Comment On Sports

BY BILLY SWING

With the frogs singing from every puddle in the wide open spaces, and I hope singing is right, anyway the frogs give us assurance that spring is with us and their noise or whatever it may be is nothing short of music after a long tough winter such as we have had. And spring means the great outdoors and all it offers in the way of pleasure and recreation and what American boy, or at that, man, does not think first of base ball. Yes, the old national pasttime will soon be in full swing and even ahead of the frogs this spring came the boys on every lot swinging the bat and mauling the old horse hide.

With the big and minor loop clubs already in Florida, California, Texas and other points South and Southwest, the sandloters back home are not content with just reading about their big brothers in the sport. Nothing like that these days; the back homers who some day hope to be in that great army of professionals, and that is one vocation to which nine out of every ten American boys strive for, are imitating their idols in preparing on their home lots or any old lot for their own season that is not far ahead. Already the ball tossers in the Cecil county school circuit are warming up in order to be in shape for the season that opens now within a few weeks. That interest in school base ball in steaming up may be gleaned from the fact that some clubs have now their tentative line-ups all ready for the opening gun. That's what is called getting a hop on the situation.

Graduations always have some effects on the base ball affairs in the school loop, but in recent years coaches have been encouraging the game thruout the entire school and as a result, by the time a boy reaches the high school department he is in line for promotion to the varsity squad. It happens occasionally however that a corking good club is gotten together that sails through the league for two and some times three years then there is a letdown for a year or so until a team has been gotten together that can make a good showing. All the schools have experienced this in the past as we can all remember the fine records carried on by Perryville, North East and Elkton. And who does not remember, to get away from base ball for the moment, the record of that Rising Sun field ball team of some three or four years ago. Those lassies carried everything before them and made a clean sweep for about three years, then the team took a dip that has not yet been overcome. With the bringing along of players through the school it has been noticeable in the past two or three years of closer base ball with the teams more evenly matched. So, while graduation moves the older players from school competition, there is always room for the kids coming up and they seem to take advantage of the situation and consequently the calibre of ball does not change much from season to season.

With the Bi-State league spring meetings out of the way and but little remaining to do before the opening of the season, little has been heard of the Cecil County loop and the intentions of that organization for 1936. Under the able direction of Charles A. Ferguson, the Cecil County circuit has enjoyed some very successful campaigns and it is hoped that the clubs will get together for the coming season. Skipper Ferguson has stuck with the league through thick and thin and has been the head of the wheel, with the exception of a season now and then, since its organization in the early 1900's. The Cecil County league was the first organized base ball circuit in this section of the country and quite a number of its performers have made the grade in faster leagues. There is still a place for the Cecil County loop, its games have brought pleasure to a great number of fans and it is hoped all along the line that the clubs will again see action during the coming season.

Last year the league was composed of six clubs, Glasgow, the pennant winner, Calvert, Bay View, North East, Newark Cardinals and Newark Veterans. The clubs were pretty evenly matched in both halves and the question of the championship was fought right down to the final day. It is understood the two Newark teams are seeking berths in a Delaware loop that is being organized which will leave those two franchises open for Cecil county entries. Glasgow, it is understood, would rather stick with the county league and no doubt the fans will be glad to hear this as this club was a favorite of all the First State members. The two vacancies no doubt will be readily picked up by Cecil county teams, which we are led to believe will make for more harmony and better base ball.

It is understood that the Susquehanna league will soon be reorganized for the coming season and those backing the organization state the loop will be a much stronger organization than it was last year. Aberdeen has secured a berth in the Bi-State and in order to play Sunday ball in Cannerville, the directors of the club will move from their handsome new home. Owners of the property refuse to allow Sunday base ball which causes the switch. The Canners will move their grandstand and other equipment to the park formerly occupied by the Inter-County league team of that town which played on the Sabbath. Just what the personnel of the Susky league for 1936 will be cannot be ascertained but it is thought the Jewell circuit will be composed of the teams resurrected from last season's league and the now defunct Inter County league. At all events the Susquehanna league is determined to carry on.

