

Johnson to Throw Out First Ball—Davis Barred at Georgetown

WILSON TO OPEN A. L. SEASON HERE

Griffith Will Ask President-elect to Throw Out First Ball.

JOHNSON ON HIS WAY

Tom Drohan Surprises All with His Slow Ball in Yesterday's Work-out.

By WILLIAM PEST.

President-elect Woodrow Wilson will be asked by Manager Griffith to throw out the first ball when the Nationals and New York Highlanders clash here on the afternoon of the opening game of the American League season.

"I hope Mr. Wilson is a baseball fan," said Griffith. "For there will be a nice, comfortable chair ready for him in the Presidential box, and he will be made welcome at every game. I shall ask him to help us start the American League season with a victory, by tossing out the first ball."

Just what sort of a baseball fan Mr. Wilson happens to be is not known. His views on the sport have never been learned, but during his stay at Princeton as head of the university he always took a keen interest in college sports, and Griffith hopes to convert him into a thirty-third degree fan.

Tom Drohan, the husky Keweenaw recruit, loosened up a bit in the Y. M. C. A. gymnasium yesterday, and opened the eyes of Charles Williams by throwing a slow ball, pitched with the same motion as his fast one.

Manager Griffith has always maintained that unless a pitcher has a good change of pace, he is not worth anything in the major leagues. Griffith's great success when the Old Fox was in the game was his change of pace, and included was a feinting slow ball.

Drohan says he worked his slow ball effectively out in his league last season. Jean Debur, the Detroit finger, one of the sensations of the 1912 season, is a past master in the art of using the slow ball, so if Tom Drohan has mastered this bit of pitching strategy, Manager Griffith may have picked up a young man who will turn out to be a useful citizen.

Catcher Eddie Almsmith did not don the big mitt and baseball spangles in the Y. M. C. A. gym yesterday. "They don't want me to do any work until I get to Charlottesville," he laughingly cried the young catcher. "As I suppose I've got to be on the outside looking in, but I sure would like to be out on that floor."

Almsmith believes he is going to have a good year with the stick during the coming season. He figures that his poor physical condition kept him back last summer and that his batting average suffered in consequence.

It was reported in the Hotel Dewey, where the Nationals are living until the time set to report in Charlottesville, that Walter Johnson, the great twirler was on his way to the city to be in the Capital some time to-day.

'Inky' Davis Cannot Play at Georgetown Sprigman to Coach Central High Team

Blue and Gray Third Sacker Barred for Signing Big League Contract.

RECALLS CANTWELL CASE

Frank (Inky) Davis, third baseman on the Georgetown varsity baseball nine during the past two years, who has signed a contract with the Cincinnati Reds, automatically suspends himself from the Hilltop ball team.

Davis' name will not appear in the Georgetown batting order this season, if the eligibility rules of the university are enforced, as the code contains a sentence which reads that no student of the university who puts his name to a professional club contract is eligible to play with the university team.

That Davis is to be barred from playing at Georgetown is an unfortunate fact, for to the writer's personal knowledge, half a dozen other college men have committed the same misdemeanor if such it might be called and have in every instance gotten away with it; played college ball while under contract with a major league club.

In the winter of 1909 Tom Cantwell signed up with the Cincinnati Reds, with the understanding that he was not to return until the first of June or at the expiration of his college baseball season. The story leaked out and was published in a Washington paper, just as was the story about Davis, but Cantwell was allowed to pitch that spring, and it was due to his great work that Georgetown finished a successful season.

From one in authority at Georgetown it was learned last night that no action had been taken in Davis' case, but that just as soon as the player's name came up for certification on the eligible list he would be told that he could not play.

It is unfortunate that the signing of Davis by the young man had an understanding with President Herrmann that the news was not to be given out until after the college season closed, at which time Davis was to report.

As Davis has accepted no advance money from the Reds and his amateur status is clear, the popular move by Georgetown officials would be to make an exception in this case and allow him to play with the Hilltoppers during the coming season.

WILLIAM PEST.

BARRED AT GEORGETOWN.



"INKY" DAVIS.

Bill Bailey's Column

Willie Robinson, the old Baltimore star who has been coaching the New York Giants pitchers during the past few years, has been taken in Davis' case, but that just as soon as the player's name came up for certification on the eligible list he would be told that he could not play.

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WILLIAM PEST.

Reported that Former Georgetown Tutor Will Lead O Streeters.

PROSPECTS ARE BRIGHT

Jim Sprigman, coach of the Georgetown ball club for the past two seasons, and for the past two years a well known diamond athlete this spring. This was announced last night by one in authority at the O Street institution.

While this announcement has not been made officially, and with a world of terms have been agreed upon by Principal Wilson and Sprigman, and the only thing that remains is to issue the call for battery candidates.

