SPORTS

The Road to Paradise Is Beset By No More Pitfalls Than the Driveway of a Golf Course

SPORTS

Rain Cuts Down Field in Invitation Tourney

Fifty Play Qualifying Round This Morning; Local Champion Absent; Many Visitors Entered.

Rain and pressing business came near playing havoc with the invitation tournament of the Oklahoma City Golf and Country club which got under way this morning. The out-of-town entries have met the estimates of the committee but the number of local players participating has been a disappointment. More than a score of visitors accepted the club's invitation to play but only enough of the Oklahoma City golfers responded to the call to raise the field to fifty. It had been expected at least fifty Oklahoma City players would participate which, with the visitors, would make a field of more than seventy-five.

Competitions for All.

Noon was the deadline for the start and at that time it was evident that nearly everybody playing would get into one of the three class flights provided for by the committee. Sixteen qualify in each of the three classes which would make room for forty-eight. The low sixteen will constitute class A, the second sixteen class B and the third sixteen class C.

Consolation Trophies Also.

Besides the class championships, consolation matches have been provided for. The eight eliminated in the first round of match play in each class will start consolation flights.

The qualifying round which was started at 9 o'clock, was expected to be completed by 1:30 at which time the players would be divided into classes so that the first round of match play, starting at 2 o'clock, could be finished this afternoon.

Local Champion Absent.

F. E. Patterson, winner of the club championship a few days ago, did not enter the invitation tournament, but S. B. Cunningham, George Frederickson, B. E. Finerty, H. L. Stafford, and C. B. Hoffer give the local players a good chance to defend the Oklahoma City club's honors. Among the prominent visitors is Frank Moore of Tulsa, a former state champion.

Others from Tulsa are Charles F. Roeser, William Black and Ralph Stauffer.

Muskogee has sent her best player, J. F. Darby.

For the first time in history, Okmulgee has representatives here in J. Belford, Gordon Clarke and J. E. Baker.

El Reno has entered J. T. Allison, L. G. Higgins, J. E. Penner, R. C. Rice and Kent Shartel.

J. C. Graves comes from Springfield, Mo., and from Burlington, Iowa, has come W. C. Black.

White and Welsh Talk Finish Fight

There is being proposed just now a finish fight between Charlie White and Freddy Welsh for the lightweight title. Baron Long and Jim Coffroth are managing fight shows down in Mexico just across the line from San Diego and they have approached White's manager and are trying to get the thing started. The idea is a fight to the finish regardless of the number of rounds. The boys are to keep going till one or the other drops or is dropped. Two-ounce gloves are to be used and the referees are to sit on the outside of the ring and never to enter it, their duty being to judge foul blows only. Freddy Welsh has expressed a willingness to have part in such a battle, but there has been no direct statement from Charlie White as yet.

Comiskey 41 Years in Game.

CHICAGO, Oct. 16.—Charles A. Comiskey, owner of the Chicago American league club, concluded his forty-first season in baseball with the finish of the 1916 season. The "Old Roman" declared he would be willing to give up all the wealth he's made in baseball to land another pennant winner.

The Sportlight

By GRANTLAND RICE

October Ghosts

Wind of the Night of Autumn, blown
from a starless track,
Whispering there in the darkness where
the shadows whisper back,
Why must you haunt my casement, under
the rain-wet eaves,
With voices of ghosts forgotten in the
rustle of withered leaves?

Wind of the Night of Autumn, calling me
as you creep,
Whispering there in the shadows where
the dark of the night is deep,
Crying of days forgotten, sighing the
dreams long sped,
Why must you blow gray ghosts again
from graves of the vanished dead?

There is a Voice in the shadows, a Voice
from a vanished day,
A song from the heart of springtime
blown from the fields of May,
Clear as the woodland ripple from the
roll of a silver stream,
Till the night is sweet with music and
the dark with an old old dream.

