

REAL ALL-AMERICAN ELEVEN REPRESENTS CAMP FUNSTON ARMY CANTONMENT ON GRIDIRON; STARS ARE FROM ALL PARTS

Lack of Shoulder Strap No Bar to Position on Paul Withington's 89th Army Division Team.

Camp Funston, Kan., Nov. 3.—Football, the pre-eminent sport at Camp Funston, national army cantonment, nowhere is to be found developed to a higher stage than at this army camp, where, under the leadership of Lieutenant Paul Withington, athletic director of the 89th division of the national army, not one team, but dozens of teams, are to be seen, in action, some of them counting among their number the most prominent football stars of a decade.

At Camp Funston can be seen football men who have survived successfully several seasons in the brilliancy of the calcium glare. Here, associated with stars of equal magnitude from other sections of the country, they have come together to form teams which are proving invincible on the gridiron. It is fall, even to the best of the college elevens.

What college teams of today, for instance, could expect to survive the barrage laid down by an eleven composed of such men as Captain F. E. Dennis, Brown 1905-1908, all-American end; Lieutenant F. E. Merrill, Tutts, tackle and captain 1910-11-12; Private A. G. Standkouski, University of Missouri, all-Missouri Valley quarterback; Major E. O. Kistler, Yale, fullback 309-10, and Lieutenants A. M. Lindsey and J. C. Fast, backfield men at the University of Kansas during 1916, and both all-Missouri Valley backfield men. Football teams composed of men of such caliber are upholding the laurels of the 89th national army division in gridiron battles this fall, just as they will uphold the name of the country on the battlefields of democracy in the months to come.

Among football stars of prominence who are learning the game over again at Camp Funston are the following: Private W. P. Speck, Christian Brothers college; Lieutenant W. H. Williams, Colorado School of Mines, fullback; Captain Loughridge, Yale, 1914-15; Private F. C. Prince, Hastings college, Nebraska, all-state fullback; Private G. Beck, back and end, University of Nebraska; Lieutenant W. K. Clark, Lieutenant B. C. Garside, Lieutenant William M. Day, Lieutenant Carl A. Schweiger and Lieutenant J. W. Rawlings, all of the 1916 team of the University of Colorado; Lieutenant C. O. Braden, Baker university; Lieutenant Lloyd Wait, catcher on the Pittsburgh National college base ball club, foot ball at Culver academy and at St. Louis university; Lieutenant M. C. Lewis, backfield, Washington university, St. Louis; Private Thomas Haskewille, Carlisle, and Lieutenant George Clark, quarterback, Illinois university. All of these men are available for the division team, according to Lieutenant Withington.

Extensive Schedule. An extensive schedule has been arranged for the 89th national army division eleven. The eleven clashed with Colorado college and Henry Kendall college. The schedule calls for a game with the Rolla School of Mines on November 10, the Oklahoma Aggies, November 24; University of Illinois (pending), November 29; University of Nebraska (pending), December 8. A game has been scheduled with the Great Lakes naval training station at Great Lakes, Michigan, for November 24, and with the eleven representing Camp Dodge, national army cantonment, at Kansas City November 17 or November 10. These last two games conflict with others scheduled, it was explained by Lieutenant Withington, but there is enough material to furnish two strong teams. Besides the foregoing games, the 89th division eleven expects to clash with the division team at Camp McArthur, Waco, Tex.

In addition to the division football team there are many company teams. Every Saturday and Sunday from 30 to 40 football games are being battled out on the gridirons at Camp Funston. The intercompany games, now being played off, furnish many interesting contests. Here again much good material is to be found, as the men competing in the games have had football experience at colleges or high schools.

This Ball Player Knows Fight When He Sees It. It is told of a certain young outfielder in the National league that he was testifying in a murder trial in his home town and when asked to describe to the jury a fight he had had with the defendant, who had a reputation as a "bad man" in the community.

"Well," began the ball player, "first I knocked him down, and then I kicked him in the face and then I kicked him in the stomach and then I kicked him in the back."

"At this point the judge ventured 'You don't call that 'fighting' do you?'"

"Sure," replied the witness, "what do you call it?"

Campbell Gets Verdict In Suit Against Ex-Feds. Vincent Campbell, former outfielder for the Newark Federal league club, was awarded a verdict for \$5,957 in a suit for breach of contract against the now defunct Newark Feds last week.

The defendant claimed that it had agreed to transfer Campbell's contract to either the St. Louis or Cincinnati National league club, but he refused to accept such service and held that such refusal relieved the obligations entailed under the contract. The court held, however, that Campbell had a right to look to the Newark Feds for his pay and awarded him his verdict.

