

Basket Ball Divides Time With Reminiscences of Games Played Outdoors During the Summer

BASKET BALL TO THE FORE

Two Big Games in Prospect for Cornhuskers During the Holidays.

SOME DOUBT ABOUT FINANCES

Columbia and Chicago, However, Would Give Them a Chance to Show This Class Against the Cracks of Country. LINCOLN, Dec. 14.—(Special.)—Chief interest in athletic circles at the State university during the last week has centered in the prospective basketball games with the Columbia and Chicago teams during the approaching holidays. Seldom has basketball been an intercollegiate game at Nebraska since the summer of 1905...

RECORDS FOR THE LAST YEAR

Some New Marks Hung Up in Several Branches of Athletic Sport.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—While 1907 has not been marvelous in record breaking for the whole sporting calendar, there has been a steady improvement in many lines of sport and the record breaking performers have been of a nature to excite wide interest.

In the ice and snow sports, the snowshoers set a new mark in cross-country running of nine miles in 47 minutes 20 seconds, and the ski jumpers, who have rapidly attained prominence, have placed the record for jumping at 114 feet. The local skaters were handicapped by a late season and poor ice, but in the international meet new records were made, about the best being 9 minutes 04 seconds for 5,000 meters (3 miles 188 yards). In ice yachting a twenty-mile course (ten turns) was covered in 29 minutes 49 seconds.

Racing autos were credited with many new records, the fastest mile on a circuit track being that of 25 seconds by Walter Christie. In road racing Nazario (Italy) covered the Grand Prix course in France of 45 miles at an average speed of 70.8 miles per hour.

The shooters had their eye on the targets in the Palma trophy international match, in which a world's record of 1,212 out of a possible 1,200 was made, and even Tupper's record for breaking 7,000 flying targets was broken by Captain Hardy, who smashed 8,008 and then quit because one of the judges had to be home in time for his supper.

Dr. Hudson of New York set up a new world's record of 1,165 out of a possible 1,200 points on a ring target at 300 yards in fifty consecutive shots. Rudolph, Guto made 2,600 out of a possible 2,600 in a gallery match of the Zettler Rifle club. William H. Herr, the professional, made a new world's record at the traps, where he shot at 14,055 targets in competition and broke 88.3 per cent.

The professional billiardists appear to have nearly reached their limit in the ball game, although it is not unreasonable to believe that something further may happen in this line the present season. Calvin Demarest, in winning the national amateur championship, put up a new record average of 27.7 at 14.3. Bush of Elmira pocketed 88 balls from the break at pool; Nolan averaged 1.5 in a three-cushion game of 25 points and Sutton made a run of 221 points in practice at 14.1 ballline this season.

Attendance at the National and American league base ball games was 8,158,557, 200,000 more than the previous best record of 1904. Cobb of Chicago led the American league batsman, with an average of .352, while Wagner of Pittsburgh cleared the horseshoe in the National with an average of .356.

A homing pigeon made an average speed of 1,812 yards per minute for 600 miles. Thompson's Colts bowling team (five men) rolled a 2,848 score for three games. Ralph Rose, John Flanagan, Martin Sheridan, George Bonhar and Melvin Sheppard all broke athletic records.

BIG TEAMS TO LOSE MANY MEN

Yale and Princeton Foot Ball to Suffer from Thousands Graduates. NEW HAVEN, Conn., Dec. 7.—Yale, Princeton and Harvard will lose many foot ball men by graduation next June. Princeton will have to fill five places, Yale seven and Harvard seven.

May Captain the Cornhuskers Next Year

Manager Eager This Week Scheduled another intercollegiate contest which will be one of the most important on the schedule, unless overshadowed by such contests as are now in prospect. The contest is to be with Missouri university, which has been seldom met by Nebraska during the last half dozen years.

