

Cutting Out the Bleachers is Another Good Way to Kill the Old Game

ASK HUSKERS TO QUIT CONFERENCE

Omaha Alumni to Lead Agitation to Have Cornhuskers Seek Faster Company.

FLAME OF AN OLD SPARK

If Omaha alumni of the institution have their way, the University of Nebraska's days as a member in good standing of the well known Missouri valley conference are numbered. The Omaha alumni are somewhat peeved at the w. k. Missouri valley conference. They have been irritated, annoyed and vexed and they mean to have revenge.

The Missouri valley conference is now composed of Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Ames, Drake, Kansas Aggies and Washington. For some time Nebraska alumni and Nebraska football enthusiasts have been more or less dissatisfied with the valley conference. Since Nebraska's success on the gridiron—overlooking the current year, of course—it has been more or less generally felt that Nebraska should be in a little faster company.

As compared with the Cornhuskers, Drake, the Kansas Aggies and Washington are secondary schools. There shouldn't be any secondary schools in a real conference. For that reason Nebraska alumni have felt the Cornhuskers should try to get into the Western conference, or, if they can't get into the Big Nine, should at least drop out of the valley, and murmurs of that nature have been frequently heard during the last three years.

Omaha to Lead.
Now the matter promises to come to a head, with Omaha alumni of Nebraska leading the agitation.

Refusal of the conference heads to grant Nebraska permission to play Omaha is the reason. Stubs Hascall, secretary of the Omaha alumni, was sent to the meeting of the presidents and chancellors of the valley schools. He presented Omaha's request for a game and advanced the arguments. That was as far as he got.

Thus are the Omaha alumni irritated, annoyed and vexed, and they have decided that it is time for Nebraska to wake up. The sentiment is that Nebraska has reached the stage where to further its own interests it must break away from such schools as the Kansas Aggies, Drake and Washington.

Call Meeting Soon.
A meeting of the alumni will be called in a few days and this suggestion made. It is believed the organization will take it up without dispute and file a formal request with the athletic authorities at the university and then begin to promulgate the agitation.

There is little question but what what Nebraska would have no difficulty in obtaining engagements for its athletic teams, football, basketball, track, wrestling, gymnastic and every other line, even though it did not belong to a conference. There are plenty of schools in the country not members of conferences. There is Michigan, Notre Dame, Michigan Aggies and plenty of others that get along very nicely booking their games independently.

The Omaha alumni are determined to get a big Nebraska game for Omaha. They probably won't get one for 1917, as most of the Nebraska schedule has been made, but they intend to keep right on plugging, and if the Missouri valley conference refuses to listen to reason the alumni will make war on the conference.

Bluffs May Hold Floor Event Again

The success of the district basketball tournament held in Council Bluffs last fall has resulted in a number of inquiries to the Council Bluffs High School Athletic association concerning a possible tournament again this season. According to members of the association there appears to be an urgent desire for a repetition of the tournament.

The matter has been taken up informally by the association and it was said a tentative agreement to hold a district tournament has been reached and it is expected that at least as many and perhaps more teams than competed last year will enter this year's tournament.

Members of the association believe that with the high school athletic competition as keen as it is in this section there is no doubt but that such a tournament would be a success. Last year the expense of the teams entered were paid up to the time the teams were eliminated, after which, if they remained they remained at their own expense.

"Billy" Sunday to Use Ball Park for Tab Site

The international league ball park in Buffalo is to be the scene of "Billy" Sunday's "trail hitting" stunts this winter. The ground has been leased as a site for the "tabernacl" that Sunday requires be furnished for all his revivals. The pulpit end of the tabernacl will be near the home plate and the base paths that players tread in the summer time now will echo the shuffles of sorrowing sinners as they hike Sunday-ward to shake the hand of the evangelist and pledge themselves to sin no more.

Weeghman Gets Huffy Over Tampa Contract

President Weeghman of the Chicago Cubs says it is positively decided that the team will do its training at Pasadena, Cal. He has offered the Tampa business men \$1,500 to cancel their contract and they can take it or leave it, the Chicago magnate is quoted as saying.

Lawkeyes Start Floor Season With Special

Iowa City, Ia., Dec. 16.—(Special.) A slow, listless game with the State teachers' college opened the Iowa basketball schedule at the armory, the Hawkeyes winning, 33 to 15.

CAPTAIN OF CENTRAL HIGH ELEVEN FOR 1917.



