

News, Comment, and Gossip of Amateur Baseball Leagues and Players of the District

WINNING STREAK LOOKS LIKE THE REAL THING

Return of Dixie Walker to Slab Strengthens Hopes of Fifth Place—Harry White Showing Effects of Long Career.

By THOMAS S. RICE.

The return of Dixie Walker to active service in the doubleheader with Chicago today is an encouraging sign of the times if he is fit and goes well. He is not, Manager McAleer will be up a stump, also in a quandary. That Walker can pitch is not doubted, but he does little of this famous specialty, for which he draws wages and has been a disappointment so far. He is satisfied to become an odd intervals, but even when he was not an ailing athlete he was decidedly off color in his work in some games for no assignable reason. It has been charged that Walker is entirely deficient in a sense of the responsibility upon him in major league ball, and that seems to be about the case. If it were not for the law the manager might chastise him with a large, stout club and wake him up to the fact that he must needs hustle or go back to the bush leagues, where the pitchers receive the best and most considerate treatment he has received in Washington.

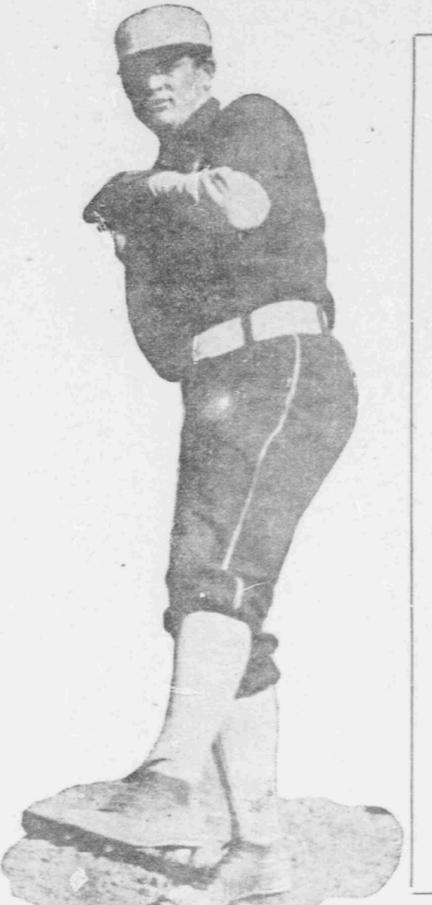
Walker and Retzlaff, Walsh and Smith are the pitchers carded for today. The figures published in The Sunday Times yesterday afternoon showing that Washington stood fifth in the American League in the matter of runs made last week and second in the number of runs made last week opened the eyes of the fans to the amount of scoring which has been done in the early part of the season. Washington was phenomenally successful in making runs and avoiding shut-outs. It has beaten three clubs in the last week, 3 to 2, 4 to 2, etc., and the fault was attributed to the pitchers, for the Nationals were crossing the plate often enough to be in the first division, but were angling around seventh place and lucky not to be in eighth. After that, the pitchers improved, the plate often fell off most lamentably. The opposition would be held down to one, two or three runs, but Washington would not make that many, and would be beaten just the same. Just now the pitching staff is showing a spurt, with Johnson, Retzlaff and Brown doing excellent work, and the batting, although the figures are low, has also been better. This gives reason to hope that the little winning streak that has been in the Nationals within hailing distance of fifth place is not a mere temporary freak, but a real improvement that will last long enough to lift them beyond the shadow of that cellar door which a couple of weeks ago was opening so hospitably for them.

Jesse Tannehill should make a good manager. How much longer will Dr. Harry White last as a pitcher for the Chicago White Sox? He himself does not know, but it will probably be more than one or two seasons. He is one of those contradictions that make baseball so much more interesting than any other sport. He is a star pitcher by Washington and other major league clubs because he stretched into extra innings. However, his brilliant twirlers in the minors who cannot get even a chance in the majors because they are unable to lack the stamina to go through a grueling in the fastest company. And this is about right. Yet, he feels the strain of who is about as fat as a match and the least likely looking major league pitcher that ever existed a suit, who has been a star pitcher in the American League for five or six years and seems to find no special difficulty in games that are stretched into extra innings. However, as the high school writers say, there is a limit to all things, and White this year admits that he feels the strain of pitching more than ever before. He is still a star, is still delivering the goods and being the most valuable asset to the team from looking absolutely foolish, but when the battle is over the doctor does not feel so sightly and indifferent to the consequences of pitching as in former years.

