ROURKES START 1918 SEASON AT HOME WEDNESDAY

Opening Day and Military Day Will Be Simultaneous Events This Year; Simple Ceremonies.

Colonel Pickering, commander of the 41st infantry stationed at Fort Crook, will throw the first ball at the opening game of the Western league season in Omaha at Rourke park Wednesday afternoon. Major Maher of the Omaha quartermaster's depot will catch Colonel Pickering's pitch, providing the colonel's control is good.

Omaha will observe Opening Day and Military Day simultaneously Wednesday when the Rourkes usher in the 1918 Western league season on the home lot.

Although earlier in the spring Pa Rourke planned to make opening day a notable event, he has concluded a plan of simple ceremonies will be best.

All of the soldiers at Fort Omaha and Fort Crook will be guests of Rourke at the opening game. This applies to officers and enlisted men and Rourke has urged the commanders of the two local posts to give as many of their soldiers as possible a chance to attend the first game of the season.

Real music will be provided by the 41st infantry military band from Fort Crook.

Dickerson Here.

Emerson Dickerson, president of the Western league, has promised to attend the opening game here to see what Omaha can do in the way of supporting its ball club.

Omaha again will make a bid to capture the Arthur Capper cup, presented by the governor of Kansas to the club recording the highest paid attendance on opening day.

The first year the Capper cup was offered, 1916, Omaha won the trophy hands down with an attendance of more than 5,000. Last year, however, Wichita stole a march on the Gate City when the weather man unloosed a blast that cut the Omaha attendance down to less than 2,000.

This season, however, Omaha has an excellent chance to win the trophy again. The Chamber of Commerce, Rotary club and other civic organizations are boosting the event and many business houses will give their employes the freedom of the afternoon so they may attend the game.

Deserve Support.

The Rourkes this year deserve the support of the Gate City fans. In the face of the many obstacles which confront the base ball magnate in these times of trouble and strife, Pa Rourke has assembled a nifty ball club. Only one team in the last decade looked any better at the start of the year than the present aggregation. That was the championship team of 1916 which included such players as Ernie Krueger, Peterkin Kilduff, now in the majors—Lou North, Ray Miller, Marty Krug and Cy Forsythe.

But the 1918 team appears to be a real team. It looks like a team that would put up a stiff fight in Class A in times of peace and such a team is little short of a gem in times of war. One veteran Omaha fan who has seen many Rourkes come and go in his time, remarked the other day after scanning the lineups of the eight teams of the Western league: "If it was a certainty Rourke could hold every one of the present players for the entire season, I would be willing to bet even money Omaha finishes one-two."

That is the only problem that faces Rourke, the element of uncertainty of retaining his players. The war may riddle his team at any time. But all base ball magnates face the same problem.

A new manager will lead the Rourkes into battle Wednesday. He is Bill Jackson, late of Peoria. Jackson plays first base as well as manages the club, and he is considerable first sacker. He formerly played with Seattle and when the Federal league was organized he jumped from the coast to the Chicago Feds, where he made an enviable record. When the Feds were taken over by organized ball, Joe Tinker, for whom Jackson played at Chicago, sent Bill to Peoria to manage that club, in which Tinker owned stock. Jackson won two pennants for Peoria in the Three-I league. Then last year when the Three-I aviated, Jackson took his Peoria team into the Central league. They accepted a place almost at the bottom of the standing of the teams in order to get into the league. And they almost set the loop on fire. Had the season been a little longer Peoria probably would have won another pennant.

Of Fighting Type.

Jackson is a manager of the fighting type. He isn't a rowdy ball player or anything like that, but he has the knack of instilling the spirit of the game into his men. A team led by Jackson can be depended upon to scrap, even though fighting against seemingly too great odds. And that's what the fans like to see.

