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SPORTING NEWS

APRIL 22, 1946

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

PAGE SEVEN

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IN THIS CORNER
 Boxing and wrestling that have been at a low ebb here during the war years start on the comeback trail Wednesday night at the sporting club when the Prince of Wales Athletic Association will stage a promising looking wrestling and boxing card that should draw more than an average attendance.

Back in earlier days, events of the above nature were really getting underway with packed houses witnessing the annual fights that were being staged, but then came hostilities and a resultant cancelling of same but now officials of the Colby athletic association are desirous of renewing this event and have lined up a well balanced card for their show on Wednesday night.

Five boxing bouts are to be staged this evening and the card is well lined with action all the way. That was the case anyway in bouts staged in other years and it is expected that rivalry between the colleges hasn't declined one bit in the war interval.

The wrestling bout between two heavyweights should add plenty to the programme. Out-of-town wrestling haven't drawn any too well here in the past but Wednesday with two local boys pitting their prowess and courage against each other, it is very apt to be a much different story.

Tuesday night's basketball meeting at the I.P.O. hall should provide plenty of interest for ball players in the western end of the city. It is fully expected that contests plans will be formed in connection with the basketball season and will represent the Union in the coming season's play.

Although nothing of a definite nature was announced as to the Thursday night's get together, nevertheless very keen interest was shown in the wrestling bouts. It is expected that there wasn't a one hundred per cent representation of the spectators but the boys in charge of the first meeting are likely to be out in full force for tomorrow night's get-together.

And by the way, any players desirous of trying out for the squad are welcomed an invitation to the try-out which will be held on the night of what section of the City they reside in.

Prospectively to be out of the running for the Memorial Cup is not a few teams, Winnipeg Monarchs and Colby College, but the latter's season's night by their well-deserved victory over the St. Michael's College squad.

Looking to the play by play account by Peter Newark, one could not help but be struck by the many year by year and most his closest friends are predicting that he'll pull up stakes any day and head for home to join his two sons in handling a busy enough year-round sports proposition here.

Yes it won't surprise too many if he should suddenly take a whirl at the new professional club in Philadelphia. He's been mentioned for it and has given it some

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Monarchs Even Up Series Skating To 4-3 Win Over "Irish"

TORONTO, April 21—(Special)—Walter Monarch's courageous Winnipeg Monarchs, shooting two goals in the final period Saturday night evened their Memorial Cup playdown finals with Joe Primich's St. Michael's College at two games apiece when they defeated the Toronto Irish 4-3 in a slip and tuck struggle played before an arena capacity crowd of fans.

Penalties played a major role in the scoring. Monarch's drew first blood around the nine minute mark of the first period only to have St. Mike's wipe it out with a tally in the last few minutes. Early in the middle canto St. Mike's took the lead for the first and only time in the game when they led 2-1 only to have the Win-

nipers shoot the equalizer 38 seconds before the end of the period. Taking advantage of penalties the Westerners raced into a 4-2 lead in the first fifteen minutes of the final session and the braces of counters gave them their victory. St. Mike's threw wave upon wave of attacks against the Monarchs in the closing minutes but the best they could do was get one counter, it coming during the last three and a half minutes of play.

Both goalies stood out all through the encounter with the Monarchs' goalkeeper, Salen, through with three miraculous saves that went a long way in keeping his team in the running.

Not All Sunshine For Wakefield In Rise To Stardom

NEW YORK, April 21—To watch lackadaisical clowning Richard Cummings Wakefield play baseball for the Detroit Tigers you'd never think the happy-go-lucky, 24-year-old slugger ever had a sorrow in his lifetime.

Broken Dream
 But there's a broken dream in the story behind the meteoric rise to fame of the Tigers' colorful outfielder. It brings a wreath of sadness to the heart of the strapping six-footer with the otherwise perpetual grin.

It concerns Dick's father, Howard Wakefield, a one-time major league player who lived chiefly for the day when his young offspring would reach baseball stardom, and who died only a short time before the age of six and has been teaching him the art of the trade in the Wakefield back yard in Chicago.

Dad Best Coach
 Dick had a coach during his high school playing days, but to the future Tiger star, the well-meaning mentor's coaching seemed to surpass that of any other coach he knew more about baseball than dad.

The gangling, 180-pound center second at the University of Michigan in 1936 and reported for freshman baseball in the spring. Coach Ray Fisher had a good variety catcher lined up for the next two years, but impressed with Wakefield's tremendous hitting power, speed, and throwing ability, he decided to convert the youngster into an outfielder.

The following spring, Wakefield won an outfield berth on the Michigan team with ease, much to his father's delight. But the joy was short-lived. While young Dick was south on the Wolverine's spring trip, his dad died.

The Deluge
 Only a few months later, Wakefield realized his, and his father's, cherished ambitions. After mauling college pitching for a .322 average thought, there is talk of operating the old Maroon franchise in Philadelphia, and some feel it's the type of venture to attract his interest.

He's had a hand now in seven Stanley Cup championships, helping Ottawa to three of them before pulling stakes in Montreal and introducing the NHL brand to New York fans with the rollicking old Americans.

He bounded from there to Chicago to revamp the Black Hawks into a cup winner, and then suddenly moved to Montreal to round up a winner with Maroons. Then came Canadiens and two more title-winning teams. It's quite a record and while it doesn't seem likely that he will move to Philly in the event, he seems connections with Montreal; that type of set-up may yet appeal to him.

and leading the Big Ten in total bases. Dick was deluged with offers from major league teams. He signed with the Tigers for a reported \$65,000, the largest bonus ever given an untried rookie prospect.

