

NEWS of SPORT

Review of Local Sport During Year Closing Today

Rugby Football and Harness Racing the Leading Lines—Signs of Revival in Baseball—Hockey and Basketball Stumbling Blocks, Except With University of N. B.

The year 1926 closes with affairs of sport in Fredericton little different from the year before. Rugby football and harness-racing are still the leading lines. The performance of Guess-work 2.03 1/4, in September when paced by an auto she covered the mile on the local twice-around track in 2.04 1/4, lowered the track mark half a second and kept it in the lead of the half-mile tracks of Canada where it had been for several years. In rugby football the University of New Brunswick again put Fredericton on the map by winning the Maritime Intercollegiate title and by retaining the MacTier Cup.

Hockey Season.
Hockey which since the introduction of the sport in 1902 has been a stumbling block to Fredericton teams—for the performance of the imported Capitals in 1908 cannot be credited to a local aggregation any more than Moncton's in years previous to that date—did not show much in 1926. The Fredericton team was placed in the Northern Section but although good material was present failed to stand well in the league positions at the end of the season. There also was a failure on the part of the public to give adequate support to the club and its backers found themselves out of pocket. Failure to make the most of the material available and inability of University players to play both college and M. A. H. A. hockey were the chief causes of the poor showing. More young players are needed. The season of 1927 has begun badly for Fredericton already with two defeats on foreign games in the Southern League with a schedule which is not to the advantage of a team late in organizing.

The University of N. B. again was the senior organization to bring distinction to Fredericton. The Red and Black won the western section beating Acadia in the playoff but lost to St. F. X. in the Maritime playoff. The Summer Cup, however, was won from King's College.

Fredericton High School won the N. B. Interscholastic League title handsly and also beat St. Stephen High but on meeting the first real opposition in Bathurst High came to grief. The first game of the playoff was lost here but at Bathurst Fredericton High won. Again the teams met in Fredericton and played to a tie. The deciding game proved to be that in Bathurst which Bathurst High won 4 to 1. This was the longest playoff series in school hockey and one of the longest in hockey of any kind in New Brunswick.

Basketball.
The University team again carried the local honors in basketball winning the Western Section title from Mt. Allison and Acadia. Provincially the collegians did not class with the Saint John Trojans semi-finalists for the Dominion title.

Basketball never has produced much honor for the local High School for neither the local school nor Normal School shone in the Interscholastic Series which went to Saint John High easily.

Baseball Season.
The baseball season saw local ball recovering to some extent from the effect of the imported semi-pro variety, with Fredericton Imperials, Devon and Marysville competing. Marysville won the York County League but lost so many players by accident that the team disbanded without entering the New Brunswick playoff. Imperials took the place on behalf of the league and beat Newcastle here but lost the second game and the rubber at Newcastle. The rest of the playoff got so messed up among Newcastle and Saint John teams that it died. The series was too late conflicting with the football season.

The most pleasing development in local baseball was the active and energetic intermediate league which functioned and which graduated a number of players into senior ranks as the season went on. Continuation of that league will put baseball back on its

feet locally. The Rotary Club aided this league.

Softball Developed.
Softball attracted increased attention during the season. The G. W. V. A. operated a successful league and there also was a Commercial League and other organizations played.

Harness Racing.
Two good meets of harness racing were held at the local track, one in midsummer and one in September during the Fredericton Exhibition. It was observable as before that the tendency to feature the big free-for-all events was injuring the other races and destroying interest. The outstanding event of the season was Guess-work's new track record of 2.04 1/4 made September 22nd. The mark put up in 1923 by Single G. 1.58 1/4 when he covered the mile in 2.04 1/4 on the local track was equalled in the midsummer meet by Bessie McKlivo 2.01 1/4. The mark is still the best made in a race event on a Fredericton track.

Rugby Football.
The University of New Brunswick failed to equal the standard reached in rugby football in 1925 although winning the college title again and retaining the MacTier Cup by beating McGill English easily. Accidents which lost player after player kept the Red and Black squad from giving its best. The outstanding events of the season was the games with Halifax Wanderers which gave the Halifax team a definite claim of the Maritime title as the college lost both, 8 to 0 at Halifax and 12 to 6 here. The U. N. B. team was caught about at its most disorganized condition when these games were played but only regret can be expressed now. Nova Scotia Tech again was the competitor among the eastern colleges. The withdrawal of Acadia made an awkward situation in the Western Section.

