

Ban and Davy Are Hustling Like Heroes to Hold the Stage Just Now

MOGULS MEET IN OMAHA THIS WEEK

Western League Owners to Gather Thursday to Draft Schedule for Year.

ROURKE SIGNS ONE MAN

Western League magnates will gather in Omaha Thursday for their second meeting of the year in this city.

The 1917 schedule is the issue responsible for the calling of this meeting by President Zehrung. Jack Holland of St. Joseph and John Savage, formerly of Topeka and now probably of Joplin, constitute the schedule committee and they will submit to their brother moguls a schedule for the current year. Then the magnates will furiously fuss, fume and fight over holiday dates, opening dates, closing dates, and in between dates until the nearest solution of the problem of giving four possible July 4 dates to eight cities is discovered.

It is expected the transfer of the Topeka franchise to Joplin will be formally ratified, as will the sale of the Isbell holdings in Des Moines to Tom Fairweather. No other business, so far as is known, is due to come up.

Rourke Delays Again. Pa Rourke will not send out any players' contracts until after the meeting. Pa originally was determined to send them out the first part of this month, but thought he would delay the move a bit so as to give the athletes less time to throw fits about the lack of size of figures contained within said contracts.

No matter what Davy Fultz does Pa has one athlete signed. He is Johnny Watkins, the Kansas City semi-pro Nig Perrine dug up by the Omaha owner. Nig also obtained Watkins' signature to a contract. So no matter how much war Davy declares Pa will have one athlete to represent him.

No Bother to Omaha.

The new rulings of the league that each club must carry six young players will not bother Rourke. The new rulings provides that each club must carry at least six players who are of B classification or less. In the case of infielders or outfielders this means players who have not played in over thirty games in Class A or better. In the case of catchers it is fifteen games and in the case of pitchers ten games.

In the players belonging to Rourke, Pitchers Benton, Currie and Barham, Infielders Holdeman and Watkins, Outfielders Brokaw and Smith, and Catcher Brotten will be classified as young players under this ruling. All of the other Rourke are veterans, having seen service in Class A or better.

Rourke has booked four exhibition games for his charges before the season opens. Two games will be played with Kansas City and two with Milwaukee the first part of April.

Omahans Win Large Sums When Peters Stays 30 Minutes

Hundreds of dollars, it was learned yesterday, changed hands on the Stecher-Peters match Friday night at the Auditorium. Inquiries at various places where the sporting gentleman who has a propensity for risking a little coin on athletic events in order to add to his interest in them revealed the fact that many large wagers had been made on the time it would take Stecher to throw Peters.

Most of the bets were made on twenty and thirty minutes. The favorite bets were that Stecher would throw Peters once in twenty minutes or that he would throw him twice in thirty minutes. There was also considerable betting on thirty minutes for a single fall and some on forty minutes for both falls. The betting stopped at forty minutes.

Peters men reaped a veritable harvest. Al Hastings is said to have won \$1,200. Pete Loeh, one report says, won \$500, and others make the sum even larger. Peters' brother and a number of Papillon friends are known to have won considerable change, while scores of other Omahans won sums varying from \$25 to \$500. Practically all of those who took the Peters end were from Omaha or Sarpy county, while those who had the odds on Stecher were from upstate.

Two years ago a bunch of Omahans went to Fremont and put a lot of money on Adolph Ernst against Stecher. Quite a wad of Omaha money was dropped. But the Omahans more than got their revenge Friday night.

Columbus Gun Club Is After the Rees Trophy

The Omaha Gun club is going to have to fight to retain possession of the Rees trophy which it recaptured from the Valley Gun club in a bitter battle staged in a blizzard a few weeks ago. The Columbus Gun club has challenged the local marksmen for the cup, and it is up to the Omahans to defend it. The shoot will probably be held in Omaha February 17.

Tom Leuchars Will Be Golf Pro at Bluffs Club

Tom Leuchars, formerly assistant to George Simpson at the Country club, and more recently professional at Paducah, Ky., has been made golf professional at the Council Bluffs Rowing association. Leuchars is already in Omaha and is beginning to make his plans for the coming season.