On paper the Rourke outfield and infield seem to be easily the class of the league with such stars as Defate, Donican, Manford, Bashang, Holderman, Callahan, Nye and Jackson himself. The catching department, Pratt, a veteran, and Lingle, a recruit, should hold its own. The fate of the Rourkes hangs on the pitching staff. Of the six pitchers, only two, Merz and O'Toole, are veterans. If the other four, the youngsters, prove winners—or if only two of them prove winners—the Rourkes have more than a fighting chance for the Western league pennant.

Sioux City will be Omaha's opponent Wednesday.

PESEK MATCHED TO MEET PETERS HERE NEXT MONTH

Newest Nebraska Mat Sensation to Make First Main Attraction Appearance in Omaha in June.

John Pesek, Nebraska newest wrestling sensation, will make his first appearance as a main attraction in Omaha early in June. He will clash with Charlie Peters, the Papillion carpenter.

Arrangements for the Pesek-Peters match were consummated by Mart Slattery, manager of Pesek, and Jack Lewis, manager of Peters, at Lincoln following Pesek's victory over Yussif Hussane.

Lewis, in behalf of Peters, made a ringside challenge to the winner of the Pesek-Hussane bout. When Pesek earned the victory, Slattery immediately accepted and Omaha was named as the place. Lewis will promote the go.

No date was established, owing to a bum wing Pesek is nursing. Two or three weeks ago a growth of some kind made an unexpected appearance on Pesek's arm. For 10 days prior to the match with Hussane Pesek did no training at all, on account of the injured member and when he entered the ring with Hussane it was the first time he had been on a mat in the 10-day period. He was practically a one-armed wrestler.

In order to be sure that the arm is entirely well before he tackles Peters, Pesek asked that no definite date be named. He hopes to beat the growth by the middle of May, so that he will have two weeks of training before June. In the event the arm is repaired, as expected, the Pesek-Peters match will be announced for a date as soon after June 1 as possible.

Lewis Boosts Pesek.

Jack Lewis, even though manager of a rival wrestler, described Pesek as one of the greatest wrestlers in the game, after seeing the Lincoln match. "I dislike to offer alibis of any kind and this may sound suspiciously like an alibi," said Lewis, "but Pesek was fighting against great odds in his match with Hussane. I am confident he would have won two straight falls over Hussane in quick time had it not been for his weak arm. The arm was practically useless to him. Even though Pesek won from Hussane on a referee's decision, it was a real victory. The ring was much too small. It was far short of the regulation size. And Hussane, taking advantage of this, rolled to the ropes in every mixup.

"Pesek, I believe, is one of the greatest wrestlers in the game," continued Lewis. "I have hopes that Peters will beat him. But, to be perfectly honest with myself as well as the fans, I will only say the match will be one of the best ever held in Omaha, because I believe Pesek and Peters are as evenly matched as any two wrestlers in the world. And as I maintain that Joe Stecher is the only man in the world who can beat Peters—and then only because of the peculiar adaptibility of Stecher for a wrestler of Peter's style—you can understand what I think of Pesek."

BRANDEIS PLAY 41ST INFANTRY IN OMAHA TODAY

The Rourkes will play in Des Moines this afternoon, but Omaha fans will be treated to a classy diamond fray at Rourke park anyway. Fred Bradford's Brandeis store semi-pro nine will clash with the 41st Infantry team from Fort Crook at 3:15.

Both the Brandeis and the soldiers went down to defeat before the Rourkes and each has a hunch their ball team is the better. Today's game will tell.

The soldiers have been working hard of late and expect to have a stronger team in the field than when they played the Rourkes. The Brandeis also are a bit stronger, two old favorites, George Graham and Roy Platz, having returned to decorate Bradford's infield.

The 41st Infantry band will be on hand to furnish music for the occasion, so it will be considerable afternoon.

