



# The BROWNSVILLE HERALD SPORTS SECTION



## JUNIOR LOOP SAID BETTER BALANCED UP

Uncertain Outfields, Revamped Infields, Good New Hurlers Are Features

Note: This is the seventeenth of the mid-winter baseball prospects. The final story will appear tomorrow.

By ORO L. ROBERTSON  
(Associated Press Sports Writer.)

CHICAGO, Jan. 25.—(AP)—With revamped infields, more or less uncertain outfields and likely looking new comers among battery men, the American league this year assumes the aspect of a one-ring circus with the New York Yankees the ringmaster.

Although the off-season was productive of deals designed to improve the various clubs, it remains to be seen whether the changes have been for the better. On paper the trades seem to have struck a more even balance among the entries.

The weaker clubs seemed to have been strengthened while the first division teams' activities in the market apparently have not bolstered their lineups to any great extent.

N. Y. Appears Cracking  
The New York Yankees have picked up promising rookie pitchers in Ed Wells off Birmingham, Gordon Rhodes of Hollywood and Floyd Van Pelt of Montgomery, but they will enter the race with a revamped left side of the infield, an aging outfield and an uncertain pitching staff that tumbled near the close of the 1928 season.

The Philadelphia Athletics have added four rookie southpaw pitchers and Summa, a veteran outfielder, between the seasons while the St. Louis Browns' acquisitions consist largely of hurler and reserve material.

The Browns made a big play in coming up from seventh to third place in one season but they were 19 games out of first place last year when the Yankees nosed out the Athletics. Dick Ferrell, Columbus catcher made a free agent by Commissioner Landis, is the real important addition to the Howley team.

Walter Johnson is counting on a lot of young pitchers and Rudy Meyer to make his first year at Washington a success.

The White Sox have their usual cavity at second base with no promising prospect. Manager Lena Blackburne has nine aspirants for the outfield and a weak catching staff to bolster.

In contrast to the White Sox, Bucky Harris is going into his first year as manager of the Tigers with few "ifs." Bucky is a great manager with a new club and although his tentative lineup lacks an outfield smother, he has a working pitching staff strengthened by the Cleveland ace, Uhl.

Donna to Play Bobcats Friday  
(Special to The Herald.)

DONNA, Jan. 25.—The Donna high school cagers will journey to Edinburg Friday night for their first game of the season with the Cats. The game will be called at 7:30 p. m. on the Edinburg Junior College court.

Several of the first string Cats are said to be injured but a tight game is expected, according to close followers of both teams.

## RACE HORSES ARE POISONED; NAB NEGROES

HAVANA, Jan. 25.—(AP)—Three men were under arrest today in connection with the poisoning of two Cuban-owned horses, Princess and Eun Dance. The horses were burned about the mouth but both will recover, veterinarians believe.

The men under arrest are Cuban negroes who have been employed as rubbers by trainers here and in the United States.

## BIG BOYS TO FIGHT FRIDAY

Sharkey Vs. Christner And Stribling Vs. Ralph Smith

NEW YORK, Jan. 25.—(AP)—While sweet dreams of Miami Beach enfold them, Jack Sharkey and K. O. Christner clash in a ten-round bout in Madison Square Garden tonight.

Christner, the rubber tire industry's gift to heavyweight ranks, is confronted with the chance of a life time. A knockout victory for him would automatically shove Sharkey out of his match with Young Stribling at Miami Beach, Feb. 27.

But the Akron battler's impressive record of 37 knockouts in 44 fights has not disturbed the gambling fraternity in its conviction that Sharkey will win, and win decisively. They are backing that conviction at odds of three to one.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 25.—(AP)—The giant western scrapper, Ralph Smith, will have it over W. L. (Young) Stribling, Georgia heavyweight champion, in a ten-round bout in the fight here tonight in height, weight and reach, but the other measurements give Stribling the margin.

The comparative measurements show: Height—Stribling 6 ft. 1-1/2 inches; Smith 6 ft. 5-1/2 inches; weight—Stribling 181; Smith 225 pounds; reach—Stribling 74-1/2 inches; Smith 78 inches.

The fight will be Stribling's last engagement before his elimination contest with Jack Sharkey at Miami Beach, Feb. 27.

## Johnson Not To Pitch Baseball At Washington

TAMPA, Fla., Jan. 25.—(AP)—Walter Johnson, for 21 years star of the Washington pitching staff, will not appear in the box this season for two reasons—Clark Griffith, owner of the team has turned against the player-manager idea, and he believes "Old Barney" is through.

"If Walter pitches while managing the club it will be against my wishes," said the Washington press, here on a vacation. "I signed him as a bench manager, not as a player."

"The player-manager has about run his race," Griffith said. "It's all right when the team is winning, but when it is losing you don't know how the player-manager wishes he could hide in the dugout."