There is a Dream in the shadows, at gaze
with the violet stain
Of lips as red as the roses round it in an
April rain;
But when, with an aching groaning, I
turn from the open grave
Only the wind is calling and only the
shadows wave.

Wind of the Night of Autumn, here I
have come for rest,
For peace in the gloom of my lonesome
room as a worn bird seeks its nest.
Why must you haunt my casement, under
the rain-wet eaves,
With voices of ghosts forgotten in the
rustle of withered leaves?

What It Takes.

We discovered another reason this week why a Certain Ball Player is generally recognized as the greatest that ever lived, especially upon attack.

Some one had just asked him why he forgot to lock after a certain matter during the summer. "For this reason," he said. "From the first of April to the end of the season the only thing I think of is baseball. I know you fellows figure that we only give about two hours a day to the game. But a good many of us give a whole lot more. Even an eight-hour working day isn't enough to care for all the time I need as I begin to think baseball when I get up and I am still on the job until I hit the hay."

How About Scott?

No great amount of space was wasted before this scribe started explaining the shining value of Everett Scott. He was mentioned in the dispatches, and that is about all.

But long before the fourth game had been played the Red Sox youngster was being jotted with the lost in the game. Mazanville nor Pickinpaugh, recognized as two of the greatest infielders, could have covered no more ground.

The Case of Duffy Lewis.

"Why isn't Lewis rated as a speaker or a Cobb?" queries a fan who limits most of his baseball to world series play. Duffy is a queer bird in the outfield. He has about everything Speaker or Cobb have except their ambition. Blessed with vast quantities of nerve, he haven't a ripple in his nervous system. He is merely content to drift along until something occasion arises. But ask any member of the Tiger or White Sox team how Duffy looks in an important series.

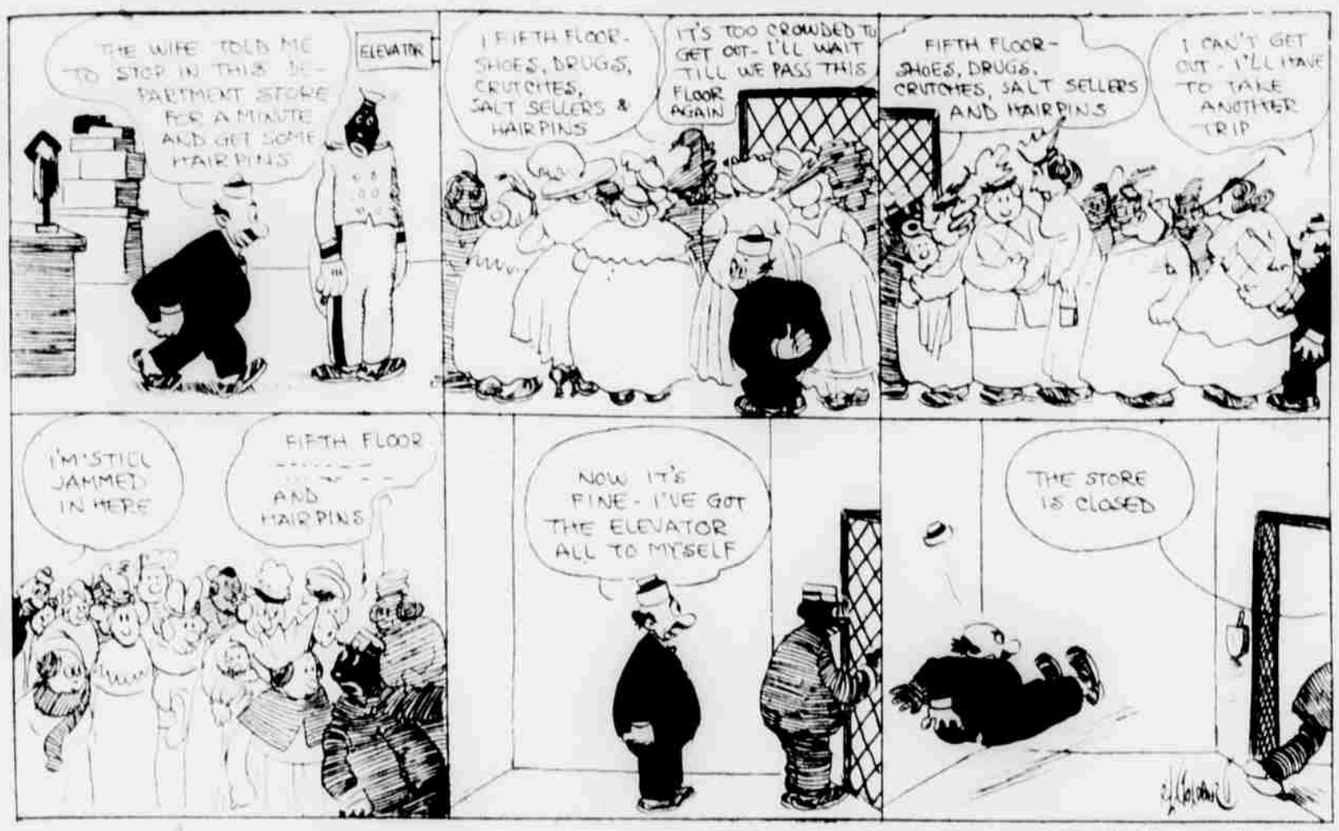
If Duffy had the vital spark aflame in his small breast he would be only a half stride behind Ty or Tris.

