

Two Big Baseball Games Scheduled Today

The baseball rookies went their way back to their old homesteads. "Give us the old straw ticks," they say. "We're sick of feather beds."

"We want baked beans and sauerkraut. Ham hocks and layer cake. We're back—and awful tired of dried apple pie and steak."

VARSITY TO START WITH LOCAL TEAM

Reds and Senators Come Together at Clarksburg This Afternoon.

Two big events are on the baseball program for today. The Varsity will open the season at Morgantown in the first of a two game series with the Fairmont Collegians, while the Reds and Senators are scheduled to hook up in an exhibition battle at Clarksburg. Both contests hinge on the weather being warm enough for baseball. While the air is very cool this morning and there was frost last night, it seems certain that both contests can be staged. If the game in Clarksburg is played there is sure to be a big crowd on hand, as the Reds will draw well down there with the old Wesleyan star, Neale, in the lineup for the champions of the world.

According to the announcement from Morgantown this morning Lemley and Johnson will be the twirling selections for the game today, and if these boys are in good form the game promises to be a very pretty fight between two star club artists. Turkovich, the Monongahlah, is slated to start the game for the Varsity, seemingly having won out over his rival, Burley, for this station. It will now be up to him to make good and show that he deserves the honor. Simon, Hood, Knight, Flink, Chenoweth and other stars are to be found in the Collegian lineup and they should make things very interesting for the Varsity outfit.

Woods, Lyle and Dupue will all be ready for mound relief duty for West Virginia and Charlie Carden and Chenoweth will be on call for like duty for the visitors. S. W. Johnson, of Gratton, who has umpired here for several years past will handle the indicator.

The rain and cold weather of this week has not injured the playing field to an appreciable extent. The Varsity diamond is in better shape this year than for some years past, due to the improved drainage, and unless there is a downpour of rain tomorrow, just at game time, the contest will be staged as planned.

Shelton wishes this week-end games were easier because he would like to see what Neale, Burley, Neffsen, and several others on the squad, whom he does not expect to start, would do under fire, but if the visitors loom up as strong as they appear on paper, there will be no opportunity for experimentation.

Three and Two

The death last week of Matty McIntyre, former Detroit American League and rated as one of the best outfielders the game has ever produced, came as a distinct surprise and shock to Nig Clarke, Pirate catcher. "I can't believe it," said Nig. "Matty and I were pallbearers at the funeral of Eddie Siever, the pitcher who died about a month ago, and the day I left to join the Pirates in West Baden McIntyre accompanied me to the station and wished me luck."

Down in Texas they call the Pirates "Gibson's Smoke Eaters."

This far it has been a case of "Watch our smoke"—although in Fort Worth Sunday with the thermometer hovering down near the zero mark the Buccos proved to be pretty good snow birds.

It makes all the difference in the world how a pitcher's arm feels if a workout is to do him any good, according to Wilbur Cooper, who usually wins 19 or 20 games of ball for the Pirates every season.

When the Buccos were in Fort Worth Easter Day it was so cold that the spectators nearly died. Cooper, who had carefully wrapped himself in two heavy undershirts underneath a thick sweater, pitched to the batters in practice, then he took part in a lively "pepper game" for 10 minutes. When he returned to the bench he was perspiring freely, while the others were slowly freezing to death.

Cooper lost no time getting back to the hotel for a complete change of clothing. Later that night he said: "I had a dandy workout today—all because the soreness has entirely got out of my arm—otherwise I would not feel so good."

Manager Gibson has made it plain to his players that there must be no ragging the umpires this season, and the Pirates during the exhibition games in Texas and Louisiana have never made themselves conspicuous or obnoxious by "riding" the arbiters, and some of the umpiring in these spring games has smelled to heaven.

Gibby holds to the theory that a ball player chased out of a ball game by an umpire weakens his team—that to attempt to "bawl" out an umpire gets one nothing.

MITCHELL THINKS WELL OF BATTERIES



"The strongest club I have ever had," is the compliment Fred Mitchell, manager of the Chicago Cubs, paid to his club as he wound up his spring training in Southern California and left the West for Phoenix, and Kansas City where the Cubs will play a series of games en route to Chicago for the opening of the National league race.

Weather has not been especially helpful to the Wrigley manager this year, rain interfering with practice about every other day, but to sturdily Fred is optimistic.