He intimated that Bucky Harris' release was in part due to the "riding" given him by the fans.

HARD LUCK FOR JAKIE  
CINCINNATI, Jan. 25.—(AP)—Jakie May, Cincinnati southpaw, pitched only one full game in 1928 and that was a shutout victory over the Giants in June. Illness and a sore arm kept him out of action.

## THREESOMES TEE OFF IN TEXAS OPEN

147 Lined Up at San Antonio For First Of 3-Day Meeting; Speaker In Play

SAN ANTONIO, Jan. 25.—(AP)—With 147 professionals divided into threesomes for today's initial 18-hole round of the Texas Open tournament indications were it would be dark before the last threesome checked in. The field will play 18 holes today and another 18 tomorrow and the 64 men will compete over the 36-hole route Sunday.

The draw lined up at least six "great" matches for today. At 11 o'clock John Rogers of Denver was to drive off with Lewis Levinson, former Texas amateur champion, and Billy Burke of Fortchester, N. Y.

Ralph Stonehouse of Indianapolis, Anthony Manero of New York and Jack Doid, the Houston amateur were bracketed in one threesome and Harry Cooper of Buffalo, Joe Kirkwood of Buffalo and Lloyd Jackson of Albany, Ga., and Al Espinosa of Chicago were grouped in another big match.

Perhaps the biggest gallery of the day will follow the contest between three threesomes, which includes Bill Mehlhorn of Fenimore, N. Y., Henry Cuicel of Bridgeport, Conn., and Al Watrous of Detroit. Mehlhorn has been playing consistently good golf since his arrival, and yesterday, in the amateur pro best ball contest shot a 68, four below par.

This speaker, the grizzled baseball veteran was bracketed with two other amateurs, Lefty Stacks of Mexico, Texas, and E. A. Steele of San Antonio.

Horton Smith, paired with Todd Meador of San Antonio tied for first place in yesterday's best ball event with Aubach, and Howard Padgett of San Antonio; each team turning in a best ball of 65. Tony Longo of St. Verano, N. Y., and Lloyd Jackson of San Antonio were third with a 67.

## Good Baseball Year Forecast For Christians

FORT WORTH, Tex., Jan. 25.—(AP)—Baseball practice at Texas Christian University is due to start about Feb. 11, says "Dutch" Meyers, varsity coach. Pitchers and catchers are being drilled through their paces about Feb. 1.

Prospects for a good team at the Purple institution are the best that have confronted Meyers since he took over the diamond-coaching position three years ago. The mentor has reliable material each year, being forced to use pitchers as outfielders and vice versa.

This year, with a host of good men coming from last year's freshman team, the Frog pit will have more material than he has had at the start of any season.

## Redskins Ride Panthers 38-28

(Special to The Herald.)

DONNA, Jan. 25.—Fast whipping into shape as favorites for the Hidalgo county championship, the Donna Redskins rode and pulled the ears of the Wallace Panthers Thursday afternoon to a tune of 38 to 28.

The game was a nip and tuck affair in the first half and was tied at the period ended 15-15. The stamina of the Redskins soon began to tell in the second half and they pulled away from their rivals. McFarling continued his accurate basket shooting, sinking 20 points to obtain high point honors.

Donna has lost but one contest this season. The fast Redskins tangle with Edinburg high school Friday night.

Valley Boy On A. & M. Champs  
(Special to The Herald.)

COLLEGE STATION, Jan. 25.—E. C. Rodriguez, Jr., of Harlingen, is a member of Company A, infantry, at A. & M. which won the small bore rifle competition of the college recently.

## Christner, Sharkey Sock It Out Today



SHARKEY FIGURES HIS BOUT WITH CHRISTNER A TUNED UP FOR THE STRENGTH GO. HANSEN ALSO TOOK HIS MATCH WITH THE K.O. WIZARD LIGHTLY BUT WITH SAD RESULTS

What will K. O. Christner be able to do with his "chance of a life time" tonight when he steps into the ring with Jack Sharkey at Madison Square Garden? Sharkey who is expected to battle Young Stribling at Miami Feb. 27, in the biggest heavyweight fight since the Tunney-Heeney affair, will have very little

to gain and everything to lose tonight. Therefore he is expected to try to make it short and sweet. He will enter the ring about a 10 to 1 favorite over Christner but it must be remembered that Knute Hansen was a 10 to 1 favorite over Christner when the melancholy Dane was knocked into pugilistic oblivion with a terrific right.

by pictures of famous fights. Jeffries and Dempsey predominated in the action stuff. They were always Rickard's favorites though he was much closer to Dempsey personally. One frame held the cancelled \$475,000 check which represented Dempsey's share of the famous battle with Firpo, the biggest amount any fighter ever received up to that time and exceeded since only by Tunney's purse.