Physical Department of Y. M. C. A. Makes Report

The physical department committee of the Young Men's Christian association will meet Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock to hear a report on the department's activities. A total enrollment of 1,164 is now registered in the "Y" physical department, including 500 seniors, 514 boys, and 150 boys on the South Side.

Superior Defeats Edgar. Edgar, Neb., Feb. 10.—(Special.)—The football team of the Superior High school defeated the Edgar team in a hard game Friday night, 22 to 18. It was a fairly good game and quite even, although the Superior boys showed better teamwork.

Cincy Sells Out For First Game

Every reserved seat has been sold for the opening game of the season in Cincinnati. The Rotary club alone took a block of 500 seats and will be on hand with a band of its own. Another organization of Cincinnati business men took 300 seats, an automobile company took 160 in one block, and so it went. Oh, Cincinnati is some town on opening day, and this will be about the biggest it ever has had.

PLESTINA SIGNS FOR TWO MATCHES

Meets Sorensen Here February 22 and Fred Pilakoff on March 8.

MAY ALSO MEET OUTLER

Two wrestling matches to be held in Omaha within the next six weeks were scheduled for Marin Plestina, the big Omaha grappler, yesterday. The first match will be with a Hoosier lanky named Sorensen, who hails from Indianapolis, and stood Joe Stecher off thirty-five minutes before the Dodge phenom could pin his shoulders to the mat. This match will be held February 22, probably at the Brandeis theater.

The second match will be with Fred Pilakoff, the giant Cossack, on March 8, at one of the local show shops.

Neither Sorensen or Pilakoff have wrestled in the west before, but both are widely heralded as first-class men. Sorensen first gained fame by holding Stecher off the thirty-five minutes before he finally succumbed to the scissor. That was over a year ago and Sorensen is said to be a much improved wrestler now. He weighs over 200 pounds.

Pilakoff is from Brooklyn. He is described as the most perfect man physically now engaged in athletics in America. He is six feet four inches tall and weighs 240. He is said to be as fast as lightning and stronger than a weight lifter.

Taylor Or Butler. A couple of weeks ago Plestina was matched with Charlie Cutler of Chicago, but now he gets word from Cutler that the Chicago man intends to wrestle Jack Taylor at Lincoln, February 22. So Plestina has announced he will challenge the winner of that clash for a match in Omaha. Cutler says he will wrestle the Omaha man after the Lincoln go and Taylor, who is now living in Lincoln and is under the management of Ray Page, it is believed will take a chance with anybody, even as tough a bird as Plestina. Thus it is accepted that Plestina's challenge of the winner will be answered by either Taylor or that Omaha will see a match in a third go, a couple of weeks after his tangle with Pilakoff.

Plestina also has an outstanding challenge to Earl Caddock, which Caddock might accept, which would make a fourth bout with Plestina, one of the principals.

Another match prospective for Omaha is one between John Pesek, the Buffalo county mat marvel, and Jim London, who wrestled such a thrilling twenty-minute preliminary before the Stecher-Peters go Friday night.

Hastings Has Cash. Al Hastings, manager of London, yesterday put up \$1,000 cash that his man could beat Pesek in a finish go. Mart Slattery, Pesek's manager, was interviewed, but Slattery said he didn't care to talk wrestling at that time. Hastings waved his \$1,000 in the air and offered to put his man against Pesek anytime, any place, with any referee, under any conditions for any amount of money from \$1,000 to \$2,500. Slattery said he could not talk business for six weeks yet and Hastings told him any time Pesek was ready to put up some money and it would be covered.

London is a green, Silver Creek blacksmith Hastings picked up a while ago and has had him training under Farmer Burns. He weighs several pounds less than Pesek, but he's a rough and ready mixer. Wrestling experts declare he is a coming phenom. London and Pesek wrestled twenty minutes without a fall Friday night.

Caddock Is Next.