Junior Quintets of Hastings and Omaha To Tangle Thursday

The junior basketball championship of the state will be settled Thursday evening, when "Bob" Hager's Young Men's Christian Association Midgets tangle with the Hastings Juniors. These two teams met last year on the local court and a close and exciting game resulted, with the Midgets winning, "Bob" Hager, who coaches the Midgets, was physical instructor at Hastings last year, and organized the Juniors. The Hastings aggregation will present practically the same lineup this year as they did last year, including such youthful sharks of the basketball court as Hull, Kohl, Dutton, Haverly, Kauf, Hart, Suckland and McGrew. The Midgets' lineup will include "Fuzzy" MacFarland and Dick Giller at guards, Owen Comp at center, Austin Smith, Willard Usher and Johnny Nicholson at forwards.

A game between the Intermediates and the Business Boys' A class will be played as a preliminary.

Nonpareils Want To Pull Coppers For Hundred Bucks

Not satisfied that the policemen are their superior, the Nonpareil tug-of-war team has challenged the police team to a second pull for a side bet of \$100.

The policemen pulled the Nonpareils an inch in twenty minutes in a tug at De Luxe hall Friday night. But the Nonpareils are still inclined to dispute the superiority of the coppers and Phil Lynch, manager of the crew, has hurled a \$100 challenge to Charley Van Dusen and Al Samuelson, manager and captain of the coppers.

Kentucky Derby to Be Worth \$20,000

Announcement of the new Louisville Jockey club that the 1917 Kentucky Derby at Churchill Downs, May 12, will be worth approximately \$20,000, has fixed the eyes of turfmen upon that event, which is regarded as the superior of the coppers and swells considerably the usual field of notable contenders.

Previously the Derby has carried \$10,000 in added money, and had a total value of \$15,000. In 1917, according to the announcement of the club's directors, the added value will be \$15,000. The increase, the announcement says, is expected to enhance interest of stable owners who have won in the last few years acquired thoroughbreds with the hope of capturing the fixed American turf events.

Tinker Treated Manager Of the Peoria Team White

Joe Tinker, manager of the Cubs in his playing days, always sought liberal treatment from his employer. Besides bossing the Cubs, Joe is half owner of the Peoria team of the "Three-I" league.

His profits this season amounted to \$1,200, and he was so pleased with the way things were run that he voluntarily gave Manager Johnson half of his profits and told him that he was reappointed manager for 1917.

All of which improves the charge that if a ball player ever became owner of a club he would be tight-fisted than the usual type of club owner.

Blankenship Wants Job As a Scout for Detroit

Cliff Blankenship, the catcher who, according to some authorities, "discovered" Walter Johnson, has applied to President Navin of the Detroit Base Ball club for a position as scout. It is probable that Blankenship will be signed. He managed the Salt Lake City team last year.

MULLIGAN STARTS PRACTICE MONDAY

Basket Ball to Get Under Way at Central High Before the Holiday Season.

SCHEDULE BEING LINED UP

Altering his former plans, Coach Mulligan of Central High will start basketball practice at the Young Men's Christian association gymnasium on Monday afternoon. It was the original intention to wait until after the holidays, for very few of the first team men will be able to practice during the vacation and this would necessitate starting in on preliminary training again after the first of the year. But the athletes are getting restless and the coach intends to satisfy them. The first week will be spent mostly in conditioning the men and getting some sort of a line on the material.

Although very few games have been definitely scheduled so far, it is only a matter of filling the games to the dates, for plenty of games are in sight. The first game of the season will probably be played January 13 with Creighton. A good trip has been lined up for February 9 and 10, Boone (La.) High school will be played on the first day and Fort Dodge on the second. Jefferson High school, another Iowa team, wants to play Omaha on February 8, but it is thought that this would be too strenuous a schedule, making three hard games in as many nights. Two games will be played with Lincoln. The Sioux City High school has again changed its mind and decided to put out a basketball team. With the local schedule so nearly filled, possibly only one game will be played between the two teams this year.

Play Beatrice Here.
Beatrice High school will be played here January 17. Two games will be played with St. Joseph, although no dates have been decided upon. University Place will be played here and also South High. An effort is being made to schedule some strong Kansas team to play on the night following the St. Joseph game.

Class basketball will be boosted at the high school this winter in an effort to find more material for the first and second teams. A schedule is being arranged and will be started about the middle of January. Each team will play the other teams at least twice and the team having the highest percentage at the close of the tournament will be declared the winner, doing away with the old elimination plan. The following class captains have been elected: Dave Noble, freshmen; Dick Giller, sophomores; Austin Smith, juniors; Willard Usher, seniors. C. A. Cairns, R. A. Meyer, Fred Spinning and J. A. Bexten will act as class coaches.