Remember—way back when Uncle Zeke wore his felt boots seven days a week all winter . . . hoarhound candy was good for colds . . . and the gorgeous raiment John L. Sullivan draped about him 'tween fights?"

"Jauntin' With Jones"

By LYNN JONES
Elkton High School Sports

Well folks the tang in the air these pre-spring days brings to our mind the hastening advent of the base ball season.

The base ball minded boys over at Elkton high are limering up down on the old campus and there are gleaming smiles of great enjoyment as they toss the old pill hither and you.

Due to graduation last year, there are several vacancies on the team to be filled, but nevertheless the boys are out already to assure their coach that there is plenty of stuff on the school roster to bring the bacon to dear old Blue and White. The logical contender for the position behind the pentagon, I believe, is Ellis Denny, the South street, or should I say, the Howard street "Beau Brummel." George King will likely get the slab iooing nod when the umpire calls, "play ball."

Bobby Barrow, a right smooth ball player, will probably land an infield berth. There will be plenty of competition, so I understand, for the initial hassock. Freddie Foster, who hails from up Pleasant Hill way, and Nelson Lewis will try for the first sacking job. Eddie Everett who played second base last year in true Gehringer style, will likely cover second again this season and Wilson will probably remain in his old stamping grounds at the hot corner.

I visited the Armory Monday afternoon and found Coach "Bill" Foster putting his proteges through their paces and seeking ways and means to give West Nottingham the proverbial coat of white wash. The boys looked plenty good but on Tuesday when the affair came off there was a different story to tell. The game was a lively tussle all the way through bu the Foster passers came through holding the low end of a 21 to 6 score. It was a hard fought contest with Denny, Ellison and Brown each accounting for a goal.

Caught Here and There . . . Two sophomores who play on the basket ball team leaving the dance on Patridge Hill in a Chevy coach, and parking on the wrong side of the railroad bridge on Bridge street Thursday evening, caused a night watchman of a nearby warehouse to investigate.

A little blond senior made a remark to the effect that she thought a certain young man who is a student at Child's Seminary, and who's first name is "Nick," is pretty ah-er-smooth. The young lady is troubled because she does not know his name. Well little lady this columnist will soon have that information for you.

Quite a few lads and lassies down at the high school are rehearsing a play written b yBooth Tarkington, entitled, "Seventeen." It will be staged in the Armory Friday, March 27. Those taking part in the play are, Jane Lawrence, Betty Jo Boulden, Virginia Coppage, Jane King, Ruth Dixon, Bob Downey, Kenneth Mackey, Mickey Jones, Nelson Lewis, Robert Baker, and Ralph Garrett. The play is being coached by Mrs. Roy Robertson and Miss Alice Rawson, members of the faculty. The high school school glee club will sing several selections.

Co. "E" Wins, Town Drops Game In Shore Boot Loop

Soldiers Continue In Top Position Without Losing Game

Although things did not roll along as smoothly as they might have in El Deibert's Eastern Shore Soccer League last Sunday, two games scheduled for the day were played but due to the condition of playing grounds two games were postponed until later.

The Soldiers of Co. "E" managed to snare a close fought game from Chesapeake City, 3 to 2, while the Town team dropped their tilt to an inspired Ridgely squad, 2 to 0.

The Soldiers continue to hold the second half lead without a loss and in spite of their loss of last Sunday's game the Town Team is still in second place with two points to spare. Four teams, Greensboro, North East, Chesapeake City and Ridgely, are tied for the next position while Denton holds the cellar position without having won a single game thus far in the second half.

Results Last Sunday

Co. "E," 3; Chesapeake City, 2.
Ridgely, 2; Elkton (Town), 0.

