

CURRENT SPORTING GOSSIP

JEFFRIES SAYS HE WILL FIGHT JACK JOHNSON.

That is, if the Negro defeats Ketchel in October—Bollmaker will not be ready for a mill for nearly a year. However—forced to declare himself.

James J. Jeffries made the long expected announcement last night that he had decided to reclaim his title of heavy weight champion of the world and that he would return to the ring prepared to defend the title against all comers, Jack Johnson preferred. But Jeffries made it clear that he would not be forced to fight Johnson or anybody else for at least ten months or possibly one year.

Jeffries stated that the big fellow, under those circumstances, would not be permitted to allow Ketchel to defend the title for the white race.

Jeff's sudden change of base has come rather unexpectedly. It was only two weeks ago that Johnson posted a \$5,000 forfeit and notified Jeffries that he was ready to cover the money, binding a match to be decided at any time or place that the big Californian might select.

Jeffries, however, not only refused to cover the money, but he also refused to discuss the matter.

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Sam Langford has postponed his departure for England for a week so that he can attend to his business in New York.

Langford to Fight Hagge. Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. LONDON, April 20.—Langford has cabled his acceptance of a match with Hagge, who defeated Moir at the National Sporting Club on May 24, will be at twenty rounds, for a purse of £1,400 offered by the National Sporting Club, and a side bet of £200.

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LAUGHING MIRROR'S STAKES.

J. A. de Rothschild's Horse Takes Great Metropolitan at Epsom.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. LONDON, April 20.—The Great Metropolitan Stakes, handicap, 1,000 sovereigns, three-year-olds and upward, two miles, at Epsom, on Tuesday, April 19, was won by J. A. de Rothschild's Laughing Mirror. J. Gould's Impression was second. J. Musker's Wedding Ring was third.

The race for the Tattenham Plate, 200 sovereigns, two-year-olds, five furlongs, was won by Sir Ernest Paget's Dalmatrac. J. B. Joel's colt by Sundridge-Fota, was second, and the third was the colt of J. B. Joel's by Sundridge-Fota.

The Prince of Wales Stakes, welter handicap, 200 sovereigns, for three-year-olds and upward, one mile and forty-four yards, was won by J. Buchanan's Telemare. J. F. Sumner was second, and the third was the colt of J. Buchanan's by Sundridge-Fota.

Ten horses ran, among them August Belmont's Anteus, Martin up, and Lord Rosebery's Sir Toby. Maher up, the line was half length separated the first and second, and two lengths separated the second and third.

The Great Surrey Handicap, 500 sovereigns, for three-year-olds and upward, one mile and twenty-two yards, was won by Hallion. W. Raphael's Syce was second, and the third was the colt of J. Buchanan's by Sundridge-Fota.

The Banstead Selling Plate, 200 sovereigns, for three-year-olds, five furlongs, was won by J. Buchanan's Telemare. J. F. Sumner was second, and the third was the colt of J. Buchanan's by Sundridge-Fota.

The National League. None of the National League teams was able to get into action yesterday. Rain prevented the games in New York, Cincinnati, and cold weather called a halt in Boston and Chicago.

Games Scheduled for To-day. Washington in New York; Philadelphia in Boston; New York in Philadelphia; Detroit in Chicago; Boston in Philadelphia; St. Louis in Cincinnati.

South Atlantic League. At Chattanooga—Chattanooga, 3; Macon, 3. At Augusta—Augusta, 3; Columbus, 4. Ten innings. At Savannah—Jacksonville, 2; Savannah, 1.

American Association. At Milwaukee—Milwaukee, 4; Milwaukee, 3. At Niagara Falls—Niagara University, 6; Franklin and Marshall, 3.

NOTED ENGLISHMEN HERE. Vivian Nickalls Visits Travers Island—On His Way to Detroit. Vivian Nickalls, the noted English oarsman, visited Travers Island yesterday to have a look at the New York A. C. crews.

Johnson Ready. Will Break Off Match With Ketchel in Order to Meet Jeffries. Pittsburgh, April 20.—Jack Johnson, the champion of the world, on being assured to-night that Jim Jeffries in New York had indicated that he wanted to fight said:

SKIES FROWN ON BASEBALL.

ONLY ONE GAME PLAYED IN THE BIG LEAGUES.

Detroit Gets It Good When They Finally Meet With a Defeat—Beaten by Cleveland with Score of 12 to 3—Rain and Cold Hold Sway in Other Cities. The skies frowned on the big league baseball games yesterday. Only one of the scheduled contests took place. That was in the American League, and the Detroit were beaten for the first time. They got their first defeat in the big league when the Cleveland polished them off by a score of 12 to 3. Old Cy Young was too many for the Detroit sluggers. Rain and cold held sway in the other cities of the circuit.