Maxims of the Nineteenth Hole.

He that saveth a stroke should have been four strokes better, knoweth deep in his heart that he might have also been five strokes worse.

While he that saveth, "Lo, I am a rotten putter," usually maketh his boast come true.

It Is Harder to Get Out of a Department Store Elevator Than Jail



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National League Far Inferior to American

BY GRANTLAND RICE

If the National league desires to retain its position as a major league the hour is about ripe for those in charge to get out and get busy on the job. There isn't any question but that through 1916 the older circuit was utterly abominable and irretrievably outclassed. Brooklyn was good enough to win a pennant and yet we doubt very much if after having watched both leagues all season, whether Brooklyn could have finished fifth in the Johnsonian circuit. You can write it down as a certainty that Brooklyn couldn't have beaten Boston, Detroit or Chicago in the A. L. and we doubt believe she could have finished ahead of the Yanks and Browns.

About Time for a Shift.

Compare the Robins and the Brooklyn pennant winners in one league and fifth places in the other. The catching departments were about the same. The Browns with Davenport, Wellman, Plank and others had a pitching staff to compare easily with Marquard, Cheney, Pfeffer and Coombs. The Browns with Sisler, Pratt, Lazzeri and Austin, had a far better infield than Daubert, Cutshaw, Olson and Mowrey. And the same dope goes for the Brown outfield with Shotten and Marsans around.

When it comes to a pick where a flag winner in the league doesn't quite stack up with a second division club in the other, the movement is well nigh prime for a shift. And Brooklyn proved that she had the best club in the National league.

Not Brooklyn Alone.

This is no rap at Brooklyn alone. The National league hasn't won but one series in seven years, and that series was won by an inspired ball club in a delirium. The Cubs, the Giants, the Phillies and the Robins have all been crushed in turn outside of the one Brave uprising. The American league, in six years, since 1910, has won twenty-four games and dropped but nine in post-championship affairs. This season, in four major league cities, there were fourteen post-season battles. Of the fourteen the American league won twelve and lost two. These are figures that admit of no debate. They are not matters of opinion. They are conclusive results set down in cold type beyond any partisan rave.

All-Star Teams.

The same goes for almost every all-star team picked. In such a selection no man could leave off Speaker, Cobb, Shaw, Collins, Jackson, Ruth, Sisler—the bulk of the team. There are many who also added Gardner, Scott and Lewis. The best the National league could get would be about one third.

