

SASH

HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

Newsletter of the Society for American Soccer History. Number Five. Winter 1995.

For this issue's bit of American soccer history, we bring you newspaper accounts of the first two international games played by the United States, on the same field, in November 1885 and November 1886. The United States Soccer Federation no longer lists these two games as having been full internationals, their having been played before the formation of the federation in 1913, but it did list them for many years. These games are sometimes referred to as having been in Newark, N.J., whereas they actually were in East Newark, a tiny municipality across the Passaic River from Newark, sandwiched in between the better-known soccer towns of Kearny and Harrison.

We have faithfully reproduced the original stories, here, including the original headlines, the original spellings and at least one original error (the reference in the 1885 story to Holden, one of the American players, as a member of the Canadian team).

(from the New York Times, Nov. 26, 1885.)

CANADIANS THE VICTORS **THE PICKED AMERICAN FOOTBALL TEAM BEATEN** SOME ROUGH PLAY AND A SMALL SCORE

The football match yesterday between the champion elevens of Canada and of the United States, played according to the American Association rules, on the grounds of the O.N.T. Athletic Association, at East Newark, was one of the best contested games ever seen in this neighborhood. The Canadians won, but only after a hard fight. The play was very rough at times, so much so that the referee had to interfere in a regular fist fight. The home team had been well selected and played well together, considering they had no practice as a team. About 2,000 people were present, some 60 of whom were ladies.

The ball was kicked off by the home team punctually at 3 o'clock. Both sides played up well and no advantage was scored until A. Gibson, of the Canadian team, got the ball near the touch line and dribbled it up to the goal posts and shot it through. Several times after this the Canadian goal was saved by McKendrick, who was ably assisted by Brubacher and Holden. The forwards of the mixed team did good service toward the latter part of the game, but were unable to get a goal, the Canadians at the call of time having scored the only goal made. The two teams were as follows:

Canada--Goal--J.J. McKendrick. Full backs--A.F. Bowman, S. Brubacher. Half backs--H.B. Fraser, W. Malcolm. Forwards, left wings--J.M. Palmer, W.A. Lamporte. Right wings--W.P. Thompson, A. Gibson. Centres--T. Gibson, D. Forsyth (Captain).

United States--Goal--Hughes (O.N.T.). Full backs--Holden (O.N.T.), Lennox (Kearny Rangers). Half backs--Hood (Kearny Rangers), Joseph Swithenby (O.N.T.). Forwards, left wings--W. Turner (Paterson Thistles), McGurck (O.N.T.). Right wings--Young (Kearny Rangers), John Swithenby (O.N.T., Captain). Centres--A. Turner (Paterson Thistles), Lucas (Almas).

Umpires--W. Clark for Newark, and C. Blabe for Canada.

Referee--J.E. Douglas (O.N.T.)

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(from the Newark Evening News, Nov. 29, 1886.)

THE CANADIANS BEATEN **A Sharp Foot Ball Game in the Wind and Rain**

Fast falling rain was making a big marsh of the foot ball grounds in Kearny yesterday afternoon when the members of the Canadian foot ball team, dressed in their showy uniforms, made their appearance. The citizens of the Dominion arrived in the city shortly after noon. By the time they had shaken hands with all their friends and eaten dinner at the Continental Hotel it was nearly 3 o'clock. Most people supposed that the game would be postponed on account of the miserable weather, but the Canadian players found the American team practicing and ready to receive them, while 2,000 enthusiasts stood shivering in the rain anxious to witness the contest. The ground was soft and slippery, and the spot where the spectators stood was a little lake. The dead heads, who were perched on the surrounding fences and freight cars, had by far the better view of the game, and they saw it in more comfort. The game was soon called, with Robert Craig being chosen for referee, with H. Starmer, of the Almas, umpire for the Americans, and William Clark, Jr., for the Canadians.

The Canadians won the toss for position and took advantage of the wind and rain. When the kick-off took place the Americans found a healthy foot ball team and a vigorous storm howling down upon them. It was almost impossible to make a goal in the face of such a wind and the American team was kept constantly on the defensive. In spite of the odds the Canadians were given a hard battle for half an hour. At last Fred Doll sent the sphere skimming through the American goal, scoring the first point for the visitors.

After a rest, one half the allotted time for the game having been consumed, the teams reversed positions and the Canadians faced the wind. The fight was sharp and brief but the Americans forced the inflated sphere nearer and nearer to the Canadian goal, until at last J. Chapman, of the Kearny Rangers, drove it between the posts, tying the score. Two more points were afterward scored by the Americans through the clever passing of Swarbrick, Swithenby, McGurck, Gray and Cornell. This gave the Americans a lead of two, which the Canadians could not overcome. The visitors rallied toward the close and secured another point, but the score remained at the end of the game in favor of the American team, 3 to 2.

