

Dr. Edward N. Tihen (1924-1991) was an avid reader and researcher of Wichita newspapers. His notes from Wichita newspapers -- the "Tihen Notes," as we call them -- provide an excellent starting point for further research. They present brief synopses of newspaper articles, identify the newspaper -- Eagle, Beacon or Eagle-Beacon -- in which the stories first appeared, and give exact references to the pages on which the articles are found. Microfilmed copies of these newspapers are available at the Wichita State University Libraries, the Wichita Public Library, or by interlibrary loan from the Kansas State Historical Society.

Subject(s): Baseball

WICHITA BEACON

Wednesday, September 10, 1879

page

3. Report of baseball game Saturday between the Topeka Shawnees and the Wichita Red Stockings. (Dr. Tihen's note: Location of the baseball grounds not stated.)

Wednesday, September 17, 1879

page

3. Note about baseball game between the Wichita Red Stockings and the Hutchinson Coyotes last Friday, played at the Fair Grounds.

Friday, June 25, 1886

page

1. The Wichita Reds will play a baseball game with a Wellington team at Riverside park on July 4th.

Friday, July 2, 1886

page

1. The baseball game between the Wichita Reds and Wellington will be played next Monday and location has been changed to Lawrence avenue and 13th street on the line of the street railway to provide easy access to the ball grounds.

Wednesday, May 25, 1887

page

1. The local baseball team, the Wichitas, won their fourth consecutive game from Emporia yesterday.

Tuesday, June 28, 1887

page

1. Article says the new grand stand at Wichita's baseball park is now completed and has a seating capacity of over 2,000 (article doesn't identify location).

Wednesday, July 27, 1887

page

1. Wichita played its first Western League baseball game yesterday, defeating Lincoln 8 to 2.

Saturday, June 9, 1888**page**

1. There will be a baseball game in the Summit Park, at the end of the Schweiter motor line tomorrow afternoon between the Clippers and the Manhattans, two Wichita clubs (later article refers to this game at Eldridge's Park).

Wednesday, June 27, 1888**page**

1. The late Denver baseball club of the Western League is transferring to Wichita.

Wednesday, October 30, 1889**page**

1. The St. Louis Browns and the Wichita Clippers will cross bats at the Riverside baseball park November 7.

Tuesday, April 29, 1890**page**

1. Wichita will field a strong baseball team this year made up principally of the old "Clipper" team of last year. The Clipper ball park will be fitted up at once (i.e., in Riverside park).

Monday, August 25, 1890**page**

1. Report of a baseball game between Wichita and Augusta yesterday at Riverside.

Saturday, August 15, 1891**page**

4. The Wichita Browns and Wichita Clippers play baseball this afternoon at Riverside park.

Tuesday, May 17, 1892**page**

4. Report of a baseball game in Riverside park yesterday.

Saturday, March 17, 1906**page**

5. The Chicago White Sox will play the Wichita baseball team tomorrow at Association park.

Friday, July 6, 1906**page**

5. Article about controversy over whether the new central fire station should be a two story or three story building. Details.

Saturday, July 7, 1906**page**

6. President Larry Milton of the Wichita baseball club of the Western association will transfer his majority interest in the club and franchise this afternoon to a stock company for \$2500, which includes the improvements of the plant at Association park. The new management will assume control July 11. Further details.

Monday, September 24, 1906**page**

5. Final standings for second season of Western Association baseball league. Topeka first. Wichita Jobbers were third.

Tuesday, August 13, 1907**page**

6. Wichita is leading in Western Association baseball standings. Other teams are Oklahoma City, Hutchinson, Topeka, Joplin, Webb City, Springfield, and Leavenworth.

Tuesday, January 7, 1908**page**

8. Article about some changes in press box location, etc., to be made at the baseball park by the proprietors, Messrs. Holland and Isbell.