Leaving the figures aside, we talked with one or two ball players who had served time in both circuits. Their dope was exactly the same—in both batting and pitching they averred, the American league was far ahead. And batting and pitching happen to be quite a part of the game.

The American league has been well ahead for the greater part of the last seven years, ever since the Cubs began to subside. But the gap was wider in 1916 than it has ever been before. No one who ever saw Boston and Brooklyn play the recent series could figure the two clubs within a league of the same class.

Boston had so much the better of it, and this without any great extra effort, that the competition most of the way was pitiful. You might suggest that Boston won the first two games by only one run each. But ask any one who saw that first 6 to 5 contest how the two clubs looked.

The Trouble Being What?

What is the trouble? Is the American league paying out more money for stars? Is the younger circuit more alert in its search for budding talent?

The answer is "yes" in both cases. In addition to this, the American league, with a twenty-five player limit, has a big advantage over the National, where only twenty-one are used.

The Red Sox Future.

Boston won a pennant and a championship last season with Speaker in centerfield, Jack Barry at second and George Foster pitching star ball.

These three were regarded as the mainstays of the club. This fall, Boston went into a pennant campaign and a world series campaign with Speaker, Barry and Foster missing or of no use. And Boston looked fully as strong without the three as she looked when they were around.

Unless too much victory, after the manner of too much success, weakens or softens their morale, Boston should be good for at least one more campaign at the top unless Bill Donovan's young machine swings into its stride.

The world champs may soon begin to decay, just as the Cubs, Tigers, Mackmen and Giants did after a few years of success. It may be that next year will find them on their way downhill, but not very far downhill with Shore, Leonard and Ruth around to block the descent.

Indian Veteran High School Boy

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Oct. 16.—Jack Graney, veteran outfielder of the Cleveland American league club, has enrolled in Central high school here to prepare for a college course in medicine.

Graney is determined to become a physician when his baseball days are over. He was unable to enter college at once because he needed additional preparation in latin.

KANSAS CITY BANTY LIKES FAST BOXING

The faster they come the better he likes it. This is the kind of a guy Joe Leopold says he is. Leopold, accompanied by Chick Johnson, his manager, arrived in Oklahoma City from Kansas City early this morning and Joe is to tackle Nate Jackson in the main event of tonight's B. M. A. A. scrapping program.

It has been only two or three years since he took up boxing as a means of livelihood but Leopold says he never has had cause to regret it. The nearest he has come to being sorry of his choice was when he met defeat at the fists of Battling Reddy, yet he managed to console himself by the realization that Reddy was a featherweight who had whipped the best bantams in the east and had picked on him just because Johnny Kilbane was too busy to give him an audience.

Among his bantamweight opponents of recent months Leopold numbers Jack Martin, Nat Leonard, and George Carlin, Kansas City and Colorado rings have seen most of his boxing.

Jackson was busy today trying to rid himself of a family of boils on his right arm. He has been only partially successful.

The second ten-round bout tonight is between Tom Storie and Sailor Lewis, it being Storie's last chance to demonstrate that he can show class or retire until he gets right.

Two six-round preliminaries are carded, one between Battling Memphis and Snowbird and the other between Young Simpson and Chief DeGraff.

Chick Johnson Picks Up Tate

After having dropped from sight since his Chickasha and Ardmore flivvers, Texas Tate finally has been located in Kansas City where he has been taken in tow by Chick Johnson. Johnson has added him to his stable which now includes Harvey Thorpe, Joe Leopold, Chick Hayes, Cyclone Tommy Daily and Texas Tate.

Tate, in his several bouts in Oklahoma, has impressed those who have seen him go, that he could make a good man out of himself if he could rid himself of that tendancy to foul when he saw that the tide of battle was going against him temporarily. He has an ideal build, a great left jab and a ripping right uppercut but some have been so ungenerous as to intimate that he lacks courage.