Another of the Nebraska High School Champion Teams



LEXINGTON'S SQUAD, WHO CLAIMS TO BE THE SWIFTEST HIGH SCHOOL FOOT BALL TEAM IN CENTRAL-WESTERN NEBRASKA, WHO CLAIMS THE CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE STATE AND ARE READY TO DEFEND THAT CLAIM IN LEXINGTON OR IN ANY TOWN OF THE STATE. 1. Roy Nisley, Sub.; 2. Alvin Burko, R. G.; 3. Ed. McKee, R. H.; 4. Edgar Nisley, R. T.; 5. Harry Sarr, Sub.; 6. Harry Temple, Sub.; 7. Ralph Reynolds, L. G.; 8. Roy Wilson, Sub.; 9. Earl Jacobson, L. T.; 10. Carl Hock, Sub.; 11. Charles McKibben, Q. B.; 12. Archie Hill, R. H.; 13. Ed. McKee, L. B.; 14. Elbert Beardlee, L. E.; 15. Guy McKee, L. H.; 16. J. M. James, E. Delsell, Sub.

FORWARD PASS BOON TO GAME

Play Cuts Big Figure and Makes Good Impression.

SHOULD BE KEPT IN RULES

Coaches and Laymakers Everywhere Are Discussing It in Contemplating the Changes to Be Made.

The forward pass in football is the topic of discussion among the leading coaches and rulemakers of the country and there now seems to be a move in favor of some sort of change. Few want the forward pass thrown out altogether, but they are the extreme radicals. Some want the rules committee to stand pat on the rule and the moderates ask that the rule be modified, fearing the game will lose its distinctive features if the present unrestricted forward pass is continued.

When the present season started none questioned the merits of the rule permitting the forward pass, but as the smaller teams were matched against the larger ones, all sorts of chances were taken with the rule. The minor teams cut loose with a recklessness which was alarming to some of the larger teams and the cry that something must be done was heard on all sides.

Too much tinkering with the rules will not do. Foot ball has jumped back into popularity as no other condensed game ever did in such a short time. The forward pass and the open game were the features in Omaha and exclaimations of joy were heard on all sides when a successful forward pass was made. The forward pass is open, in full view of all and is an exciting movement. A player scoots ahead of his fellows and is blocked by several members of the opposing team. The man who attempts to throw the ball is also the center of attraction for several members of the opposing team, as a forward pass must be executed quickly and skillfully.

To Counteract Ten-Year Rule. The forward pass was put in the rules to counteract the effects of the ten-year rule. The rulemakers felt that no team could consistently make ten yard gains against the well organized defense of the strong teams without some new rule which would permit of strategy and to that end the rule was formulated to give the weaker a chance to utilize their skill against the heavier and stronger teams. It was back, 80 yds. left end, and Wendell, left halfback.

FOOT BALL RULES MAY STAND

Not Much Change Likely to Be Made in Revision. NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—There is much speculation over possible changes in foot ball rules for another year. Those who have the best interests of the game at heart do not believe any radical changes are likely.

LIVELIER YEAR IN LAWN TENNIS

Visit of British Team Certain to Add Interest to American Season.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—The prospect is for a livelier season in lawn tennis the coming year. The British players will be here to play the preliminary matches for the Davis International trophy, and that means, too, according to announcement, that they will take part in our championships. Further than that, before they get here an effort is to be made to make uniform the playing rules of both countries, and, at least on important points, to eliminate possibilities of conflict or dispute.

One of the most important points that any joint rules committee can decide upon is the rule regarding foot faults. It is very clear to those who have watched lawn tennis matches that it is unfair that a player at the moment of striking the ball should be well on his way up to the net to get the return of service. In the first place, the closer he is to the net the better chance he has of making an unplayable service and the more direct force from above he can bring to bear on the ball. Again, he is right up where he can take the return of service and be in command of the play from that on.

The truth of the matter is that the rules of the two countries mean to prevent any such unfair service, and it also is a matter of fact that the English referees do take measures to see that no player gets or takes an advantage of this kind. Over here the system of conducting tournaments, even the national tournament, which should be a model, is so lax that whether by accident or design players do foot fault continually and without incurring penalties.

