



JOE  
WILLIAMS  
SAYS . . .

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—In one of your more indispensible moments you may have read in this space an account of how Howard Ehmke happened to pitch the first game of the 1929 world series against the Chicago Cubs.

I dusted off the story last week when Connie Mack, the venerable Mr. Cornelius McGillicuddy of the Philadelphia Athletics, told newsmen on the Pacific coast that his biggest thrill in more than 30 years of baseball came when he picked Ehmke to pitch this important game.

Circumstances made it a thrill. . . . Ehmke hadn't pitched for weeks. In fact, he was supposed to be in disgrace. . . . The broad indictment was that he had curdled up in a September game against the Yankees. . . . Moreover, Mr. McGillicuddy had at least two other pitchers who so much overshadowed Ehmke, even then, that it wasn't even comical. . . . The two, of course, were Lefty Grove and George Earnshaw.

#### A Ghost-Writer Speaks

IN MY account of the surprise selection I quoted Eddie Collins, then Mr. Cornelius' assistant, as saying Ehmke was picked a couple of hours before the opening game and that only three persons knew he was going to start: Mr. Cornelius, Collins and Ehmke. . . . I now quote a letter from the able Bob Paul of Philadelphia. It goes:

"I read with interest—and surprise—your story. But that's not the way I heard it."

"Back in 1929 I wrote a baseball column for The Philadelphia News and I well remember traveling on the Athletics' special train to Chicago for the series.

"You quote Collins as saying no one expected Connie to start anyone except Grove or Earnshaw as of when the special left Philadelphia. That's correct, or partly so. I know for a fact that Earnshaw thought either he or Grove would get the assignment. I know this because I was ghost writing for Earnshaw and I wrote to that effect under his by line."

#### Utility Player Reveals Hot News

"BUT the next morning—and this was fully 28 hours before the start of the game—I had breakfast with Bevo Lebouvre who was playing utility outfield for the Athletics. Bevo hadn't taken the final trip with the Athletics because of an injury and therefore he and Ehmke (left behind, too) had seen much of each other while the Athletics were finishing on the road.

"As I say I had breakfast with Bevo. Suddenly he asked: 'When do you file your next story?'

"When we get to Ft. Wayne. In a couple of hours."

"That's swell. Here's a scoop for you. Everybody thinks Connie is going to start Grove or Earnshaw. He isn't. Ehmke's the guy."

"Don't kid me. It's got to be one or the other. Ehmke? He won't even get in the series."

"Well, take it or leave it. Ehmke's the guy."

#### He Decided to 'Take It'

"I DECIDED to take it. I knew Bevo and had confidence in him. The train pulled into Ft. Wayne, I gave my copy to the Western Union representative and—by now I was all worked up—myself cautioned him not to let another living soul see the story. You know how juvenile you get about those things, don't you?"

"MAYBE Eddie Collins didn't know Ehmke was going to pitch until the morning of the game, as you wrote. After all, why should Connie have to tell him? But the fact is Ehmke knew it a week before the Athletics left for Chicago."

## Duke Edges Alabama After Wild Melee in Sugar Bowl

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 2 (U.P.)—The offensive splendor of two great football teams, playing every minute of their collective lives depended upon victory, gave football fans material for months of conversation today in an aftermath to Duke's 29-26 triumph over Alabama in the most colorful renewal of the Sugar Bowl series.

Even in a loser's role, all hands concerned had most praise for nerveless Harry Gilmer, the brash freshman from Birmingham whose long, precise passes, daring runs and heady quarterbacking put the favored Duke eleven on the defensive almost from the start.

The little guy tossed eight passes and had a 100 per cent completion average, accounting for 142 yards. Two of his slips went more than 50 yards apiece, both of which set up touchdowns. His running and play-calling sparked Alabama's original drive of 66 yards, which he didn't throw a pass in that advance.

Duke's team of veterans, showing the finesse and experience which counted in the clutch stages of the fourth period, scored the winning touchdown on a 51-yard march after being denied seconds earlier when Alabama's line held with Duke a half-yard out.

