

# Pa Rourke's Players Now Threaten to Become Hold-Outs Gophers Admit Cornhuskers Are Too Tough for Mere Practice

## Rourke Players Hold Gophers Want to Cut Back Waiting for the Cornhusker Game Off Feds to Make Offers the Foot Ball Schedule

Pa Rourke chortled—actually chortled—as he let out the news that he hadn't yet received a signed contract of all he had sent out. Several had been sent back to him unsigned, which he takes as indicating that the players he lays claim to feel they are good enough to get attention from the Feds. No one knows as yet how many of them have tied up with Mr. Gilmore's league, but everyone who does go will be looked upon as an advertisement of the fact that Omaha had some ball players here last season, for the Feds are going to be a "major" league and not a collection of bushers. If you don't believe this, ask 'em.

But setting Federal league aside Pa is jubilant. The team will be hardly recognizable, according to Pa, because of the new blood, but that is cause for optimism rather than pessimism as the indolent, passive spirit which was paramount among several of the players last year will be conspicuous by its absence when the Rourke trot out onto the field at four bells next year.

By JAMES E. LAWRENCE.  
LINCOLN, Jan. 24.—(Special.)—Nebraska's foot ball relations with the University of Minnesota, the biggest game on the Cornhusker schedule, are seriously menaced by the refusal of the Gopher management to agree to a contract to play off the Minnesota grounds. In fact, the breach has widened between the two schools to such an extent that it would not be surprising if the Cornhuskers and Gophers failed to meet on the gridiron in 1914, and thereafter, until the Minnesota management is willing to grant Nebraska concessions in the scheduling of the games.

It is the attitude of the Minnesota authorities that Nebraska is much too strong to be played as a practice game—the Gophers already have Chicago, Wisconsin and Illinois as Western conference opponents and unless the Cornhuskers agree to play on foreign grounds all of the time, where the chances of victory are greatly minimized, the Gophers do not care to take them on. When Stiehm started his negotiations for the 1914 schedule the Cornhuskers were offered a one-year contract for October 17, 1914. The contract stipulated the game was to be played in Minnesota.

# SPORTS SECTION of THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, JANUARY 25, 1914.

## Two Omaha Teams for the Minneapolis Tournament



### COMMERCIAL BOYS ACTIVE

Basket Ball League of Business Fellows Playing Consistently.

STANDING ABOUT THE SAME

Various Teams Playing Hard and Only One Creeps Up Notch—Linn Leads as Individual Player.

Team	P.	W.	L.	Pct.
Magee & Deemer	4	0	1,990	
Benson's Pirates	5	1	384	
Omaha High School	5	2	509	
Nebraska Telephone Co.	5	2	509	
Bellevue College	5	2	509	
Omaha National Bank	6	1	186	
See Publishing Co.	4	0	500	

Play in the Commercial Basketball league has settled down to the steady work of eliminating the weaker teams in the organization, for the relative strength of each of the quintets has been shown, as practically all of the teams have met each other at least once in the scheduled contests. There is a possibility of the weaker teams coming to the forefront, as more than six weeks of scheduled games are yet to be played, but the manner in which the first division teams are drawing ahead seems to offer little encouragement to the trailing quintets. The talented teams are making desperate efforts to regain their former positions. New players and more practice are having their effect, with the result that these teams are slowly coming to the front.

The quality of the basketball played is on a much higher plane than it was during the earlier part of the season. The games during the last few weeks clearly bring this out, for the contests all resulted in close victories.

Save for the changing of the Nebraska Telephone company from fifth to fourth place in the league standing, comparatively little change took place.

Linn Leads as Individual.

Linn of the Pirates is leading the league with the greatest number of points made, having seventy-three to his credit during the six games in which he took part. The center up to date has thirty-four field goals and eight foul goals. Burkenroad of the same team follows next with a total of sixty-nine points to his credit. Burkenroad is leading the league in the

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### Pennsylvania Town Leads Rifle Match at Washington City

WASHINGTON, Jan. 24.—Warren, Pa. leads class A of the National Gallery Inter-Club Championship Rifle matches this week, displacing the District of Columbia, by defeating them 924 to 901. Kings Mills, O., and Stillwater, Minn., are tied for first honors in class B.

The scores:

Class A—Cleveland, O., 989, against Adrian, Mich., 971.

Warren, Pa., 994, against District of Columbia, 991.

Bucyrus, O., 991, against Dickinson, N. D., 988.

Manchester, N. H., 969, against Milwaukee, Wis., 968.

Birmingham, Ala., 990, against Milwaukee Rifle, 948.

