

ARE NEGRO FIGHTERS GAME?

Majority Accused of Having a Wide Yellow Streak.

RECORDS OF LEADERS IN RING

Jack Johnson, the Champion, Branded in England as a Coward—Tom Molineux Probably the Finest.

NEW YORK, June 13.—The heard considerable gossip about the real gameness of the present champion, Jack Johnson, among the fight experts lately, says the veteran New York sport, while discussing the courage of black pugilists the other day.

"Of course there have been some negroes who have stood the gaff and have taken a good wallop, but the majority of them, when put to the test, usually show a yellow streak. Johnson's record doesn't prove that he is a game fellow, for he fought about sixteen draws in which some of his opponents were only second and third-rate.

"We can tell more about Johnson's gameness, though, after he meets Stanley Ketchel and Jim Jeffries. This pair will knock the big negro's ability to take punishment, for there is no doubt that Ketchel or Jeff can stand the gaff. Both have been in hard, grueling mills and have never shown the white feather.

Gamest of the Lot. "Tom Molineux, the American black," as he was called in England, was probably the gamest negro in the history of the prize ring. After defeating Tom Blake in eight rounds away back in 1810, he was matched to battle with the great Tom Cribb, the champion of all England at the time.

"If there ever was a negro who could scrap like a bulldog, it was Joe Walcott, the Giant Killer. But when things weren't going his way he used to lie down quickly. His seconds had a hard time to keep him in the ring when he was defeated by Kid Lavigne in fifteen rounds at Maspeth in 1885, yet two years later he stopped Lavigne in two rounds in France. Don't you remember how Walcott quit cold to Tony West in Madison Square Garden in the eleventh round? I thought he had West beaten to a standstill when suddenly Joe took to the woods and refused to go on.

"One night Walcott sent Mysterious Billy Smith into dreamland at the Broadway Athletic club. It was a corking knockout and Smith did not come to for at least ten minutes. By that time the crowd had left the building and many of the lights had been turned out. Smith looked about in a half-dazed sort of a way and asked one of his seconds if he had been knocked out.

"Where's that black demon? demanded the Mysterious One as he jumped to his feet in the fifth and won the sixth in fifteen rounds.

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DECLINE OF THE HOME RUN

Round Trip Drives Less Frequent Than They Were.

NOW NOT NEEDED TO WIN GAMES

Scientific Development of Base Ball Assigned as a Reason for Fewer Four Baggers—Harry Davis' Notable Record.

NEW YORK, June 13.—In 1901, 221 home runs were made in the National League; in 1908 there were only 181. In 1902 in the American League, there were 203 home runs; in 1908 there were only 118. In 1902 the National League had just been raided of many of its best players by the American League, and made only ninety-six home runs; so for the purposes of comparison the home run hitting of the present day and that of the early 1900s, 1901 in the National League, and 1902 in the American League, and 1902 would serve for both were it not for the fact that the National League was suffering most just then from the depletion in its ranks of sluggers caused by American League inroads.

The point is that the drives to the boundaries for the entire circuit are not so frequent by a good deal as they were seven or eight years ago. The records will show a falling off in number of home runs, both collectively and individually. Why the home run has declined in the making of the stalwart drives, which sent the batter clear around?

Reasons for the Change. Different experts give different reasons. One attributes the falling off to the advent of the four strike rule and the spit ball, saying these measures tend to discourage a batsman from taking the free, unstrained swing that he would, did he not have strikes harked to him when he fouls the ball. Another says the outfielders are governed more by the aspects and phases of the game than they used to be. Team work, the hit and run and sacrifice and more to be considered.

Another expert thinks the pitchers of the present study the batters more carefully than did their predecessors, and, sutting their pitching to the individual batsman, increase their (the pitchers') effectiveness. The foul strike rule, he thinks, too, tends to decrease the number of home runs, and the construction of playing fields may bear on the subject. All of which is in line with the scientific development of the game in the present century.

Facts for the Fans. However, whatever may be the merits of theories there are facts regarding home runs since the existence of the two present big leagues, which furnish palatable food for the fan. A confirmed statistician could take the subject and explore it to the end of his days and still find it new.

It will be noted in going over the records for the last eight years that the men who have made the most home runs a season are not always those who make the most base hits. A quantity of home runs doesn't necessarily imply a big batting average. Tim Jordan, who made twelve home runs, ranked only forty-sixth in batting, with an average of .317. Yet frequently the men who made many home runs ranked high. A man who can put enough force into his swing to drive the ball out for the circuit frequently must have some batting ability.