"But it will have to be a stronger club than we have ever had before," continued Mitchell, "because the competition in the National league this year will be the stiffest we have ever had. It will be much keener than the 1918 season."

Mitchell says he has the best pitching staff in the elder circuit, and that his high priced hurling star, Grover Cleveland Alexander, has rounded into

perfect condition in Southern California and is ready right now to open the season.

With Killefer catching, judging from his spring showing, the best game of his big league career, Mitchell is of the opinion that he also has the strongest catching staff of all National league clubs.

George Tyler, who was out of the game the greater part of last season with injuries, has been giving Mitchell considerable trouble at Pasadena this spring, but should be ready to back up Alexander the Great by the middle of April. Mitchell also has Hendricks, Martin and "Big Jim" Vaughn, who is going "great guns" this year.

Injuries have held the Cubs back in their spring training, practically all the regulars having been out of the game at one time or another. Hollocher, the speedy shortstop from Oakland, has been laid up with an injured hand. Fred Merkle injured his elbow, but his place can be well filled

by Daly, utility man, until the season is opened.

Deal, third baseman, has been suffering from rheumatism which has slowed him up considerably, but his batting has suffered in no way, and he will be on the difficult rack when the first ball is thrown, Mitchell says.

"Buck" Herzog is another regular who has not shown much this season on account of injuries, and does not seem to be getting in condition very fast. If "Buck" is able to go through the National League race he will give a tower of strength to the "Wrigley" boys.

"We're admitting that the club will not be the lowest priced aggregation in the National League this year, which will not see them in the cellar by any means. But, according to Mitchell, with our wonderful pitching staff, and the feeding—we will not need the hitting strength some of the other clubs possess."

afternoon and tomorrow. It can be done if the boys play ball, although.

Sport Chat

The last of the Old Guard, the sole survivor of an outfield combination that ranked with the greatest the game has ever produced, Silent Harry Hooper stands out among the Red Sox like the lone sentinel of a lost cause. All through the series with the Giants the swarthy Californian has been the one bright-shining star of Barrow's drab ensemble, as brilliant as ever on defense and a hard and consistent hitter against pitching which has stopped almost every other member of his clan.

For two years past the gossips have been saying that Hooper is slowing up, and maybe he is a trifle less fleet on the bases than he was in the old days when he was teamed with Duffy Lewis and Tris Speaker, and the Red Sox outfield was conceded to be the most efficient defensive trio in either major league. But he has lost none of the old-time skill as a fielder, and his sundry Giant slabsters will bear witness that he is still a dangerous batsman in a pinch.

He is indeed, the only Boston player who has batted impartially well against almost all of the Giants' pitchers. He has made at least one hit in eight of the twelve games played in date, and with three home runs to his credit is the recognized Babe Ruth of the tour. He has ground out fourteen hits, all told, in fifty-one times at bat and is leading all the Sox at bat with an average of .275.

Baseball's looking up—away up! Many seats have been added to the grandstands this year. They'll need 'em. In St. Louis the Browns promise big things. The fans show more enthusiasm than usual. Phil Ball wanted to build additional seats, but couldn't get the work done. He is planning next year to have 8,000 additional seating capacity. That will make 30,000. A new entrance has been built to accommodate the youngsters who will get in at reduced prices.

The Lee Magee bomb looks like a damp Fourth of July cracker.

And how can we worry along like this without a head for the National Commission? But what's the difference—there's nothing to drink?

If the majors don't watch out they'll be playing exhibition games next year to empty stands. Advertising Ty Cobb and such stars and then appearing without them doesn't satisfy the standstill who paid a dollar to see if.

Chick Fewster may not be the only one to suffer because of the accident at Jacksonville. Chick naturally will be afraid of the fast ones even should he recover sufficiently to play. And Jeff Pfeffer, who beamed him, may think about it so much that he'll lose effectiveness by grooving most of them.

Stansbury's Varsity team in at least one of the two games slated for this

afternoon and tomorrow. It can be done if the boys play ball, although.

If that old ball game between the Senators and Reds is staged in Clarksburg today there should be some crowd out for the contest. "Greasy" Neale will pack the stands himself.

The local high school baseball and track men will be put through some hard work next week, if the weather permits. Especially the baseball men will have to hustle as the opening game is scheduled the last of the week.

