

President's Office

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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

## BASE BALL CRITICISM.

### Coach Curran Talks Plainly About the Candidates for the Varsity.

Coach Jack Curran, after earnest solicitation on the part of the Athletic Editor, has given for publication the following criticism of the playing of the different candidates for positions on the Varsity.

This criticism is given not for the purpose of humiliating or discouraging any player. Far from it. Indeed, exactly the contrary result is anticipated by this sort of criticism. The true purpose of a criticism, as we understand it, is to show the candidates plainly and impartially their weak points and to point out the methods by which, if regarded, they will be enabled to overcome all deficiencies.

"Well, Holt at first, you may say, is still doing good work. He is quick and active and infuses life and ginger into the men on the infield. He is a fairly good base runner, but improvement could be made along this line. He should keep a better eye on the ball and learn to use the stick better.

"Smathers, at second, is going to make a splendid baseman. He plays his position well, keeps his mind on the game and supports his men admirably. At present he is not in practice owing to the fact that his lip was hurt a few days ago, and in his absence John Cheshire has been officiating at the second cushion. Cheshire is almost an equal of Smathers. He understands the game reasonably well, but he should improve in batting and base running.

"Graham, at third, has shown more improvement in every line than any player on the team. He is without doubt the hardest worker we have, and this one fact will have considerable influence in allowing him to preside at third. He bats well and keeps his eye on the ball. On foul flies I do not believe he has an equal. He obeys instructions and is always willing to learn something new about the game.

"Carr at short is not playing as well as he is capable of doing. I want to see him do better work and cannot assign any reason for his lifeless spirit. He certainly can do better.

"As regards Captain Donnelly I have little to say. He is playing his position in a perfect manner, not having made an error this year. He is, as everybody can see, proficient with the willow. He runs bases fairly well. He knows the game, but he should talk more to his men. No one can imagine how much good this does. To hear the captain talking in pleasing, yet emphatic tones, encourages every man and fills him with hope.

"Oldham in center field is holding his position nicely and makes it a point to support his men. He has developed into a safe batter. The only serious difficulty I find with Oldham is that he is a little anxious

in running bases. A few more days of good training, however, I think, will overcome the difficulty.

"The candidates for right field have made no favorable impression, and unless greater and decided improvements are made, the place will be filled with a pitcher until Giles or Murray Allen arrives. I regret exceedingly that such is the case, but it just can't be helped.

"The candidates for the receiving end, Cox, Noble, and Wilcox, are running a neck and neck race, and it is impossible to say who will win out. Cox, although seriously hurt a few days ago, has not retired permanently from the race and will be out again soon. You may say this much: the best man will win out.

"Hart, Green and Oldham, as twirlers of the leather, have shown themselves to better advantage than any others. It is a pretty race and it is hard to tell who will secure first honor."

Concluding, Coach Curran said, "I want to see more men come out and play. We can't develop a team unless we have material, that is certain. So I wish you would say for me that the team is not yet made, that there is no "ring" in base ball and every man will be given a fair chance to make the team. Another thing, before I finish, the students should come out in larger numbers to watch the practice games. Their presence gives hope and courage to the players. They should not only go to practice games but it is their duty, it seems to me, to support the team financially.

Coach Curran is right. It is the duty of every student in college, if the circumstances will permit, to attend every game this season. The University base ball team is your team. Its success is your success; its defeats your defeats. Therefore stand solidly behind it and give it your warm support.

### Base Ball Schedule.

Owing to the fact that some changes have been made in our base-ball schedule as first published, we give below the corrected schedule as it now stands.

- March 14, Bingham at Chapel Hill.
- March 19, Oak Ridge at Chapel Hill.
- March 23, Lafayette at Chapel Hill.
- March 24, Lafayette at Chapel Hill.
- March 27, Brown at Chapel Hill.
- March 28, Brown at Greensboro N. C.
- April 3, Gettysburg at Chapel Hill.
- April 9, Cornell at Chapel Hill.
- April 10, S. C. College at Columbia, S. C.
- April 11, Wofford at Spartanburg, S. C.
- April 13, Davidson at Winston, N. C.
- April 18, S. C. College at Durham, N. C.

April 20, S. C. College at Chapel Hill.