Wednesday, April 29, 1908**page**

3. Article about players on Wichita's Western Association baseball team this year.

Monday, October 26, 1908**page**

7. Article says Wichita baseball team will probably change from Western Association to Western League next season. The ball park will be rebuilt with grandstand, presently seating 1600, increased in capacity to 2400. Details.

Friday, February 26, 1909**page**

8. The Wichita Baseball company, Frank Isbell, president, has signed a five year lease for what is known as Association Park, for \$1000 per year. Owner of the grounds is A. M. Weinschenk. Article describes changes to be made in the stands.

Monday, May 24, 1909**page**

10. Manager Nuttle of Wonderland park has given the YMCA the use of the south end of the

island for a baseball diamond. Grading has begun and seats will be erected.

Friday, March 4, 1910**page**

7. Report about improvements being made at Association park for the forthcoming baseball season. This park has been in existence five years. Details.

Thursday, July 7, 1910**page**

8. Photograph of first block on South Main showing about ten street cars lined up on May 8, 1905, waiting to take ball game fans to Association park for Wichita's first Western Association home game, with Topeka. Line includes the ten new two double truck cars, and the open "Old Marie," a made-over car used especially for baseball games, etc, but now used as a company work car by Wichita Railroad and Light Company.

Monday, May 22, 1911**page**

7. Wichita Western League franchise was transferred to Pueblo Saturday. Details.

Monday, January 15, 1912**page**

7. The Pueblo Class A baseball franchise has been purchased and will be transferred back to Wichita. Details.

Wednesday, February 7, 1912**page**

7. Contract for building the grandstand for the downtown baseball park on Ackerman island was let yesterday to the H. I. Ellis Construction company. Work is to start at once and it is to be completed in 30 days. Details.

Tuesday, March 19, 1912**page**

13. Dark photograph of the new baseball grand stand on Ackerman Island, under construction but appears completed except for part of the roof. Being built by the Ellis Construction Company at cost of about \$15,000 and will be completed by next Saturday. ¶ Has total length of 264 feet in three sections, east section along first base line 48 feet long, center section 96 feet long, and west section along third base line 120 feet long. Two hundred and four boxes in front of entire length of the grand stand. Seating capacity of grand stand will be close to 5000 and bleachers will seat 1200, making total seating capacity of 6200. Center field fence will be 400 feet from home base and right field fence 267 feet.

Wednesday, April 3, 1912**page**

11. Island Park, the new home of the Wichita Western League baseball club, will be opened

tomorrow afternoon with a game with the Chicago White Sox.

Thursday, April 17, 1913

page

7. The Western League baseball season will open tomorrow afternoon at Island Park. Details.

Tuesday, April 13, 1915

page

11. Article about one of the earliest baseball games in Wichita. Details.

Nickname of Wichita Western League team this year is the Wichita Wolves.

Wednesday, October 4, 1916

page

9. Frank Isbell yesterday took a 30 day option on purchase of the financially troubled Wichita Western League baseball franchise. Purchase will depend on the terms on which he can obtain the use of Island Park from the former owners of the franchise. Details.

Friday, December 29, 1916

page

1. The Wichita baseball franchise and lease on Island Park were purchased today by Frank Isbell. Details.

Saturday, March 5, 1921

page

3. Island Park is being spruced up and the grand-stand enlarged for the coming baseball season. The bleachers at the third base line are being torn down and will be replaced by an enlarged grandstand with about 50 boxes and 1500 more grandstand seats, giving a total of 5000 grandstand seats instead of the former 3500. Bleachers will be erected later either down the right field foul line or opposite the first base. Details.

Tuesday, November 30, 1926

page

5. City commission today granted Frank Isbell, owner of the Wichita baseball club, a six year lease on that part of the Island Park occupied by Isbell's baseball field. Details.

Friday, January 29, 1932

page

1. Report that the Wichita Aviators Western League baseball club will be transferred to Tulsa for the 1932 season. Details.