Sprigman was a success as a coach at both Western and Central, and also at Georgetown. Three years ago he turned out a fast aggregation at Central, and for the past two years has had a good ball club over at Georgetown.

The prospects for a championship team at Central this year are very bright, from all reports, as two of the 1912 pitchers are still in school, Cox and Taggart, while the majority of last season's team is available.

Happy Moss, the sensational receiver of the high school series last season, will again be behind the bat for the Blue and White, with Capt. McDonough in one of the outfield positions. Fair and Sweeney, of last year's team, will be candidates for infield positions, and with a world of others to draw from Central should have a corking good team this season.

Capt. McDonough will have the men out as soon as possible, as he is anxious to get away to a firing start. The O Streeters will more than likely practice at the R. H. Y. M. C. A. League diamond this spring, where Tech worked out last summer. As Central is the last of the schools to make its appearance in the scholastic series, Coach Sprigman will be able to let the boys warm along at a slow pace until real warm weather sets in.

DAVE WHITE, coach of the Western High School football team, is banking a great deal on young "Tut" Brewer to do the bulk of his pitching. This little fellow is said to be a corking good pitcher, and with the classy infield White will have the best chance of a good pitcher will just about win the pennant for the Red and White aggregation.

Brewer pitched several mighty good games last season, and while he is rather small, is a chunky built chap, and has a world of steam. The former Georgetown star pitcher will work hard with the Western club, in the hope of turning out a pitcher for a championship team.

DECATUR SIGNS A LOCAL BOY

Bernie Cleveland Will Play with Three-I League Club.

OTHER LOCAL GOSSIP

Bad Weather Keeps Tech Crew Off the Water—Bank on Brewer.

By C. W. SWAN.

Bernie Cleveland, the local lad who caught and played the outfield for the Charlotte club, in the Carolina League, and also for the Johnson City team in the Appalachian League, last summer, has signed a contract with the Decatur aggregation of the Three-I League, and will report early in April.

While with the Charlotte team Cleveland hit the Bull Durham sign and received a check for \$25, making the long-est hit ever made on the Charlotte diamond. Playing in sixty-eight games with the Johnson City Club, Bernie hit for an average of .333, connecting for seven doubles and six triples. He stole twenty-four bases in sixty-eight games.

The Tech crew was ready to work out on the water yesterday afternoon, but the rain forced the lads to remain idle for a couple of more days. The boys have been training in the off season, and will take to the river in good condition, notwithstanding the long lay-off.

Judy Simpson, the sterling little second baseman of the Manual Training baseball team last summer, will more than likely be elected captain of the 1913 outfit. It was learned last night that as soon as the next advisory marks go in Simpson will receive the appointment, providing he passes in all his studies.

Lang Watson "Judy" put up a great game at the midway station, and in the final game with Western was the star of the encounter. He smacked line drives and Texas leaguers in great style, and should prove to be a capable man for the position if he is made the leader of the Maroon and Gray nine.

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CHARLESTON RESULTS.

FIRST RACE—Three-year-olds and upward, 44 furlongs. Berkeley, 111 (Gardner, 5 to 1); Veneta Brown, 108 (Mason, 7 to 1); several. Generala, 106 (Stewart, 10 to 1); third, 123 1/2. Sals Grumpy, 105 (Cox, 10 to 1); fourth, 123 1/2. Sals Grumpy, 105 (Cox, 10 to 1); fourth, 123 1/2.

JUAREZ RESULTS.

FIRST RACE—Five and one-half furlongs. Andy, 7 to 1; second, 123 1/2. Andy, 7 to 1; second, 123 1/2. Andy, 7 to 1; second, 123 1/2.

RACING CARDS FOR TO-DAY.

APRIL 15, 1913. FIRST RACE—Males ten-year-olds, three and one-half furlongs. Robert Maxwell, 121; Alameda, 118; several. Second race, 121; Alameda, 118; several.

BOXING BOUTS ARE HELD AT ARDMORE

Newly Organized Athletic Club Throws Open Doors for Its Initial Show.

GOOD CROWD IS ON HAND

At the Washington Herald. Ardmore, Md., Feb. 27.—The newly organized athletic club held its initial entertainment here last night. Two boxing bouts and a couple of wrestling matches featured the evening.

A crowd of 20 turned out and enjoyed the sport. In the windup and feature of the evening King Thomas, of Philadelphia, clearly proved his superiority over battling Scott of Ardmore. The Philadelphia boy was greatly outwitted, but was master of the situation from the start.

The feature wrestling bout of the night brought a victory for Tom Von Garlin, of the Ardmore Club, over Willie O'Brien of the Memorial Club, of Washington, D. C., in the best two out of three falls.