April 24, Furman University at Chapel Hill.

April 29, Virginia at Chapel Hill.

April 30, Virginia at Greensboro, N. C.

May 1, Washington and Lee at Roanoke, Va.

May 2, Georgetown at Washington, D. C.

May 9, Virginia at Charlottesville, Va.

### Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society.

The Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society held the 149th meeting Tuesday night, in Person Hall. Dr. W. C. Coker, Dr. J. E. Mills and Prof. J. W. Gore addressed the Society.

Dr. Coker, aided by Mr. Allard's chart illustrations, gave an interesting discussion on "Some Plants Known of the Chapel Hill Region." He made known, perhaps for the first time, several rare plants of the Thallophyta division, and one of the Angiospermae.

The first plant mentioned found by Mr. C. A. Shore, is one commonly known as Earth-star. This plant was discovered on the side of a tree and has since been noticed in several places. It is a tiny, unobtrusive little plant, hardly larger than a pea and is a beautiful example of plant adaptation to certain conditions.

Dr. Coker next showed a species of stink-horn found by Mr. Fred Hanes. This consists of a fragile stalk, issuing from a cup-like base, and is an excellent specimen of a plant living on a dead insect.

Other plants illustrated and described are the result of Dr. Coker's research. Among those shown are several very rare and interesting types of the Phycomycetes class.

It is of interest to note that several of these plants have not been recorded in North Carolina and the information proves that our ideal geological surrounding is also a great field for botanical research.

Dr. J. E. Mills followed Dr. Coker with a brief account of the rapid progress of the Electro-Chemical industry—an industry of which many of us know comparatively little. To show something of the great strides along this line, the speaker said that the value of products for the last year alone were upward of a hundred million dollars, utilizing an enormous horse-power. This he showed to be wonderful indeed as the first mention of Electro-Chemical application, the decomposition of zinc oxide, was in 1872.

Many papers and numerous text books are alive to-day with discussions of the industry and its various applications. The great feature of Electro-Chemical possibilities lie in the utilization of a great degree of temperature, thereby greatly decreasing the price of the raw material. Aluminum, sodium, nitric acid, etc., have been lowered to a third their price by other processes.

This is truly a growing industry and promises many startling improvements in the Chemical world. The Chemist is no longer sitting in his laboratory cooking so much soup but is working with a definite aim, and not only knows why many actions take place but is finding out how to actually make those reactions take place.

Prof. Gore came before the Society to make a few statements on a new use of the Bubble-tube. He then illustrated how this tube was to be applied, in connection with the spark jet, in wireless telegraphy. It is hoped with this tube to make wireless telegraphy more certain.

### Shakespeare Club.

The March meeting of the Shakespeare Club, held in Gerrard Hall Thursday night, was largely attended. Dr. Hume, the president, said the greatest feature of the Club was to stimulate the social side of literature, for literature deals with humanity—and through eighteen years the members of this organization have ever kept alive that great principal.

Mr. Fred Archer read a pleasing criticism on "The Lyrical Elements in the Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet." This play, he asserted, is the greatest love tragedy of the world, and one enriched by some of the most exquisite lyrical elements of language.

In connection with the same play, another complimentary reading was given by Mr. H. R. McFadyen. The question he raised was "Did Shakespeare Properly End Romeo and Juliet as a Tragedy." The conclusion he reached, and a just one it was, gave evidence that, with the characters Shakespeare used and the environment in which they acted, the play could not have been logical and ended in any way save—tragedical.

Next Dr. Hume happily presented Dr. C. Alphonso Smith who gave a most instructive and entertaining lecture on the "Shakespeare-Bacon Question." After a brief discussion of the origin and history of this controversy, Dr. Smith proceeded to take up the several arguments advanced by the Baconians in support of their belief, and to refute them one by one. His discussion was fair, forcible and convincing.

He said there are two schools of those who hold the Baconian theory: first, the secret school, or those who base their belief upon the cryptogram; and those who urge that a great scholar wrote the plays, claiming that Shakespeare was not a great scholar. The speaker then showed the inconsistency of the arguments of both schools. He proved beyond a doubt the Shakespearean authorship and with equally strong proof showed the impossibility of the Baconian authorship.

We are glad to note that the Record has been issued. It is a very attractive copy.