The lineup:

BRANDEIS STORES.		FORT CROOK.
McGrath	First	Jahoover
Graham	Second	Waller
Synek	Third	Coffin
Platz	Short	Umboski
Robon	Left	Paxon
Dygert	Center	Wheeler
Lawler	Right	Pool
H. Williams	Catch	Wooten
Olson	Pitch	J. Williams

First Round in Girls' Tennis Tourney Is Finished

The first round of the Central High school girls' tennis tourney has been completed and several games played in the next two rounds. Nearly half of the matches scheduled have been forfeited. The winner of the tournament is still uncertain. The results of the weeks' games are:

Naomi Gignox won from Mildred Benson by default, Lillian Kavan won from Lois Thompson by default, Helen Lud beat Georgiana Steel by default, Katherine Singles beat Olga Schermerhorn in two straight sets, 6-3; 6-3; Mildred Wohlford beat Helen Sorenson by default, Myrl Fonda won from Geraldine Roberts by default and Elta Kensinger defeated Margaret Thompson, 6-2, 6-0.

Amateur Standings

STANDARD OIL LEAGUE.

Polarines, 5; Red Crowns, 4.
Perfection Oils, 3; Mica Axel Grease, 2.
President A. H. Richardson pitched first ball. G. M. Smith, vice president, received same.

STANDARD OIL LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	L.	Pct.
Polarines	1	1	0	1.000
Perfection Oils	1	1	0	1.000
Red Crowns	1	0	1	.000
Mica Axle Grease	1	0	1	.000
Perfection Cookers	0	0	0	.000
Perfection Heaters	0	0	0	.000

English Woman Golfer to Aid Red Cross

Mrs. William A. Gavin, the former English golf champion and present Metropolitan title holder, will play the most expert professional and amateur golfers in the country in aid of the Red Cross fund. George Low, the Baltusrol professional, will be Mrs. Gavin's first opponent. This match will be played on the Baltusrol course on Sunday, May 8. Low has agreed to give Mrs. Gavin a handicap of nine strokes for the 18-hole course. Mrs. Gavin's recent defeat of Jerome Travers, one of the greatest golf champions ever developed on American links, was quite a shock to golfing fans throughout the country. The fact that Travers allowed his English woman rival a handicap of nine strokes over an 18-hole course detracts nothing from her wonderful victory, as she held her opponent even on many holes. It is expected the matches will assist greatly in raising funds for the Red Cross.

SEASON IS ON; AMATEUR LADS BEGIN TO ROAR

Florence Merchants and Trimble Brothers Tangle in Protest That Even Directors Can't Solve.

By FRANK QUIGLEY.

Yep, the sky may be blue today, but the local amateurs will not be in a melancholy mood. After hopping to it for two consecutive Sundays, while the weather man was asleep, the local bean pushers might possibly be affected with heart trouble if a real sunshiny day would greet them. Although the weather has been everything but satisfactory for night practice nevertheless most all of the teams are in the pink of condition and with but few exceptions palatable base ball has been delivered to the hungry fans hereabouts.

A meeting of the American leaguers was held last week to decide the controversy between the Florence Merchants and the Trimble Bros. Both teams were garbed with excellent arguments and as it was a difficult matter to ascertain which squad was in the wrong pew, it was decided to relegate this game to the river and play it over. It developed at said convention that the Trimble Bros. had a joy ride all mapped out for today to Schuyler, Neb., consequently they wanted to cancel their engagement, billed for three and a half strikes at Riverview park this afternoon, but Manager Bogue of the McCaffreys refused to cancel the prearranged matinee, so the Trimbles will parade around at Riverview park with the McCaffrey Motor crew this afternoon.

Only Five Clubs.

The City league has decided to pump through the season with five teams. By not answering the roll call for two games the Walter G. Clark's automatically forfeited their franchise. Today the Morris & Co. crew will be off, so this gang will battle out at Fort Omaha against the horsehide pelters stationed there, at 3 p. m. A forfeit game will be allowed each team in the league for the first round.

