

# GREAT CROWD HAILS JEFF AS CHAMPION

Throng That Packs Tomlinson  
Hall Sees Trim Athlete Instead  
of Corpulent Giant.

LOOKS FIT FOR BATTLE NOW

Speed of Undefeated Heavyweight  
Revelation to Admirers—Gotch  
Fails to Throw Olson.

BY H. G. COPELAND.

Has James J. Jeffries "come back?" If you leave it to a vote of all the people that could get into Tomlinson Hall last night to see the undefeated champion pull off his training exhibition stunts the question is answered. Verily it looks as if the undefeated is in our midst.

When the big fellow crawled into the ring the crowd that packed the great auditorium cheered as one man. Then as he shed his bathrobe and stepped forth a clean-cut athlete it didn't take a mind reader to see that the enthusiastic admirers of the champion of champions had decided unanimously that Jeffries has come back—if he ever has been very far away.

This "if Jeffries can get into condition," etc., gag has been worked so hard ever since Jeffries began to make up his mind to fight Jack Johnson that there were men in the audience that expected to see a nice, big, rotund, wind-broken giant with a girth so great that his fighting trunks would hardly meet around him. The contrast between the real thing and the picture in the skeptics' minds' eye was so startling that it would be wasting time now to try to convince

*Champion Jeffries*



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There were some preliminaries to last night's show, in which a champion bag puncher and a couple of champion baton swingers took part before the wrestling bouts were put on.

#### Big Crowd Cheers Jeffries.

Then the crowd was tuned up for Jeffries. The big fellow is used to ovations and this publicity game does not appeal to him strongly, but he grinned with pleasure at the enthusiastic greeting he received last night.

He responded by giving an exhibition that repaid the faithful for their trouble in gaining admission to the crowded hall. His rope skipping stunt was a revelation to the spectators and his shadow boxing brought cheers from the crowd, which saw an imaginary foe fall every time Jeff shot out his arms.

But it was in his three-round boxing exhibition with Sam Berger that he went a long way toward convincing the doubting Thomases that he is not far from being the Jeffries of old. It is hardly fair to the work of Jack Johnson to compare the Jeffries exhibition with the bouts Johnson put up last week. Jeffries faced a man of more class than Johnson's sparring partners and the fact that Berger and Jeff have worked together for so long made it possible for them to stage a bout that looked ten times more like the real thing than anything Johnson did in his week of sparring. Still, even the exhibitions showed the difference in the fighting style of the two heavyweights, and in the opinions of many, the difference in their class.

Jeffries performed like the natural born fighter he is, and, although he tried to hold himself in, he clouted Berger a couple of swats that almost sent him off his feet, and time after time made openings that in an honest-to-goodness scrap would have meant that Berger's block would be knocked off. Johnson showed he is fast and clever on defense, but in the speed department he did not have anything on Jeffries.

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JEFFR

## SPORTSMEN LEAD I. B.

### HEAD RIVALS BY ONE GA

#### WASHINGTONS AND INDIANS TIED SECOND-PLACE HONORS—PATT ROLLS HIGH SCORE OF THE EVENING.

#### I. B. L. STANDING.

	Won.	Lost.	Pt.
Sportsmen	23	7	7
Washingtons	22	8	7
Indians	22	8	7
Marions	20	10	6
Imperials	20	10	6
Crescents	16	14	5
Pirates	15	15	5
Nationals	15	15	5
North Sides	8	22	2
Elks	7	23	2
Company B	6	24	2
Turners	5	25	1

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The strenuous half hour of work did not have the least effect on Jeffries, and he was as fresh as a daisy after his little setto. If the Jeffries-Johnson fight could be decided on exhibition performances Jeffries gets the decision right now. Any way, it's a safe bet that the man who bets a million every time he gets into an argument will switch his betting odds mightily in favor of Jeffries today.

There were so many champions on the bill last night that Frank Gotch, heavy-weight champion wrestler of the world, Charley Olson, light heavyweight champion, and Billy Schober, lightweight champion of the state, who have hosts of friends in Indianapolis, have almost been overlooked.