Sheppard of the Canadian team, collided with one of the American players during the contest, and tore his tongue so badly, that Dr. Hugh C. Hendry was obliged to put several stitches in it. Forsyth of the Canadians was also slightly injured. The names of the players who took part yesterday and their clubs are as follows:

Canadians--J.N. McKendrick, goal keeper, Galt Club; O. Shanty, Berlin Club, W. Woods, Toronto Club, backs; H. Pirie, Dundas Club, H. Bewell, Galt Club, half backs; A. Gibson, Berlin Rangers, W. Bowman, Berlin Rangers, right wing forwards; F.W. Sheppard, Berlin Rangers, D. Forsyth, Berlin Rangers, centre forwards; F. Doll, Berlin Rangers, K. Webster, Galt Club, left wing forwards. Newarks--Patrick Hughes, O.N.T., goal keeper; B. Holden, O.N.T. and J. Chapman, Kearny Rangers, full backs; George Wright, Almas, and J. Howarth, O.N.T., half backs; J. Swarbrick, O.N.T., right wing; John Gray, Almas, left wing; Jack Swithenby, O.N.T., and F. Cornell, Pilgrims of New York, right and left forwards; J. McGurck, O.N.T., and T. Bright, Pilgrims of New York, centre forwards.

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Membership Notes

This item is a repetition of one that appeared in the last newsletter. We want to make sure that everyone is aware of it.

Three positions will be up for election in this year's SASH election, which will be held by mail this spring. They are president (currently held by Roger Allaway), treasurer (currently held by John Biggs) and one of the four director positions (currently held by Shawn Ladda). In accordance with the by-laws, a Nominating Committee has been named by the president and the executive board to serve as a neutral body to conduct the election. If you are interested in running for one of the three positions named above, please contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee by April 1 to let them know. The members of the Nominating Committee are Mike Burnham, 496 Morris, Providence, R.I. 02906. Phone: (401) 331-3182 and Will Lunn, 11 Ford Ave., Oneonta, N.Y. 13820. Phone: (607) 432-3351. Remember that you must be a 1995 member in order to run.

The last page of this newsletter is a form with which you can renew your SASH membership for 1995. This also was included with the fall 1994 issue, but we are sending it a second time for the use of anyone who may have misplaced the earlier one. The deadline for renewing your membership is April 1. All 1994 members are being sent this issue of the newsletter, regardless of whether they have yet renewed their membership. Incidentally, as of Jan. 1, more than half of the 1994 membership had renewed for 1995.

As voted by the membership at the June 1994 meeting in Oneonta, the SASH membership rate for 1995 remains at \$10.

We originally intended to include copies of the SASH questionnaire with this issue, for use by anyone who wants to fill one out for the first time or update an earlier one, but have decided to send a second copy of the membership form instead. The questionnaire will be included with a future issue.

One of the items decided on at last year's SASH meeting in Oneonta was that SASH should begin looking into establishing a collection of master's theses and doctoral dissertations on subjects of American soccer history. We have only one such paper in our possession, however. That is James F. Robinson's doctoral dissertation, *The History of Soccer in the City of Saint Louis*, at St. Louis University in 1966. We have obtained a copy of the catalogue on sports subjects put out by UMI Dissertation Services of Ann Arbor, Mich. However, this catalogue covers only the years 1988 to 1991 and contains no theses or dissertations on American soccer history. Most of the theses and dissertations listed on it are on sports medicine or the psychological effects of competition on athletes.

If any of you are aware of other master's theses or doctoral dissertations on subjects having to do with American soccer history, please let us know, by writing to either Roger Allaway (1263 Stirling St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19111) or Al Colone (142 River St., Oneonta, N.Y. 13820). The information we would want is the name of the author, the title, the university, the year and whether it was master's thesis or a doctoral dissertation.

We had hoped that we would be able to tell you in this newsletter the dates of this year's SASH meeting and American Soccer History Symposium in Oneonta. In fact, we have delayed the mailing of this newsletter by a few weeks in hopes of including those dates. We are unable to give them to you yet, however, although it appears possible that it may be Thursday, June 22 and Friday, June 23. The National Soccer Hall of Fame has not

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yet been able to set the dates for its Hall of Fame Week, on which the dates of the meeting and symposium depend, because of a delay concerning the teams for the Hall of Fame game. That delay is very close to being resolved, however. We know that many of you need to know this information as far in advance as possible, for purposes of things like scheduling vacation time. So, we do not intend to wait until the next newsletter to let you know these dates. We will inform you by separate letter once they are established. Incidentally, we have made considerable progress with getting things lined up for the symposium, the subject of which will be the contributions of immigrant groups and ethnic soccer to the growth of the sport in the United States over the years.

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Please enter me as a member of the Society for American Soccer History for the year 1995. My check for \$10, payable to SASH, is enclosed.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

Please return this form to SASH, c/o Albert Colone, 11 Ford Ave., Oneonta, N.Y. 13820.