There has been "hot" a little complaint among our players who go abroad that they are careless about their footwork. The British rule is explicit that no player shall be in motion toward the net from a point behind the base line before the ball is struck by the racket. He must have both feet squarely on the ground. Our rule does not so regulate the feet, but the sense is the same. The facts are that in England most tournaments are modeled after the best of the world and there is generally an effective corps of referees. Referees in tournaments outside of the national championships here are rare and there is too much slipshod and careless work in the conduct of matches.

In some cases the managers make an honest effort to have a good man for every match, not just the one where two good men happen to be engaged. The New York tournament and coach of others that might be mentioned were well managed in this regard. The Middle States tournament conspicuously was not, and that may explain to the managers of it why the championship that should be next to the national has fallen off until it is very poor and draws few men than the Long Island tournament.

Hedges Would Enlarge Plant. President Hedges of the St. Louis Browns is figuring on securing grounds adjacent to Sportmen's park, with a view to enlarging it. The Browns need a bigger home. Base ball is rapidly becoming a big game that Sunday crowds of 20,000 will soon be a regular feature. When Hedges gets 15,000 fans in his yard he'll be packed. That means a loss of much money ready to be picked up weekly.

WINNINGS OF KEENE STABLE

Remarkable Success of Castleton Breed Race Horses During Last Season.

The wonderful success of James R. Keene's racing stable during the campaign of 1907 will go down in turf history as a world's record. No owner and breeder of thoroughbred race horses ever won so much money in stakes and purses in a single season. The fact that Mr. Keene bred the phenomenal 3-year-old Collier, Commander-Pastorella, who won twelve consecutive races without suffering a defeat is alone something to be proud of, but the additional success of the great Peter Pan, another blue blooded son of the dead Command, together with that of Ballot, by Vater-Corio, proves to the world that as a breeder Mr. Keene stands pretty close to the top notch.

Colin, Peter Pan and Ballot won a greater part of the money. Colin breeled up \$138,723, including plate and breeding fees. He began his remarkable career by winning an overweight event at Belmont Park on May 25, when his share of the purse was a paltry \$400. After that he triumphed in the National Stallion stakes, worth \$10,000 net; the eclipse stakes, netting \$6,250; the Great Trial stakes, \$10,500; the Brighton Junior stakes, \$11,750; the Saratoga Special, \$14,500; the Grand Union Hotel stakes, \$8,250; the Futurity, \$2,075; the Flat-bush stakes, \$3,450; the Brighton Produce stakes, \$10,874; the Matron Stakes, \$11,242; the Champagne stakes, \$5,775, in which he won six years. By long odds he is believed to be the greatest 2-year-old in the world.

LONDON'S OLYMPIAN ARENA

Preparations for Great Athletic Meet Are Being Made.

BUILDINGS GOING UP WITH SPEED

Splendid Place for Holding the Show Where Men of All the World Will Compete in Games.

LONDON, Dec. 14.—Nothing more extraordinary, as a constructive feat, is to be seen just now in London than the city within a city which is rising as rapidly as Aladdin's palace on the open spaces of Shepherd's bush. Those who remember the cutting of the first sod for the exhibition buildings in January by the representatives of the French ambassador and the raising of the first cornerstone of the huge arena in August by Lady Desborough, will be able to appreciate the astounding advances made in the last few months in the erection of the huge structures that cover 140 acres of what was desert land less than twelve months ago.

Superman's best race was in the Brooklyn handicap at Gravesend, when he won on a heavy track and picked up \$15,800. Aside from Colin, the filly Megs Hill, by Ben Brush-Runaway Girl, was the most successful 2-year-old, as she gathered forty-three stakes, including the Belmont, Purdy, Century, Flatbush and Champagne stakes, all leading fixtures on the American turf calendar. The appended table shows, unofficially, how much each horse won in cold cash:

Table listing racehorse names and their total earnings in dollars and cents.

Coached the Intercollegiate Champions

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—Although active racing for the season has ended in the east, the activity of trainers and their help about the stables has by no means suspended. Down at Gravesend, in the Chesapeake Bay, where 90 per cent of the big class horses are wintered, there are, as yet, few indications that the dull routine of winter is at hand.