Daily probably will be at the B. M. A. A. tonight to talk over the possibility of meeting Kid Ferns here in two weeks. He is about Ferns' weight.

Anderson Trains for Fulton.

CHICAGO, Ill., Oct. 16.—Andre Anderson, Chicago heavyweight, has started training for his ten-round contest with Fred Fulton of Rochester, Minn., which is to be decided in Eau Claire, Wis., October 27. Anderson is one of the biggest heavyweights in the game. He recently returned from a successful campaign in the east.

Football Continues to Upset Traditions and Wise Dopers

Last Saturday did not fail to furnish its football upsets as every other Saturday this year has done. Greatest tradition smasher of them all was Kendall's 16-to-6 victory over the Sooners, for it was the first time in history a state team has taken the measure of the state university on the gridiron, although Epworth a few years ago played the Sooners to a 3-to-3 tie.

Next greatest upset probably was that 15-to-7 victory of Coolgate over Illinois for it was the first time the Illini had tasted defeat since 1912. Louisiana state's 13-to-0 win from the Texas Aggies was unexpected.

Tufts Scare Tigers.

Tufts gave the Princeton Tiger a big scare and for a while it looked as if the team which a couple of weeks previously had defeated Harvard would repeat against the New Jerseyans, but a field goal finally gave the Tigers the decision, 3 to 0.

After a week's instruction under Percy Haughton, Harvard played better football, beating North Carolina 21 to 6.

Yale found Lehigh a tough customer, but managed to slip over a 12-to-6 victory.

Chicago Comes Back.

Chicago came back after its defeat at the hands of Carleton one week previously and whipped Indiana, 22 to 6.

Ohio State ran up one of the highest scores made in the north this season in winning from Oberlin, 128 to 0.

Minnesota found North Dakota an easy victim, winning 47 to 0.

At the same time South Dakota was losing to Wisconsin, 28 to 3.

In the Missouri valley, Missouri defeated Washington, 13 to 0.

Quality, Not Quantity, Counts in Deciding Football Games With Modern Style of Play

The "Big Four," the "Big Six" and the "Big Nine" no longer stand supreme in football. The line between varsity and defeat cannot now separate large and small colleges. Smash tremblers not today in the classic university stadium before the kick-off but goes about its business of winning without flurry or fumble. Football has become a sporting proposition based on scientific principles open to all, and the upsets in score can be traced to this. The coach has spread these principles from coast to coast.

Because of the coach many small colleges have defeated the two past masters of eastern football, Yale and Pennsylvania, and similar results have happened everywhere. And because of him teams lacking somewhat in material have whipped those wealthy in the same.

Small Abreast of Large.

Such results, although we are slow to accustom ourselves to them, are but natural. The large universities developed football, therefore they were first to study its principles. As the game grew in favor their graduates, as coaches, spread its gospel throughout the land even to the preparatory schools. Now, the small college is financially able to secure competent coaches, and with them came the upsets which astonished the football world. There is no reason why the material for the small team should not equal that of the large one. In fact, the small college graduate is usually more loyal than the university alumnus and will make a greater effort to have promising players enter his alma mater.

Quality, Not Quantity.

Fielding H. Yost of Michigan, stated last year that the coach who had fifteen good men was in a position to whip any team, regardless of the size of the institution it played. In short, that quality and not quantity, counted.

In this struggle between the large and small colleges for football supremacy there is but one factor in favor of the first, and that is a coaching staff in place of the individual coach. The small colleges must hold to the one coach idea for financial reasons. While the former is preferable there have been sufficient victories won by the one coach plan to prove its worth.

In the staff-of-coaches idea the head coach must boss the job and see that his ideas are carried out by his assistants. He has little time for actually coaching players. His duty is to map the campaign in advance of each day and then see that each assistant carries out his ideas, watching their work so that it will fit in with the scheme of team play and development. He is as foolish as the superintendent of a steel mill who gives his time to detail work if he devotes his afternoons to individual instruction. Such a system of coaching must be scientifically managed. Yale and Pennsylvania failed because it was not.