Keeline Will Be Head of Omaha Gun Club One More Year

Art Keeline will head the Omaha Gun club for another year. He was re-elected to the office at the annual meeting of the club, held last week. A. H. Frye was re-elected vice president, Frank Ellison, who was secretary-treasurer.

Another poultry shoot will be held on the Omaha Gun club grounds this afternoon, starting at 2 o'clock. The club has enough targets and shells at the clubhouse now, so that all marksmen can be taken care of.

Bellevue Cards Basket Ball Games

The Christmas holidays will put an end to Bellevue basketball until after the new year, when Coach Benjamin will put his protégés to work daily. Seventeen men were given a chance during the game Friday evening with the South Side First Congregational team. With several other candidates who have not come out yet there should be no dearth of competition for varsity positions.

Coach Benjamin has announced a partial schedule for the basketball team this winter. The following games make up the program:

Bellevue at Colver, January 25.
Bellevue at Colver, January 28.
Bellevue at Bellevue, February 2.
Cotter at Bellevue, February 9.
Bellevue at Nebraska, February 22.
Bellevue at Syracuse, February 23.
Negotiations are under way to play the following teams also:

Bellevue at Lincoln Young Men's Christian association, February 24.
Bellevue at Peru, March 2.
Bellevue at Tarkio, March 2.

Games with Creighton, the University of Omaha and the Townsends will probably also be played between January 10 and January 23.

Violet Will Be Color Of Giants Next Season

Violet will be the Giants' colors next year. Manager McGraw has decided to abandon the style of uniform worn by the New York players last year. In 1913 the Giants adopted the colors of New York university and they won their third consecutive pennants. As McGraw believes in omens, he thinks that the Giants, in uniforms trimmed with violet and wearing stockings of the same hue, will overcome the evil influences which deprived them of the National League championship last season. So violet will be the prevailing color when the Giants line up against the enemy in 1917.

Billy Newman Now Takes Sudden Interest in Carl

New York, Dec. 16.—Frank Moran had better not take his proposed match with Carl Morris too seriously, for Billy Newman, who has a contract on the services of the original white hope, says he will not allow the battle to take place. Newman's contract still has two years to run, and although he has not bothered much with Morris since the latter left these parts, he now has determined to enforce it. This means that Morris must part with 25 per cent of his earnings, something that he has refused to do of late.

SPORTS SECTION OF THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 17, 1916.

KEARNS TO FORM ANOTHER LEAGUE

Greater Omaha Basket Ball Loop to Take Place of Disbanded Tri-City.

BRANDEIS TO STAY OUT

A rejuvenated Greater Omaha Basket Ball league will be formed out of the disbanded Tri-City league if the plans now being perfected by Bud Kearns, physical director of the Young Men's Christian association, are successful. That there will be at least seven and possibly ten quintets in the organization is the belief of the director.

The possible lives now being urged to join and who will in all probability compose the loop are Bellevue college, Omaha High school, University of Omaha, Walter G. Clark's Townsend Gun company, Young Men's Christian association secretaries and a quintet made up of flippers of the South Side "Y" branch.

The Brandeis Stores five is to be left out of the reorganization, and, according to its manager, Jake Isaacson, is to play practically all of its contests with out-of-town teams.

The chief reason for the disbanding of the old Tri-City league, according to a number of the managers, was because the Brandeis five was much too fast for the loop. Managers of opposing quintets asserted they had practically no show with the storemen and that they would rather withdraw than to be beaten consistently by the same five.

Although there has been considerable agitation in the old Tri-City loop, matters are sailing along serenely in the Commercial and Church leagues. Quintets of both organizations are about equally matched so that there is small chance of the same agitation springing up as in the disbanded aggregation.

In addition to the Commercial and Church leagues, a South Side church loop has recently been formed. Eight quintets are in the loop, playing twice each week. They are: Grace Methodists, Trinity Baptists, Wheeler Memorials, St. Luke's Lutherans, United Presbyterians, West Side Congregationalists, Lefler Memorials and South Side Christians.

Basket Ball Notes

The Omaha National bank quintet, last year's champion of the Commercial league, will engage the Arlington, Neb., town team at Arlington Tuesday evening.

Alumni of the Nebraska School for the Deaf have organized under the appellation of H. Beal & Son in the Commercial league. The following make up the five: Cissenden, Nelson, Tamplin, Stark, Trenke and Bender.

