

CICOTTE PITCHING KING AFTER 14 YEARS IN GAME

White Sox Veteran Outclasses All Twirlers This Season With Notable Record—His Famous "Shine" Ball Was Only Bluff To Fool Opposing Batters—Cicotte's Knuckle Ball Mystifies the Hitters.

By Robert Edgren.

EDDIE CICOTTE of the Chicago White Sox is the sensational pitcher of the baseball season of 1919. He tops the American League list and has a percentage like Rockefeller's in the Oil League.

Cicotte has been pitching great ball the past three years, but, like some others who have reached the top in various professions, he got his position by hard work. For several years after his start in major league baseball, fourteen years ago, Cicotte was just an ordinary second rater. He was with Detroit, his home town team, for a time, but wasn't much of a success. Later, when he began to grow famous, his old Detroit comrades suddenly discovered that they had always known Eddie "had it in him."

After wandering around the map for a while Cicotte landed with the Boston Red Sox, where he didn't attract any attention except from the management, which soon decided that he wasn't going to be much of an ornament to the team. In 1913 Jake Stahl parted with him, to the White Sox, at valet figures. They didn't even kiss Eddie goodbye in Boston. After he left Boston won the post-season series from the Giants.

For five years Eddie delivered his old "knuckle ball" with varying success. It was generally supposed his arm wouldn't stand much work, but a cool head, good judgment and a few other things kept him in uniform. In 1918 Cicotte ranked second in effectiveness in the American League, headed only by Babe Ruth and keeping one jump ahead of Walter Johnson and two ahead of Coveleski.

But in 1917 Eddie Cicotte showed that he was a king among pitchers. April 14 he pitched a no-hit game against the Browns. He was the main factor in the winning of the pennant by the White Sox, and later pitched winning games against the Giants in the post-season series and took \$3,282.50 as his share of the plunder.

During the season he pitched forty-nine games altogether, winning 23 and losing 12, with a low average of 1.32 earned runs a game. He pitched 246 innings, the same being more than were pitched by any other twirler in the league. He held his rivals to 78 runs, of which 59 were earned. He struck out 180 men, leading the league in this too, gave only 70 bases on balls and made only one wild pitch.

CICOTTE INVENTS THE "SHINE BALL"

It was during 1917 that Cicotte was credited with inventing a new pitching trick, called the "shine ball." This ball had opposing pitchers baffled. It was supposed to be delivered with the aid of some substance rubbed on the ball, all except in one large round spot, which remained white and shiny. The theory was that the sticky surface caught the air in a peculiar manner while the white spot acted as a skidding surface. This was supposed to make the ball do all sorts of funny tricks that couldn't be anticipated by any waiting batter. Sometimes the ball was said to give a short hop, up and down, just as the bat was swung toward it, neatly hurdling the bat and dropping into the catcher's mitt. On other occasions the ball would shoot straight as an arrow until within two or three feet, and then wack like Jack Dempsey going under Willard's left jab to plunk one into his short ribs. Others would whizz suddenly in or out in entirely unorthodox fashion.

On one occasion the umpire threw one side balls in a single game pitched by Cicotte, on the claim that they had been illegally tampered with. But Cicotte only grinned. It was supposed that he carried a sticky substance hidden in his clothing to accomplish his nefarious purpose, and during 1917 twelve of his uniforms mysteriously disappeared. But no one ever found anything. When the season was over and the White Sox were champions, Cicotte allowed himself to be interviewed on the "shine ball."

HOW BATTERS ARE FOOLED. He said he never used a ball that had been prepared in any way, but had decided to spread the "shine ball" purely for psychological effect. Opposing batters expected a knuckle ball that would perform some unexpected gratification, explained Cicotte, they went to bat with their goals coveting all over the place. Only, being a baseball player, Eddie didn't put it in such a slangy way. He used more scientific language.

