

GOTHAM GETS INFO ON ONE J. STECHER

Jack Curley and Yousiff Hussane Return to New York and Spill News to Damon Runyan.

AND DAMON PUTS IT IN PAPER

When Jack Curley and Yousiff Hussane returned to New York following Hussane's trimming at the hands of Joe Stecher at Lincoln on T. A.'s living, Damon Runyan, one of the cleverest sport writers in the metropolis, dropped in on Curley and the Turk and the following was the result.

Stecher some wrestler. Yousiff Hussane, the Turk wrestler, and Jack Curley, his manager, have returned from Lincoln, Neb., where Hussane was beaten on Thanksgiving day by Joe Stecher, the new western mat marvel.

Stecher won in two straight falls, devoting about four minutes to the subject of the suit the first time and slightly more than that for the second fall.

When interrogated about the matter up in Curley's office, Hussane walked the floor, flailing the air above his head with his arms.

"Oh-o-o-o, I am so nervous!" he said. "Oh-o-o-o-yes, yes! Sometimes it happens. I do not know. No! I am so nervous! Hussane, he is defeat in nine minutes. What a business is that! It is better that I be drunk. I could not have done worse. Nine minutes! Hussane! Oh-o-o-o! I am so nervous!"

"He hasn't quite recovered yet," said Curley. "Stecher got him with a scissor hold for the first fall—that hold with the two legs around the body which the Nebraska has perfected to murderous efficiency. The second time Hussane got behind him, and was working on him, when suddenly one of Stecher's ham-like hands shot out, grasping Hussane around the wrist, and threw him around in the air. It was all over so quickly that I could scarcely realize what had happened. As for Hussane—well, you see him."

"I am so nervous," said Hussane, walking the floor. "Hussane is a good wrestler, and had you told me any man in the world could throw him twice in nine minutes, I'd have laughed at you," continued Curley. "This Stecher is the greatest wrestler I've ever seen. In my opinion, he is the greatest anybody has ever seen. If ever he meets Gotch, he and probably will within the next year, out around Omaha. I'm going to bet all I can borrow or beg on Stecher."

"I should shoot as well be drunk; I could not have done worse," insisted Hussane. "Joe is a farmer. Stecher is 23 years old, and was born and reared in the little town of Dodge, Neb.," resumed Curley. "I never heard of Dodge before in my life until I heard Stecher, but I think he can, it will be one of the most wonderful accomplishments in the history of wrestling."

"Stecher is not an exceedingly big fellow, being of medium height and weighing about 150 pounds, but he is amazingly strong and fast on the mat. All his preliminary wrestling was done with his brother and sister out on the farm. They tell me his sister can easily throw the average wrestler."

"The scissors hold apparently came natural to Stecher, but he has perfected it in many ways. When he trains he takes a sack stuffed full of wheat and straddles it, bringing the pressure of his legs to bear upon it until the bag bursts. I've heard it said, too, that he used to straddle cows and horses, and crumple them up by the terrific pressure of his limbs; but this story sounds a bit far fetched."

"Stecher has never wrestled an exhibition. When he steps on the mat he is out to win, and he wins so quickly that it really isn't much of a show. He has thrown eight men in seventy-eight minutes in his last eight matches—sixteen falls. Why, any man in this wrestling tournament would be glad to trade with Stecher, and I think he can, it will be one of the most wonderful accomplishments in the history of wrestling."

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HE WILL COACH THE OMAHA UNI BASKET BALL TEAM



William E. Koran

TOSSERS OF HIGH HAVE LARGE TASK

Basket Ball Schedule Ahead of Mulligan's Men Calls for Much Work.

STARS ARE OUT FOR PRACTICE

All the basket ball aspirants of the Central High school will use the weekend to recuperate from the week of strenuous training, given by Coach Mulligan, and picking promising men out of a squad of more than thirty-five men. The big "dark horse," so far has been George Yardley, who came here this year from Oak Park High, Chicago. He is showing up in fine form and will probably be used at either center or forward. In case he proves good at center, Paynter will be shifted to a forward.

Clyde Smith, who came from Fort Dodge, Ia., and proved a star at right end on the foot ball team is also showing up well in practice. Eugene Maxwell, who played last year on the Beatrice High basket ball five at guard, is the third new man to make a good impression.

