

Griffmen to Desert Augusta Ahead of Time If Railroad Strike Is Apparent

MAY LEAVE CAMP TO ESCAPE TIE-UP

Griff Will Take Action Tomorrow or Tuesday to Avoid Transportation Trouble.

STRIKE, NO EXHIBITIONS

Sunny South Has Done Wonders in Conditioning Players Physically.

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.
AUGUSTA, Ga., March 18.—Tomorrow, or at the latest, Tuesday morning, will determine whether or not the Griffmen hike out of this city for the Capital to escape being moored in Dixieland by the strike of the railroad workers. Manager Griffith has received a message from Ban Johnson, who is at Haddock, Ga., that the head of the league is not familiar with the situation and the Old Fox is told to use his own judgment.
"I don't want to be held here by any strike," explains Manager Griffith. "However, I have at least another day before making any decision. If it looks like a general strike, which will kill off interest in the exhibition games in this part of the country, I shall go home to Washington. I shall get the clubs in Birmingham, Memphis, Nashville, and Louisville on the telephone and obtain their permission to quit.
"All Up to Griff.
"If this strike doesn't last it will be simple for me to jump my club to Cincinnati from Washington for whatever games I have scheduled there before the campaign gets under way. Mr. Johnson puts it all up to me and I'll take care of the situation."
Without a strike of the railroad workers driving the Griffmen home, they will break camp here Thursday night, the first team going to Birmingham and the second team starting home by way of the Carolinas and Virginia. With the exception of the pitchers, every player is in good shape to begin the exhibition series. In all the five years at Charlottesville never were the players in such good condition as they are now.
Players Are Ready.
The tropical weather has worked wonders in their health. They are ready for real baseball. Perhaps they could not do justice against curveball pitching, but, on the other hand, few pitchers are now able to throw curves. Washington fans may be assured of at least one thing—the players will be ready for the sound of the bell.
Bert Gallia has a slight attack of grip, and may be allowed to rest for a day or so. Joe Leonard is about ready to take his place in the line-up, and so only Harry Harper and George Dumont are classified as cripples, though one or two other pitchers are carrying lame or sore arms.
Dean Expects Transfer.
Corporal J. H. Dean says that he believes the War Department will grant him permission to accompany the Griffmen all summer in the capacity of drillmaster.
"I understand that the adjutant general is greatly in favor of the idea," says Dean, "and I'd like nothing better. I think I can bring the Washington team up to the highest notch of efficiency, if given a chance to work with them every day for six months."
"In the army it takes a rookie at least a month to learn what the players have picked up in a week in the army the rookies are drilled five hours a day, while I have had these men only one hour a day. I wish the average rookie were as good as the average ball player. If war comes, I'm sure that our ball players will make ideal soldiers. They have the physique and they have the necessary brains."

John Baum Only Bowler To Win Big Event Twice

Took All-Events Prize in 1913-14 and 1914-15 Tournaments of District Duckpin Association.

John J. Baum is the only bowler in Washington who owns the distinction of having won the class A all-events championship of the annual District Duckpin Association tournament twice in succession.
Baum, who is now a member of the Columbian, in the National Capital League, won the coveted prize in the tournaments of 1913-14 and 1914-15, and in addition finished first in one other event in each. In the 1913-14 affair he won the singles title and in the tournament of the following season he won the doubles with Joe Michael.
Larger Scores Likely.
In all tournaments of the association a five or five and a quarter inch ball has been rolled against the Baltimore duckpin, but this season the new A. C. B. A. paraphernalia will be in use. It is probable that many of the tournament records will be smashed because of the comparatively larger scores made with the new paraphernalia.
Moe Goldberg, secretary of the District Association for a number of years, is responsible for the following figures on the last three District tournaments.
SEASON 1912-13.
Class A.
Teams—Belmont, 1,649.
Doubles—Charles Young and Harry Roberts, 527.
Singles—John J. Baum, 527.
All events—John Baum, 1,028.
Class B.
Teams—Shawcross, 1,128.