Standing of the Teams

	W.	L.	T.	Pts.
Co. "E"	5	0	0	10
Elkton (Town)	3	2	0	6
Greensboro	2	3	0	4
North East	2	1	0	4
Chesapeake City	2	2	0	4
Ridgely	2	3	0	4
Federalsburg	1	3	0	2
Denton	0	3	0	0

Schedule For Next Week

Denton at Co. "E" (Elkton)
Elkton (Town) at Federalsburg
North East at Ridgely
Greensboro at Chesapeake City

Maroon Loses Hockey Game To Forest Park

The West Nottingham Academy hockey team engaged the Forest Park jayvees sextet down at Iceland, Baltimore, last Saturday only to be turned away by the very close margin of a 2-1 score.

Lilly and Robosky each snapped one into the Maroon net during the early part of the first period. The second chukker was a draw with the Maroon gaining a point on a shot by Hallock, the Nottingham left wing.

Period number three was played for the most part in the Forest Park territory—Gosnell making several nice saves for the winners.

Saltsman and Atwood were outstanding for the visitors as was Ford for the locals.

THE VIRGINIA JUDGE

NOVELIZATION OF THE PARAMOUNT PICTURE OF THE SAME NAME

SYNOPSIS

Judge Calhoun Davis of the circuit court in the sleepy little town of Tidewater, Virginia, is hated by his stepson, Jim. Jim is in love with Mary Lee, the girl next door, who prefers Bob Stuart. Jim borrows a neighbor's car and wrecks it. In order to pay the garage bill and to avoid arrest he takes a shotgun which he found on the rear seat of the car and sells it to Bob. Bob finds out from Mary that the gun did not belong to Jim. Mary refuses to go to a carnival with Jim that night, preferring Bob's company. Seeing Jim alone at the carnival, the Judge tells him about it. Jim flies into a rage.

CHAPTER VII

As Plato and the Judge wandered along the midway, the hoarse voice of a barker caused them to halt in front of the hula hula concession where three attractive girls in grass skirts were giving a few undulating movements as samples of what went on inside the tent.

"They sway like the palm trees in the breeze, ladees and gentlemen," shouted the barker. "Step a little closer."

"Quit lookin', Cal. You're a married man," grinned Plato.

"I can still see, can't I," answered his friend as he pointed to one of the girls. "I think I'll take that middle one home to Martha."

"Want me to lead you out of temptation?

"No." The Judge took Plato's arm and turned to the ticket seller. "Gimme two tickets."

In the meantime Jim, having found nothing better to do, was trying to regain his self-respect by showing his prowess at the shooting gallery. Soon a curious crowd collected as he knocked over target after target.

"Say, you're some shot, young feller," said the concessionaire.

"Load it up again," answered Jim with a curt nod.

As he waited he looked down the midway and his face clouded. Not ten feet away Bob and Mary Lee, loaded with prizes, were listening to the Fortune Teller, a swarthy woman attired in a gypsy costume.

"I'm going to have my fortune told," the girl exclaimed.

"Sure. Come on," answered Bob.

The gypsy pulled aside the tent flap and Mary Lee went in. Bob started to follow, but the fortune teller held up her hand.

"One at a time, please," she said. "My readings are private."

An idea came to Bob. He laid a restraining hand on the Gypsy's arm, placed his fingers to his lips and in pantomime indicated that he was in love with Mary Lee and for the Fortune Teller to say that the girl and Bob are meant for each other. Then he handed over a small coin and stood idly watching the crowd as the tent flap closed.

As the result of witnessing this incident, Jim lost all of his poise, and missed the bull's eye repeatedly.

"What's the matter, young feller . . . eyes gone bad?" puzzled the concessionaire as he saw the crowd drifting away.

"Guess so," grunted his customer. He started to fire again, then laid down the rifle as he saw Bob coming toward him.

"Jim," said the latter sharply, "I want to talk to you."

"I'm busy." Jim started to pick up the gun again, but Bob placed a hand on it. "What's the idea?"