"So long as the batters thought they were batting against something they didn't know anything about," he said, "I had an advantage. If you can bluff a fellow into believing that you know more than he knows or have more than he has, you have him licked. That was all there was to the 'shine ball.' While Speaker, Chapman, Baker, Pipp and the other heavy hitters thought I was feeding them something phony, I had some-thing on them. The shine ball is

only the old knuckle ball, with improvements." Some of Cicotte's old friends in Detroit said the "shine ball" was nothing but his knuckle ball delivered with a change of pace, of which Cicotte was peculiarly a master, coupled with an extraordinarily sharp curve. Cicotte's 1917 record included eight straight, seven straight and six straight wins. Eddie signed a one-year contract with the Chicago Americans, with a good bonus attached, in 1918, and signed on again in 1919 at a figure that showed the fact that he was a veteran didn't affect the confidence of the club in his ability to stand the pace.

During the present season he has made good in a style that shows he is better than ever. He is still curving over records for successive victories, and is ranking pitcher in his league. Cicotte's success should give a lot of encouragement to young pitchers. He earned it by years of steady, hard work.

Tilden and Johnston Meet To-Day in Final at Newport

Quaker and Californian Clash as Result of Their Victories Over Voshell and Kumagai, Respectively.

NEWPORT, R. I., Aug. 3.—WILLIAM T. TILDEN 2D of Philadelphia and William M. Johnston of San Francisco clashed to-day in the final of the cup tennis tennis tournament on the courts of the Casino here. It should be a most exciting match as both players are at the top of their game, judging by the way they won their matches yesterday.

Blending occasional bursts of speed with a flawless assortment of strokes, Johnston defeated Ichiji Kumagai of Japan. The Californian kept the Japanese upon the defensive throughout and won by a score of 6-1, 6-1, 6-2.

Tilden accounted for the defeat of S. Howard Voshell. At its beginning Voshell outplayed Tilden at every point, but early in the third set the former left-hander suddenly lost control of his strokes.

Some thought he had become peeved at bad decisions against him. Later it became evident that he was suffering from the intense heat, as ice water was poured over his head so that he might finish the match without retiring for a default. Tilden won by a score of 1-4, 2-4, 6-0, 6-0, 6-1.

After the match Voshell said that his exertions and the heat overpowered him in the third set and that there were often periods when he did not see the ball. This appearance of the Australian pairs in the doubles, Norman E. Brookes and Gerald L. Patterson competing in one division and Randolph Lycett and R. V. Thomas in the other, shared the honors of the day with the international and inter-sectional clashes in the singles. Considering that the Australians had just landed after a long voyage, they did remarkably well.

Remembering the whirlwind battle which Johnston and Kumagai had at had decisions against him. Later in the final match of the tournament the Pacific Coast in the opening game of the set by remarkable playing. He rarely permitted Kumagai to lift his racket once he had nearly done so, and kept him chasing for the ball, a maneuver that contributed to the quick victory. Johnston and Kumagai tried for the net Johnston drove him back with ailing passes.

Even Johnston brought into action his powerful forehanders the young Californian handled the ball easily. He never hesitated in making a daring change of pace for a sure placement. Johnston's court generalship, his fine over-the-net game and his keen sense of never wavering. He did not go to the net often, but when he did his slanting shot to the net was a sure factor out of reach of the ball.

The Japanese tried to make a stand in the net display an invitation brought off a cross court drive, more than 100 feet in length from corner to corner, to score the point, this was one of the most remarkable plays ever made on the courts in this country. Tilden met Voshell on the stretch line, beside the sixth house, where a solid ball sure like a bullet

BEST SPORTING PAGE IN NEW YORK THE FAMOUS KNUCKLE-BALL INVENTOR

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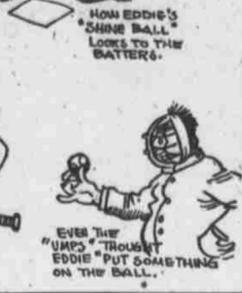


EDDIE CICOTTE DELIVERING HIS FAMOUS KNUCKLE BALL.

R. Edgren



SEASIDE SLUGGERS HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO BUST INTO TEARS OVER THE KNUCKLE AT WHAT EDDIE OFFERED 'EM.



EVER THE "JUMP" THROUGH EDDIE'S "PUT SOMETHING ON THE BALL."

Veteran Ned Sawyer Meets Young Sweetser For Victory Cup To-Day

Seventeen-Year-Old Player Reaches 36-Hole Final at Siwanoy by Bowling Over Four Stars.