Tuesday, July 24, 1934

page

13. Photograph of Wichita's new baseball stadium at Maple and Sycamore, which will be dedicated August 1. Has been under construction for the past several months and will take the place of old Island Park. Seating capacity of approximately 4000 with added bleachers to accommodate total of 10,000.

Tuesday, July 15, 1941

page

1. Report of death today of Frank Isbell, Sedgwick County commissioner and former baseball player and club owner, at age 65. Born in North Branch, Minnesota and came to Wichita from there. Biography. Photo.

**SELECTIONS FROM DR. EDWARD N. TIHEN'S NOTES FROM WICHITA
NEWSPAPERS
WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES - DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL
COLLECTIONS**

Please note: The "Tihen Notes," as we call them, provide an excellent starting point for further research. They present brief synopses of newspaper articles, identify the newspaper -- Eagle or Beacon -- in which the stories first appeared, and give exact references to the pages on which the articles are found. Microfilmed copies of these newspapers are available at the Wichita State University Libraries, the Wichita Public Library, or by interlibrary loan from the Kansas State Historical Society.

Subject(s): Baseball

WICHITA EAGLE

Thursday, April 9, 1874

page

3. The colored boys of Wichita have organized a baseball club. Their grounds are just north of town, and they practice Saturday afternoons.

Sunday, August 22, 1886

page

4. The baseball Clippers have secured the fair grounds in West Wichita and have cleared a diamond convenient to the amphitheater.

Friday, May 6, 1887

page

4. Work has begun on the baseball grounds and the grand stand will be commenced tomorrow. Nearly a mile of the street car extension and the park at the corner of Waco and Clark is now laid.

Tuesday, May 24, 1887

page

4. The Wichita baseball team will open at its new baseball grounds today against the Emporia team. The grounds are in excellent condition with seats sufficient for 1,000 persons, although the grand stand, which will seat nearly 2,500 will not be up for a week owing to scarcity of material. Admission is 25 cents.

Tuesday, July 26, 1887

page

4. Article says the Wichita baseball team has joined the Western League and will make its debut this afternoon against Lincoln, Nebraska. Details.

Wednesday, August 17, 1887**page**

4. Article about strengthening of the Wichita baseball team to meet Western League standards. Details.

Friday, June 3, 1892**page**

5. A group of baseball enthusiasts met yesterday to form a regular baseball association. Details.

Wednesday, May 16, 1894**page**

5. The Wichita baseball team is now a permanent organization. Griswold park could not be secured so the fair grounds have been secured as a ball park. The grandstand at the fair grounds is one of the finest in the state.

Sunday, March 13, 1898**page**

5. Article reports the nickname selected for the Wichita baseball team is the "Wichita Eagles."

Thursday, March 24, 1898**page**

5. Work on the grand stand at the baseball park will commence immediately. It will be 120 feet long with ten tiers of seats, giving seating capacity of at least 1,000. The first game is April 8 between the Wichita Eagles and the Kansas City Blues.

Saturday, April 9, 1898**page**

5. Article reports on first baseball game at Athletic park yesterday. Kansas City Blues beat Wichita Eagles 12 to 2. One thousand fans present.

Thursday, September 8, 1898**page**

5. Baseball in Wichita is over for the season and workmen yesterday started tearing down the fence and grandstand at Athletic park. When it was built a note was given B. F. McLean for \$225, the balance due on the lumber. A few days ago O. E. Keach purchased the fence and the stand in order to get rid of the park, as he resides just across the street and was opposed to Sunday games.

Thursday, March 10, 1904**page**

5. Article reports that Wichita is to be in the Southwestern Baseball League. Location of the grounds will be made public tomorrow.

Saturday, January 14, 1905**page**

5. Article reports Wichita stands good chance of getting into the new Western Association baseball league, which is a successor to the Missouri Valley league. Cities formerly in the league were Joplin, Springfield, Sedalia, Leavenworth, Topeka, Pittsburg, Iola, and Fort Scott.