Besides these men the coach has Grove, Patten, Logan, Weirich, Fullaway, Crowley, Nichols, Macfarland and Geisler, first string substitutes and second team men left over from last year to pick from. One of the strongest schedules that could be made has been lined up for this year. Lincoln and Sioux City will be played twice. Besides these, Kansas City (Mo.) Manual High, St. Joseph, Council Bluffs, South Omaha, Beatrice, University Place, Fort Dodge (Ia.), Nebraska City and York, will be on the schedule.

The game with Kansas City Manual High is considered one of the biggest games of the year. They will play here on January 15. Both Omaha High and the Kansas City teams play the night before. Kansas City playing Lincoln at Lincoln, and Omaha playing University Place High at University Place. Besides these games the high school will enter their first team in the Tri-City league, and a second team in the Commercial league. No games will be scheduled after the state tournament at Lincoln in March, on account of the lack of interest shown so late in the season.

Reason for Taking Money from Horse Not Yet Learned

Tom Dennison, present owner of Hal McKinney, well known racing stallion, is still awaiting information as to why the board of appeals of the American Trotting association decided that the money which the horse won at Beatrice last June must be redistributed. Pending receipt of such information further negotiations relating to match races between Hal McKinney and Columbia Five have been postponed.

At the time of the Beatrice race Hal McKinney was owned by Clark and Sebastian of Hemet, Cal. Why the board of appeals held that the horse's winnings there are illegal has not yet been revealed.

If press dispatches are correct the amount of his Beatrice winnings must be paid to the association before the horse can be started again.

Can't Shoot Ducks From a Motor

TOPEKA, Kan., Dec. 11.—The Kansas supreme court today held that the state law forbidding shooting of wild ducks from a motor boat is valid exercise of the police power of the state, notwithstanding that the state and federal laws regarding the shooting of birds conflict.

In regard to the federal statute the court held: "Congress has no power to prescribe regulations or the protection of migratory birds while within the boundary of the state. The natural flight of wild fowl from point to point does not constitute commerce."

FORMER HUSKER STAR MARRIES IN ILLINOIS

Harry R. Minor, star halfback on the Cornhusker eleven of 1907, '08 and '09 and also member of the Nebraska basket ball and track teams, will be married today to Miss Jessie Marguerite Riner at Mason City, Ill.

Minor, who is a former Lincoln boy and a crack athlete at the Lincoln High school, has been assistant manager of the Redpath-Hornor chautauqua at Kansas City for the last five years, but after his wedding will go to California as manager for the Redpath circuit in that state.

Minor graduated from Nebraska in 1911. He was a member of the Delta Upsilon fraternity.

Stovall at Newark. A dispatch from San Francisco says that George Stovall expects to manage the Newark Reds in 1915.

SUGGEST FOUR MEN TO SUCCEED JUMBO

Bill Roper, Jess Harper, Gil Dobie and Bennie Owen Names Before Nebraska Athletic Board.

ANY ONE WOULD MAKE GOOD

By JAMES E. LAWRENCE. LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 11.—(Special.)—Five years of successful foot ball and the University of Nebraska is back again where it started in 1910. Alumni and undergraduates of the Cornhusker institution have not recovered their breath yet from the shock of Jumbo Stiehm's sudden jump to the University of Indiana.

The athletic board is bravely going about the task, and a very difficult task it is, of filling the shoes of the most successful coach the state university ever had. The faculty members of the board realize they have banded in letting Stiehm transfer his affections to the Hoosier institution, but there is an aggressive move on foot to secure a competent man to fill the place and there are admittedly many competent men who can turn out wonderful eleven's with the splendid material which Nebraska has on hand and which will be coming to the university in the next few years.

The first conference of the athletic board has been called for next Monday noon when preliminary steps will be taken to fill the vacancy without any delay. There are four names before the athletic board, any one of which would be very acceptable at Nebraska, but it is not known whether their services are available or not.

Bill Roper, ex-Princeton star, who coached Missouri into her only Missouri valley championship the year he was at the helm of athletics at the Tiger institution and who gave Princeton an eastern championship the only year he was there, would be a very desirable man. Roper retired to practice law after developing two championship eleven's. It is not understood he is anxious to get back into the coaching game and Nebraska would furnish a most desirable opening for him.