Schalk's Vocal Activities. Both Hostile Hitsmiths. "It is just like listening to a drum corps when you come to bat with Ray Schalk catching," writes Oscar Vitt. "He is always whistling. He uses a trill note and occasionally bursts into song. A batter has to be on his guard all the time to keep his mind on the game. If this boy Schalk is always chatting or doing something behind the bat, I can't figure how he manages to keep it up, for he works it on every batter throughout the game."

Omaha, Lincoln and St. Joseph In Three-Cornered Tangle for Missouri Valley Championship

First Elimination Contest to Be Staged in Omaha This Week Between Central and Capital City Elevens; Omaha Fans Lean Toward Central Because of Mulligan's Style.

The scramble for the Missouri Valley interscholastic football championship has narrowed down to three teams—Central High of Omaha, Lincoln and St. Joseph.

These three elevens stand out pre-eminent in the race for the cherished title. All three have yet to taste the bitter dose of defeat and have vanquished all opponents in decisive fashion.

LEWIS HIKES FOR BUSH WHEN MARIN HOVES INTO VIEW

Strangler Decides Detroit Isn't Such Nice City After All When Plestina Arrives on Scene.

Edwin (Strangler) Lewis has left Detroit flat on its back. And thereby hangs a tale.

The Strangler, well known in Omaha—to most people, perhaps—invasion Detroit a short while ago and modestly informed the fans of that city that he was the greatest wrestler in the world. A few victories over second-raters aided the Strangler in convincing the Detroit fans of his remarkable prowess and it looked like a profitable winter for the Strangler and his camp.

But the Strangler forgot that caution was the greater part of valor and told the Detroit fans he would wrestle any man in the world. William Demetral, the Greek grappler, is making Detroit his headquarters and learning of Lewis' sweeping assertion, summoned Marin Plestina, Omaha heavyweight, to Detroit. Plestina went into Detroit with a chip on his shoulder and 1,000 bucks, regular United States coin of the realm, in his first. He dared Lewis to knock off the chip and put up the \$1,000 with a Detroit sporting editor.

The Strangler tried to throw a bluff by offering to wrestle Marin for the \$1,000 in private, but when Marin almost broke a leg in his eagerness to accept, Lewis ducked.

The next day Lewis no longer was a resident of the beautiful little city of Detroit. At last reports he was headed for the bush, while Marin held the fort in Detroit.

Plestina is in Detroit now and the fans are reported to be crazy about him. It is said the Wolverines have all kinds of coin that says Marin can twist Joe Stecher's tail if Joe can be coaxed into a ring with him again.

College Star Caught in Act of Playing Base Ball. Bacon, star Wabash college base ball and football player, who played last season in the Three-I league under the name of Williams, has been found out at his college and barred from college athletics on the ground that he is a professional. They do say that last season wasn't his first professional experience, but the college authorities were asleep.

St. Louis Athletes Now Wear Uncle Sam's Khaki. Both St. Louis ball clubs are represented in the army camp at Camp Pike. Little Rock. Pitcher Fincher, recalled by the St. Louis Browns from Portland, and Pitcher Elmo Knight, purchased by the St. Louis Cardinals from Little Rock, are the players in khaki. Floyd Kroh, veteran pitcher of major and minor leagues, is also in training at Camp Pike.

Washington Catcher Weds Girl From Connecticut. Catcher Ed Gharriety of the Washington team was not bothered about the outcome of the world's series. He was too busy getting married. At New London, Conn., he led Miss Margaret Donahue to the altar. They started west immediately on a honeymoon.

Much-Sought Athlete is Now Sergeant in the Army. Tom Hickey, the Santa Clara university player whose services were sought by Connie Mack and other major league managers last spring, is now at an army training camp enlisted for the war. He has been made a sergeant and hopes to work up to a commission.

Omaha Amateur Player Hurt in Rail Accident. John Mongerson, catcher for the Ramblers of the Greater Omaha league, lost part of his left arm as a result of a railroad accident near Hyannis. Mongerson was one of the best class A catchers in the city and he will be sadly missed by his old teammates.

Joe Stecher and Charley Peters To Wrestle Again, Says Report. That Joe Stecher and Charley Peters are about to be matched for a clash in Omaha Thanksgiving day, is a rumor current in local wrestling circles.

Stecher and Peters met at the Omaha Auditorium in February this year. Stecher returned victorious after 46 minutes of rapid-fire grappling.