Wakefield didn't waste much time in the minors. A half season with Winston-Salem and another year with Beaumont and he was ready for the big time. In 1943, his first full season with Detroit, Wakefield batted .316 and led the American League in hits and two-baggers. He followed with a .366 batting average in '45 games in 1944.

Now, recently discharged from the navy, Wakefield seems inevitably destined for baseball greatness. Only the fact that his most capable tutor and most devoted booster is no longer around to cheer him on mars the complete fulfillment of his lifetime dream. "I know," he solemnly told a team mate, "I'll be dad would really have liked that one."

South African To Take Part In Can. Open

(By Jack Sullivan, Canadian Press Staff Writer)
LONDON, April 21—(CP)—Bobby Locke, whose golfing ability lifted him from a \$1 pound-a-week (\$18.50) clerk's job to the position of South Africa's top professional is expected to arrive in Britain soon to compete in the British open and several other leading tournaments. He then will leave for Canada for the Canadian open.

But the real objective of Locke, who has three South African millaires behind his golf ventures, is Byron Nelson whose last-minute cancellation of his South African tour aroused indignation in the Union. Locke is out to "get" the American on his own ground.

Albert Brown, Charlton Athletic and England inside-forward, will play in his fourth successive Wembley Stadium soccer cup final April 27.

He was on the Charlton club which lost to Arsenal in the 1943 South Cup final, helped Charlton defeat Chelsea in the 1944 final and last year was a guest forward for Millwall, beaten by Chelsea.

It's a bit confusing for Yorkshire steepchase bettors when the Frontenac brothers are chosen as jockeys.

Both were christened Michael. Michael J. is attached to Val Moore's stable at Milton and Michael C. is with Trainer W. A.

GOLF

By BYRON NELSON

Writing of changing my clubs around, as I did in the previous column, reminded me that while it is something I have done only once in a while, there are some players who are continually changing their clubs.

Gene Sarazen, for instance, is one player who likes to work on his clubs in the shop. I remember on one occasion when he was carrying a bag full of irons, except for the deep pitching clubs, with the irons all cantered out about the same angle as the lot of a No. 4 iron.

Leo Diegel, a star of the Hagen era, and a player who has probably hit the flag on his second shot more often than any man in the game, was another golfer who was always in the shop working on his clubs with the bending tools and making them suit the swing he had that day. I remember seeing him play in a tournament when nearly every iron in his bag was a jigger.

A jigger may be a strange club to the younger generation of golf, but you older golfers will remember the lot of a No. 4 iron, but it had a thin narrow blade. With a jigger you could hit the ball high or low or slice it or hook it quite easily. It was an excellent club with which to play a chip in the woods and he is continually changing the loft and length of his drivers and his other wood clubs.

One day he adds lead to his woods and the next he takes it out. That's particularly true if Harold is being around before a tournament with plenty of time on his hands. But funny as it may seem in view of the fact that he apparently is never satisfied with his clubs, McSpaden is a very good driver and hits an exceptionally long ball.

Ben Hogan is another player who makes changes in his clubs. He is the player who weighs in a head distributed a little differently than most of us do. But he is partial to one set of clubs. When he is in the mood to like, he uses it over and over again and is reluctant to change to a new one. Right now he is carrying a new set of clubs in his car in addition to the set he uses in tournaments and he is breaking them in and slowly getting accustomed to playing with them.

Of course, the club which all the boys fool around with more than any other, and that includes McSpaden, is the putter. It seems as though we all use putters to the same extent. During Jimmy Demaret's great 1940 winning streak he used an old putter that had been a scotchie for his for many years. For some reason he neglected it when he got out of the Navy and re-learned his putting stroke last fall. On a hunch he took the neglected putter out of his bag at Tucson, repaired his putting touch, won the Tucson Open and has used it ever since.

However, most of the good putters are the same putter quite consistently. Back in 1944 Harold McSpaden was hot with an aluminum putter that he had. During the 1945 Jacksonville, Fla., Open he tossed an iron to his caddy, after playing a shot to the green. His caddy missed the club, he hit the putter and broke the head off. McSpaden has yet to find a putter he can use as well as he could that particular one.

Hall at Tadcaster. To distinguish them, Michael C., who is 34, likes to be known as Mike; his brother, aged 38, likes Michael; he just referred to as M. Frendergast—which can be Mike or Michael.

Greek Champion Marathon Winner

BOSTON, April 21—Styllanos Kyriakos of Greece, marathon champion of that country and also of the Balkans and Egypt Saturday won the renewal of the annual Boston Marathon when he headed a large field across the finish line.

In second place was Johnny Kelley of Arlington, Mass., and winding up third was Gerard Cole of Quebec, three times winner of the event.

Due to wires being down between here and the mainland, it was impossible to obtain any account of the race.

Finishing position of John Paul, Indian runner from the Island could not be ascertained.

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REMEMBER WHEN

By The Canadian Press
 Hamilton Tigers of Big Four rugby fame 21 years ago today signed Pop Leadley, Canada's outstanding drop-kicker of his day. In the following season Leadley proved as big a cog in the Tiger machine as he was in the famous Queen's University team that won the Canadian championship in 1922, 1923 and 1924.

DIAMOND CUT DIAMOND
 Only a diamond is hard enough to cut a diamond.

Sport Briefs

Blind boys from a York school defeated a team of blindfolded boy scouts in a football match. The ball, partially inflated to reduce bounce, had a bell fitted to the case. Blind operators followed the play by listening for the bell.

More than 5,000 pounds (\$22,500) in cash bets changed hands and the winner won a cup and nearly 2,000 pounds in a billiards tournament in London recently. It was the final of the Bookmakers' Billiards Handicap.



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