Well, another Saturday league has been ushered through the gates. It broke the ice yesterday. The general opinion that a Saturday league would be organized hinged on the negative. Because of the fact that many of the star youngsters of the Union Pacific's league have been called to the colors, leaving huge gaps in the different teams, to date this league has not reorganized. It seems as though the fading veterans and the youthful timber not quite ripe for military service could fill aforementioned gaps. It would make the competition keener if two Saturday leagues were on the boards. Anyway the Standard Oil Co. will play along with a league composed of six teams, namely Red Crown Gasoline, Polarines, Perfection Oil, Mica Axle Grease, Perfection Cookers and Perfection Heaters. Two games were reeled off in this league yesterday afternoon between the Polarines and Red Crown Gasoline and the Perfection Oils and Mica Axle Grease. The Perfection Cook-

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Major League Averages

National League.

TEAM BATTING.

	G.	AB.	R.	H.	SH.	SB.	Pct.
New York	12	410	80	131	22	19	.320
Cincinnati	13	311	34	110	12	9	.260
Philadelphia	12	401	46	104	8	12	.259
Pittsburgh	9	284	37	69	12	14	.243
Brooklyn	12	398	37	95	10	8	.239
Chicago	10	314	39	75	16	5	.239
St. Louis	12	387	36	89	10	6	.230
Boston	12	396	38	69	11	3	.225

TEAM FIELDING.

	W.	L.	DP.	PO.	A.	E.	Pct.
St. Louis	4	8	11	319	173	15	.970
New York	11	10	11	323	195	17	.968
Pittsburgh	4	5	10	229	121	12	.967
Cincinnati	7	6	14	345	180	19	.965
Boston	3	9	8	309	162	24	.952
Brooklyn	2	10	8	309	165	26	.948
Chicago	7	3	7	269	132	23	.946
Philadelphia	8	4	16	324	167	29	.944

BATTING AVERAGES.

	G.	AB.	R.	H.	SH.	SB.	Pct.
McCarty, N. Y.	8	20	1	10	0	1	.500
Smth, Boston	12	47	5	20	0	0	.426
Doyle, N. Y.	12	42	11	17	2	2	.405
Paulette, St. L.	12	40	2	16	1	0	.400
G. Burns, N. Y.	12	41	15	16	3	7	.390
Bancroft, Phila.	12	47	9	18	0	0	.381
Mollwitz, Pitts.	9	32	3	12	4	2	.375
Kauff, N. Y.	12	46	13	17	5	1	.370
Carey, Pitts.	9	30	7	11	0	5	.367
Stock, Phila.	12	44	6	16	1	2	.364
L. Magee, Cinn.	13	48	7	17	3	3	.354
J. Smyth, St. L.	8	20	3	7	0	0	.350
Roush, Cinn.	13	46	5	16	5	4	.348
Allen, Cinn.	8	23	0	8	0	0	.348
Deal, Chgo.	10	32	3	11	3	2	.344
Blkburne, Cinn.	13	45	2	15	0	0	.333
Myers, Brklyn.	8	30	6	10	1	2	.333
Young, N. Y.	12	54	15	18	1	2	.333
Rariden, N. Y.	8	18	2	6	2	0	.333
Zim'erman, N. Y.	12	50	4	16	0	1	.320
Hickm'n, Brklyn.	12	35	5	11	3	1	.315
Holke, N. Y.	12	45	4	14	2	2	.311
Hollocher, Chgo.	10	30	4	12	2	0	.308
Hornsby, St. L.	12	46	5	14	1	0	.304
Daubert, Brklyn.	12	46	9	14	1	3	.304

PITCHING RECORDS.