Saturday, February 18, 1905**page**

5. About 15 leading business men of Wichita yesterday purchased the Pittsburg franchise on the Western Association and turned it over to Frank Isbell, who will have full management. ¶ The question of a park has not been definitely settled.

Sunday, March 12, 1905**page**

11. The park proposition for Wichita's new baseball team in the Western Association has practically been closed. Quarters in the northeast corner of the fair grounds have been secured, and the erection of the new \$1,500 grandstand and other improvements will begin next week.

Thursday, March 16, 1905**page**

7. Work on the fence and grandstand for the new baseball park on South Main street will start today. Very little grading will have to be done.

Friday, March 17, 1905**page**

7. Work started yesterday on building the new grand stand, bleachers, and fence at the baseball park in South Wichita. If the weather remains good, it will be completed in time for the games with the Chicago White Sox on March 29 and 30.

Saturday, April 1, 1905**page**

7. The new baseball park will be dedicated this afternoon when the Regulars and the Yannagans will meet in an exhibition game.

Sunday, February 25, 1906**page**

24. Article gives history of Western Association baseball league and its predecessor, the Missouri Valley League, which was organized in 1902 and changed in 1905 to the Western Association.

Thursday, July 12, 1906**page**

5. Yesterday the Wichita baseball club passed out of the hands of Lawrence Milton and W. J. Kimmel and was taken over by the local company which has been formed and is known as the Wichita Baseball company.

Wednesday, July 18, 1906**page**

5. Deposed manager of baseball team, W. J. Kimmel, who owns 61 foot strip of ground extending across north end of Association park between Main and Water, built a barbed wire fence around his property yesterday cutting off 20 feet inside the north fence of the ball park.

Friday, July 20, 1906**page**

5. Article reports settling of Wichita's "base ball war" (see July 18) between W. J. Kimmel and the Wichita Baseball company.

Sunday, June 2, 1907**page**

19. Article about effort to get Wichita into Western Association in 1904-05.

Friday, July 5, 1907**page**

6. Negotiations are being carried on for Frank Isbell, second baseman of the Chicago White Sox, to purchase the Western association franchise of the Wichita Jobbers and manage the team next year.

Friday, September 27, 1907**page**

7. The name of the Wichita baseball team is to be changed this winter, according to Managers Holland and Isbell. The present management dislikes the name of "Jobbers," which was adopted during the first year of the baseball association.

Sunday, October 25, 1908**page**

7. Wichita has been admitted to the Western League. Previously was in Western Association.

Sunday, December 6, 1908**page**

7. Local baseball park to be reconstructed for next season at cost of \$4,000. Present grand stands are to be torn down and a new one built with a seating capacity for 2,500.

Sunday, December 27, 1908**page**

7. A new name is wanted for the Wichita baseball team. With the entry of the city into the Western League, the name of "Jobbers," which has hung to the club since its entry into the Western association, will be discarded.

Sunday, July 16, 1911**page**

15. Article reports Association park is to be abandoned. Tony Weinschenk, owner of the grounds and equipment, is ending the lease of Frank Isbell, owner of the former Wichita Jobbers, this fall, and the fence, grandstands, bleachers, and club house will be torn down and the lumber sold. The ground will be subdivided into lots and sold for residences. ¶ Association park is located on South Main street, near the old fair grounds. It was fenced and equipped for the old Wichita team of the Western association in the spring of 1905. Since then a second grandstand has been built and the park remodeled.

Friday, December 8, 1911**page**

7. Article about possibility of obtaining a Western league ball team for Wichita again next season. Mentions that there is ample room for a ball park south of Wonderland Park, on the island. A site could also probably be obtained at Payne's park, just west of the river.

Friday, December 29, 1911**page**

7. Article reporting on meeting yesterday for purpose of securing a baseball team for Wichita again and leasing a park site and building a ball park near down-town.