Gossip was current yesterday in wrestling circles that Joe Stecher and Earl Caddock would be matched to wrestle in Omaha in about six weeks. Gene Melady, it is said, intends to promote the bout.

Jack Reynolds to Meet Clyde Ross at Falls City

Jack Reynolds, Omaha's crack welterweight wrestler, will invade Falls City Thursday night for a finish clash at that point with Clyde Ross, who hails from Junction City, Kan. Ross is reported to be a tough customer, but Omaha fans are confident Reynolds will bring home the bacon. Farmer Burns will referee the tangle.

This Athlete Prefers Minors to Big League

Fred McMullin hasn't been a hold-out exactly on the White Sox, it is stated. He sought a transfer to Los Angeles because of his desire to play close to home. He has a young wife and baby and they are the influences that led him to seek a return to the minors.

Schuyler Wins Hard Game. Schuyler, Neb., Feb. 10.—(Special.)—The Schuyler team won a hard game with Abilene, 25 to 12. Schuyler has seven out of eight games.

TENNIS CLUB FOR OMAHA IS PLANNED

Local Racquet Weilders Want Club Exclusively for the Court Game.

WOULD HOLD TOURNEYS

A club to be formed exclusively for the promulgation of tennis, with a view to making Omaha the tournament city of the Missouri valley, is to be organized this spring by local devotees of the racquet game, if enough local players with sufficient enthusiasm can be found to start the ball rolling.

A few years ago tennis was the leading amateur sport in Omaha. The field club annually held a big tournament, including such well known events as the Midwest and the National Clay Court tournaments. But tennis has deteriorated in Omaha the last three years and the nearest thing to a tournament has been the city event. Many tennis players have turned to golf for their recreation and the field game has advanced in leaps and bounds, while tennis has staged a perceptible retreat.

And those racquet weilders who refuse to discard their old love for the slower sport intend to make a determined effort to bring tennis back to its former high standard and wide popularity.

All Endorse Plan. The sentiment of the local players has been sounded out and practically all of them have endorsed the scheme. The plan is to incorporate at least a \$5,000 club. If money is easily raised and memberships easily obtained the ante may be advanced. A location not too far out in the city will be secured and a temporary club house of sufficient size to contain locker and dressing rooms and shower baths and the like erected until the size of the club justifies more pretentious quarters.

Half a dozen clay courts would be installed right away in such position that additional courts could be mapped out as the club grows.

If plans for this exclusively tennis club materialize a campaign to bring at least three tournaments a year to Omaha will be started. Kansas City held half a dozen tournaments last year and all were big successes. Omaha didn't have a tournament and its players had to invade foreign fields. Will Adams, for instance, captured the Iowa state championship at Des Moines and Ralph Powell won the interstate title at Sioux City. With such players as Adams and Powell in the field Omaha need not fear to lock horns with the other cities of the Missouri valley, and if these two local youngsters were given more opportunity to play real tennis sharks, such as would be attracted to this city if tournaments were held here, tennis followers are confident they would become among the very best in the country and last enough for any kind of competition.

Many Tennis Clubs.

Omaha is the hub of a network of tennis clubs. Scores of cities of close proximity to Omaha boast tennis clubs, and they would all send representatives to local tournaments.

When the suggestion of forming a local tennis club was made to local cranks they heartily endorsed the idea. Even Harry Koch, former state champ, who has turned to golf, got so excited he began to swing the golf club he carried in his hand like he would the old cat-gut racquet. Art Scribner became enthusiastic when it was mentioned. Joe Adams, Will Adams, Ralph Powell, Cleary Hannighen, Sam Caldwell, Spike Kennedy, Johnny Madden, Con Young, Ned Aitchison, John Rayley, Clarke Powell, Herb Kohn, Mosier Colpetzer and many other well known local tennis sharks have put their O. K. on the proposed new club and it is believed an organization will be effected before the summer season opens.