Among the batters who have made six or more home runs in a season there has been one who was an out, or poor batter. The most remarkable home run pitcher of the eight-year period referred to is Harry Davis of the Philadelphia Athletics. He is a hard hitter, in a double sense—one who makes many hits and one who lands on the ball hard. He has a slow, powerful swing, the sort that sends the ball flying to the outfield and averages it goes. Such a hitter is Wagner and several others who get many hits because of power rather than accuracy in meeting the ball and thus sending it swiftly. In fact, such men as Wagner and Davis have a good deal of home run, while batters such as Kester and Beaton represent the type who have the keen eyes and a swing adjusted to meet the ball squarely.

What Leaders Have Done. Last year was the first in eight years that Davis didn't make six home runs of more. See his remarkable record: 1901, 12; 1902, 16; 1903, 16; 1904, 12; 1905, 12; 1906, 12; 1907, 12; 1908, 12. Yet not once in that time did Davis' league hit more in batting. In 1907 he ranked as low as fourth, with an average of .366. Tim Jordan twice has made twelve home runs in a season and without being in the 300 class either time. He made a dozen in 1905 with a percentage of .347. He ranked forty-sixth among the National league batters in 1908. Paul Seybold, a slugger in 1908, made eight home runs in one year, sixteen in another, eight in another and six in another. Ed Deleahanty cared the sixth in another for eight homers in 1901 and home runs in one game.

The old timer Chas. Jones once made two home runs in an inning of Pitcher Tommy Poorman. Sam Crawford and Seybold top the list for the number of homers in one season—sixteen. Crawford made six in 1905 and seven in 1908. Bill Hitchman, who made six last year, stood eighth-six among the batters and his percentage of safe hits was only .231. Bucky Freeman clouted for a dozen baggers in 1903. A rare record for consecutive years. He had the advantage of the short left fence in Boston. So have others had the benefit of convenient fences or bleachers. Charley Hickman, a slugger and simple, gathered ten home runs in 1902, eleven in 1903 and nine in 1905. Lumley of Brooklyn is a powerful long distance hitter, having seven homers to his credit in 1906. In 1906 and nine in 1907. The great Wagner swung a mighty club for six four baggers in 1901, six in 1907 and ten in 1908.

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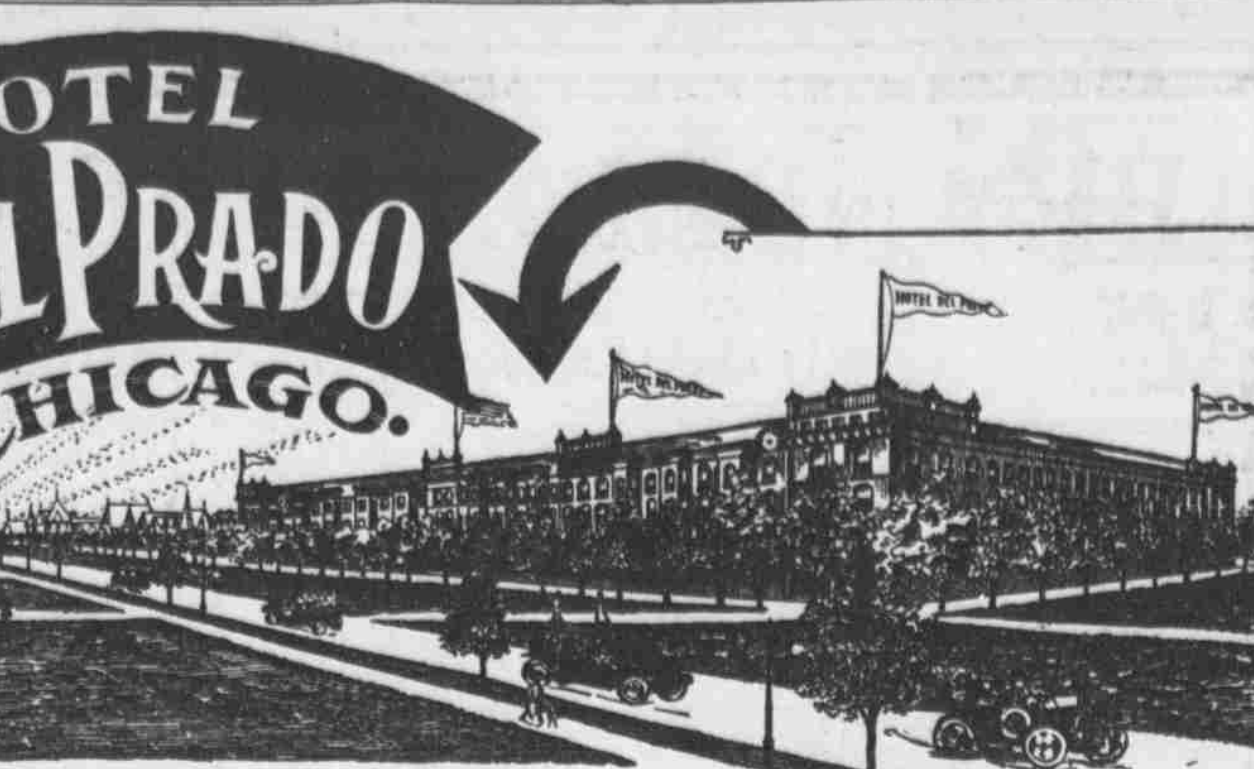
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HOLLY LEADS LEAGUE AT BAT