Wednesday, January 17, 1912**page**

7. The Wichita Baseball and Athletic association is seeking a charter in Topeka in order legally to obtain the baseball franchise from Pueblo and build a new ball park so that Wichita will be back on the baseball map. Twenty-three thousand dollars in subscriptions have been obtained.

Saturday, January 20, 1912**page**

8. A charter has been granted to the new Wichita Baseball and Athletic association, which is returning the baseball franchise from Pueblo to Wichita.

Sunday, January 21, 1912**page**

7. Drawing of aerial view of Ackerman's Island showing proposed new baseball park.

Tuesday, January 30, 1912**page**

7. Complete plans and blue prints on the new base ball park were delivered to baseball

headquarters yesterday by F. G. McCune, architect.

Thursday, February 15, 1912

page

7. Ground broken and work started yesterday on the new baseball park on the island site.

Sunday, May 12, 1912

page

Special Issue for Booster Trip

7. "Wichita's new base ball park is right in town by the big bridge." Located on Ackerman's Island, within five minute walk from Main and Douglas, has been built a baseball park without a peer in the Western league. Grandstand and bleachers have seats for 5200 spectators. ¶ Photograph of grandstand.

Wednesday, September 6, 1916

page

5. Owners of Wichita baseball club yesterday forfeited their franchise to the Western league. Details.

Wednesday, September 22, 1920

page

5. Frank Isbell, owner of Wichita club in the Western league, is asking city for a ten year renewal of his lease on city land occupied by Island park. Present lease expires within a year.

Thursday, April 7, 1921

page

5. The city commission Tuesday gave Frank Isbell, owner of the Wichita club of the Western League, a six year lease on Island Park, for a monthly rental of \$132. The lease is retroactive to nearly a year ago, and the contract can be canceled on 90 days notice.

Sunday, April 9, 1922

page

15. Table shows finishing position of teams in the Western League since 1900. Wichita has been in the league beginning in 1909 except for 1911 when team here moved and finished season in Pueblo.

Sunday, September 24, 1922

page

Special section and articles on 50th anniversary of the *Eagle*.

- D3. Article on history of organized baseball in Wichita.

Wednesday, December 19, 1923

page

7. Attendance of Western League clubs last year listed Wichita third with 97,760.

Thursday, November 12, 1925

page

14. The Wichita Western league baseball club was sold yesterday by Frank Isbell to John Holland, owner of the Oklahoma City club, and James Crawford, owner of the Tulsa club. Details.

Sunday, August 11, 1929

page

Magazine

4. Article about Wichita's first league baseball team in 1905.

Tuesday, June 3, 1930

page

4. Night baseball was tried for the first time in Wichita last night in a game between the Kansas City Monarchs and the Wichita All-Pros at Island Park.

Saturday, April 16, 1932

page

15. The first night baseball game ever played in Wichita by a Western League club will be tonight under the new lights at Island Park, installed by Frank Isbell at cost of several thousand dollars. The Wichita Western League team will play the Paul Buser Lumbermen, a local semipro team.

Sunday, April 17, 1932

page

7. Report of first night baseball game at Island Park last evening. First league game to be next Thursday between Wichita and Pueblo.

Friday, April 22, 1932

page

1. The first night Western League baseball game in Wichita was played last evening with Wichita beating Pueblo 19 to 8 at Island Park.

Thursday, November 30, 1933

page

5. Workmen will start tomorrow to tear down the stands of Island park. Within a week the old Western League stands will be but a memory.

Wednesday, July 16, 1941

page

3. Report of death yesterday of Frank Isbell, 65, 3211 Oakland, well known Wichita

baseball figure. Obituary.

Thursday, January 5, 1950**page**

5. The park board agreed yesterday to the use of Lawrence stadium by Wichita's Western league baseball team this year. Details.

