid score and there is little danger of Mr. Potter losing his title of local champion at cocked hat in the very near future.

Herman Beselin now holds the local record in four back. Recently he ran up a score of 86 out of a possible 90. Mr. Beselin, at the time of scoring this record, engaged in three games of four back, in each of which he made a notable score. In the first he had 76 to his credit, in the second 72 and the third gained for him the title of four back champion with his score of 86.


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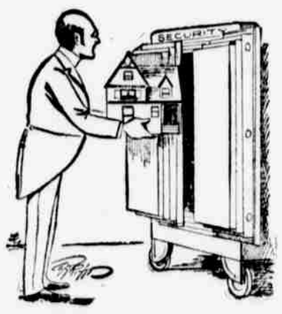


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If you think of buying a sewing machine, SEE US. It makes no difference what make of machine you want, SEE US. You may want a Davis Ball Bearing or Standard, Singer or a Domestic or a cheap machine for $16.00. No difference which, we can sell you and save you money. SEE US. We have no agents, we pay NO commissions, so you will have to SEE US. We rent machines for 75c per week. We repair and sell parts for all makes of machines manufactured. Monday we will sell our Second-Hand Sewing Machines for one-half regular price. Some will be sold as low as $1.00.

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Phone 1663. George E. Mickel, Manager.