By William Abbott.

NED SAWYER, veteran of many link battles, and seventeen-year-old Jess Sweetser, one of the most sensational of young American golfers, meet to-day at Siwanoy in the thirty-six-hole final for the Victory cup. Sawyer, a noted tournament campaigner, was picked at the start of the four-day meet to reach the finals. Superior experience and the advantage of playing his home course were handicaps Sawyer's opponents couldn't play over.

Jess Sweetser, the other finalist, is only seventeen, but possesses more shots and competition spirit than most players who have been years in the game. But this is the Ardrey Club youth's first tournament season. At Siwanoy this week there were many sceptics who believed the boy would blow up in such an important competition. But young Jess had his sh in as well as his nerve, and he topped over his rivals with the ease that you and I would flop over a house built of playing cards.

Sweetser, after finishing second in the qualifying round, proceeded to eliminate four stars, Lester Conroy, W. H. Follett, Eddie Van Vleck and J. V. Bermingham, and every match was won decisively. Sweetser started strong by winning the first two holes. Poor putting lost him the short third, but Bermingham got into serious trouble on the long fourth and Sweetser took advantage. It was five and take up to the turn, where Jess was leading by two holes.

After his day Sweetser took into camp Eddie Van Vleck, former Yale baseball pitcher. At the outset of this match Van Vleck, playing brilliantly, actually had the seven-year-old prospect, who had never missed a mark, as Sawyer was well on his game and Lewis was miles off his best form. Sawyer, playing very decently, was considerably straight and made few mistakes. Lewis, who three seasons ago was ranked as one of the most promising of the large crop of young stars, was off the drive yesterday more often than he was on it.

And nearly every time Reggie got into trouble he went in over his head. At the seventh and eighth holes the former Westchester champion was in so much difficulty that he was forced to concede the holes. Again at the tenth Lewis made a long drive of something like forty yards from the tee, flubbed his second shot and then whaled away into a trap.

The display of golf was rather unusual for Lewis, as generally he is a dependable tournament performer. But yesterday was not his day. Sawyer, who held the lead throughout, never allowed down and went by 5 up and 4 to go. Before defeating Lewis, Sawyer triumphed over S. K. Hollander, a

BASEBALL AVERAGES Of American and National Leagues

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Table with columns for American League Pitching, National League Pitching, American League Batting, and National League Batting. Lists player names, teams, and statistics like runs, hits, and errors.

O'DOWD WILL MEET VICTOR OF HOWARD-SMITH GO.

BATONNE, Aug. 3.—Johnny Howard, the fighting policeman, and Jeff Smith, who recently received the unanimous decision from three judges over the Bayonne A. A. within a match.

Howard has repeatedly challenged O'Dowd and Smith is constantly pestering the title holder for a match. However, it was hardly necessary for the Bayonne A. A. to offer the winner of Tuesday's battle a chance at O'Dowd that exists between them and which has existed for many years was impetuous enough to make them go out to get each other as quickly and as decisively as possible. Besides, their fight Tuesday evening will attend the contest for Smith and Howard. Each has a popular league over the other.

See Legach to Umpire Game. To-morrow afternoon and evening the Eddie Murphy-Mike Wagner-Joe Frank association will make merry at their first game in the new Casino. Eddie Murphy, President of the association, says that a record breaking crowd will attend the game which is very friendly with Miller Frank, his manager of the Yankees, has sent the entire team an invitation to attend. There will be a baseball ball for a cup between the Albert Frank and the Lynde, the international bantam sensation.

Table with columns for American League Club Batting and National League Club Batting. Lists club names, runs, hits, and errors.

OLD-FASHIONED KILLING IS MADE ON NEDDAM AT SPA

At Least a Half Million Dollars Is Taken From the Oral Layers.

TO-DAY'S SARATOGA SELECTIONS. FIRST RACE—Dragon, Out of the Way, Assure. SECOND RACE—No selection. THIRD RACE—Whitney, entry, Golden Broom, Bonnie Mary. FOURTH RACE—Hollister, Sun Bird, Fairy Wand. FIFTH RACE—Carmora, Bullseye, Penelope. SIXTH RACE—King Aerides, Wilfreda, Indian Spring.