Fredericton High School with a squad almost new won the N. B. Interscholastic League but against Mt. Allison Academy here failed to develop an attack sufficiently strong to score and the game ended drawn. The playoff fizzled after that and no Provincial title was awarded.

Other Sports.
During the year other sports flourished and some languished. The Fredericton Curling Club had an excellent year and sustained its fine reputation. Bowling also was carried on steadily. Rifle shooting was in eclipse and so was trap-shooting both which had been well patronized in previous years. Rowing and sculling which in 1925 and previously had shown signs of life also dropped back.

FRENCH DROP SUZANNE FROM TENNIS LIST

Paris, Dec. 30—The name of Suzanne Lenglen, who forfeited her amateur status by becoming a professional, has disappeared from the premier place it held for so many years in the ranking of France's feminine tennis stars. The men's 1926 ranking, as decided by the French Tennis Federation, shows that Rene Lacoste, Jean Borotra and Henri Cochet will share the honors for supremacy.
Lacoste, undisputed champion of the United States by virtue of his victory over Jean Borotra at Forest Hills, New York, last September, thus will have to divide first place with his defeated adversary and Cochet, co-conqueror of "Big Bill" Tilden.
Paul Feret, who joined the professional ranks with Mlle. Lenglen, likewise was dropped from the Tennis Federation's lists.
Suzanne's place at the head of the women players will be shared by Didi Valasto and Helen Contostavlos, French girls of Greek origin. The official ranking, which although it became known today, will not be published by the Tennis Federation until Jan. 1, places Jacques Brugnon in fourth place. He was partnered with Cochet in the victorious men's doubles team at Wimbledon this year. M. Landry and Jean Emile Coutheas are tied for fifth place; M. George and Gentien, divide seventh place.

CANADIENS CONTINUE THEIR CLIMB IN N.H.L.

**Shut Pittsburgh Out—
Montreal Came Back
and Beat Detroit—
Boston Beaten by St.
Patricks.**

Montreal, Dec. 30—Canadiens scored their fourth consecutive National Hockey League triumph here tonight when they defeated the fast-skating Pittsburgh Pirates 1-0. For well over two periods the teams battled in a scoreless deadlock, setting a dazzling pace in the second session. Just over half way through the final session, Billy Boucher finally batted the puck over the prostrate form of the brilliant Roy Worters to give Canadians their winning margin.

Pittsburgh played speedy hockey but they were shaded by the French-Canadiens, who held a margin in the play, but found Worters a stumbling block. Worters was never better. He was cut over the eye in the final period and had to take time out. It was just after the accident that the Canadiens scored.

Maroons Beat Cougars.

Windsor, Ont., Dec. 30—Montreal Maroons, quicker to start and sturdier in defense, defeated the Detroit Cougars, 2 to 0, here tonight, in a N. H. L. game.

Nelson Stewart, husky Maroon centre, rushed from the penalty box into a Montreal play early in the first period, eluded the Cougar defense and carried the puck into the net. Dunc Munro scored the second Maroon goal late in the second period by slipping the puck between the feet of both the Detroit defense men and the goaler.

Seventeen penalties, imposed by the referee, Bobby Hewitson, of Toronto, failed to prevent the game from being one of the roughest in the Windsor Arena this season.

St. Pats Beat Bruins.

Toronto, Dec. 30—A rejuvenated St. Patrick's hockey team, playing brilliantly in all departments of the game, defeated the Boston Bruins in decisive fashion by a score of 4 goals to 1, in an N. H. L. fixture at the Arena Gardens tonight.

The game was one of the crowd-pleasing type, fast hockey that fairly sizzled at times, interspersed with strenuous play which resulted in a large number of penalties.

Boston, with two complete teams available were able to maintain the fast, heavy pace better than the "Irish," but Roach, in goal for St. Pats, rose to dizzy heights in splendid goalkeeping when his teammates were in distress.

St. Pats were better fortified with substitutes tonight, with the acquisition of Keeling from London and Pudas from Windsor of the Canadian Hockey League. Both players showed up well and appear to strengthen St. Pats considerably.