Bennie Owen, the one-armed wizard, who has been working wonders at Oklahoma; Jess Harper, the old Chicago star, who has turned out such wonderful eleven's at Notre Dame, and the other three names which will likely go before the athletic board at its Monday's conference.

Any one of these four men, it is felt, could fill Stiehm's shoes most acceptably and maintain the high standard which Nebraska has set in the last five years under the regime of Jumbo.

Reader Also Suggested. There are other suggestions, among them Johnny Bender, but these are likely to receive second consideration. There is no disposition to criticize Stiehm for accepting the Indiana offer among the undergraduate body, and his close friends around town. There is a feeling of keen regret, however, that the Nebraska mentor acted so hastily and without giving his friends an opportunity to see what could be done to retain him. It is this sentiment which was expressed by Dr. Avery. It seemed the cards were stacked for an immediate reply, however, and Stiehm was lost because of the unwillingness of faculty members to overlook their petty jealousies.

Indignation is being freely expressed by the students against the members of the faculty, who were not willing to grant the salary increase. It was pointed out that athletics have paid and have paid well under Stiehm, and none of the faculty members were suffering in salary because the athletic coach was paid a salary of \$2,500 a year. But to the narrow-minded members of the faculty, a salary of \$4,500 for an athletic coach was out of the question when they were drawing but from \$1,800 to \$2,000 a year. It was to be regretted that the athletic board did not possess the courage to turn a cold shoulder to such peanut policies and vote a salary increase sufficient to keep Stiehm.

Must Boost Salary. The alumni and citizens of the state will have to rebuke the professors' protesting on paying an athletic coach his worth if they are going to get a man big enough to fill Stiehm's shoes. Any one of the four men who have been suggested to the athletic board as desirable will cost more money than Nebraska has been paying. In fact, the Cornhusker institution will get off lucky if they can get them for the figure which Indiana gave Stiehm.

All athletics of the university have been lost sight of in the excitement over Stiehm's departure. A partial basket ball schedule has been drafted for (Continued on Page Two, Column Two.)

Doane Basket Ball Squad Is Lining Up

CRETE, Neb., Dec. 11.—(Special.)—The Doane college basket ball team is working hard under the coaching of Paul Schuster, and there are a number of men who show remarkable promise. Among them are Whitehouse, Klein, Haylet, Belka, Edmunds, Conrad, Andrews, Mickle and Bayer. They have received an offer of a game with the Townsend team of Omaha, which won the championship of the metropolis last year as well as defeating the Wesleyan aggregation. It has not been decided definitely whether the two teams will meet in a practice game or not, as the college men would rather wait till they get into their new quarters before playing any games.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 11.—(Special Telegram.)—In response to a request "Jumbo" Stiehm issued the following farewell statement to the Cornhuskers: "In compliance with your request for a farewell statement, I take this means of expressing my sentiments and reason for my departure. It has not been decided whether I should have gladly remained. But the conditions apparently were such that this was an impossibility. "I cannot sever my relations without expressing my sincere appreciation and gratitude for the pleasant relations and hearty co-operation with which loyal Cornhuskers have assisted me so materially. It is, indeed, with deep feelings of regret that I am obliged to leave. "To the personnel of the Nebraska

foot ball teams I am especially indebted. They have been persevering, loyal and invincible. The spirit has been excellent and the players have put forth their best efforts for Nebraska. "Had the university deemed it advisable to meet the terms offered me elsewhere I should have gladly remained. But the conditions apparently were such that this was an impossibility. "I have only the kindest feeling toward the faculty, students, athletic board, alumni and Cornhuskers in general. "It is my sincere wish that Nebraska may have many successful years."

Johnny Hazen Will Play with Luxus

Johnny Hazen, second sacker on the Alamo nine last year, has signed up to hold down the keystone station on Johnny Dennison's championship Luxus crew. Hazen was pronounced the best second baseman in Omaha by amateur fans last year. He will succeed Pip Cooke, who has decided to quit base ball.

Hiller Is Some Kid. Scout Bob Conroy thinks the St. Louis critics are overlooking something if they do not figure on the Bascom Hiller, drafted from Durham, N. C.

Use The Bee's "Swapper" column.