No board of directors held any part of the spotlight in the old scheme of things under Rickard's direction. Garden stock was unheard of in Wall Street. Tex ruled the roost.

The late John Pollock of the Evening World, a veteran in the game, and this writer sat with Tex Rickard one day in his tower retreat. Tex had been trying for weeks to clinch the Dempsey-Firpo match. The Argentine, put through a heavy schedule had suddenly become balky. He wanted to defer a title fight with Dempsey but Rickard desired to strike while the iron was hot, while Firpo was still the big sensation.

No frills, no sounding of the tocsin to bring the crowd scurrying. That ordinary statement of fact that happened to be quite a story to the palpitating fight fan.

As a matter of fact Tex didn't have the match signed, sealed and delivered at that time, but he had confidence enough in his matchmaking ability to make a commitment.

It was typical of the Rickard of five years ago, always doing the unexpected where new surroundings, new methods and big business finally took away some of the old glamour.

SCOTCH YOUTH HIGH SCORER IN VIRGINIA  
HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Jan. 25.—(AP)—A Scotch lad, Tommy Stark, the highest scoring back in West Virginia during the 1928 season, will captain the Marshall college football team next season. He made 12 touchdowns for 72 points, nosing out Rodriguez, West Virginia Wesleyan fullback for state scoring honors by one touchdown.

While playing at Huntington high, Stark twice was named all-state interscholastic star. He switched to the backfield at Marshall.

NO LOAFING; PLAY GOLF  
LAWRENCE, Kan., Jan. 25.—(AP)—The University of Kansas does not permit its one-sport coaches to loaf during their off-seasons. For instance, Bill Hargis, the football mentor, teaches golf until spring practice.

EDINBURG RAINBOW GIRLS ARE TO INSTALL  
EDINBURG, Jan. 25.—Newly elected officers of the Rainbow girls here will be installed at public ceremony Saturday night at the Masonic hall, it was announced by the chapter advisor, Mrs. W. B. Dyer. Services will begin at 8 o'clock and all Masons and Stars have been invited. Officers to be installed are: Clara Belle Holman, worthy advisor; Anne Kathryn Edwards, charter; Tolle Weatherly, hope; Eunice Horner, faith; Mildred Combs, secretary; Pauline Holman, treasurer.

## DAD SCOUTS N. Y. BATTLE FOR HIS SON

'Pa' Stribling To Be at Ringside Tonight When Sharkey and Christner Clash

By EDWARD J. NEIL  
(Associated Press Sports Writer.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 25.—(AP)—A chubby little fellow with the soft drawl of the Southland is peeping out from under the brim of his black derby today at things that are in the big town. Tonight he will sit at the ringside in Madison Square Garden and turn his entire attention on Jack Sharkey's efforts to bruise K. O. Christner and vice versa.

The little fellow is "Pa" Stribling who raised his boy to be a fighter of such proportions that little Willie is now one of the leading heavyweights, one of the principals in the Battle of the Palms Tex Rickard planned for Miami Beach on the night of Feb. 27.

"Pa" came all the way north from the Florida resort to scout Sharkey, if the fates are smiling on the late promoter's plans, and Christner, if necessary.

"The South," he said, "is just finding itself athletically. We had the greatest football team in the country last fall in Georgia Tech. Bobby Jones and Wally Gunn have thrilled the section with their golf and T. Cobb made baseball fans of thousands. Now Young Stribling has come along to take his place as the foremost southern representative in the boxing world."

"The Sharkey-Stribling match will be one of the biggest sport events in the history of the section and the boy must uphold the prestige of his predecessors."

CHICAGO, Jan. 25.—(AP)—Miss Elaine Tomaso of Glendale, Calif., daughter of the late Salvatore Tomaso, director-composer, will be married soon to a stranger, Lewis, former heavyweight wrestling champion, she announced last night. Date of the marriage was not revealed.

Miss Tomaso, who is a pianist and accompanist, arrived from the west coast yesterday with her mother and sister. Lewis was due from New York today. He has a match with Marin Plestina here next Tuesday night.

Lewis, who has been twice married and twice divorced, entered the ring against the unknown Christner and Hansen was knocked from his props.

What kind of fighters are the two boys who are to headline the boxing card Monday night at Fort Brown skating rink? This and many other questions pertaining to Roberto Jimenez and Ralph Leach, the 190 pound boys in question, are topics of conversation among fight fans. Both are as yet to make a reputation as fighters, although Jimenez sounded a fellow by the name of Morrow on the chin sometime ago, rendering him hors de combat. Leach has boxed and fought several fights.

Promoter Tex Beccrell tells us that both fighters are in excellent shape. It will be a kind of elimination contest. The winner, if he displays fighting ability, will get a chance to hang away with some other heavy, probably on the next card, of proven ability.