Doubles—R. K. Whitford and Guy Cramp-ton, 527.
Singles—M. J. Pierce, 518.
All events—M. J. Pierce, 1,035.
Class C.
Teams—Arcadian, 1,461.
Doubles—Joseph Michael and John J. Baum, 527.
Singles—W. F. Rider, 525.
All events—John J. Baum, 1,028.
Class D.
Teams—Shermans and Climbers, tied, 1,252; roll-off won by Shermans, 1,311 to 1,252.
Doubles—Ray Chapin and Ed Hower and Armstrong and Schofield, tied, 607; roll-off won by Chapin and Hower, 527 to 525.
Singles—Jack Carty, 521.
All events—M. H. Schofield, 997.
Class E.
Teams—Auditors, 1,754.
Doubles—J. Blisk and Lovering, 527.
Singles—J. Blisk, 527.
All events—C. J. Solbach, 998.
SEASON 1914-15.
Class A.
Teams—Resolute, 1,181.
Doubles—Harry C. Kraus and C. F. Lemmon, 527.
Singles—Frank Roberts, 521.
All events—E. T. Lewis, 1,028.
Class B.
Teams—East Gun Carriage, 1,181.
Doubles—S. Johnson and V. Hixon, 527.
Singles—C. J. Solbach, 521.
All events—C. A. Mueller, 975.
Class C.
Teams—West Gun Carriage, 1,410.
Doubles—George and Welker, 527.
Singles—E. T. Lewis, 521.
All events—E. T. Carr and H. Seitzer tied with 987; split prize.

COMMITTEE RULES AGAINST ROUGHNESS

Football Code Legislation Tends to Fully Debrutalize Gridiron Game.

Broad steps to eliminate football roughness, already relegated to a dark age, taken yesterday by the football rules committee in drastic legislation, are expected to put the game on an unassailable basis for future years.
Unless some new wrinkle like Foster Sanford's multiple kick comes up, the code is expected to stand on its merits for many years.
Forward Pass Up.
The forward pass comes in for more legislation.
Hereafter, any illegal interference with the ball during a pass shall be penalized by giving the ball to the off-fended side at the point where the foul was committed. Heretofore such passes have been adjudged incomplete, and have been sent back to the originating point, with the ball in possession of the sending side.
In case of this change, the committee included a rule which gives the ball to an off-fended side at the point "farthest back" in case of two such fouls. This evidently means at the point where the pass was started. In case the pass is intercepted from behind, the ball shall be given to the off-fended side on the one-yard line.
Side Line Coaching.
The committee put the curse on the recently adopted ruse of sending in for place-kick use a piece of baked clay as an artificial tee, and added one more jolt to the "unethical" practice of coaching from the side lines.
No artificial tees of any kind will be used, the committee ruling that all attempts at field goals must be from the hard unbaked clay.
The practice of making sudden substitutions and sending instructions along with the sub was effectually quashed by inserting a rule that no substitute shall be allowed to communicate with other players until after the ball has been put in play.
Can Use New Ball.
The old-time rule holding that a football once in play is in play for the life of the game was put back with the old rule formations, the rules committee declaring that if the referee deems it necessary he may send a new football into the game at the end of the second period. Thus, soggy footballs will be one of the missing thrills hereafter.
Any player who interferes with a kicker is going to get the full wrath of the rules body next fall. In addition to a fifteen-yard penalty for his team, he is liable to disqualification.

BOB THAYER'S GOSSIP ON SPORTING MATTERS

Changes in the football rules, although of a minor nature, were much needed. Perhaps the most significant alteration is that prohibiting sending information in by substitutes. It would have been better had some action been taken to prevent "cutting down from behind." More wide-awake officials who will signal the ball as dead when play stops will do much toward minimizing injuries from this rather brutal practice.
John Overton's ability to break two world's records in a week is nothing short of sensational. The Yale star clicked off a record mile in Philadelphia and turned about for a new mark in New York at a thousand yards last night. Incidentally, Overton and Joie Ray will meet Wednesday night in a mile race that should be a regular affair.
Ban Johnson, czar of the American League, shows no inclination to abdicate. There have been troublesome times in baseball, and Johnson has always been looked to for help. He is a master hand, and has been for twenty years. More power to him!
Rather a dubious honor, opening the college baseball season, and yet that is what Catholic University and Georgetown will do Saturday. Both teams have been held back on account of poor weather, but may manage to make a good showing before the week is out.
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WILL START GAMES
C. U. and G. U. Get Honors in Beginning Schedules.
To Georgetown University and Catholic University go the honors of starting the college baseball season this week. The two Washington colleges will stack up against opponents on Saturday.
Rock Hill comes for a game with the Brooklanders, and it is expected that Coach Moran will have his lads doing a bit of regular baseball before the week is well under way. Frank Fahey will probably start the season in the box.
Georgetown is meeting the Mt. St. Joseph's College nine at the hilltop on Saturday. Mt. St. Jo is the usual opening team on the Blue and Gray schedule. Three years ago the Mountaineers handed Georgetown a beating, and the Hilltoppers have never forgotten it.
ATHLETIC CLUB MEETS.
Washington Athletic Club will hold a special meeting of members in the Gold Room of the Shoreham Thursday at 8 p. m. Frank P. Milburn will present the preliminary drawings for the club buildings, and reports will be made by the financial and membership committees.