Gilmer grounded the ball for an intentional safety to make the score 26 to 22 and gave the Tide a free kick from its own 20. That strategy backfired when Duke scored on two running plays after the punt return with George Clark getting the victory touchdown.

Clark was the victim, earlier in the fourth period, of a pass interception by Hugh Morrison, 17-year-old Bama freshman, who grabbed his touchdown "thrust in front of the intended receiver, Gordon Carver, and raced back 73 yards for what looked like the winning touchdown.

#### QUICK RELIEF FOR HEAD COLD MISERY



#### MENTHOLATUM



#### AKRON SURGICAL HOUSE, INC.

#### Established 42 Years

## Highly-Regarded Anderson Indians Upset Twice in Own High School Basket Tourney

By UNITED PRESS

Home teams fared, unhappily, in six major New Year's day high school basketball tournaments and the "experts" revised their estimates of Anderson's Indians today.

The highly-regarded Indians were principal victims as all the home clubs dislodged the Hoosier basketball badge that the home court is a several-points advantage.

Anderson, ranked second in the state, had an undefeated record until it collided with Kokomo in the "Big Four" meet at Anderson yesterday. But when the shooting had subsided, Kokomo had won by an impressive 49-32 margin. New

Castle slipped past Logansport in a double-overtime thriller in the other afternoon game, 30-27.

The Anderson meet went completely haywire at night when Logansport nixed the Indians, 38-36, after two overtime periods and the surprising Trojans of New Castle rallied in the last half to thump Kokomo, 38-39.

At Huntingdon, the host Vikings count after Frankfort had elimi-

## Green Light For Professional Sports Dims

### If Congress Should Call Up 4-F's Baseball and League Football Probably Will Fold

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2 (U.P.)—The green light which baseball, football and other sports have received from Washington was dimmed today by the request of War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes that congress enact legislation drafting 4-F's into war work.

Major league baseball and professional football have operated for the most part on 4-F manpower since Pearl Harbor. Of the 530 players on the rosters of the 16 major league clubs for the 1945 season are 223 players who are 4-F.

Sport leaders awaited congressional reaction to Byrnes' suggestion before commenting for publication, but several privately expressed the fear that if congress should draft 4-F's into war work most professional sports will fold for the duration unless the athletes are permitted to participate in sports during their off-time.

#### Byrnes' Stand

Byrnes, however, in answer to questions said he had not "considered" stopping other sports, as he has racing.

Byrnes took the stand that if a 4-F can compete against the best athletes in the nation, a place should be found for him in which he could contribute directly to the wily Engineers without disunity.

Coach Henry Franks, the young mentor who has sent Tulsa to four bowl games in as many years, crossed up the opposition with a style of play totally unlike that which had held the Oklahomans in good stead through the regular season. Instead of concentrating on a ground game, the oil country boys chose to throw the ball, and passes accounted for two of their four touchdowns.

"And some of them—the 4-F's are color blind," he added. "Well, they don't seem to get mixed up on the color of their sweaters. As for those trick knees, if they don't get tricky on the football field, they probably won't in Verdun."

### Aggies Roll Up 34 Points

DALLAS, Tex., Jan. 2 (U.P.)—Dallas first period touchdowns, two of them in a row by Oklahoma A. and M.'s resourceful Cowboys, told the story today of the most one-sided football game in Cotton Bowl history, a 34-0 victory over a Texas Christian eleven which lost heart after that initial offensive outburst.

The crowd of 37,500 fans saw an interesting display of offensive football, led by Bobby Fenimore, who was the nation's leading ground-gainer during the regular season. He scored two touchdowns and directed the drive for a third before Coach Jim Lookabaugh hauled out his regulars and let second stringers run over a pair of scores in the final period.

An Italian burro was brought in to represent the army mule for the half-time festivities. There were two queens, both of them WACs, and two bands led by a drum majorette in tights, who was booted roundly when she put on a G.I. overcoat to cover her cold bare legs.

More than 20,000 servicemen and women were on hand for the spectacle which proved to be a one-man offensive demonstration by Moody, a 30-year-old ordnance soldier and former star at Morris Brown college. He scored two touchdowns and two extra points and shook the air force line from stem to stern.

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