A preliminary on the card between Jimmy Bland of Harlingen and Johnnie Martinez of Monterrey, is expected to prove interesting. These fellows weigh around 145 pounds. They are scheduled to go six rounds, as are Kid Guerra and Bill Williams. The other two prelims are scheduled to go four rounds each, and are between Young Parker and Ray Torres and Kid Solis and Kid Lupe.

Doak Roberts, president of the Texas league, is still a very sick man at Dallas, his home. The league moguls were scheduled to meet this week in annual conclave, but delayed the meeting until the president's health will permit him to attend, if possible.

In a basketball game at El Jardin yesterday afternoon, Callan Martin, Coach Richey's sharpshooter, threw 12 field goals, for 24 points. This Martin is chums with his left hand and all the other "Guys" should take notice. Of course his right hand helps him along.

The Kennel, Texarkana's Junior college weekly publication, has the following in its wit column of last week:

First: "I bet Shakespeare would have been a good football player."

Second: "Why Shakespeare was a writer."

First: "Well, he made those long run plays."

Paul LaGrave is gone; the Fort Worth Baseball club business manager died the other day. In his place will step Bobby Stowe, former Klem Worth player, and well known minor league ball player of years ago. Stowe was with Dallas in 1922 when Jim Galloway was at the helm of the Steers. Never a great hitter, which kept him out of the big leagues, Stowe in his playing days was regarded as one of the smartest shortstops in the business. He makes Ft. Worth his headquarters for the time being, and should give the Cowtown moguls an administration of success.

"The strike and ball indicator," says the Sporting News, "which Uncle Klem carries into every game, but never uses, has an interesting history. The indicator was given to Klem by John McGraw 25 years ago, and was subsequently responsible for the election of the veteran Klem as manager from a game by this same arbiter. McGraw disagreed with Klem over the count on a batter and asked to see the indicator. Klem handed it over and, by a strange coincidence, it registered the number of balls and strikes Mac believed there should be.

## SPORTS FORUM

By Bishop Clements

Latest reports concerning the football situation at T. C. U. since the resignation of Matty Bell, is that Bill James, for the past several years, line coach at Texas University, will become the Frog mentor next season. James has produced the best lines the Steers have had in many years, and is regarded as a coach of ability.

Some are wont to criticize Matty Bell for leaving T. C. U. and going to A. & M. It may have been unethical from a partisan standpoint, but the smart coach is the one who is trying to advance, and Bell believes he is advancing when he accepted the Farmer offer. Whether he is or not, Bell knows his own business, is a smart man, and we are for him and his ambitious hustle, and if it is unethical for Bell to go from T. C. U. to A. & M. then it was unethical for him to have left Haskell and come to T. C. U.

The writer has been asked any number of times where such and such major league baseball club is to train this spring. Below is a list of both National and American league training camps:

American league:  
Boston—Brantford, Fla.  
Chicago—Delmar, Del.  
Cleveland—New Orleans, La.  
Detroit—Phoenix, Ariz.  
New York—St. Petersburg, Fla.  
Philadelphia—Fl. Myers, Fla.  
St. Louis—West Palm Beach, Fla.  
Washington—Tampa, Fla.  
National league:  
Boston—St. Petersburg, Fla.  
Brooklyn—Clearwater, Fla.  
Chicago—Avon, Catalina Islands.  
Cincinnati—Orlando, Fla.  
New York—San Antonio, Texas.  
Philadelphia—Winter Haven, Fla.  
Pittsburgh—Paso Robles, Cal.  
St. Louis—Avon Park, Fla.

(Anonymous.)

He rounded first and second. And then he rounded third. The kid was quite a rounder. In the literal sense of the word.

W. R. Keeble, who was elected president of the West Texas league at a meeting of directors several weeks ago, over his protest, he says, will call another meeting in the near future, at which time another proxy will have to be elected as Keeble says he hasn't the time to devote to the presidency of the thriving Class D circuit. In the meantime, however, Keeble in order to save the West Texas national game will hold the office until his successor is named. Fair enough.

Sharkey and Christner are to battle in Madison Square Garden tonight. The bout, so far as Sharkey is supposed to regard it, is nothing more than a warm-up affair for his bout with Stribling in Florida next month. But Christner may turn the tide and give Sharkey one of his hardest scraps. It is recalled that once upon a time Hansen entered the ring against the unknown Christner and Hansen was knocked from his props.

Edinburg Beats McAllen 23-14  
McALLEN, Jan. 25.—The Edinburg firemen proved good at tossing a basketball as well as quenching flames here Thursday night when they defeated the McAllen member of the Hidalgo independent basketball league 23-14.

This was the second straight win for the firemen in as many games. L. Wittingham was the scoring ace of the smooth Edinburg machine, totaling 11 points.

Yoder proved himself an outstanding basketball player as well as an excellent performer on the diamond. He rang up eight of the Mack's 14 points.

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