Monday, December 7, 1953**page**

- 5A. Report of death yesterday of Walter Ralph Angle, 63, of 218 Westlink, well known Wichita sportsman and businessman, and a resident of Wichita for 49 years. Born July 29, 1890 in Mercersburg, Pennsylvania and came to Wichita with his parents in 1904 from Illinois. Played Western league baseball for Wichita for several years beginning in 1911. Later entered the real estate business. In 1928 he developed the Westlink Golf course, which he owned and operated for 20 years. He and a small group of sportsmen then organized the Rolling Hills Country Club in 1948 and he sold the Westlink course to the group. Survived by his wife, Dora Mills Angle, two daughters, Mrs. Dale Curbin of 312 South Rutan and Mrs. Nelson Day of 732 South Madison, a son, John, of 832 North Chautauqua, and by two sisters and four brothers (named). Photo.

Sunday, May 8, 1955**page**

Magazine

4. Feature article on history of professional baseball in Wichita. Details. Photos.

Wednesday, June 19, 1957**page**

- 7B. Photo of a 32 passenger bus which is to be given away by the Wichita Transportation Corporation and the Wichita Braves baseball club in the near future in a contest open to groups working with children. Photo shows a General Motors Corporation bus, appearing to be Number 750.

Monday, February 16, 1959**page**

- 3A. "Wichita Silhouettes" -- biography of Ray Dumont, president of the National Baseball Congress. Born in Wichita in 1904. Photo.

Thursday, September 8, 1960**page**

- 5A. Report of death last night of Ty Lockett, 52, general manager of the National Baseball Congress and former Sedgwick County Sheriff, suddenly, apparently from heart attack. Born in Hutto, Texas April 11, 1908 and came to Wichita from Corpus Christi, Texas in 1931. Survived by wife, Betty, and four sons (named). Further biography. Photo.

Wichita Eagle-Beacon**Saturday, November 29, 1969****page**

1. The name "Aeros" has been picked in a contest to name Wichita's new AAA baseball team. Details.

Sunday, January 4, 1970**page****Special section**

- 1B, 4B. Calendar of major events in Wichita in 1969 [Excerpt]: October 31: American Association awarded baseball franchise to Wichita, restoring professional baseball for first time since 1958.

Sunday, January 3, 1971**page**

- 1B, 4B. Calendar of major events in Wichita in 1970 [Excerpts]:
January 26: Park Board and Wichita Aeros agreed on terms for Lawrence Stadium leasing in 1971.
April 17: Wichita Aeros opened American Association's first baseball season here since 1958.

Sunday, July 4, 1971**page**

1. Report of death yesterday of Raymond Harry Dumont, 66, president of the National Baseball Congress. Died in his office at 338 South Sycamore. Born in Wichita December 26, 1904. Graduated from Wichita High School. Returned to Wichita from Hutchinson in 1929. Started Kansas baseball tournament in 1931 and later the National tournament. Survived by wife, Ula Ann, a son Raymond Wesley Dumont, Las Vegas, New Mexico, and a daughter, Mrs. Julius Govert, Kingman, Kansas. Photo. Burial in Goddard Cemetery.

Sunday, June 5, 1977**page**

- 8D. Feature article about plans for expanded baseball program at Wichita State University. Newly hired coach is Gene Stephenson, former assistant at University of Oklahoma. Plans are to break ground in two weeks for a new 4000 seat baseball stadium next to the Shocker Club on 21st Street. To cost \$380,000. Ball field to be finished in time for fall practice and the main stands ready by next spring. Details. Drawing.

Wednesday, July 27, 1977**page**

- 16A. Photo showing inside view of east end of Lawrence Stadium grandstand.

Ground-breaking ceremonies were held yesterday for Wichita State University's new

baseball field. Details.

Sunday, March 26, 1978

page

8D. Feature article about progress on construction of new baseball stadium at Wichita State University. Details. Photos.