At that time, Stecher was in his prime. Peters, then, declared he was suffering from boils and from the effects of a long siege of bronchitis. The boils, he contends, sapped his strength and the bronchitis had so injured his lungs that his wind was bad. Now, claiming he is in much better shape, Peters is clamoring for a return match.

Negotiations, it is known, have been under way for some time and it is said articles for the match will be signed this week.

Peters believes he can throw Stecher this time and his confidence is shared by many Papillion followers. "Boils took much of my strength," said Peters, "when I met Stecher before. My wind was bad too as a result of the bronchitis. I am physically O. K. now and I know I can beat Stecher. He wasn't so much better than I was last time and I'm 100 per cent improved now in every way."

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Former Central High Grid Star Big Aid to Creighton



"CHUCK" MOREARTY

WESTERN MOGULS SECRETLY MEET OWNERS OF A. A.

Hold Star Chamber Sessions Regarding Shifts in Territory; League to Meet November 11.

Western league club owners already have been in conference with American association magnates who own clubs in the western half of the Class AA circuit, regarding the shifts on the way in the redistributing of minor league territory.

These conferences have been informal and secret; the magnates have camouflaged their movements and will not even admit the confab, but they are known to have occurred.

This is taken to mean that the club owners who will control the franchise in the new Western, or new American association, whichever it is to be called, have arrived at, or at least are arriving at plans for this new circuit and will be ready to present their facts and figures at the minor league meeting at Louisville.

Meet Early. The Western league will clear the decks for action before the national association meeting. President Dickerson has called a league meeting for November 11, two days before the big convention. The meeting will be held at Louisville so the Western moguls can be on the job in plenty of time for the work.

The Western has a few matters of its own to thresh out. Pa Rourke and Ed Hanlon, it is said, have something to say. Their speeches will have to do with the finances of the loop. Several of the clubs, it is reported, are in arrears in their dues and Hanlon and Rourke intend to demand that they pay up, stay up and put up a forfeit of good faith. The way the Western league has been run, a couple of clubs could quit and the league blow sky high with no protection for the other owners. Hanlon and Rourke intend to make it mandatory that each club put up a heavy forfeit to protect the remaining clubs.

Germans Identified U. S. Soldiers On Ball Field. Germans held prisoners in France wouldn't believe the American soldiers now behind the front were anything else but Canadians or perhaps British until they saw them play ball. Now they know better. A correspondent writing from the front tells the story thus:

The Sammies used to meet German prisoners on the road every day. Once in a while they would strike one who could speak English—and the story was always the same.

"You can't tell us you're Americans," said one German spokesman. "You're Englishmen in American uniforms. The Americans can't bring over troops because the U-boats are sinking their transports."

One day when the Sammies had an afternoon off two ball teams fought out the regimental championship on a typical old sand lot. Working in a distant field the German prisoners "stalled" on the job watching the game. One of the ball players met a German on his way back.

"Who won?" asked the prisoner in English. "We did, 6 to 4."

"You must be Americans, all right," he remarked sadly. "No Englishmen could play ball like you fellows did. I'm 100 per cent improved now in every way."

Plestina declares war on Bill Hokuff. This is a warning to Big Bill Hokuff. Recently, Hokuff wrestled Stecher at Central City. It was advertised that Hokuff had defeated Marin Plestina in straight falls.

Back in Detroit, Marin has just heard the news. The roar that followed could be heard all over Michigan.

Plestina points out that he threw Hokuff at Mason City, Ia., in August. He pinned Big Bill twice in 21 minutes, faster time than did Stecher.

WHOLE MINOR LEAGUE MAP TO BE REDISTRIBUTED WHEN MOGULS MEET IN KAINTUCK

Practically Every League in the National Association Will Undergo Changes in Redistribution of Territory Which Is Bound to Come; Omaha One of the Cities Involved.

Just as certain as the kaiser eventually will draw his unconditional release, the whole minor league base ball map of the United States is going to be redistributed when the annual meeting of the National Association of Professional Base Ball leagues occurs at Louisville starting November 13.

BAN THE HORRID SPITTER. URGES WESTERN PREXIE

Dickerson Goes on Record as Strong Opponent of Freak Deliveries, With Spit Ball as Mark.

Whatever may be the action of the major leagues in barring the spitball and other forms of freak pitching, the minors will take a stand that will cleanse the game of such deliveries and at the same time add to the action of diamond play by putting on the ban, if Emerson W. Dickerson of the Western League has his way.