By Vincent Treanor.

SARATOGA SPRINGS, Aug. 3.—A REAL old fashioned killing was made in the last race here yesterday and Willie Booth's Neddum led home a big field of real good juveniles. The colt was backed down from 15 to 3 to 1 and if the start had been delayed a few minutes longer he would have gone to the post an odds-on favorite. At least a half million dollars was taken from the oral layers as a result of the victory.

After his owner and intimate friends had wagered on him at long odds Mr. Booth announced publicly that the colt was a good thing and barring an accident couldn't lose. This "tip" spread to all corners of the track and it seemed that 12,000 of the 15,000 persons present went in search of odds on him and took any price offered.

Neddum never left the result in doubt. He broke from the barrier on his loose, made every post a winner and passed the judges breathing two lengths in front of Violet Tip. Neddum ran so impressively that crowd hordes were shouting and placing bets on the top notch juveniles of the year.

Natural, which used to be the most erratic and inconsistent horse on the turf, was on his good behavior again yesterday and won the Mechanical Handicap, aided by a great ride by J. Batts Fairbrer, he led from start to finish and won by a head from A. K. Macomber's Star Master. From the worst betting proposition on the turf, Neddum has now become a safe bet. This season he is consistency personified. In his last eight starts he has won six times and finished second the other two.

The big imported son of Rabalais and Nature is one of the most peculiar horses in training. He is not a work horse in his morning trials; it is impossible to get him out L.F. The other morning Tom Welch sent him out for a fast trial. He gave the exercise boy orders to kick him out and finish the race. Neddum was putting the boy in the saddle he scolded other lads at different parts of the track with orders to shout and shake the horse. Neddum was panned. But even this would not make the old fellow step along, and at the end of the mile the clocks showed 1:44 4/5. In the race yesterday it was 1:45. He felt like running and nothing heavy could stop him, not even the heavy impost of 130 pounds, and he ran the mile over a dull track in 1:32.

The close was a farce. Five horses went to the post, three of them fell and another didn't have as much speed as the other four. Neddum was the only real horse in the race and won by more than a sixteen of a mile. Kingstown Pier was the other which didn't fall, but he was panned. He felt like running and nothing heavy could stop him, not even the heavy impost of 130 pounds, and he ran the mile over a dull track in 1:32.

Fator ran up against Johnny Loftis in a close finish in the third race, and the veteran, who looks like a novice, Fator was on Huttontop, the real good horse, which beat Vexation earlier in the week, while Johnny had a leg up on Vancouver, which Northrup finally pulled out for Willis Sharpe Kilmer. Huttontop was much the best, but Loftus kept Vancouver going well enough to land him home the winner by a head.

The Kilmer yearlings, which will be sold here on Aug. 15, arrived here yesterday. They are a fine looking lot and promise to bring good prices. They were foaled at Binghamton and reared at Mr. Kilmer's Virginia farm.

O'DOWD MUST WEIGH IN TWICE ON AUG. 22

All the forefets are up, and now it only remains for Mike O'Dowd and Jack Britton to agree on a referee for their eight-round bout at the Newark Sportsman's Club on Aug. 22. There was a deal of wrangling over the weight question at the conference yesterday. Morgan insisted that O'Dowd weigh in twice on the day of the bout, once at 2 o'clock in the afternoon and again at ring-side in ten minutes to suit Danny, said Mullins. "Mike will be so far under weight that he'll make it so stally, that we won't care if he goes to sleep on the scales all day. Let it go at that."

Consent to Australia. KANSAS CITY, Mo., Aug. 3.—Eddie Coulton of New Orleans, bantamweight boxer who fought in the finals at the intercollegiate boxing tournament, was in Kansas City this week on his way to Australia. He will sail next week for Australia under the management of Tom Andrews.

FINAL DOUBLE HEADER GUY EMPEY'S TREAT 'EM ROUGH Jeff Tesreau (Giants) vs. Kavanaugh (Detroit) BACHARACH GIANTS vs. Wickware at DYCKMAN OVAL (Dyckman Street Subway Station) 2 P. M. SUNDAY, AUGUST 10th 4 P. M. (Next Sunday, August 17th, Babe Foster's Chicago American Giants.)