**Olson Wins From Gotch.**

Well Billy Schober threw Goldman in a handicap match before the stipulated twenty minutes expired and Olson stuck it out with Gotch for the limit of fifteen minutes. Gotch had Olson on the defensive throughout the fifteen minutes they fought over the mat, and although he got the local grappler in some tight places he was unable to pin him down. Gotch got in yesterday afternoon from Buffalo, where he lost a handicap match by failing to throw Zbyszco in an hour. Gotch and the Pole have been matched to wrestle straight falls in Chicago in the near future. Al Roberts of Carmel, formerly heavyweight wrestler, refereed all the wrestling matches.

Jeffries and his party arrived in the city yesterday morning and in the afternoon, as guests of E. A. Moross and Carl Fisher, they went out to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Jeffries and Berger have no doubt of the outcome of the Jeffries-Johnson fight. The big fellow, who is not noted for a multiplicity of words, yesterday afternoon summed up the situation much as he did in a curtain speech to the crowd last night.

"Johnson says he had to trail me all over the country," he said, "before he could get me to sign articles to fight. Well he didn't have any trouble to get an agreement with me. All I have to say is that when the coming fight is over the heavyweight championship will remain where it belongs."

**BAKER AND SINK WILL RACE.**

Indians	20	10	667
Imperials	20	10	667
Crescents	16	14	533
Pirates	15	15	500
Nationals	15	15	500
North Sides	8	22	267
Elks	7	23	223
Company B	6	24	200
Turners	5	25	166

The Sportsmen forged ahead in the Indianapolis Bowling League last night by winning a fast series from the Pirates. The Imperials caught the Washingtons off form and won a brace of games from the former leaders. The Indians tied with the Washingtons for second place by blanking the Elks. The Marions now divide fourth place honors with the Imperials by winning the odd game from the Nationals. The Crescents won the series from the Turners on a forfeiture and the Company B's made a clean sweep of the series with the North Side's three-man team.

The Sportsmen and the Pirates put up the best team work of the play. The Sportsmen posted a 968 average for the series against 929 by the Pirates. The Sportsmen captured the high score team honors, placing 972 and 971 to their credit in their first and second attempts, respectively.

Patton of the Indians landed the W. A. Walker weekly prize with a count of 248 in his last whirl at the maples and Fuehring of the Pirates rolled 231 for second honors. During the play the bowlers shot thirty-four double centuries and the teams rolled fifteen 900's. Scores

**TURNER ALLEYS.**

<b>Marions.</b>			<b>Nationals.</b>				
Carter...	182	201	167	Armstrng.	177	154	168
Cooper...	157	199	185	Ingersoll..	187	156	130
Knox...	208	170	204	Newlin...	180	202	149
Quill...	175	182	168	Byers....	187	163	191
Bryson...	145	194	166	Wallace..	201	215	161
<b>Totals.. 867 946 890</b>			<b>Totals.. 932 890 800</b>				
<b>Company B.</b>			<b>North Sides.</b>				
Breckinrg	120	...	...	Ross.....	187	180	211
Taylor...	186	187	217	Hopkins..	176	196	211
Drake...	153	162	207	Evans....	186	158	211
Gobert...	152	139	...				
Hoops...	144	160	183				
Paugh...	...	158	148				
Norris...	...	...	155				
<b>Totals.. 755 806 910</b>			<b>Totals.. 549 534 630</b>				

**WASHINGTON ALLEYS.**

<b>Imperials.</b>			<b>Washingtons.</b>				
Bumb...	157	158	209	Rick.....	197	157	200
Tucker...	161	169	206	Brinkmyr.	190	195	221
Murr...	178	176	169	Miller...	178	159	141
Clark...	161	157	169	Johnson..	193	157	161
Decker...	177	227	185	Hardie...	198	156	171
<b>Totals.. 834 887 938</b>			<b>Totals.. 956 824 921</b>				
<b>Crescents.</b>			<b>Turners.</b>				
Coval...	161	176	170				