"I want you to hear what I've got to say."

"I'm not interested."

"Oh, yes, you are." Bob stepped closer to him. "That was a pretty dirty trick, stealing that shotgun and selling it to me."

"Why . . . I . . . I . . ." Jim sparred for time.

"It won't do you any good to lie about it. I found out the gun belongs to Old Man Higgins."

"Who told you?"

"This afternoon Mary Lee . . ." Bob began, then stopped as he realized that he was betraying a confidence.

"Oh, Mary Lee!" This was the last straw for Jim. "That little two-timing. . . ."

"Keep her name out of it," snapped Bob.

But there was no stopping Jim's pent-up venom. "Why, that dirty little double-crossing. . . ."

Bob drew back his arm and lashed out with his fist to Jim's jaw. He staggered back, then, with a snarl, leaped at his enemy. Bob feinted and threw another stiff punch. Jim dropped to the ground.

A crowd quickly gathered in a circle about the combatants as Jim rose to his feet and went into a clinch. The two swayed back and forth and finally fell back against the counter of the shooting gallery. At the impact the flimsy structure broke and the boys fell to the ground with the weapons all around them.

They rolled back and forth in their struggle for supremacy. Finally Jim managed to hurl Bob from him and started to rise. As he did so his hand rested on a pistol. Automatically his fingers went about it and he rose, holding the weapon by the barrel.

As Bob also jumped up and rushed him, Jim raised the pistol, intending to bring the butt down on his opponent's head. Bob reached up and gripped his arm. Then began a desperate struggle for the weapon. Slowly Bob's superior strength brought it down until it was between their bodies. An instant later there was a shot. Several women screamed and a man yelled hoarsely as Bob crumpled to the ground, unconscious.

"What's happened?" cried someone.

"The Judge's son just killed Bob Stuart," answered a big fellow as he leaped in Jim's direction, followed by several other men.

Bob reached up and gripped Jim's arm. Then began a desperate struggle for the weapon.

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Sport Shorts

(about rookies)

Another San Francisco Italian has reached the big leagues. He is Bill Raimondi, catcher, with Cincinnati. He came from the Frisco section which produced Pinelli, Lazerri, and Camilli.

Harvey Walker, Cincinnati rookie outfielder, is a brother of Gerald of the Tigers, and has two other brothers, Hilman and Leo, playing baseball.

Clem Droiseword, young pitcher with the Giants, made many marks in the minors. With Beckley he pitched 41 successive innings with only one earned run. In 1934 he pitched a 12-inning two-hit game.

Howard Sipler, rookie pitcher with the Giants, is the fourth pitcher from Swarthmore College to go to the majors. The others were Jack and Warren Ogdon and George Earnshaw.

Wilbur Brubaker, young infielder with Pittsburgh, has played all the infield positions, though he is best at third.

Bernard Cobb, young Pirate outfielder, batted .603 in college, at Bloomsburg, State Teachers, and his coach switched him from pitching to the garden.

John Tising, picher advancing from Indianapolis to Pittsburgh, fanned 230 last year and in an exhibition game in 1933 fanned Ruth, Gehrig and Chapman in one inning.

Sam Narron, St. Louis third base rookie, got his start in baseball at Ray Doan's Hot Springs school in 1934. Last year he hit .349 at Albany, Ga., in the Georgia-Florida league.

Tiny Chaplin, pitcher, up for another trial in the big leagues, with Boston, went to the training camp with the Giants back as far as the spring of 1928.

Jim McCloskey, southpaw pitcher with the Boston Bees, had a trial with the Red Sox of the same town back in 1934.

Albert McLean, pitcher for the Boston Bees, was with five different clubs last year—Louisville, Scranton, Harrisburg, Washington and Albany.

Allen Hunt wasn't good enough for Springfield last year but he led the East Dixie league in batting and now is an outfielder with the Reds.