Von Garlin got the first and last fall in eighteen minutes and the second in five minutes and twenty seconds. Showing the best speed from the call of time Cornell, of Ardmore, defeated Jack Hillery, of the Memorial Club, in one straight fall in eight minutes and five seconds. During the intermissions between the bouts the Metropolitan Trio rendered some choice selections. King acted as referee, W. W. Winter as announcer, and W. Umbau timer.

YANKEES AGAIN WIN GAME FROM CARDINALS

Y. M. C. A. Quint Lands Fast Battle from Alexandria Aggregation.

The Y. M. C. A. Yankees won an exciting game from the Cardinal reserves, of Alexandria, in the former gym by a score of 23-2. The all-around play of the Y. team was the feature of the contest. Owens and Cockerell played well for the losers. Line-up and summary.

YALE UNIVERSITY TO BE WELL REPRESENTED

Blue and White Team Will Make Bid for Honors in Georgetown Games.

Yale University is going to make a determined effort to carry off honors in both the relay race with Princeton and the struggle for point supremacy, at the Georgetown University games at Convention Hall, Saturday night.

Capt. Wagner and Coach John Mack of the Yale track team yesterday selected one squad for the Georgetown games which will close Yale's indoor competition for the season. Several of the relay teams are still ineligible because of faculty warnings and the exact make-up of the team which will compete for collegiate honors in Washington, Saturday night, is still unsettled.

Yale's best hope in the pole vault is Arthur Dunning and Oliver in the mile run. Potter, the hurdles, and Diggs, the sprints, are the favorites. Diggs is the best broad jumper in the university and only lately has shown unusual ability in the sprints.

CUBS TO PLAY CUBANS.

Ever's Squad Works Hard in Preparation for Game To-day.

Tampa, Fla., Feb. 27.—The Cubs worked three hours to-day in the midst of a whirling windstorm. Although it interfered with the catching of flies, the wind was just cool enough to temper the heat of the blazing sun.

The old routine was gone through, high-low, batting, and fielding practice, warming up pitchers, and an occasional aside into second base. None of the athletes showed any ill effects of Wednesday's game. Ed Reiser did not extend himself in the three innings he pitched, and aside from a lithe stiffness his arm is all that could be expected at this time of the year. The Cubs play the Cubans to-morrow.

ORAL BETTING NOT ILLEGAL

New York, Feb. 27.—The Jersey Club, in conjunction with several racing associations, has decided to revive horse racing in New York State. The first local meeting will be held at the Aqueduct track, opening on June 1. The late opening is necessary, it is said, because the Jersey Club sanctioned spring meets in Maryland and Virginia, and the new date had to be placed so it would not interfere with these.

The Paul Schanz test case, which resulted in the Brooklyn Supreme Court decision against betting, will be argued in the racing interests all the way they wanted, but if a further test case is needed there will be at least one track official who will submit to arrest to show that the betting is not illegal in the Hart Agnew law is illegal.

It is believed that the new racing commission soon to be appointed by Gov. Wood will favorably view the sport. The associations responsible for the new start of racing plan to begin on a small scale, with only one or two tracks at first. They say that they have no fear of local intervention.

BARROW DENIES HIS PLAYERS ARE ON STRIKE

International League President Says Jersey City Team Is Only Club with Unsigned Men.

New York, Feb. 27.—Edward Barrow, president of the International League, emphatically denied yesterday that there is a strike among the players of his organization, saying that the salary limit declared that the majority of the clubs in the league had contracts with practically all the players signed, the only exception being the Jersey City club, which, owing to the delay in closing the deal with Thomas A. Fogarty, sent out its contracts only a few days ago.

There was no opposition on the part of any of our clubs to the adoption of the present salary limit," said Mr. Barrow. "They all realized that the salary lists of several clubs were entirely out of line. Not only were the players getting all the money, but several of the teams had become so much stronger than the others that it was necessary to make some move to equalize the playing strength of the league. That the adoption of the uniform salary limit will help to bring this about in a short time I haven't the least doubt. It may not come this year, but by next season good effects are sure to be seen and felt."

DECATUR GETS HIM.

Rube Marquard is the Only Hold-out of the Giants. Marlin, Tex., Feb. 27.—Manager McGraw, of the New York Giants, to-day received the signed contract of Artie Shafer, and the California will be a member of the Giants for three years. Shafer wired from Pasadena that he would join the team in Marlin as soon as McGraw, as he can, get to Marlin. He will not wait for Snodgrass, but the latter is expected to join the team inside of ten days. This will leave only Rube Marquard, of the independent squad, and Capt. Doyle said to-night that he expected the southpaw to walk into the Arlington Hotel any time now, as that was the way he usually did.

BERNIE CLEVELAND, who will report to the Decatur Club of the Three-I League, early in April.

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