Shore, S. S. Cleghorn, Cooper and Galbraith figured prominently for Boston.

For the "Irish" Day, Carson, Bailey and Brode were the most effective.

SPECIAL ATTRACTION
AT GAIETY THEATRE

"The Blonde Saint" is the photo play at the Gaiety for Friday and Saturday with Lewis Stone and Loris Kenyon in the leading roles. A comedy is also on the bill.

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SMALLER U.S. COLLEGES ARE RAKED OVER

**Concrete Instances of
Forging Credits and
Nursing Players
Along are Cited—Perpetual Freedom.**

Bethlehem, Pa., Dec. 30—Great football teams for small colleges are possible only when there is a liberal outlay of money to procure layers, a lowering of entrance requirements to permit their matriculation, and a sacrificing of classroom standards to provide for their continued eligibility.

That, in substance, is an indictment written against the popular college sport by Walter R. Oakeson, prominent gridiron official and the Treasurer of Lehigh University. It appears in an article in the current issue of the Lehigh Alumni Bulletin, in which Oakeson assumes full accountability for the unhappy football record of the Lehigh eleven of the season just closed.

Concrete cases of commercial pro-seelying, of forging entrance credits and of permitting players to remain eligible for football while continued for three years as members of successive freshman classes are revealed in Oakeson's article, and he states it was his unwillingness to condone such practices that was chiefly responsible for Lehigh's failure to meet its gridiron rivals on equal terms.

Lafayette College, time-honored rivals of Lehigh, furnishes Oakeson with his idea of the perpetual freshman idea by means of which an athlete remains eligible for varsity play without the necessity of advancing so academically with his class, and one Williams, a star Lafayette lineman in 1919, 1920 and 1921, is the individual who illustrates the case.

Oakeson quotes from "Athletics at Lafayette College," by Professor Francis A. March, an admission that eligibility rules were not strictly enforced at that institution during a period following the Great War, and adds:

"During the abrogation, when Lafayette was making a successful effort to become an outstanding football college, there were some news paper charges against her. She invited investigation and her dean, in defending the eligibility of Williams, stated that Williams was scholastically eligible as he was a freshman in good standing all three years he played on the team."

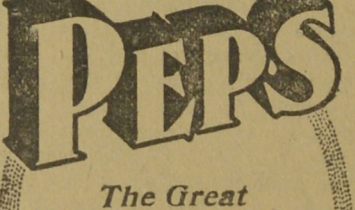
Oakeson declares Lehigh, in the past and other colleges have allowed their football ambitions to influence similar practices and says he uses the Williams incident, not as a knock at Lafayette, but because it is one case where he has the printed word of two members of the college staff to prove the case.

M'GILL GAVE YALE BEATING

New York, Dec. 30—McGill University of Montreal defeated Yale, 4 to 1, in an International Intercollegiate hockey match here tonight. The visiting Canucks displayed the more finished brand of hockey, outclassing the New Haven squad in every department of the game.

Moore—When does a woman really begin to get old?

Watson—When she moves her mirror into a darker corner of her room.



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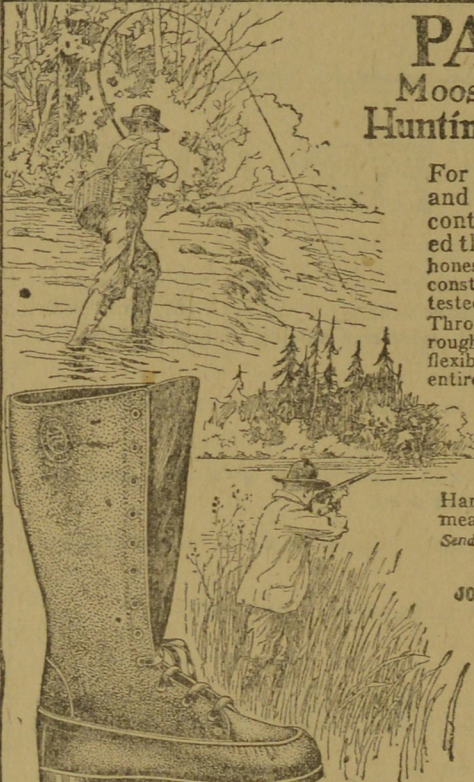
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