St. Paul, Minn., 964, against Tacoma, Wash., 959.

Bridgport, Conn., 964, against Youngstown, O., 941.

Class B—Kings Mills, O., 988, against New Orleans, 987.

Madison, Wis., 960, against San Francisco, 957.

Stillwater, Minn., 975, against Hopkins, Minn., 952.

Marion, O., 970, against Bedford, O., 949.

Walden, Colo., 975, against Rochester, N. Y., 901.

Minneapolis, Minn., 965, against Helena, Mont., 962.

Boston, Mass., 953, against Louisville, Ky., 930.

### WOLGAST HAS BETTER OF GO

Men Fight Each Other All Over the Ring from Start to Finish.

RIVERS CAN'T OVERCOME LEAD

Ad Splits Opponent's Nose and Mouth in Second and Keeps Peppering Away at the Bruises—Both Are Hissed.

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 24.—Ad Wolgast of Cadillac, Mich., former lightweight champion, had the better of Joe Rivers of Los Angeles, Cal., in a ten-round bout here last night.

From the tap of the gong to the end the men fought each other all over the ring, with the Michigan boxer doing most of the leading. It was this continual boring-in and clever in-fighting which gave Wolgast his second victory over the Californian.

Wolgast gained a clear lead early and Joe was never able to overcome it. Ad had the better of the second, third, ninth and tenth rounds, while Rivers gained shades in the fourth and eighth. The other rounds were even.

Rivers bled profusely throughout the ten rounds. Ad split his opponent's nose and mouth in the second round and kept peppering away at the bruises.

Twice during the fight Wolgast went to the floor by missing swings and each time Joe fell on top of him.

Both were hissed for rough tactics.

### Looks Like a Fight.

Pa views with glee his new infield lineup, consisting of entirely new players. There will be need in that infield, the kind of speed that wins tight games in which both pitchers are twisting shit out ball and that is what the fans as well as Rourke demand. With base runners of ability on the paths and with Pa on the bench to see that they go down at the first opportunity, base ball in Omaha should assume the fighting qualities of big league base ball. Every one of the newcomers with the exception of Ward is noted for speed, and Ward is no slouch. Chase, the youngster, who will in all probability play first base, possesses all kinds of speed and covers all the ground in sight between the foul line and second base. No ground balls will get past Chase, which fact is responsible for many a contented sigh from the fans as they contemplate the 1914 lineup. Chase is also quite nimble on the paths and it takes rapid team work between catcher and pitcher to prevent his stealing bases. The first sacker is a bit weak with the stick, but Rourke asserts that he will be satisfied with steady, consistent hitting with a fair average, as he has tried the heavy hitting, but poor fielding first baseman for four years and it has been an unsuccessful method.

### TYRUS SPURNS THE OFFER OF FEDERAL LEAGUE FORTUNE.



Ty Cobb, the sensational outfielder of the Detroit Tigers, who has decided that a contract calling for \$12,500 a year in the American league is a whole lot stronger security than the Federal league's offer of \$15,000 a year to perform in the outlaw circuit.

### ZEIDER WANTED THIRD BAG

Player Also Demanded \$5,000 from New York Americans.

### YANKEES REFUSED THE TERMS

This is said to be his reason for signing contract with Chicago Federal—Sweeney Filtrix with Buffalo Feds.

CHICAGO, Jan. 24.—Rollie Zeider, who is reported to have joined the Chicago Federal, refused an offer of \$4,000 salary to sign with the New York Americans. Zeider wanted \$5,000 and a chance to play third, but Arthur Irwin, representing the Yankees, would not grant the difference in money, nor, with Malsel's prospects of another good year at third, would he promise Zeider an opening there. These facts were given out today by Irwin.

Reports that Catcher Sweeney of the same club had gone to Buffalo to talk with the Federal leaders of that city were denied, and the appearance here today of R. T. Carroll, the Buffalo backer, and Manager Larry Schifly bore out the denial. Neither of the Buffalo men had any announcement to make.

Much speculation followed the arrival at Federal league headquarters of a large envelope addressed to Charles Weeghman, the local magnate, and bearing the printed name of Charles Ebbets of the Brooklyn Nationals. Weeghman was expected at the headquarters later in the day.

Harry Johnson of Chicago, has accepted terms as umpire in the National league. Johnson was with the Three-I league last year and with the Western league in 1912.

The signed contract of "Tex" Russell, pitcher, was received at the offices of the Chicago American league club today.

Ward Miller, former Cub outfielder, today admitted at his home in Dixon, Ill., that he had signed with the St. Louis Federal League club. He said he will receive a splendid increase in salary and that his contract is for three years.