Curley Says Jess Will Meet Fulton; Jones Says "Nix"

New York, Feb. 10.—Jack Curley, who is associated with Tom Jones in the management of Jess Willard, world's heavyweight champion pugilist, today confirmed the announcement from Albany that a ten-round boxing bout between Willard and Fred Fulton had been arranged for March 26 at Madison Square Garden. The announcement from Albany said that the Willard-Fulton bout was conditional on Fulton's winning from Charley Weinert in their bout next Monday night.

Chicago, Feb. 10.—Jess Willard asserted here today that the announcement that he had been matched with Fred Fulton for a ten-round bout in New York on March 26 was news to him. Willard added, however, that he understood such a match was a possibility, but he had not been informed that it was a certainty.

Tom Jones, Willard's manager, reiterated his statement last night in which he said that Willard would not meet Fulton or any other fighter in New York on March 26.

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Nebraska Wrestling Champ Won Title 30 Years Ago Today

Just thirty years ago today a wrestling match for the championship of the world was staged in Omaha.

Thirty years ago Graeco-Roman was the recognized style of wrestling. The catch-as-catch-can style, prevalent in these modern days, was then considered to be rough-and-tumble grappling, permissible in a barroom, but not in a ring.

Charles Moth was the champion Graeco-Roman wrestler of the world. He wandered out to Omaha in search of a little easy money. Upon his arrival here he presented himself to a number of local sport enthusiasts and invited them to find an opponent for him. They agreed and the match was arranged.

Moth did not know who his opponent would be. Neither did the pub-

SPORTS SECTION OF THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 11, 1917.

Why Alexander Holds Out—The Salaries of Others



Why Grover Alexander is holding out is puzzling President Baker of the Phillies. President Baker thinks that \$8,000 is salary enough, but Alexander doesn't agree with him, especially in view of the pay envelopes drawn by some of the base ball stars shown herewith.

Grover Alexander thinks he ought to receive at least \$15,000. President Baker

protests both a lack of desire to pay such a sum for Alexander's services and a lack of funds.

Here is what some of the other players get:

"Home Run" Frank Baker.....\$ 9,000

Walter Johnson..... 12,500

Tris Speaker..... 15,000

Ty Cobb..... 20,000

MANY NEW RACING CARS ARE BUILT

Fred Duesenberg Said to Be Constructing Fifteen Motors On Orders.

That at least a score of brand new racing automobiles will campaign the local tennis clubs. Scores of cities of close proximity to Omaha boast tennis clubs, and they would all send representatives to local tournaments.

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HUSKER FLIPPERS TO JOURNEY SOUTH

Dr. Stewart Has High Hopes of Annexing a Basket Ball Championship.

OTHER SPORT ACTIVITIES

By JAMES E. LAWRENCE.

Lincoln, Neb., Feb. 10.—(Special.)—Nebraska's chances for a Missouri Valley conference basket ball championship will be largely determined next week when the Huskers invade the Jayhawk state for a string of four games—two against the Kansas Aggies at Manhattan and two against the Jayhawkers at Lawrence.

Both the Kansas Aggies and the University of Kansas squads are leaders in Missouri Valley conference basket ball. The two Kansas teams split even in their games. The Aggies will be played at Manhattan, February 14 and 15, and the Jayhawkers at Lawrence, February 16 and 17.

Nebraska's five has been coming on fast during the last three weeks and Dr. Stewart is hopeful of annexing a basket ball championship. The loss of Jimmy Gardner, who left to attend school at Cornell, seriously handicapped the squad for a few days, since Gardner developed into the most sensational guard seen on Nebraska floor. The Nebraska mentor has made several shifts and believes he will be able to fill the place. Should the Huskers win the majority of games on the southern trip, they will come back in a position to seriously contest the claims of any of the Missouri Valley schools.

Wrestling Tourney.

Under the tutelage of Assistant Coach Dick Rutherford, the mat game has gained a tremendous foothold at Nebraska. Rutherford this week gave notice of an interclass wrestling tournament. Tryouts for the tournament to pick class representatives will be held February 12, 13 and 14, and the finals will be staged February 22, 23 and 24. All of the classes at the university have shown a lot of interest and the wrestling squad numbers over fifty.