Coach Kline of Nebraska Wesleyan on the Brandeis Stores quintet and now residing at Hastings, was in the city the latter part of last week, reading the basketball schedule.

Motorcycle Club Will Hold Shoot

A shoot for live poultry will be held by the Omaha Motorcycle club at the farm of Henry Frieberg, four miles west of Fairacres, today. Over thirty chickens and ducks will be given as prizes. Those who intend to go to the shooting grounds by gas bike are asked to gather at the Motorcycle club's headquarters in the Crouse block at 9:30 this morning. Louis Fleisher is in charge of the event.

Gymnastic Exhibition by St. Joseph's Athletes

The St. Joseph's Athletic club will give another gymnastic drill and exhibition in its hall, Seventeenth and Center streets, Sunday, February 11. Henry Sawatzki, director, will have full charge of the affair.

Five Concerns Want Leader of Luxus to Manage Their Teams

The man without a country never had a thing on Johnny Dennison, the firebrand manager, who piloted the Luxus nine to two consecutive pennants in the Greater Omaha league. Johnny is now a manager without a ball club.

When the voting populace of this great and glorious commonwealth slipped the demon rum a wallop in the teeth at the polls last November they voted Johnny's ball club out of existence. The Luxus, one time champions of Omaha and twice Greater Omaha league pennant winners, are no more.

But Johnny Dennison worries not. Any manager who wins two pennants in a league the class of the Greater Omaha doesn't have to worry. Plenty of teams can find a place for him.

But, according to the dope, Dennison will blossom out with a new team

Will Handle Proceeds of Ring Battle



If the promised battle between Georges Carpentier, the French heavyweight champion, and Jess Willard, champion of the world, actually materializes, two very prominent society women will handle at least \$50,000 of the proceeds for the benefit of the American fund for the French wounded. The society women are Miss Anne Morgan, daughter of the late J. P. Morgan, and Miss Elizabeth Marbury, both of New York.

Carpentier will agree to fight only on the condition that \$25,000 be paid to the American fund when the articles are signed and that 50 per cent of all profits above a certain sum, with one-third of the motion picture proceeds, go to the fund. Carpentier will get \$20,000, with \$1,000 for expenses, all of which his manager says he will turn over to Miss Morgan and Miss Marbury for the benefit of the French wounded.

Carpentier at present is a member of the French flying corps. He is said to be in excellent physical condition.

CHARLIE PETERS PULLS COME-BACK

Papillon Carpenter Starts Training After a Long Stretch in Hospital.

IS HEAVIER THAN BEFORE

Charlie Peters, who flashed across the wrestling sky in such a sensational streak last winter and then dropped out of sight owing to an illness which sent him to the hospital for a long stretch, is going to try a come-back.

After over six months of inactivity, during which time he lost over thirty pounds of avoidpoids, Peters has so recovered his strength that he has started training again.

Before Peters was ill he weighed about 190 pounds. Now he tips the scales at 202 pounds before a workout. He loses two to three pounds after a workout of an hour or so, but gains them back shortly afterward.

The Papillon carpenter seems to be even stronger than before his illness and his followers are confident he will come back as good as ever.

Peters took part in his first workout the fore part of last week. He felt so strong he continued his training every day. He has lost none of his old cunning and throws his training partners about the ring with apparent ease.

Charlie will continue his workouts another week or ten days. Then, if he is satisfied he has regained his strength, skill and stamina, he will begin to seek opponents.

Peters was matched to wrestle Joe Stecher in Omaha on July 15 last. Just as wrestling fans began to look forward to this go, Charlie was stricken with bronchitis, contracted an abscess and became generally bungled up with a whole flock of troubles and the bout had to be called off. After one or two preliminary tilts Charlie expects to go after Stecher for another engagement.

One Record at Least Is Held by Pirates

Pittsburgh surely holds the honors in one respect for 1916, the number of men who tried their hands at the different infield positions. During the last season (besides men who played just a few games and didn't break into the official fielding averages) Callahan tried three first basemen, Johnston, Hinchman and Wagner; no less than seven second basemen, Knabe, Bigbee, Baird, Viox, McCarthy, Farmer and Schultz; three third basemen, Baird, Schultz and Warner; and three shortstops, Wagner, McCarthy and Smith. Carey, Costello, Barney, Hinchman, Schulte, Baird, Compton, Farmer and Bigbee were listed in the outfield.