Real winter at the race track brings the period of indoor work. The horses by that time do little, and trainers, stablemen and exercise boys relax from the long hours and steady work entailed in the handling of the runners during the regular racing season. With most of the stables, however, strict discipline is enforced the year around. In the next few weeks to come owners and trainers of the better class of horses will have to decide about the candidates for the classic handicaps of 1908.

CONTROL OF NEW YORK TRACK

Empire State Racing Commission to Make Good on Name.

STARTING METHODS DISCUSSED

Walkup System Will Be Given Further Trial, but It Not Looked Upon as a Permanent Feature of Racing.

NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—A rumor has been in circulation among local turfmen that the state racing commission will exercise more authority in the general supervision of the sport in this state next year than ever before and that incidentally the members of the commission, James Wadsworth, John Sanford and W. C. Knapp, will recommend largely to the Jockey club that the walkup system of starting be adopted without further delay. Just who started this rumor nobody seemed to know, but influential turfmen, when asked for an opinion declared that the state racing commission had no power to act and that its duties were limited solely to the granting of race track licenses.

As a matter of fact, these turfmen insisted that the stewards of the Jockey club reached their conclusion last September and intended to make an immediate change at that time, but after deliberation it was concluded that such a change would cause no end of confusion at the barrier because of the fact that 80 per cent of the horses had not been schooled in the new method. It was also stated this week that before Mrs. Cassidy finished his work with the rate here a few weeks ago he was notified that he could operate with the walkup next March and that it would be well for him to employ this method at New Orleans where he will handle the barrier all winter. Cassidy has always been a strong advocate of the walkup system, so that under the present plans he will be expected to show a vast improvement in his work, which at times has not been satisfactory. In the opinion of the racing public, this was not a permanent feature.

Not a Permanent Feature

But while it is said that the Jockey club stewards have yielded to an alleged clamor the fact remains that there are many conservative horsemen, who believe that the walkup system is not a permanent fixture. These men have insisted all along that the walkup starting would afford an immense advantage for quick breakers at the post, while horses not inclined to get away at a given signal would be so hopelessly handicapped that they would have practically no chance to make up lost ground. This has always been the contention of some of the biggest betters on the eastern turf, and as these speculators usually study every angle of racing with extreme care it is thought that some attention should be paid to those operations. The fact that the public has seen some superb starting in years gone by with the flatfooted break, as executed by C. J. Fitzgerald, A. H. Dade and Jake Holtman, would not seem to indicate that a change in the walkup will be beneficial. The light of a means of improving the work of Starter Cassidy, Holtman, who started at Empire City last summer, employed both systems, with the result that racegoers who were not slow in declaring that the best results accrued from the standing break.

Crooked Racing Under Fire

The starting system, however, is not the most important matter to be considered by the Jockey club stewards this winter. In view of the erratic racing of the past season, which caused all sorts of unpleasant criticism, it is generally believed that the Jockey club will look into the advisability of having more competent officials in the stewards' stands in future. That a more efficient supervision of racing is necessary in future is a self-evident truth, but just at present the proposition to employ "professional stewards" is not regarded with particular favor by the powers that be. The Jockey club never does things in a hurry, but when action is finally taken the turf is usually benefited.

BUSY DAYS FOR THE TRAINERS

Much Work Before the Races Are Cooled Out. NEW YORK, Dec. 14.—Although active racing for the season has ended in the east, the activity of trainers and their help about the stables has by no means suspended.

In the next few weeks to come owners and trainers of the better class of horses will have to decide about the candidates for the classic handicaps of 1908. Nominations to the trio of \$25,000 races must be made by January 1, and it is a subject of much study, especially with owners of big strings, to decide just what shall be honored by a nomination to one or more of the classics. Paying for tickets in races of this kind means a big drain financially, but few owners care to risk leaving out a horse that may develop into a high class handicap performer. Very frequently it

CROW OF BELLEVUE AND THE TEAM'S MASCOT.