

BASEBALL SEASON STARTS THIS WEEK

Major Leagues Will Play Their Opening Games on Thursday.

ALL GETTING UNDER WAY

Umpires in Nearly 300 Cities Are Ready to Cry "Play Ball!"

New York, April 7.—The American and National Leagues, the American Association and the Cotton States and Southern Leagues start the baseball season on this week.

This virtually means the beginning of the annual six months period during which this year more than 300 recognized clubs of professional players will battle in almost as many cities throughout the country, for permanent honors in nearly two score organized leagues.

In the West the Pacific Coast League has stolen its usual match on the other baseball sections by almost "letting into the game," but by Wednesday the "fans of the Middle West" will start "rooting for their favorites" in the American Association circuit, and on Thursday the opening day will have spread to the Atlantic coast, reaching a climax in eight of the major league cities.

In quick order follow all of the minor—a long list of them—until by the first of June all the forces which organized baseball can command will be in the field for a season which is regarded in all quarters as promising a greater and better development of the national game than ever.

Although the big leagues retain most of the veteran players and the younger idols of last season, the change in managements which seven of the clubs effected this year is the greatest shakeup of the kind within memory.

The American League has left Cincinnati and taken charge of the Washington team; Harry Wolfson has come from the Pacific coast to put new life into the New York Yankees.

Use Stahl, the Boston American first baseman, has come back after a year's retirement to manage the team. Harry Davis, the Philadelphia Athletics' first baseman, has gone to Cleveland to run the club, and the Chicago White Sox are to be managed by Jimmy Callahan, the old-timer whose "come back" last year surprised the fans.

In the National League there are two changes in management. Johnny Kling, the former star catcher of the Chicago Cubs, is promoted to the management of Boston after a season's work behind the bat there. In Cincinnati there will be the novelty of an umpire turning manager, as Hank O'Day, a National League arbitrator for years, has undertaken to lead the "Reds."

President Thomas J. Lynch, of the National League, is very optimistic about the coming season. "I look for the best season the National League has ever enjoyed," he said.

"With so many of the clubs strengthened it should be a keen race. New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh are sure to have close competition among themselves, and this season Brooklyn, Cincinnati, Boston and St. Louis look much stronger than last year. And the more teams that figure strongly in the race the better the season will be."

Ban Johnson, president of the American League, is quoted in a similar vein on the prospects of the junior organization. He thought that instead of there being two permanent contenders in the pennant race, as was the case last season, there would be five or six in a close race this year.

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MORE VIEWS OF GRIFFIN'S COLTS



CHARLIE STRAIN, the local LENNHOF, Pitcher. DAVIE, Pitcher. McMAHON, Pitcher. GRAFF, Third base JOHNNY VERBOUT, Pitcher. AYRES, the Medical College WILLIE BAKER and his new bat. Photos by Foster.

FREDERICKSBURG DEFEATS ASHLAND

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Ashland, Va., April 7.—In the dual meet here yesterday, Fredericksburg won over Ashland by a count of 112 to 73. There were many interesting features in spite of the one-sided score, among which were the good running of Sale of Fredericksburg, and the spectacular finish of Lancaster, of Ashland, in the senior relay, when he overcame a lead of about forty yards, and won the event by about two feet.

The all-round work of Fredericksburg was good, Ashland surpassing only in the field events. The medal winners were Sale and R. Rowe, of Fredericksburg, and D. Lancaster, of Ashland.

It is due Ashland to say that the school here is not near as large as Fredericksburg. Consequently the performance of those from the city up the road was of higher class, having so many men to select a team from.

The results were as follows: Primary 50-yard dash—First, J. Freeman, Fredericksburg; second, E. Blake, Fredericksburg; third, Cardwell, Ashland. Time, 7-1-5.

Junior 100-yard dash—First, P. Rowe, F. second, J. Cross, Ashland; third, M. Lancaster, Time, 12 seconds. Senior 100-yard dash—First, W. Sale, Fredericksburg; second, J. Rowe, F. third, D. Lancaster, Ashland. Time, 11-1-5.