MARTY KRUG WILL AGAIN LEAD OMAHA

Rourke Announces Genial German Will Once More Be the Chauffeur of Machine.

NEW SCHEME AT WICHITA

Marty Krug will again manage the Omaha base ball club.

While Pa Rourke has not yet signed Marty to a contract for 1917, the Omaha magnate intends to retain the genial German at the helm of his diamond machine.

Marty Krug has led the Rourkovians through the last two pennant campaigns, finishing in the first division both trips and capturing the coveted league flag this year. Marty, to Rourke's notion, proved himself a thoroughly capable leader both times. In 1915 Krug was hampered and hindered by bad breaks in the luck, injury to athletes, switches in the lineup and like, but he pulled his team through into fourth place. This year Marty had the talent to work on and he waltzed home with the flag in relatively easy fashion.

While they aren't signing any men and don't intend to until the new year, Rourke and Krug are quietly searching for men to fill the vacancies made by purchases and the drafts. They have a line on several athletes and will grab them when the propitious time arrives. Rourke has been offered a number of men and will probably announce some buys within the next thirty days or so.

Need Eight Men.
Rourke and Krug have quite a task ahead of them filling the holes. Two catchers, two infielders, two outfielders and a couple of hurlers are all Pa and Marty must get. But they anticipate no great difficulty in finding the men they need.

There is one thing something of an innovation, is on foot to retain a Western league club at Wichita. The stunt is for a number of players to organize a stock company, which they will aid by giving their services as players. It is believed enough players who have a few shekels saved away can be found to promulgate the proposed scheme.

Tex Jones, first sacker on the Des Moines team; Beals Becker, former big league; Jimmy Durham, ex-Wichita hurler; Earl McCauley and Walter Rchg of the International league, all players who live in or around Wichita, are among those said to be interested.

Isbell in Offing.
The scheme might be a howling success. The players would certainly toil industriously both on the diamond and off and might be able to arouse an interest and enthusiasm which would result in big dividends. There is a suspicion, however, that Frank Isbell of Des Moines is behind the deal. Izzy would like to break into Wichita, but has found it impossible to do any business with the Wichita business men. This scheme might give him an opening.

Leary in Joctown.
Dan Leary, one of base ball's veterans, is slated to become manager of the St. Joseph team, according to reports from the Holland village. Leary made quite a record for himself at the head of the Davenport club, winning several pennants and developing many players. He has been in base ball for many years and owns an enviable reputation as a player and a leader.

Holland has signed a couple of pitchers and a shortstop as his first move in bolstering up his punk 1916 lineup. Filleanger and Miller are the hurlers. They were obtained from the Indianapolis American association and Holland predicts they will be two of the best fingers in the Zehrung loop next year. Joe Fautsch is the infielder. Fautsch comes from the Chicago White Sox and it is said is only to be farmed out to Joctown for one year, it being Rowland's belief Fautsch needs another year of seasoning before tackling major company.

Some Big City Stuff.
Holland is going to pull some big league stuff on his fellow magnates next year. He has announced he will take his hopeful south for training. He has not made a decision on the locality, but says it will be at least as far south as Oklahoma. The Rourke and Krug motion picture spring and almost froze to death. Holland also is considering the abandonment of his bleachers. He intends to make every seat in his park a grandstand seat, fully protected, but on the far sides will make the admission charge two bits, the regular bleacher price.

The Brooklyn club has returned Johnny Kelleher, the demon shortstop, to Denver. Johnny is the flashy lad who smote triples for the Grizzlies last year and went up to the Dodgers in August, but wasn't even given a chance to show his speed despite the fact that Brooklyn only had a couple of incompetent cripples at short. Kelleher's return is something of a surprise, as, while he was noisy and inclined to be quarrelsome, Johnny was a mighty good-looking prospect and it is hard to understand why Brooklyn, woefully lacking in shortstopping talent, should turn him back without a trial.

Ray Barrett Will Lead Bluffs Team

Ray Barrett has been unanimously chosen captain of the Council Bluffs High school football team for the season of 1917. Barrett played half-back on the Council Bluffs eleven during the season just closed.

Five members of this year's eleven are seniors and will not return next year in the ordinary course of events, and it will be necessary for Barrett to build a virtually new team.

"Bobbie" Christie is Aid To Clark at Indoor Golf

"Bobbie" Christie, assistant to Charley Johnston at the Happy Hollow club, is aiding Bill Clark at the latter's new indoor golf course at 1410 Harney street. Clark and Christie are looking forward to a big winter season at the indoor game and are planning a number of tournaments.