Ken Weafer, right hand pitcher with the Cubs, graduated from Duke last summer. In his last college year he won 14 and lost none, and had an earned run mark of 1.30.

Nottingham Tops N. E. High, 22-17 Friday Nite

Last Friday West Nottingham's quintet triumphed over the North East High School basketball team 22-17 on the latter's floor.

The Maroon gained a slight lead at the beginning of the first period and managed to hold it throughout the entire conflict which was marked by the imposition of many personal fouls on the part of both contestants.

From the standpoint of the spectator this game gave all the promise of being a tight and interesting battle, but soon after the opening whistle the game was retarded to a great degree by these free tosses. The result being that a foul shooting contest seemed to be in order.

Nottingham lead at the first quarter 7-3; the half time score showed the Maroon on the long side of a 12-8 mark. When the three quarter point was reached the Colormen had a scant margin of a 15-12 score—finally taking the game 22-17.

Captain Roak led his team in point score by snaring three field shots and a brace of foul tosses. Reeder, at left forward for North East, was high man of his aggregation with four points to his credit.

Hinda Wassau At Gayety Next Week

Hinda Wassau, star of "Hindu Belles," burlesque company booked at the Gayety Theatre, Baltimore, for one week, opening with the Sunday matinee performance, March 15, was selected by Billy Rose, well known theatrical producer, as one of the featured acts in the Casino De Paree show, because, it is claimed, "she has the most beautiful legs that ever graced a New York stage.

Hinda is a dark-eyed Brazillian beauty, with an attractive personality and a super-abundance of good looks. She dances a la Rand, only more so, in the semi-nude terpsechorean specialty, "La Lune."

To miss seeing Hinda Wassau, in conjunction with the excellent burlesque entertainment given by the "Hindu Belles" is to miss one of the outstanding attractions sponsored by the Independent Circuit. Others of note in the cast are, Frank X. Silk, tramp comedian, Fred Falls Binder, eccentric comedian, Condo and Allen, John Head, Diana Rowland, O'Donnell and Lynn, and a company of forty entertainers.

Vincent Sherlock, Brooklyn rookie second baseman, starts 1936 with a big league batting average of .462. He batted in nine games late last season and one day got four hits in four times up.

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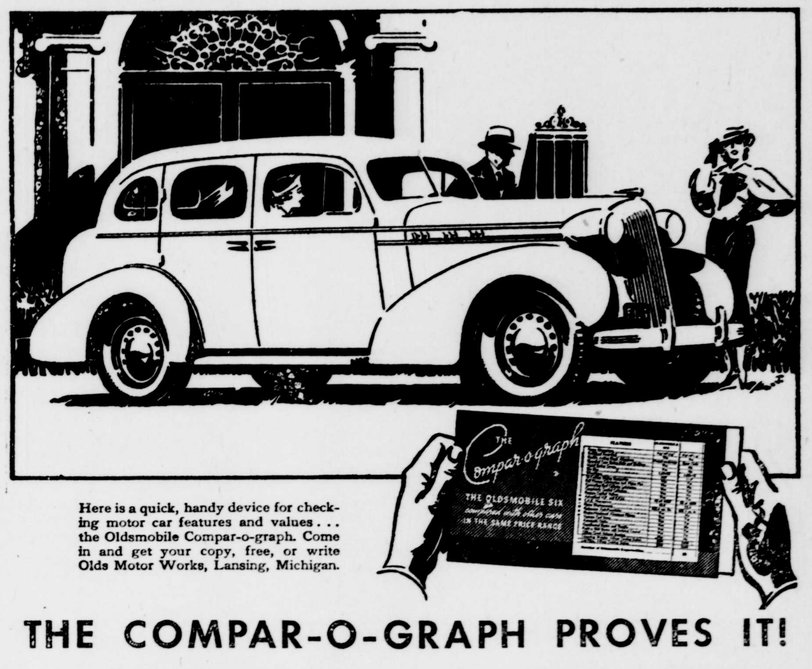

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