	G.	W.	L.	Pct.	IP.	R.	H.	BB.	SO.
Bressler, Cinn.	4	3	0	1.000	35	14	35	12	20
Ha'ilton, Pitt.	3	3	0	1.000	27	3	31	7	8
Tesreau, N. Y.	3	3	0	1.000	21	3	18	6	10
Barnes, N. Y.	4	3	0	1.000	23	4	20	4	4
May, St. L.	4	2	0	1.000	27	4	21	6	15
Hogg, Phila.	2	2	0	1.000	18	3	12	2	7
De'aree, N. Y.	2	2	0	1.000	16	9	20	3	2
Miller, Pitts.	2	1	0	1.000	17	5	11	3	3
Sallee, N. Y.	2	1	0	1.000	10	3	9	2	2
Conley, Cinn.	2	1	0	1.000	3	2	5	1	0
Hendrix, Chi.	1	1	0	1.000	9	2	8	0	3
O'schger, Phil.	1	1	0	1.000	9	6	1	2	1
Main, Phila.	1	0	0	1.000	9	4	1	2	2
Perritt, N. Y.	1	1	0	1.000	9	5	9	1	2
Mayer, Phila.	4	3	1	.750	35	10	25	6	9
Vaughn, Chi.	4	3	1	.750	29	3	19	10	18
Al'ander, Chi.	3	2	1	.667	26	7	19	3	15
Nehf, Boston.	4	2	2	.500	34	16	35	9	12
Eller, Cinn.	5	2	2	.500	26	9	21	6	10
Cheney, Brk.	5	1	1	.500	16	5	10	3	11
And'son, N. Y.	4	1	1	.500	24	6	17	2	7
Sherdel, St. L.	3	1	1	.500	14	3	15	0	1
Tyler, Chi.	2	1	1	.500	20	7	13	4	10
Sch'der, Cin.	4	1	2	.333	32	7	19	13	12
P'd'gast, Phil.	3	1	2	.333	22	13	27	6	7
Coombs, Brk.	3	1	2	.333	25	11	19	4	2
Ragan, Bos.	3	1	2	.333	25	11	22	12	9
M'dows, St. L.	4	1	3	.250	30	10	24	11	7
Marq'd, Brk.	5	0	3	.000	22	20	33	4	13
Packard, St. L.	3	0	3	.000	21	12	25	3	3
Grimes, Brk.	4	0	2	.000	22	14	21	11	9
Hearne, Bos.	4	0	2	.000	19	8	16	5	4
Sanders, Pitt.	2	0	2	.000	15	5	11	4	3
Hughes, Bos.	2	0	2	.000	17	8	15	3	8
Tincup, Phil.	4	0	1	.000	7	18	17	3	4
Mamaux, Brk.	2	0	1	.000	8	6	14	2	2
Regan, Cin.	2	0	1	.000	10	9	13	4	4
Reuther, Cin.	2	0	1	.000	10	9	10	3	10
Carlson, Pit.	2	0	1	.000	5	4	6	3	2

American Association.

Score:	R.	H.	E.
Indianapolis	4	12	2
Toledo	1	10	0

Batteries: Northrop and Schang; Brady and Devine.

Score:	R.	H.	E.
Louisville	13	21	4
Columbus	5	7	5

Batteries: Shackleford and Kocher; George Bluejacket, Zaehniser and Hartley.

Score:	R.	H.	E.
St. Paul	3	5	1
Kansas City	5	9	3

Batteries: Keating and Glenn; Caporal, Johnson and Blackburn, Onslow.

Score:	R.	H.	E.
Minneapolis	1	4	2
Milwaukee	3	6	1

Batteries: Shellenbach and Owens; Johnson and Kuhn.

College Base Ball.

Princeton, N. J., May 4.—Yale, 4; Princeton, 3.

Philadelphia, May 4.—Pennsylvania, 9; Columbia, 5.

Southern Association.

Mobile, 3; Atlanta, 4.
New Orleans, 2; Birmingham, 0.
Chattanooga, 3; Little Rock, 5.
Nashville, 0; Memphis, 2.

American League.

TEAM BATTING.

	G.	AB.	R.	H.	SH.	SB.	Pct.
Cleveland	11	361	58	109	13	18	.301
St. Louis	10	322	39	91	16	9	.283
Chicago	8	270	43	75	9	10	.278
New York	13	429	58	110	17	3	.256
Washington	12	385	46	94	17	7	.244
Detroit	7	245	25	58	6	11	.237
Boston	14	417	53	97	24	19	.233
Philadelphia	11	341	21	73	9	6	.214

TEAM FIELDING.