GOLFERS WILL MISS GRAND OLD PLAYER

Retirement of Walter J. Travis Thought to Be Distinct Loss to Game.

America's grand old man in golf, Walter J. Travis, in Washington, to lay out the Public Golf course in Potosi Park, has decided to quit the game as an amateur.
Travis has come north from Florida where he celebrated his retirement by winning the winter tournament there, his last effort in competition.
Notwithstanding his weakened strength America will feel the loss of Travis. His career in golf is hardly equalled in this country. He is 67 years of age and has played golf for twenty-two years. During this time he won the British amateur championship, the American amateur three times and the metropolitan amateur four times. Travis was at his best thirteen years ago, being then 44 years of age.
Travis was 40 when he won the national title for the first time. He defended his crown for the next two years. The following year he invaded England and accomplished a feat that no other American has approached. Evans, Travers and Olmet were hopelessly outclassed when they attempted to emulate the success of Travis.
During his championship years and right now Travis astonishes all competitors by his short game. His putting is deadly and his approach shots invariably find the green and usually so close to the cup that the putt is simple.
HAS WINNING TEAM.
Hyattsville High School recently completed a successful season on the basketball floor, winning all its games with the exception of one. This was lost to Laurel, but the Hyattsville basketballers retrieved the defeat in a second contest.

LOOMIS IS FORCED TO EQUAL RECORD

Brooke Brewer Causes Judges to Confer Awhile Before Giving Decision.

NEW YORK, March 18.—Aside from the record-breaking performance of John Overton in the 1,000-yard run in the national indoor championships, the second for the Yale man in a week, was the sensational 60-yard performance of Loomis, who was forced to equal the world's record by Brooke Brewer, of Maryland State. Loomis regained his title in the 60-yard event, but only after the hardest kind of a struggle. Brooke Brewer, of the Maryland State College, was right at his shoulder when the tape was reached, and it took the judges a minute to decide whether the sturdy little Southerner had not beaten the lanky Chicago cyclone.
Race Was Thrilling.
The race was a thrilling one from the crack of the gun. Loomis shot ahead and seemed to lead by a yard in the first ten feet. Brewer, never a fast one at getting away, lost not a little ground, and by the time the 50-yard mark had been reached was almost a yard back. In the last thirty feet, however, he hurried himself forward with a phenomenal effort and was beaten by Loomis barely by inches.
Overton Wins Again.
Overton cut out such a hot pace in the special race that Joie Ray was beaten by fifteen yards. The record was smashed by 12-5 seconds. Overton ran the quarter in 0:57, the half in 1:57:02 and the whole distance in 2:14.
Earl Thompson, of Dartmouth, equaled the world's record in the 70-yard high hurdles, making it in 1:02-2/5. Pat MacDonald's heave of 47 feet 11 1/4 inches is a new championship record with the sixteen-pound shot.

WAGNER IS AFRAID LEGS WOULD FAIL

That's the Reason He Wishes to Retire After 17 Years With Pirates.

PITTSBURGH, March 18.—Here is the real story of why Hans Wagner is not with the Pirates. Wagner is not a Pirate holdout, neither will he go into the oil business nor will he leave for Hot Springs to prepare himself for the coming National League campaign. Nor will he do lots of other things which game rumor has him intending to do.
Barney Dreyfus is the author of the above statements. When pressed for a direct statement as to the status of Wagner and the Pittsburgh Club, Dreyfus said:
"Wagner visited me in the office and we talked over matters. I asked him again if he was going to Columbus to train, and he said he did not want to go away from home. He added that he feared his legs would not permit his playing ball, as he realizes he is past the age that the average major leaguer is showing his best. I have had trouble with him the past several years to get him to the training camp, as he always wants to escape this training period."
"No mention was made of salary. He did not object to the salary I offered him. If he is not satisfied he has not mentioned the fact to me. In fact, I cannot get any definite word from him."
"Just now I do not know what Wagner intends to do, neither does he himself. I am simply waiting for him to make up his own mind. Hans has been working for me seventeen years, and it is reasonable for me to know him and for him to know me."

ASKS ORGANIZATION

Louis I. Doyle Wants Public Park Tennis Players to Get in Line.