Omaha Has Four Other Men Above the Coveted 300 Mark.

ROURKES LEAD IN INSIDE GAME

Fisher is King Base Stealer and Penalty Sacrifice—Keelley Only Pitcher Who Has Not Lost Game Thus Far.

Five Omaha men are still above the 300 mark, with Hollenbeck in the lead of all the hitters in the league. Several batters have passed Welch and King, who were the leaders last week, and Welch has passed King in the number of his made. Welch is batting .351 and King .345. Schipke is above the 300 mark with 314, having made twenty-two hits since joining the Rourke family a couple of weeks ago.

HERE ARE THE LEAGUE AVERAGES

Table with columns for Player Name, Team, AB, R, H, AV, PO, A, E, AV. Lists batting averages for various players across different teams like Omaha, Lincoln, and Waterloo.



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IOWA SEES HOPE FOR TEAM

Alumni Will Assist Effort to Beat Out Waning Eleven.

IOWA CITY, Ia., June 12.—(Special.) Alumni from the four corners of the state of Iowa will flock back to the university next fall to help John G. Griffith, the captain of the famous 1909 team, coach the 1909 eleven, in an effort to regain a footing among the leading western institutions of foot ball. Not since the days of Dr. Kulp have the Hawkeyes possessed a winning team, and Griffith, the first of the alumni coaches, will endeavor to perfect a material success on October 3.

San Hobbs, one of the best halfbacks Iowa ever had, will aid Griffith. He is a close student of the new game. Edson will be on hand and help Griffith with the backs. "Moresy" Eby, the greatest tackle Iowa ever had for his weight, will assist Griffith in developing the line men, and Edson will be in charge of the line. A distant coach, Frank Moore, center of the '06 eleven, will be in the College of Medicine and Hastings, star lineman for the last three years, will be in the College of Law. Both these ex-stars will be valuable assistants in coaching the forwards.

CHANCE GETS A COLLEGE PITCHER

Secures Nourse of Browns, Who Has Beaten All Colleges.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., June 12.—Pitcher Chester L. Nourse of the Brown university base ball team, has been signed by the Chicago National league club and will report to Manager Frank Leroy Chance within a month. Nourse has been pitching great ball for Brown this spring. On April 14, he shut out the Amherst agricultural college without a hit and twice defeated Harvard, giving them only two hits in one of the games. It is said that he will receive one of the largest salaries ever paid a college pitcher breaking into big league ball.

S.S.S. HEALS

SORES AND ULCERS

S.S.S. heals Sores and Ulcers in the very simplest way. It just goes right down into the blood and removes the cause, and the place is bound to heal because the impurities and noxious matters which have been the means of keeping the ulcer open are no longer absorbed from the blood. External applications of salves, lotions, plasters, etc., can never produce a cure because they do not reach the source of the trouble. At best they can only allay pain or reduce inflammation; such treatment is working on symptoms and not reaching the cause. Every nutritive corpuscle in the blood is weakened or infected; they cannot nourish the fibrous tissue around the place, but instead they constantly discharge into the flesh around the sore a quantity of impure, germ-laden matter which gradually eats into the surrounding healthy tissue and causes the ulcer to enlarge. Since impure blood is responsible for Sores and Ulcers, a medicine that can purify the blood is the only hope of a cure. S.S.S. has long been recognized as the greatest of all blood purifiers, possessing the qualities necessary to remove every impurity from the blood. While curing the sore or ulcer S.S.S. brings about a healthy condition of the flesh by supplying it with rich, healthy blood, and thus makes the cure permanent and lasting. Book on Sores and Ulcers and any medicine advice free to a who writes. THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.