	W.	L.	DP.	PO.	A.	E.	Pct.
St. Louis	4	6	11	261	137	10	.975
Chicago	5	3	3	213	99	8	.975
Boston	11	3	14	375	190	15	.974
Philadelphia	3	8	13	285	161	16	.965
New York	6	7	14	346	185	20	.964
Cleveland	7	4	12	302	151	17	.964
Detroit	2	5	8	194	94	12	.960
Washington	5	7	12	325	161	28	.946

BATTING AVERAGES.

	G.	AB.	R.	H.	SH.	SB.	Pct.
Speaker, Cleve.	11	38	11	20	0	7	.526
Gandil, Chi.	8	28	7	13	0	1	.464
Jackson, Chi.	8	32	6	14	2	3	.438
Wambsganss, Cle	7	26	2	11	1	0	.423
Ruth, Boston	6	42	3	5	2	1	.417
McMullin, Chi.	6	15	8	6	2	1	.400
O'Neill, Cleve.	11	35	7	14	1	1	.400
Strunk, Bos.	13	44	7	17	1	5	.386
Lavan, Wash.	12	39	4	15	0	2	.385
Baker, New Y.	13	48	6	18	3	0	.376
Hooper, Bos.	14	43	9	16	1	4	.372
A. Russell, N.Y.	5	11	0	4	1	0	.364
Shanks, Wash.	12	48	5	17	1	0	.354
Turner, Cleve.	6	20	3	7	1	0	.350
Roth, Cleve.	11	41	5	14	3	4	.341
Hannah, N. Y.	11	33	2	11	0	0	.333
Tobin, St. L.	9	33	5	11	1	1	.333
Young, Det.	7	20	2	8	1	0	.333
Shotton, Wash.	12	43	7	14	2	2	.326
Gedeon, St. L.	10	40	6	13	0	1	.325
Burns, Phila.	11	42	5	13	0	0	.309
Sisler, St. L.	10	42	5	13	0	2	.309
Graney, Cleve.	0	13	3	4	0	1	.308
Demmitt, St. L.	8	20	4	6	2	0	.300

PITCHING AVERAGES.

	G.	W.	L.	Pct.	IP.	R.	H.	BB.	SO.
Cov'l'skie, Cle.	4	4	0	1000	39	10	28	12	11
Bush, Bos.	3	3	0	1000	27	2	14	7	8
Williams, Chi.	3	3	0	1000	24	5	13	15	9
Coumbe, Cle.	3	2	0	1000	21	7	19	10	2
Yingl'g, Wash.	3	1	0	1000	16	7	12	6	8
Morton, Cle.	2	1	0	1000	12	8	13	7	7
Faber, Chi.	2	1	0	1000	9	2	8	5	2
Benz, Chi.	1	1	0	1000	9	3	9	2	1
Mays, Bos.	4	3	1	.750	36	9	29	9	20
Ruth, Bos.	4	3	1	.750	35	10	27	11	9
Mogr'g, N. Y.	4	3	1	.750	19	9	19	2	1
Leonard, Bos.	3	2	1	.667	21	12	22	19	10
Gallia, St. L.	3	2	1	.667	20	12	20	11	9
Russell, N. Y.	5	2	2	.500	31	10	23	21	8
Love, N. Y.	5	1	1	.500	27	10	22	8	5
Davnpt, St. L.	3	1	1	.500	18	11	19	10	6
James, Det.	2	1	1	.500	20	6	12	12	10
Dum't, Wash.	3	1	1	.500	12	9	15	4	8
Ayers, Wash.	3	1	1	.500	22	8	27	7	5
Jnson, Wash.	5	2	3	.400	40	16	36	14	15
Perry, Phil.	4	1	2	.333	26	4	20	10	1
Myers, Phil.	4	1	2	.333	22	12	18	10	3
Gregg, Phila.	3	1	2	.333	25	2	12	2	7
L'drmk, St. L.	3	1	2	.333	21	10	21	10	5
Erickson, Det.	3	1	2	.333	21	10	22	13	4
Cicotte, Chi.	4	0	3	.000	22	17	32	4	11
Thormln, N.Y.	4	0	2	.000	23	15	18	11	2
Adams, Phila.	4	0	2	.000	14	7	13	10	3
Bagby, Cleve.	3	0	2	.000	11	11	22	5	4
Groom, Cleve.	2	0	2	.000	6	10	14	6	1
Sothrn, St. L.	4	0	1	.000	16	7	12	10	1
Shaw, Wash.	4	0	1	.000	13	8	14	4	6
Finnoran, Det.	3	0	1	.000	9	10	15	5	0
Harper, Wash.	3	0	1	.000	5	6	4	11	1