Just as soon as public park tennis players get to the courts this spring they will find notices asking them to sign names to the secretary of the Washington Tennis Association, Louis I. Doyle, if they are interested in forming a public park tennis organization.
Dwight F. Davis, president of the Municipal Athletic Association, of St. Louis, has been in the city conferring with Doyle as to the possibility of getting the 5,000 players here to participate in a public park tournament. The winners will play in the sectional championships, the winner to play for the United States public park tennis championship.
As soon as enough names have been obtained Doyle expects to call a meeting and organize the players. Only those who use the public park courts will be eligible to compete.
BUILD 200 STALLS
Still Not Enough to Meet Demand at Bowie.
BALTIMORE, March 18.—Two hundred new stalls, many more than were destroyed by the fire of last November, in which \$40,000 worth of thoroughbreds were burned to death, have been constructed at Bowie by the Southern Maryland Agricultural Association for horsemen who desire to take part in the first race meeting of 1917 at a track operating under the aegis of the Jockey Club, and still there are not enough to meet the demand.
With the runners already at the track and that have wintered at Laurel, Pimlico, and Havre de Grace and the many private training places and the winter season campaigners, Bowie will have upward of 700 thoroughbreds of various ages on hand.
REGATTA TO LYNN
Tom Rooney Exonerated by National Rowing Body.
NEW YORK, March 18.—Lynn, Massachusetts, was awarded the next championship regatta of the National Association of Amateur Rowers at a meeting of that organization last night at the New York Athletic Club. There were three bids for the event from Lynn, Duluth, and Philadelphia.
Tom Rooney, the sculling champion, was exonerated from charges of professionalism.
Dates for the regatta were fixed as Friday and Saturday, July 27 and 28.
HYDE GOLF CHAMPION.
PALM BEACH, Fla., March 18.—James R. Hyde, of New York, defeated H. C. Clark, of Myopia, 3 and 2, in the final thirty-six hole match yesterday for the Florida State championship. He replaced Hugh L. Willoughby, of Philadelphia, last year's champion, who was beaten in the finals of the second high today by F. T. Frolichhusen, of Tuxedo, by 2 up.

WILL ENTER MEET

Schoolboy Swimmers Go to Baltimore on Saturday.

Four or five Washington schools will be represented in the intercollegiate swimming events in Baltimore Saturday.
Central, Western, Tech, Army and Navy Preps and Emerson Institute will probably send representatives.
The Central relay team will be composed of Hayes, Jackson, Call and Solomon. In the fifty-yard event, Solomon, Hostetter, Little and Scharf have entered and the 220 will see Hayes, Stokes, Call and Houston trying for honors.
Scharf, Hostetter, and Newby of Central, are entered in the 100, and Sandifer, Maitland, and Kaplan in the 80-yard breast stroke. Harrison and Jackson are the only Central entries in the 80-yard back stroke, while in the plunge for distance Morrell and Duhrer will compete. Newby, Little and Houston are in the diving.
Van Schelle, of Western, is entered in the 50, 100 and 220, while Koblogard will be in the back stroke. Moses, of A. N. P., may enter the short distance. Thompson, who attended the Naval Academy this year, enters from Emerson Institute in the shorter events, while Campbell, of Tech, is in the furlong event.

LOCAL DOGS PREDOMINATE

Many Out-of-Towners in Coming Show, However.

Although Washington dogs will predominate in the show to be held at the Arcade April 23 and 24, under the auspices of the Washington Kennel Club, many canines are expected to be entered by fanciers of other cities. English, bulls, Boston terriers, and collies will feature the exhibit.
A total of 2,700 dogs are licensed in this city, and a large portion of these will be seen in the show.
Offices have been opened in the Evans building, and Secretary Charles A. Watson will be on hand to see that premium lists reach the Capital fanciers. The entries will close April 9, two weeks before the opening of the show. Many cups and special prizes are being received by the club and the bench committee is at work placing them for the local winners.

MISS WAGNER CHAMPION

Wins in Singles and Doubles at Tennis Tournament.

NEW YORK, March 18.—Miss Marie Wagner, the veteran woman tennis player, showed she is still of championship caliber yesterday by defeating Miss Eleanor Goss, the girl wonder, in the finals of the national indoor tennis championship tournament. 6-3, 6-1, and with Miss Margaret Taylor winning the double title over Mrs. John Anderson and Miss Edith Howe, 6-4, 6-4.
Miss Goss, a thirteen-year-old girl who has attracted much attention by her playing in the tournament, gave Miss Wagner a tough battle part of the way.

ROLL HIGH SET.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., March 18.—Another world's record was set at the American Bowling Congress here yesterday when Nick and Ben Budinger, of the American team of Chicago, bowled 1,312 in the two men events.

TO PLAY BASKETBALL.

Westover Athletic Club and the Peck Stars will clash in the Peck Chapel gymnasium Tuesday night.

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