SPORTS SECTION OF THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 12, 1915.

RED CLOUD'S HIGH SCHOOL FOOT BALL TEAM, while it did not win the championship of Southwestern Nebraska, is one of the best-looking teams in the state. From left to right the players are: Top row—Pope, right half; Baker, right end; W. P. Medlar, coach; Ryan, left half. Second row—Overleese, quarterback; Sladen, left tackle; Fey, left guard. Third row—Pitchler, center; Zeiss, right guard; Kidd, left end; Wilson, right tackle. Bottom row—Polnicky, full back; Fetty, substitute.



BASKET TOSSERS READY FOR PLAY

Tri-City Loop Will Open Season Saturday, with Other Leagues to Follow Shortly.

ALL-STARS HERE DECEMBER 21

Local basket ball tossers will start the ball rolling next Saturday when the Tri-City league is scheduled to commence hostilities for the season. The Class A teams are to be followed by the Commercial tossers who will open up the first Tuesday in January. The Church leagues will decide their opening date at a special meeting that is to take place December 17.

Though the Tri-City loop will open up Saturday several of the quietest will not be ready for some time to come. Among these are Creighton college and the University of Omaha. In order that play can start on the date decided upon, the schedule is so being arranged that the two schools will not play their first contest until after the first of the year.

That basket ball fans will witness a most active season is evidenced from the fact that over thirty-five quintets have organized. The teams have been grouped according to their ability into three leagues, the Class A fives comprising the Tri-City league, Class B teams the Commercial loop and the Class C teams the Church organization. So that this distinction will be constant throughout the season no player from a higher league will be allowed to participate in contests of a lower organization.

All Teams Meet Twice. The schedule as outlined by the various officials calls for the meeting of all quintets twice. In all it has been estimated that there will be a total of over 300 league contests and in order that the schedules do not become congested it will be necessary to play at least fifteen of these each week.

While the number of teams in the Tri-City and Commercial leagues has been (Continued on Page Two, Column Three.)

RUMORS OF DEALS IN BALL PLAYERS

Trades in Ball Players Involving Well Known Stars Feature of American League Meet.

SCRAMBLE FOR FRANK BAKER

CHICAGO, Dec. 11.—Trades involving well known ball players and possible disposition of the problem of the Cleveland club, will be features of the American league's annual meeting here next Wednesday. It is predicted. The program for the meeting contains nothing but routine business, according to a league official, but the trades suggested and settlement of Charles W. Somers, affairs so far as they are concerned, the Cleveland team and the team generally, remain to offer interest.

Rivals for the services of Frank Baker, now under contract to the Philadelphia club will furnish the main excitement in the trading line. President Comiskey is openly after Baker, the New York Americans. It is said, still hope to get him and reports today from St. Louis indicate that the Browns will be among the bidders.

President Johnson was quoted today as saying the league would not in any way interfere with the disposal of Baker. The organization will leave the matter entirely to Comiskey Mack of the Athletics and to Baker himself. It was rumored when the Chicago club bid for the third baseman last summer that President Johnson opposed the deal. Baker is understood to be demanding a high price for his services.

Election of a vice president to succeed Mr. Somers is on the program. There is not much sentiment in favor of a change in the opening or closing dates of the season, according to a statement made to President Johnson.

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HITTING IT ALONG THE BASE BALL RUN

Western League Will Return to the Longer Five-Month Schedule Next Season.

TIP O'NEILL GOES TO THE COAST

The Western league will return to the five-month schedule next year. The magnates were dissatisfied with the 140-game card this season, so it is practically assured they will draft a 134 game schedule when the committee meets in February.

It so happened last spring that the weather man turned loose two weeks of swell weather just before the opening of the season on April 23. At 3 o'clock on April 23, it began to rain and kept up the rest of the season. As a result of this year, the magnates intend to get in on those two early weeks, and the opening game will probably occur about April 14 this season, within a day or two of the date of major league openings.

The season, with 134 games, will then run to about September 15.

Tip O'Neill on the Coast. According to reports from both Oakland and Chicago Tip O'Neill, quoted as president of the Western loop, is dickering for the ownership of the Oakland Pacific Coast league franchise.