Final tryouts for the varsity wrestling team are to be held February 15, 16 and 17. The team will be made up of six men for the following classes: Featherweight, 125 pounds; lightweight, 135 pounds; welterweight, 145 pounds; middleweight, 158 pounds; light heavyweight, 175 pounds; heavyweight, over 175 pounds.

Captain Only Veteran.

Rutherford says the outlook for a strong varsity squad is not so bright with Captain Otouplik the only veteran on the squad. Otouplik will be able to take care of the light heavyweight class in good shape, and Bryan, a promising wrestler last year, has just returned from the border to enter school. Bryan, who is a lightweight, with Kelly, an Omaha High school boy, are the most promising men for the lightweight division. In the middleweight, Fuchs is a good man, while Scott and Burgess are also doing good work in the light heavyweight. In the heavyweight class Dale and Maloney are the best.

The Huskers have wrestling tournaments with Ames and Iowa—the Ames meet coming during the high school basket ball tournament.

In addition to his wrestling squad, Rutherford has also organized a big swimming class at the university. Through an arrangement with the city Young Men's Christian association permission has been given for the use of the association pool, and swimming promises to develop into one of the popular sports. Rutherford is an expert swimmer and served as a member of the coast guards while at San Diego last summer.

Track Squad Busy.

Coach Reed of the track squad has been keeping his men busy in spite of the cold, with most of the work outdoors. Reed yesterday received an invitation from the Kansas City Athletic club to send a team to the big indoor meet at Kansas City, which is to be held March 3. The Kansas City meet is one of the biggest in the country and will bring together athletes from all sections of the country. All of the sections of the Valley conference schools have men entered, a large number of high school athletes will take part, and some of the eastern and Big Nine conference members will have their crack track men. Reed will send a team of eight or ten men. It will be the first meet of the season and will give the Husker coach a line on his material.

Reed and Director Stewart are busy gathering up the loose ends before inaugurating base ball practice. It will probably be several weeks before Coach Stewart attempts to get the base ball men together.

Ball Tourney.

There are now 18 high schools in Nebraska which have indicated their intention of taking part in the big high school basket ball tournament to be held under the auspices of the state university, March 8, 9, 10 and 11. Reed has sent out notices to all of the schools requesting that formal entries and records of the teams be in by not later than February 20. Actual closing of the entry list, however, does not take place until February 26. There will be no attempt to classify the teams until the judges and officials get together the week of the tournament. Reed is especially anxious that every entrant remember the team's record must be enclosed along with formal request for entry.

Omaha Volley Ball Team Enters State Tournament

Omaha will be represented at the first annual state volley ball tournament which will be held at York, starting Thursday. The paper men and printers' team of the Young Men's Christian association will be the Gate City representatives, and according to local followers of the game, have an excellent chance to top the state title. In addition, Omaha volley ball teams have scheduled conflicts with Council Bluffs and Fremont squads this week and next.

Omaha Gun Club Holds Another Hercules Shoot

Unless the weather turns suddenly severe the Omaha Gun club will hold another Hercules trophy shoot today. The event starts at 1 o'clock, will be of twenty-five targets and is open to all shooters.

Church League Managers Will Meet Monday Night

A meeting of the managers of Church league basket ball teams will be held at the Young Men's Christian association Monday night at 7:30. Some eligibility squabbles are scheduled to come before the meeting.

Michigan Students to Organize Boxing Club

Students of the University of Michigan have formed a boxing club. They hope to have several exhibition contests this winter, under university supervision.

Winston Wins Squash Tourney for Second Time

New York, Feb. 10.—Eric S. Winston of the Harvard club defeated his clubmate, Anderson Dana, in three straight games in the final round of the National Squash Tennis association tournament at the Yale club here today. When Winston won the title last year, Dana was the other finalist and by today's victory Winston obtained permanent possession of the championship trophy. The scores were 18-14, 15-6, 15-8.

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