Primary 160-yard—First, Norris, F. second, P. Fox, Ashland; third, Biscoe, F. Time, 13.

Junior 220-yard—First, R. Rowe, F. second, M. Lancaster, A. third, Nide, F. Time, 28 2-5.

Senior 40-yard—First, W. Sale, F. second, J. Rowe, F. third, D. Lancaster, F. Time, 56 2-5.

Primary Relay won by Fredericksburg. Time, 24 (half mile).

Junior Relay won by Fredericksburg. Time, 1:20 (one mile).

Senior Relay won by Ashland. Time, 4:14 (one mile).

Junior half-mile—First, H. Cole, F. second, H. Dunn, Ashland; third, Jones, F. Time, 2:31.

Senior mile—First, W. Sale, F. second, C. Rollings, F. third, C. Jenkins, A. Time, 6:16.

Senior 19-pound shot put—First, Payne, F. second, Jenkins, A. valid. Time, 27 1-2.

Primary broad jump—First, Elsece, F. second, Norris, F. third, Pleet, A. Distance 11 feet 9 inches.

Senior broad jump—First, D. Lancaster, A. second, H. Goldman, F. third, Rollins, 15 9 inches.

Primary high jump—First, Cardwell, A. second, Pleet, A. third, Freeman, F. Height 4 feet 1 inch.

Junior high jump—First, M. Lancaster, A. second, Nide, F. third, Cross, F. Height 4 feet 4 inches.

Senior high jump—First, D. Lancaster, A. second, Goldman, F. third, J. Rowe, F. Height 4 feet 7 inches.

Senior pole vault—First, Woodfin, A. second, Rollins, F. third, Nide, F. Height 7 feet 10 inches.

Battle Axe Game To-Day. The Battle Axe Club will play the Caro team of the Old Dominion League at Christ Church Association field this afternoon at 4:30 o'clock.



PHIL HINTON, Catcher. JACK RALEY, First Base. GRAFF, nailing his man at HOWARD CABLE, from Detroit.

M'GUIRE'S PLAYS CLUSTER SPRINGS

McGuire's University School will send its fast baseball club to Cluster Springs Academy today for a game. The South Boston academy reports a likely aggregation, with the locals having shown what they can do. On Saturday, McGuire's will play Miller School and on Monday Jefferson School, of Charlottesville, will be the opposition. The day following Woodberry Forest will be tackled. Returning to Richmond, a game will be played with Richmond College at Broad Street Park.

SUNDAY BASEBALL GAMES

Columbus, Ohio, April 7.—Columbus won from the New York Americans this afternoon, 5 to 4, in ten innings. A muff by the two out in the seventh let the American Leaguers tie. A single by Dolan and a double by Vandenheuvel gave them one in the tenth. Sterring's single and a double by Miller in the Columbus half caused O'Rourke to be relieved by Quinn, whom he held the losers to one inned. Cooper in three innings. Bruck went the next three without being hit, two passed in the sixth leading up to one run. McGuire was strong with runners on.

Phillies Win From Newark. Newark, N. J., April 7.—The Philadelphia National League club defeated the Newark International club here today, 3 to 0. The game was called in Newark's half of the seventh inning on account of rain.

Reds Defeat Boston. Cincinnati, April 7.—Cincinnati National League club defeated the Boston Americans here today, 9 to 2. Sweet, three without being hit, was effective at all times. Cold weather and wet grounds were responsible for rather ragged hitting.

Three Straight for Cubs. Indianapolis, April 7.—The Chicago National made it three straight in the exhibition series with an easy

victory over Indianapolis Association tonight, 8 to 1. Evers's batting featured. In four times up he secured three singles and a triple.

Rain Prevents Game. Montgomery, Ala., April 7.—Rain today prevented the game between the Montgomery Southern League team and the Southerners of the Philadelphia Athletics. The visitors left tonight for Charlotte, N. C.

No Runs and No Errors. New York, April 7.—The Philadelphia American World's Champions and Jersey City Internationals played five errorless and scoreless innings at Jersey City today, and then gave up the game on account of rain.

Rain Delays Game. Paterson, N. J., April 7.—The New York Nationals vs. local professionals game postponed on account of rain.