Omaha Gas Bike Riders to Hold an Economy Contest

Omaha gas bike riders will compete in a gasoline economy test at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Twenty-seventh and Pinkney streets is the starting point.

Sam B. Carpender, president of the Omaha Mortorcycle club, will act as referee. The contest is one of a nation-wide series to be staged under the auspices of the Federation of American Motorcyclists and the Allied Trades association in all the large cities of the country.

Each contestant will be given one quart of gas. The mileage will be taken by the judge at the time the tank runs dry. The course over which the local riders will compete runs from Twenty-seventh and Pinkney, four blocks north, one west, four south and back to starting point.

The competition is divided in three classes: First, for three-speed solo machines of more than 45 inches displacement; second, for three-speed side car combinations; third, for three-speed solo machines of 45 inches displacement or less.

SPEAKER GAINS LEAD IN BATTLE FOR SWAT TITLE

Cleveland Center Fielder Blazes Trail With Average of .526; McCarty Is National Leader.

Chicago, May 4.—Tris Speaker is "over the top" with a comfortable lead in the race for the 1918 batting honors of the American league. Averages released today show him blazing the trail with a mark of .526 for 11 games. Gandil of Chicago, his nearest rival, is 62 points behind him. The averages include games of Wednesday.

Speaker, in 38 trips to the plate, drove out 20 hits—five of them doubles and two triples. He also leads the base stealers with seven. Chapman, his teammate, and Pipp and Gilhooley of New York are tied for honors in runs scored each having registered a dozen. Jackson of Chicago, Gedeon of St. Louis, Burns of Philadelphia, Baker of New York, Shanks of Washington and Chapman have a home run apiece to their credit. Dave Shean of Boston is leading in sacrifice hitting with six.

Cobb is Absent.

Ty Cobb, the 1917 batting champion, does not appear in today's average, as illness kept him out of the early season games and the Detroit club was idle several days due to weather conditions.

Cleveland is leading in club batting with an average of .301 an St. Louis in team fielding with .975. The 10 leading batters:

Speaker, Cleveland, .526; Gandil, Chicago, .464; Jackson, Chicago, .438; Wambsganss, Cleveland, 423; Ruth, Boston, 417; McMullin, Chicago, 400; O'Neill, Cleveland, 400; Strunk, Boston, 386; Lavan, Washington, 385, Baker, New York, 376.

Giants Cop Honors.

Members of the championship New York club are in possession of virtually all of the early season honors in the National league, with Lew McCarty, the catcher, showing the way to the batters with an average of .500 for eight games. The averages include games of Wednesday. There are four New Yorkers among the 10 leading hitters.

George Burns, the Giant's left fielder, is leading the base stealers with seven, and is tied with Young, his teammate, for honors in runs scored with 15. Kauff of New York and Roush of Cincinnati each have made five sacrifice hits. Fred Luderus of Philadelphia is topping the list of home-run hitters with two in twelve games.

New York is leading in club batting with an average of .320, and St. Louis in club fielding with .970. The 10 leading batters:

McCarty, New York, .500; Smith, Boston, .426; Doyle, New York, 405; Paulette, St. Louis, .400; George Burns, New York, .390; Bancroft, Philadelphia, .381; Mollwitz, Pittsburgh, 375; Kauff, New York, .370; Carey, Pittsburgh, .367; Stock, Philadelphia, .364.