Wes Willie Sudthor was another little fellow who got by until that train wreck broke his nerve. Dr. White would like to be a manager, and was prominently mentioned for the Washington berth when it was apparent that Joe Cantillon was going to get the job, but he lost out on that proposition. Charley Comiskey has the reputation of being very fair with his men and willing to give them a chance to advance in their chosen line of endeavor, but it is doubtful whether the Old Roman would part with White, even if he cannot pitch his regular turn next year. White is a natural hitter, a brilliant runner, a good catcher, can play the outfield with the best of them, and has more baseball sense and general intelligence than any other pitcher of the men in the game. Comiskey has picked a lot of lemons from the minors, and can hardly be expected to let go of such a valuable asset. White when his team is batting below .300 probably will get a chance to pitch in the next year. White is a natural hitter, a brilliant runner, a good catcher, can play the outfield with the best of them, and has more baseball sense and general intelligence than any other pitcher of the men in the game. Comiskey has picked a lot of lemons from the minors, and can hardly be expected to let go of such a valuable asset. White when his team is batting below .300 probably will get a chance to pitch in the next year.

The rumor that Jack O'Connor will not last another season as manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, about right in view of the failure of that club to make a showing in proportion to its natural strength. English boxers of minor importance are beginning to talk of forming a union with a view of peace, England is going for unions, and the idea of boxers getting together may be carried out to a certain extent, but it can never amount to much. Boxing is a dirty, low, mean matter of personal ability. Good

Slated to Oppose Nationals Today



ED WALSH, Famous Spit Ball Pitcher, Who Will Be Depended Upon To Stop McAleer's Men.

Has Been Doing Good Work in Box for the Much Weakened White Sox of Chicago

ANALOSTAN BOAT CLUB WILL NOT ENTER CREW

Organization Has No Material for an Eight to Participate in National Regatta—Has Turned Into Social Club.

The Annapolis Boat Club will have no representation in the national regatta on the Potomac next month. This was definitely learned this morning following an informal talk yesterday at the boat house by some of the most influential members of the club. For years the Annapolis was prominent in boating circles, and hardly a regatta was held in these parts that there was not one or more crews from the club entered. Of late, however, the impossibility of getting in new members, because the limit has been reached and there is a waiting list, has resulted in a scarcity of material for regatta crews. Instead of devoting itself entirely to rowing, the Annapolis club has developed the social side, until the principal interest is centered in canoeing and other such sports. For a while it was believed that a four-oared crew would be developed, but the lack of the men who would be available for such an aggregation are out of town on their vacations and will not return until after the date of the regatta. Two years ago the club engaged Fred Plaisted as coach, but during the present season there is no professional instructor. Coach Glendon had his Potomac oarsmen out for a stiff practice row yesterday. A four and two eights are coming along nicely.

The cave-in of the cement incline at the Potomac house Saturday will prove quite an inconvenience to the members of the club during the next two weeks. High water caused a weakening of the foundation of the flooring, but, fortunately, when it gave way there was no one present. As soon as the officials heard of the trouble, they got into communication with the contractor, and arrangements will be made to repair the damage without delay. Coming just before the big regatta, the trouble will prove quite a blow to the funds, as staking the biggest aquatic event of years is a heavy undertaking. The coming regatta will not only be national, but international as well, as Canada will be strongly represented. The eight-oared shell of the Virginia Boat Club, of Richmond, will meet the eight of the Aerial Boat Club, of Baltimore, in York river, near West Point, Va., next Friday afternoon in their annual contest for supremacy on the water. The Vir-ginians have been working for this particular race for weeks, and under the coaching of Sydney Smith, who will also row with the crew, have developed to a point of high efficiency. The Ariels this season have one of the best crews that the club has ever turned out. In every regatta about Baltimore the Ariels have come out with a rush and outstripped all rivals, crew won high honors. It has been the custom of professional coaches to make the crew of the country in the first two named and being second only to Cornell on the water. In fact, there were few weak spots in the Red and Blue athletic regatta, but, unfortunately, football, the most prominent of all college sports, was one of these few. Pennsylvania was beaten once on the gridiron, by Michigan, and were tied by Lafayette and State College, putting them down to something like sixth position among the colleges. Judging from the present outlook, Pennsylvania should have even more success during the year that is to come, for they lose very few of their star performers in the leading branches of sport.

The Virginia Boat Club this summer has had first-class material to draw from, and the crew is composed of first-class rowers. Under the care of Mr. Smith, the professional coach, the crew has done the mile and mile and a half in time that compares most favorably with that made by Virginia Boat Club crews of former years.

EIGHT PHILADELPHIA CREWS IN REGATTA

PHILADELPHIA, July 25.—It is likely that several of the prospective local crews for the national regatta, to be rowed on the Potomac river, Washington, D. C., Friday and Saturday, August

JOHNSON UNLIKELY TO VISIT CAPITAL

Theatrical Engagements Expected to Keep Him in New York Tomorrow.

Jack Johnson, heavy-weight fighting champion of the world, is not likely to be here tomorrow to grace the festivities of the colored Elks, who are holding their eleventh annual convention in Washington. While it has been widely advertised that the champion would be among these present, the advertisements seem to have forgotten that Johnson is under a contract in New York to appear nightly at Hammerstein's roof garden, and it is not probable to those who know Hammerstein's nature that he will let Johnson off for a day to hustle down to Washington. The champion's habits are erratic at best, and if he were to get here among the friends and brothers the chances of Hammerstein seeing him tomorrow night might be rather slim.