Columbus Loses to White Sox. St. Joseph, Mo., April 7.—The Chicago American League regulars, with Walsh and Lange pitching, defeated the local Western League club today, 7 to 1. St. Joseph scored its one run on clean hits off Walsh.

Victory for New Orleans. New Orleans, April 7.—New Orleans (Southern League), 14; Jackson, Miss. (Cotton States), 1.

Pirates Defeat Kansas City. Kansas City, Mo., April 7.—Turning the tables on the Kansas City American Association team after yesterday's defeat, the Pittsburgh Nationals won an exciting game today, 7 to 1.

Victory in Tenth Inning. St. Louis, April 7.—A double by Mowrey in the tenth inning enabled the Nationals to win the final game of the spring series from the Americans this afternoon, 3 to 7.

Exhibition Games This Week. To-Day—Washington American League team, Walter Johnson pitching. Wednesday and Thursday—Buffalo (International League). Friday and Saturday—Montreal (International League).

MOTORCYCLISTS READY FOR MEET

Drivers From All Over Virginia Will Compete—Easter Egg Hunt a Feature.

What will probably prove to be the biggest gathering of motorcyclists ever held in Richmond will take place this afternoon at the Fair Grounds, under the auspices of the Old Dominion Motorcycle Club. More than forty entries have been received for this meet. A program, ranging from the dashes to long distance events, has been arranged. The meet will begin promptly at 4 o'clock. One of the features will be a three-cornered race between men representing Richmond, Norfolk and Newport News.

Blackstone Defeats Wellville. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) Blackstone, Va., April 7.—The Blackstone High School won its first game yesterday by defeating Wellville, 12 to 5. The features of the game were a running catch by R. B. Bagley in Colton, and the superb pitching of Doc Colton, and the battling of Hart, who hit a home run off Hardaway on bases, and the playing of Hart on second. Cole carried off the honors for Wellville.

Score by innings: R. H. E. Blackstone, 10000011552-12 3 2 Wellville, 0002000001-5 3 1 Batteries: R. C. S. 1, Colton and Deane; Wellville, Hawkes, Midding and Cole.

DONALDSON SAYS HE IS READY NOW

Mike Donaldson, whose athletic club will probably be launched during the coming week, has been working hard to get himself in condition for his go with Charlie Gardner, the Washington lightweight. The bout will probably take place early in May. Mike has taken off some weight, and says that he is in condition now. Many are the inquiries received regarding this bout. Interest is intense. Mike has come to be regarded as a local product, notwithstanding the fact that he calls Haverstraw, N. Y., home. His coming to Richmond stimulated the latent interest in boxing, and caused the game to be placed on a high and firm footing.

So many applications have been received for membership in the club that it is highly probable that the Donaldson-Gardner exhibition will be pulled off in some large building capable of seating upwards of 1,000 people. The Academy of Music has been suggested, while the Horse Show Building has likewise been mentioned. Donaldson doesn't care where the bout takes place so long as it does take place. He is willing to meet Gardner under almost any conditions. Both boys have agreed to put up a forfeit of \$200 that they will show up at the appointed time. They will both weigh about 140 pounds on the day of the contest.

George Hebert's Virginia Athletic Club will hold another meeting Friday night at 8:45 o'clock. It is reported that an attractive card has been arranged.

WEEK OF HARD GAMES BEFORE WASHINGTON AND LEE TEAMS.

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.] Lexington, Va., April 7.—The Washington and Lee baseball team has a busy week before it. Saturday will be the only off-day of the week. Monday, when the game will be played in Pennsylvania State will be played Monday and Tuesday. Washington and Lee broke even with the big fellows from Pennsylvania last spring playing their first hard games against this bunch. Pennsylvania State already has a good record on its Southern trip. Trinity College, of Connecticut, appears Wednesday and Thursday. Washington and Lee has never met this team, but has said to have a corking time. South Carolina won from one game Friday. South Carolina won from the local squad in the one game played two years ago. Last year Washington and Lee beat the visitors in Lexington, but lost two games to them in Columbia.