Tip feels that he would like to round out his base ball career as a magnate in the city where he formerly played and where he owns large real estate holdings. He has started negotiations with Leavitt & Cook, owners of the club, but these chaps do not think much of Tip's terms. Tip contends the price should be based on last year's somewhat disastrous season, but the Oakland owners insist Tip will have to come up in his figure, and Oakland fans believe he will do so.

Tannehill to Topeka. It has been reported about that Lee Tannehill, third-sacker for the Rockies this year, will be made manager of the Topeka club, which is without a pilot at its helm. When Wichita captured Jimmy Jackson it left the Kawa without a boss. Now the talk is that Tannehill will be signed as Tannehill would cost Topeka no purchase price. When Lee signed with Omaha it was with the promise that he be made a free agent at the end of the year. He is now at liberty to go where he chooses and probably would accept the Topeka management if it were offered to him.

Reeds Buy Mitchell. Clarence Mitchell, star southpaw on the Denver Grizzlies this year, has been sold to the Cincinnati Reds. Mitchell was over-looked by major league clubs last summer, both during the purchase and draft seasons. Then he joined the All-Americans on Bancroft's all-star tour and he pitched a few four and five-hit games against the Nationals. The result was that the attention of Charlie Herzog was called to Mitchell and Herzog promptly purchased him. And for a Reeds, Mitchell will make good with the Reds, for he is a pretty nifty port sider.

Patterson Acts as Scout. Reports from the Pacific coast indicate that Ham Patterson, newly appointed manager of the Vernon club, is acting as a scout for the Wichita team of which he was manager the latter part of last year. It is said Patterson has already made arrangements to ship Honus Mizel, who worked in this loop a number of years ago, Joe Berger, also a former Western leaguer, and Dick Bayless to the Kansas team. On the coast it was said Mizel would be manager, but this is hunk as Jimmy Jackson already has that job.

Gilligan Turned Back. Jack Gilligan, normal pitcher, has been returned to Des Moines by Salt Lake City, where Gilligan went last fall on some sort of option. Mr. Gilligan, it is said, was decorated with the tinkling tinwars because the Mormons are beginning to cut down to conform with the new coast salary and player limits.

Former Trotting King Now Draws a Wagon in Russia

Crecoos, a 1906, whose crown as king of the trotting world was wrested from him in 1902, is today drawing a commissary wagon in Russia.

This information reached Toledo horsemen, who revered the name of Crecoos a few years ago. His former owner, George B. Ketcham, who made a fortune out of him, says he understands the great trotting king is now a humble army horse off there in the Baltic provinces.

Ketcham sold Crecoos to the Russian government a few years ago. Agents from the czar's army arrived with a huge offer. Crecoos was needed for breeding purposes, said the agents. Ketcham took the offer. In the meantime Crecoos, who deteriorated rapidly after his defeat by The Harvester, was of no use to the racing world. He was a failure also as a breeder.

Since his arrival in the czar's domain there has been an occasional word about Crecoos received by Toledo horsemen. This word always told of failure of the one time trotting king. Crecoos is now about 20 years old, say those who have followed his career.

SOPHS AND SENIORS WIN IN BASKET BALL

The second game of the inter-class series of the Council Bluffs High school basket ball was played at 3 o'clock at the Young Men's Christian association gymnasium yesterday afternoon. The line ups were as follows:

- SOPHOMORES: Forward—J. Larson; Rain—D. McNeill; Center—D. McNeill; E. Joseph; Guard—R. Boston; G. Stewart; Guard—J. Barrett; Cook—J. Morrison.
- FRESHMANS: Forward—J. Joseph; Center—T. Supernova; Guard—C. Christensen; Guard—C. Christensen.
- Seniors: Forward—J. Morrison; Guard—C. Christensen.

The final score was Sophomores, 2; Juniors, 2; Seniors, 2; Freshmen, 12. The games were fast from the start and every man did his best.

Manages Jack Dillon. Steve Harper, the former Indianapolis Newark basketball secretary, is now managing Jack Dillon, the challenger of Jess Willard.

Hug Picks Up Ends. Manager Huggins of the Cardinals has picked up two promising recruits in O'Neil Smith and Horatio Hornsby.

Yanks Drop Wad. Joe Villa, who is in a position to know, says that the New York lot \$55,000 in operating expenses last season.