A story printed here today to the effect that Charles Weeghman would withdraw from the Federal league, but the St. Paul franchise of the American association and place the club in Chicago was denied by all concerned who could be found this afternoon. The story said that Weeghman and some of the association magnates agreed on terms for the transfer at a secret meeting here.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 24.—Chester Chadbourne, outfielder of the Portland team of the Pacific Coast Base Ball league, signed today a contract to play three years with the Kansas City Federal. It was understood his salary would be \$2,000 a year.

### Base Ball Field for Convicts in Colorado

DENVER, Jan. 24.—A six-acre base ball and athletic field built for and by convicts with accommodations for the general public as well as convicts as spectators is the latest reform in prison management planned by Tom Tynan, warden of the Colorado state penitentiary to be opened this spring.

"To build up a man mentally and morally," said Tynan in announcing the innovation, "I know from experience you have to build him up physically."

The ball players and athletes who are to be allowed to the field are those who cannot be trusted to work in the road gangs, at the prison ranches, or to join the fishing parties the warden allows his honor men.

Permission to use the field must be earned by good conduct, which will be marked by the presentation of an honor button. The button admits the bearer to the field or to the grand stand.

The public will be admitted there. Provisions will be made to prevent breaks for liberty.

After the base ball season closes foot ball team will use the field and a basket ball season will follow.

### MORDECAI BROWN CONFERS WITH AL BRIDWELL

CINCINNATI, O., Jan. 24.—Mordecai Brown, manager of the St. Louis Federal league club, arrived in Cincinnati today and held a conference with Al Bridwell, the Chicago National league club's shortstop. Neither Brown nor Bridwell would give out a statement after their meeting. Bridwell's appearance here today was unexpected.

### FAIRBURY BOYS' AND GIRLS' TEAMS EACH WIN GAME

FAIRBURY, Neb., Jan. 24.—(Special.)—The Fairbury boys' and girls' high school basketball teams won a double-header yesterday. The first game of the evening was played between the Fairbury and Alexandria boys' high school teams and resulted in a victory of 43 to 34 in favor of Fairbury. Holeman was the star player of the Fairbury team and his work was responsible in a large measure for Fairbury's victory. Principal Hare of the high school was referee.

The game between the Fairbury and Beatrice girls' teams was fast and resulted in a close victory for the Fairbury five by a score of 22 to 16. Misses Alice Hurlless and Dorothy Collier did splendid goal throwing for Fairbury. Miss Beulah Hader of the Beatrice school refereed the girls' game.

### Creighton Foot Ball Schedule Now Being Completed by Miller

Work on the Creighton university foot ball schedule for next year is progressing rapidly since the return of Coach Harry Miller from his home at Defiance, O. Several contracts have been signed and the dates set, while the remainder of the schedule will be finished up in short order.

South Dakota state university will again appear in Omaha turkey day as Creighton's opponent, and the affair will probably be made annual.

The Haskell Indians will appear in Omaha, October 17, the local management being well pleased with the outcome of last year's game. Creighton and the Braves will probably stage an annual contest in Omaha, as Haskell plays many of its important games at Lawrence, Kan.

The Marquette game will be played in Milwaukee this year on November 7. Coach Miller having fixed the date on his way back from Defiance.

A game will be played with Nebraska Wesleyan, but no date has been set. Negotiations have been on for a game with Denver university at Denver, but no agreeable date could be set and all negotiations have been called off. There is still a possibility that Creighton will meet the University of Colorado, either at Denver or here.

### PITTSBURGH-ST LOUIS TRADE IS COMPLETED

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Jan. 24.—President Barney Dreyfus of the Pittsburgh National league team late today received the signed contract of "Bob" Harmon. This completes the trio Pittsburgh secured in a trade from St. Louis; Konetsky and Mowrey having been in their signed contracts. Alexander McCarthy, a substitute infielder wired Dreyfus today that his signed contract was on the way.

Mr. Dreyfus staid tonight that he wired Claude Hendrix, stating that the offer made by Fred Clark to Hendrix on January 12 at Kansas City, was recalled. This means another contract will be sent to Hendrix. It is said Hendrix will be offered no increase in salary over last year.

### WEST ONCE MORE SHOWS ATHLETIC SUPERIORITY

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—For the first time in the history of the game in this country, the national doubles racquet championship went to the west. J. W. Wear and Dwight F. Davis of St. Louis won the final match here today from last year's champions, George R. Fearing and H. B. Scott of Boston. The scores: 12-15, 6-15, 15-3, 15-6, 15-11, 15-4.