There was a sort of idea that Johnson might come to town last night, and spread the golden smile upon the brokers, and hit back to New York at noon today, but Jim Gray, who is a big figure among Washington colored folk, says he waited at Union Station until 11:30 last night in anticipation of such a visit, then went home to bed without shaking the hand of the man who has defeated Jeffries, who beat Corbett, who beat Johnson. Gray does not think Johnson will be here tomorrow, but he has wired his son and Baron Wilkins in New York to stand by until the last hour in an effort to persuade Johnson to come over to Washington, if only for a few hours.

MAPS MAY HAVE NEW MANAGER FOR 1911

Report That Jesse Burkett Will Pilot Cleveland Instead of St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, July 25.—Although Jesse Burkett, once a Browns, tacitly admits that he is to re-enter the big arena next season as a manager, local wisacres do not place much credence in the report, emanating from the East, that he will succeed Jack O'Connor as manager of the Browns. On the contrary, the tip is out that Burkett will command the destinies of the ill-fated Cleveland Naps in 1911, although this report has never received official confirmation. O'Connor's work, while not a howling success, has not been frowned upon by the Browns. With the material at hand Jack seems to have done about as well as he was expected to, and unless Mr. Hedges has decided on some drastic move in the last few days, O'Connor will be in command of the local machine again next year. Mr. Hedges is with the Browns in the East. He joined the team in New York Wednesday. He left St. Louis last Saturday to close a deal for Phicia Ed Zmich, the southpaw Rager Bros. has snatched from Marion, Ohio, by outbidding all other clubs, the Hedges machine included. J. C. Morse, editor of the Baseball Magazine, was in the Boston corridor last week that Burkett was slated for a managerial job at Cleveland. The club has won four pennants for Worcester (New England League) club and is favored to annex his fifth. The interview credited to Burkett Friday is very indefinite. "Are you going to St. Louis?" he was asked. "I won't be in Worcester," was his reply.

SHERIFF OUTWITTED BY BALLPLAYERS

CUMBERLAND, Md., July 25.—The sheriff and his deputies stepped in yesterday afternoon at Midland and prevented a Sunday ball game at that point between Midland and Pie-mount, W. Va. Not to be outdone, 100 players withdrew to Carlos, several miles away, and played the game in an open field, outwitting the officers. Midland won, 9 to 3.

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ATHLETICS AND CHICAGO ARE GAINING IN FAVOR

Figures Show Leading Clubs Are Stronger Pennant Possibilities Than Detroit and Pittsburg Were at This Time Last Summer—Positions by Table.

With half of the season a matter of record, the pennant possibilities in both major leagues appear limited to three clubs, those three standing highest in their respective organizations. But the strongest claim of probability is that the present leaders will capture the flag in the American and National Leagues. This assertion is not based on the fact that the Athletics and Chicago Cubs are leading the fight, but rather upon the general form displayed by the three contenders in each league. Both of these teams are playing consistent ball under difficulties. The Athletics have not been in first-class condition for more than a month, Bender, a pitcher of unusual skill, and a man upon whom it can be safely relied to win a big percentage of his games, was out of the game for more than a fortnight. Krause, who was the pitching sensation of 1909, practically has been of no use to Mack this year, and, from present indications, will not be able to take his place in the box until the latter part of the season. Combined with injuries to catchers and a weakness in left field, would have made a pitcher of unusual skill, and in the face of these adversities the team has played remarkable ball and gradually tightened its hold on the pennant for a time longer. In the first centers in second, third, and fourth positions.

Chicago Cubs have played equally well and gamely under difficulties. In hardly a game for more than a month has the regular Cub line-up been presented, the infield and outfield personnel being changed from day to day. Chance is probably better fortified in substitute material than Mack, and this fact better explains the former pitcher's championship ability to handle off opposition than in the case of the Athletics, whose pitching corps and utility ability are limited. In Hoffman and Saturday, Chicago has two of the best all-round substitutes playing ball, men who can fill any position almost as well as a regular, and in addition, Chance has in Beaumont a hard-hitting superior outfielder, who can step into the breach and play just as good ball as Shocker, Hoffman, or Schmidt. The most severe handicap to the Cubs has been the indisposition of Overall, but to crown the season's misfortune and support of the team. The big twirler only has appeared in ten games this season, and has been out of the box for at least a week. The Pirates would at least have pitched in twice the number, and, perhaps, even more, were based on his former record, would have given the Cubs a much more material lead than they now enjoy.

Table showing standings for the American League and National League, including teams like Detroit, Athletics, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, and Washington.

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Comparing these figures with the first half records of last year shows that teams improved in the second half and what teams did not. With few exceptions there was no great difference in the two halves in the wins and losses of any team. If the same general rule prevails this year, the teams now located in the tables give indication in a general way of their respective berths at the finish. But much may happen between now and then.

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Club vs. Club Standing

Table showing club vs. club standing for the American League and National League, listing clubs like Athletics, Boston, Chicago, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, and Washington with their respective records.