This plan is theoretically superior to the individual coach scheme because it more rapidly weeds out the culls from the material and thus permits the earlier selection of the team, upon whose members the coaching can be concentrated. The individual coach at best can watch but one or two players in a scrimmage, whereas the assistants of a head coach can watch every player at all times. It is a tribute to the genius of the single coach that his eleven have sometimes been able to defeat those produced by a staff of coaches. There are reasons for this.

Selection Made Quickly.

In the first place the single coach has fewer men trying for the team and in practice—not theory—he actually selects his men and develops team play at an earlier stage than does the staff of coaches with a wealth of material. His weakness, as a rule, is in capable substitutes. In the second place the small college has an uphill fight all season and uphill fights breed fighters and automatically discard loafers. If the individual coach knows his business he is likely to spring surprises on the big teams.

Knowing his business is the key to the situation with either the head coach or the single coach. The qualities which bring success are much the same. What these qualities are may well be asked?

The tendency in getting a coach is to secure a former gridiron star. But the work of Zuppke, at Illinois; of Macklin at Michigan Agricultural college, and the confidence Princeton has in Roth, none of whom made their varsity team while in college, disproves this idea, as does the failure of Hinky at Yale, and of Brooke at Pennsylvania, former stars of the first magnitude.

For example, a year ago a certain head coach engaged a noted drop kicker for three weeks at $200 a week to teach his men how to drop kick. During the season this eleven made but one goal from the field which they humorously refer to as the "$600 drop kick." This head coach learned a lesson about stars that he will never forget.

Coaching teams to victory in the face of present competition is no soft sinecure. Victory is earned. The successful eleven knows the game from tackling to touchdowns. It is a highly perfected machine both mentally and physically, possesses courage, co-ordination and a wonderful fighting spirit. It goes about its work with deadly determination. And beyond its technical knowledge and spirit it must have a sort of sixth football sense, it must outguess and outthink the opposition. All of this it gets from the coach.

Montgomery Will Be Out For Season

Sooner Captain Comes to Hospital With Fractured Arm; Others Hurt.

On the eve of its first interstate game, the University of Oklahoma is deprived of its captain and perhaps its most efficient football star. Homer Montgomery of Muskogee, Sooner captain and for the last two or three years considered one of the best ends in the entire southwest, will come to an Oklahoma hospital today to have treated an arm broken during the first few minutes of Saturday's fray. It is believed the fracture is compound and Bennie Owen is not expecting to have the use of Montgomery again this season.

McFerrin Successor.

McFerrin, the former Norman high school end, probably will be Owen's selection for Montgomery's successor. He was a star in his high school days and has given a good account of himself in the games this fall.

Others of the Sooner eleven were injured Saturday, but none of them seriously. Joe Fields, end, who was taken out of the game toward the close on account of a "charley" may not get into scrimmage for the first few days this week but is expected to be all right for Saturday's clash with the Longhorns at Dallas.

McCain's shoulder was twisted and Brewer was injured slightly, but both will be all right in a day or two.

Team in Poor Shape.

At best the team which Bennie Owen takes to Dallas next Saturday will be the poorest he has led into the south for many years. Last Saturday the team showed lack of units and its handling of the forward pass, the Sooner forte, was extremely poor. The line as a whole did not show strength, only a few of the Sooner forwards being able to hold their own against their Kendall opponents.

Record Crowd for K. U.-M. U. Game

LAWRENCE, Kan., Oct. 16.—So great is the demand for tickets for the Kansas-Missouri football game that applications for more than 1,000 have already been received, although the contest will not be played until Thanksgiving day, November 30. The contest is expected to attract the largest crowd that ever witnessed a football game in the Missouri valley conference. Despite the heavy demand for seats, the usual price will not be advanced.

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