York Looking for Players.

YORK, Neb., Jan. 24.—(Special.)—York's base ball team for the coming season will have Rice, Mulvey, Osborn, Williams and Clark, all of last year's club. Contracts have been sent to Swamy, Mattick, Laise and Brown. Manager Pierce is on the lookout for a few more good players. The board has decided that who want to try out will have to pay their own expenses while in the city.

## COIN BEHIND FEDERALS COULD MAKE JOKE OF ORGANIZED BASE BALL

Plenty of Money Would Make a Laughing Stock of American and National Leagues.

MIGHTY TOY WITH THE CLAUSE

Reserve Clause Would Be Powerless, Even Though Legal.

PLAYERS COULD WAIT A YEAR

Feds Might Pay Salaries Until Expiration of Reserve Clause.

EASY TO GET REAL PLAYERS

Expenditure of Money for Salaries Will Bring Star Players and Star Players Will Bring Good Patronage.

NEW YORK, Jan. 24.—If the Federal league really have sufficient backing to buck the majors, it would be rather expensive policy for either the National or the American league to incur the players' enmity. Of course the validity of the reserve clause will determine much if the battle is ever taken to the courts; but even so, the Federals don't have to wait for any court rulings to go ahead with their plans. Supposing they have the money, it is within their power to make a joke of organized base ball, maybe not now, but in the future. Say, for instance, that the courts ruled the reserve clause was valid. A change of that character wouldn't prevent the Federal leaguers from grabbing the big league stars.

A base ball man stated that in his opinion the Federal leaguers could go into a city like Brooklyn, grabbing the star players and paying them to keep out of base ball until their contracts expired. In this way they wouldn't come into contact with the reserve clause. The ball player could retire temporarily from base ball. The law doesn't say that he has to play if he don't want to, and in that way his employer could have no come back at him. But to do this would take a mint of money. Then, again, the Federal leaguers have another line of attack. After a ball player's contract expires the only alternative he has is to sign up with his league or quit the game. But with a third league in the field a different point comes up.

It would then be possible for the Federal leaguers to obtain good players without asking them to jump contracts. As soon as players' contracts expire the Federal leaguers could make inducements without the possibility of getting themselves into legal entanglements. All the Federal league has to do is strengthen its foothold and plod along spending money right and left to strengthen its forces. Once it establishes itself, getting real players won't be such a hard problem, especially if they can show the money. And if they ever are successful in getting the real stars, it's a certainty that they will obtain the patronage.

It is rather early to make a forecast of what this muddle will result in. The issue merely depends on the monetary resources of the Federals. If they have money enough to carry on a war against organized base ball they will be in a position to establish themselves.

A third league, established on a major league basis, certainly would be a big thing for the players. Though they aren't saying very much, it is a pretty sure thing that the big club owners will do everything in their power to prevent anybody else from "butting in."

### Creighton Likely Not to Have Ball Team This Season

Creighton university will probably have no varsity base ball team this spring, according to a statement by the athletic manager.

"From the present outlook I don't see how we can have a varsity team," he said. "The students of the professional department, from whom a whirlwind varsity team could be recruited, are dismissed from classes late in April, and whatever team we would have must necessarily be confined to the students of the arts college.

The difficulty was overcome last year by the players of the professional department, who stayed after their terms were through and played the season out. Kelly, McKee and Russett played through the entire season, although students of the medical college, but this trio will probably enter organized base ball. Pass, McGuire and Coody, also members of last year's team, will likely be themselves to salaried company as soon as possible this year.

Miller, who played a part of last year with the squad, has signed with Ohio State and graduates from pharmacy in February.

The Creighton management states that there may be no park left by spring if something is not done to stop the youngsters from destroying the grandstands, bleachers and fences. A small army of them consider it their duty to prepare lookouts for next season, and have made a regular sieve of the fence by the artistic use of hot irons. Small parts of the grandstand have also suffered as a result of fires. The matter has been reported to the juvenile authorities.

### Base Ball Player Heir to Big Estate

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Jan. 24.—Inquiries are being made here for Catcher "Tub" Spencer, released by the San Francisco Coast league club last season, and who has fallen heir to a large estate. So far the search for the ball player has been without result. The property was left by Spencer's father, a wealthy resident of Scranton, Pa., who died recently.



HEINIE ZIM TIES UP FOR NEXT THREE YEARS.

Heinie Zimmerman, the hard hitting third baseman of the Chicago Cubs, who has signed a three years' contract calling for him to continue his services as the star umpire batter of Charley Murphy's payroll.