At Philadelphia—Rain. At St. Louis—Rain. At Washington—Rain. STANDING OF THE CLUBS. W. L. P. C. Philadelphia, 11 10 1 1. New York, 4 1 6 1. St. Louis, 2 3 4 0. Cleveland, 3 3 3 0. Chicago, 1 4 2 0.

DETROIT, April 20.—Cy Young, pitching in his first game since he was injured by hitting the ball to all corners of the lot, proved the undoing of Detroit in the last game of the season. He pitched a masterpiece. The champions gave a weird exhibition in the field, being guilty of six glaring errors, three of which were punished by Roseman. Cleveland hammered LaFite for a total of seventeen hits, which included a home run, triple and double.

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HIGHLANDERS' OPENING. Begin Season at American League Park To-day, With Washington as Rivals. After more than holding their own in six games on the road the New York Americans will begin their home season this afternoon, meeting the Washington at American League Park. The Highlanders are scattered in their various lodgings places, the weather preventing them from getting any practice. The whole team is feeling pretty good about the opening of the season.

N. Y. U. CREW CONFIDENT. Men Are in Fine Condition for Race With the Middies. The New York University varsity eight will have its last hard practice row to-day on the Harlem River course as the finishing touch to their three weeks preparation for the Annapolis race. The crew is in fine condition and the coach, Mr. Y. C. Busby, is confident that they will give a good account of themselves.

CAMP ON SPRING FOOTBALL. Yale's Athletic Director Points Out the Value of Extra Practice. NEW HAVEN, April 20.—Walter Camp, Yale's athletic director, told Yale men to-day in the Daily News why spring football was valuable. He said: "Spring football practice is of fundamental importance for developing a strong team in the fall, both on account of the preliminary training it gives in the fine points of the game and to a lesser degree through the physical training it affords."

Club to Be Opened on May 8 and Its First Regatta on Decoration Day. The Harlem Yacht Club will open its season on Saturday, May 8, when an old fashioned shore dinner will be followed by the usual regatta on the water.

Military Athletic League Championships on Saturday Night. The annual championship of the Military Athletic League takes place on Saturday night at the Thirtieth Regiment Armory, Brooklyn. Besides the usual list of track and field events there will be a mile relay for teams of five men and old rivals will meet in the amateur handicap for 7.3 miles.

Billiard GoSSIP. E. D. Kurtz Wins New York A. C. Championship from Dr. Douglas. Dr. Walton G. Douglas was relieved of the N. Y. A. C. championship at 14 inch ball line on Tuesday night by E. D. Kurtz, who defeated him in the championship game by a score of 300 to 143.

Baseball Notes. Carl Gardner, the second baseman, has been released by Manager Stallings to the Jersey City club. George Winter, who pitched for the Boston team, has been sold to the New York club.

Baseball To-day. 3:30 P. M. Grand Opening of the Championship Season. American League Park 9 way and 19th St., N. Y. American vs. Washington. Music. Adm. 50c.

NO CREW RACE FOR PRINCETON.

Faculty Declines for Two Reasons, to Banquet Contest on Carnegie Lake.

The Princeton faculty has refused permission to the crew management to hold a dual race on Lake Carnegie. Unwillingness to add another intercollegiate sport to the list and the fact that the athletic association to attempt to maintain rowing on the same basis as at other universities are the reasons given for this action.

Philadelphia Shows Improvement Over His Play on Opening Night of Amateur Championship—Conklin of Chicago Defeats Jackson in Afternoon. Joseph Mayer of the Columbia Club, Philadelphia, won the billiard game last night, defeating Dr. L. L. Millard of New York in a close contest.

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GOSE MATCH AT BILLIARDS.

MAYER BEATS DR. MIAL BY SCORE OF 400 TO 379.

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To All Baseball Fans. GRAND RAIN RAIN RAIN

If you had taken the precaution of having a copy of—"THE MESSAGE" By LOUIS TRACY you would have forgotten your disappointment. Don't get left on bases, but prepare for another RAINY DAY

This is the only story we know of that will take the place of a game

FINE SADDLERS ON SHOW. Class for Arabians a Picturesque Feature at Durland's. A well kept stock of hand-made clubs, bags, balls, &c.—all TAYLOR QUALITY. We invite inspection and a trial. ALEX TAYLOR & CO. 1642 St. Opp. No. Manhattan. Open till 6:30.

Mohawk Man Second From Short Horse in Ascension Games. The Ascension Parish Club held its annual games at the Sixty-ninth Regiment Armory last night and the best in the field were the three mile run handicap, the mile run handicap, the two mile run handicap, the two mile run handicap, the two mile run handicap.

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