A strong attack on the spitball particularly the president of the Western circuit intimates that he will suggest action that will bar it among the minors. Coming from the president of a league in which various forms of freak deliveries, even including the emery ball, were said to have been used in the past season, Dickerson's remarks are significant and of interest.

President Dickerson says: "The nasty, slimy, and insanitary spitball should be made illegal, and that will do away with a dozen or more kindred deliveries that are cutting down batting and depriving baseball fans of that which they enjoy the most—hard and clean hitting."

"It is folly to attempt to stop other freak deliveries and still permit the spitball, for it gives the chance for disguise under which the other deliveries are prepared. The so-called emery ball is nothing more or less than a polished and a rough surface on opposite sides of the ball, the air resistance bringing about an almost unhittable shoot."

When pitchers are permitted to expectorate on the ball they also can polish. It takes little roughness to make the shoot, sufficient being made by the scraping of sharp fingernails over the seams. Once the ball hits the ground it is plenty rough enough for the emery ball worker. The leather that base balls are covered with now is not of the high quality formerly used. It is easily roughed.

Pitcher Should Be Penalized. A penalty should be provided for a pitcher discoloring, roughing, or dampening a ball in any way. That will mean more batting, and that is what the fans want to see. As it is now, a pitcher with a good spitter or emery ball makes monkeys of almost all batters and turns the game into a one man band. The more batting the more real action there is.

The real freak ball pitchers take from a half hour to an hour longer to pitch a game than those who pitch as pitchers should, and they make the games in which they take part both slow and tiresome. Every player on both teams who is at all responsible for the slowness should be fined when a contest of nine innings lasts over two hours. When two freak delivery slab artists are opposed to each other it is rarely a game is played inside of two and one-half hours. It almost always takes over two hours to play a game in which one of the pitchers uses a freak delivery, which requires a considerable pause before the pitching of each ball.

A contest of nine innings should be played in an hour and a half or thereabouts at all times, and there is little excuse for any contest running over that time. Players who strut and pose should be given to understand that each moment they add to the playing time of a game means the loss of time to business men, who do not begrudge the time they are giving to regular play, but who are driven away from base ball by dilatory tactics.

The fact that the demand for seats to the world's series this year was four times as great as the capacity of each park in which the games were played showed the public has not by any means lost its interest in base ball. Instead, it indicates a greater interest than ever before. Fast and snappy play, in which the players seem to take a fighting interest, is what the public wants and that is the kind of base ball the Western league expects to provide for its patrons next year.

Batting Attracts the Crowd. Attributing the apparent falling off of interest in certain sections of the country to the absence of the thrills there are in free batting games when pitchers with freak deliveries cut it down. When you pay your money to see a stage performance you expect to see all the actors of the company take some part in the performance. When freak ball delivery pitchers work only two or three of the players have anything to do. Players will tell you the best part of the game for them is batting, and I believe free batting is what the fans most like to see.

When you stop to think of the way disease might be spread through the use of spitballs, it is enough to make one shudder. Slimy balls cannot be handled like dry balls, and the use of the spitter means wild throws galore. Just imagine working behind the bat with slimy spit splashing with each pitched ball. One tubercular sufferer on the slab might contaminate every other on the Giants' team. The national league has also sent several dozen base balls to the hospital league. The trophy is of silver and is nearly three feet high.

Benny Kauff Headed For Vaudeville, So 'Tis Said. According to Joe Santley, the actor, Benny Kauff has agreed to make an appearance in a vaudeville sketch written by Santley. Also, according to Santley, Benny is going to get \$2,500 a week for doing it. All this according to Santley. Another story about Benny is that he was so confident the Giants would win the series that he bet his "winner's" share on it. He even made one bet that the Giants would win four straight.

Russell Damages Meat Hand by Grabbing Ball. Don't use your meat hand to stop hard hit balls that are batted back at you. If you do you may put an end to your pitching career.

This is the advice Allen Russell, Yankee spitballer, has to offer brother members of the pitching fraternity, and it is well worth consideration.

Early this spring Russell reached for a hard ball through the box with his nude flipper. He got his hand on the ball and succeeded in retarding its progress, but immediately afterward he suffered a sharp pain in the first two digits of his pitching hook, which was followed by numbness. Then his hand grew cold and he had to retire from the game.

National Loop Donates Cup to League in London. The National league has donated a trophy cup to the London Hospital Base Ball league, an organization which has been active in the American game during the last summer. In the London hospitals are several American physicians and numerous Americans and Canadians who are promoting the pastime. The National league has also sent several dozen base balls to the hospital league. The trophy is of silver and is nearly three feet high.

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