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OFFICIAL SCHEDULE OF THE UNITED STATES LEAGUE, SEASON 1912

Table with columns for Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago, Reading, New York, Washington, and Richmond. Rows list dates and game details for each team.

Chalmers MOTOR CARS Gordon Motor Company INCORPORATED RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

Pertinent Comment

By Gus Malbert

Through some misunderstanding, the writer was led into error yesterday when the statement was made that the Washington American League club, which aggregation plays the Colts this afternoon at Broad Street Park, the game beginning at 7 o'clock, would bring along Clyde Miller, German Schaeffer and others of the notable baseball players of the past. It is a matter of fact that Griffith will send his rookies to town, headed by Walter Johnson. The regulars will stay at home to do battle with Bill Dahlen's "badgers" who are not away for the greater part of the season. It will be along, unless Clarke keeps his Bride's recovery from a hollow wound. Joe Beeding will share the honors with Johnson on the mound. The local lad will probably be the game, Spencer, the first-sacker secured from Rochester of the International League, will report to Rochester in league. No line on the outfield could be secured. Eddie Alsmith will do the backstop work.

Steve Griffin has announced that he would be at second, with Willie Baker at short and Verbut and Strain will do the hitting, with Thacker and Biscoe behind the plate. There will be nothing doing in the pink side line until to-night, when the use will be made. With the changes announced Tuesday, the line-up of the Colts, which the fans will watch with interest, probably be the line-up for the opening day, one week from Thursday, with the only exception, Coates, who he lead off. Griff will be second, with Flournoy following and Mattis as the cleanup man. Riley will come next, followed by Graff, with Baker hitting in his logical position, seventh, where he should show good. Then will come the battery.

The truth about the Mattis deal has just come to the front. As a matter of fact, according to Joe Jackson, of the Washington Post, Mattis was never bought with serious intentions. It was a cover deal by which Richmond was to get the services of the boy this season, with a view to his being traded, but well, what for? Jackson, by the way, wails loud and long over the onerous duties of a baseball writer at the time of year. The wall would be funny, but that it is so woefully true. In the words of the Washington scribe, "there are two periods in every year when man writing baseball wishes that he had adopted some more honest method of drawing the pay envelope. These two periods are just after the trading season, and the rest of the time."

The thousands and one questions put at the writer of baseball does make him feel a little bit of a man and, getting it, proceed to lambaste it he should not prove unfaithful.

If it is true, as report says, that Danville is in need of a catcher, Dave Gaston might do worse than get into communication with Manager Griffin. Steve must let two of his four go, and the two left out will be good ones.

The big leagues are pointing the clock to the starting hour next Thursday, when sixteen clubs among the majors will start the season. The nation for first, a league pennant and then world championship honors. All of the managers are hopeful, but a few, such as Connie Mack, Charlie Plohn, Fred Clarke and Johnny McGraw, are confident. The season will open with the following clubs battling: American League, Washington at Philadelphia, Detroit at Cleveland, Boston at New York, St. Louis at Chicago.

National League, New York at Brooklyn, Chicago at Cincinnati, Pittsburgh at St. Louis, Philadelphia at Boston.

Amusements.

Academy--To-Night. Special Easter Entertainment. The Imperial Russian Dancers. Of St. Petersburg and Moscow. Prices: 50c to \$2.00.

ACADEMY, April 15, 16, 17. Matinee, Wednesday.

KIRMESS. Benefit Associated Charities and A. P. V. A. Prices: 25c, 50c, 75c, \$1.00, \$1.50.

ACADEMY, Wed. & Thur. Matinee Thursday. The Funniest Play Ever Written.

BABY MINE. Prices: Matinee, 25c to \$1.00; Night, 50c to \$1.50.

BIJOU. Special Matinee To-Day 2:30.

BASEBALL Washington VS. Richmond. APRIL 8th. Admission, 25c Grandstand, 15c.

City Auditorium. Three Concerts De Luxe. Monday Night, 8:30. Tuesday Matinee, 3 P. M. Tuesday Night, 8:30. APRIL 8 AND 9. By America's Greatest Concert Organization.

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