Lightweight Champions To Appear at Benefit

San Francisco, May 4.—The lightweight boxing champion and a former holder of the title are both in this city to give their services next Friday night at a great exhibition boxing tournament. Its object is to raise money for the purchase of athletic paraphernalia for the use of soldiers at Camps Kearney, Lewis and Fremont, Cal. Champion Benny Leonard arrived today from New York. Former Champion Willie Ritchie is here from Camp Lewis, where he is the boxing instructor. Each will be matched against a local boxer.

Boston Nationals Trade for Pitcher Dana Fillingim

Toledo, O., May 4.—Pitcher Dana Fillingim of the Indianapolis American Association club has been traded to the Boston Nationals for First Baseman Covington and Pitcher Crum, according to an announcement made here tonight by Larry Lojoie, Indianapolis manager. Fillingim is already on his way east, Lajoie said. Fillingim is a spit ball pitcher and his work has been made ineffective by the ban placed on the moist ball in the association. Covington will report some time next week, Lajoie said.

Illinois Defeats Iowa, 3 to 0, In Western Conference Game

Iowa City, Ia., May 4.—Illinois defeated Iowa, 3 to 0, in a western conference base ball game here today, errors by the locals and the airtight pitching of Klein for Illinois being the main factors. Klein pitched a great game, and had wonderful control. He struck out 16 batsmen. Two of the visitors' scores were the result of errors. Score:

	R.	H.	E.
Illinois	3	7	0
Iowa	0	3	3

Batteries: Klein and Kopp; Hamilton and Frank.

Fort Crook Soldiers to Play Lincoln Semi-Pros

The 41st infantry team of Fort Crook is looking for games with fast teams out in the state. Teams in the state wishing games with the soldiers may arrange them by writing Manager Jack Pettus, Company C, 41st infantry, Fort Crook, Neb.

The Fort Crook lads already have one game booked for foreign soil. It will be against the Lincoln Cleaners and Dyers at Lincoln a week from today.

Iowa State Beats Iowa U By Two Points in Track Meet

Ames, Ia., May 4.—Final events decided Iowa State's 69 to 67 victory over Iowa University here today in track matches. Anderson of Ames starred with two firsts and a tie for another.

GREATEST TURF CLASSIC ONLY TWO WEEKS AWAY

Racing Enthusiasts Speculate Regarding Probable Field of Thoroughbreds in Famous Kentucky Derby.

Louisville, Ky., May 4.—With the running of the Kentucky derby, at Churchill Downs less than two weeks off, there is much speculation among turf enthusiasts regarding the probable field which will contest for the rich $15,000 event. The classic at Churchill Downs is the greatest of all races on the American turf, and sentiment prompts many an owner to start one of his thoroughbreds, which, on form, seems to have scant chance.

A glance at the list of eligibles shows that there is a possibility of a big field. How many go to the post, however, depends entirely upon the manner in which these star three-year-olds continue to train and the showing they make in the races at Lexington.

While there is at present a possibility for a field of sixteen or eighteen starters, turfites are inclined to the opinion that derby day will find nine or ten starters. Barring accidents, Escoba, Everest, Sun Briar, Sewell Combs, Aurum, Freecutter, War Cloud, James T. Clark, Hilhampton and either Plum or Olive Wood seem sure starters. Doubtful starters are High Cost, Jack Hare, Jr., Enos, Jaybird, Flags, Duke of Savoy and James Foster.

Owing to their splendid performances as two-year-olds, Sun Briar and Escoba are the choices. It cannot be said that these colts have trained in a satisfactory manner. There is no question regarding their class, but critics agree it takes more than class to win a race like the Kentucky derby. Sun Briar and Escoba will start at Lexington, which will show their condition and determine their chances for the derby.

Clark in Condition.

From the standpoint of condition James T. Clark is in the best shape of any of the eligibles and he has worked in sensational fashion, but horsemen figure he lacks class. In the matter of training, Freecutter has worked in the most satisfactory manner of any of the three-year-olds and he also possesses class.

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