Big School Games Will be on Today

PITTSBURGH, April 9.—The cream of the scholastic basketball teams will gather today at State College for the titanic struggle to decide the state title, and 12 chesty teams will be ready for the starting whistle that will call them into action tonight when six games will be played as an elimination opener. Of the different districts represented, Western Pennsylvania will have five and possibly six quintets on hand to uphold the honors of the western territory. Bellevue High, winner of the W. P. I. A. L. title. Fifth Avenue High, winner of the city championship; Oakmont, winner in the Allegheny Valley Intercollegiate Athletic league, and Uniontown are sure to be on hand for the starter's whistle. Farrell High, winner in their section, has also sent in their entry blank, and there is a possibility that Sharon High may be on hand at starting time, as they have been invited to compete. Bellefonte will represent the Mountain division; Harrisburg Tech will take care of that territory; East Stroudsburg will also compete, and Williamsport High, Lansford, Renova and Shamokin have expressed their intention of being on hand for the title tournament. All arrangements for conducting the tournament have been completed and the committee in charge has announced that Bob Flanner of York, will officiate in the games. J. S. Martin, who is in charge of the tournament, has arranged an extensive entertainment program for the visiting athletes, who will be taken care of by the authorities at State.

This is the first tournament ever held to decide the state championship, and the winner will be acclaimed supreme. Of the local teams represented both Bellevue High and Fifth Avenue High should give a good account of themselves as they have both demonstrated that they have the class necessary to a winner. Uniontown also has a strong outfit and they will be sure to give the best of the Easterners stiff opposition.

Succumb to Lottery's Temptation. Lotteries for raising public funds are not unusual in Central and South America, and every now and then an alert postal authority brings to light the fact that many a subscriber lives north of the Rio Grande.

TWO DAY PLAN GETS APPROVAL OF TRACK MEN

Move Made in Regard to Third Annual Track Meet at Morgantown.

MORGANTOWN, April 9.—(Special)—The fact that two whole days will be utilized for running of the third annual West Virginia high school track and field meet here May 21 and 22 is proving to be a most popular move among the representatives of the high schools as well as the public. Last year and the year previous when there were less than half the number of competitors expected this year, the trials in the hammer, shot, discus, pole vault and some of the other events were extremely tedious. By using two days for the events practically all the trials will be run off on Friday, May 21st, and from four to ten men will be left in the various events to compete on Saturday in the finals.

It is probable that on Friday out of the forty or fifty men entered in the shot, hammer, discus, pole vault, high jump, broad jump and javelin throw, there will be only five men qualified in each event. These five in each event will get three trials again on Saturday and naturally this will bring out the highest class competition imaginable.

On Friday, also, trial heats will be run off in practically all the runs except perhaps the two mile and mile. Last year as many as thirty-five men banked four deep on the track started in a single event with the result that a man who drew the outside was running under a great handicap. This year if there are seventy-five entries in the quarter mile as is expected, there will be seven or eight heats on Friday with about ten men in each heat, the first two qualifying for the finals on Saturday when probably two heats of trial and a final will be run off. The same procedure will be followed in other running events.

Fleming Wins Another Game

Fleming school won an interesting game last night from the White school 43-15. The score:

Fleming, 43.	White, 15.
Spafatore	Kneisel
McLinden	Hough
Grottendeck	Gillard
Brown	McNeil
Binge	Knight

Field baskets: Fleming, Spafatore, 6; McLinden, 8; Grottendeck, 3; Binge, 3; White, Gillard, 2; McNeil, 1; Kneisel, 2. Foul baskets, Fleming, Spafatore, 3 in 4; McLinden, 0 in 1. White, Gillard, 5 in 9. Referee, Kahn. Time of periods, 15 minutes.

WESLEYAN FANS OFF FOR GAME

BUCKHANNON, April 9.—Wesleyan College students are boarding every train in big numbers for Clarksburg where they will see the favorite of the State of West Virginia in action on the diamond this afternoon. Greasy (Neale) former Wesleyan student and coach is the attraction. Neale played with Wesleyan for three years in all of the major branches of sport. He is heralded the most phenomenal footballist the Methodists

have ever produced. He was a dread opponent in basket ball while his baseball ability has been told in national rhythm.

Weather conditions have been so poor that the fans here have wondered if the game can be played. However, the moderations here have given assurance that Cincinnati will give Washington a battle today—and battle it will be for behind the Cincinnati club there will be hundreds of students of Wesleyan and fans from the city rooting for a "Red" victory. Greasy is a big favorite with every Wesleyan student and in this city he has many great boosters. He was a very successful coach and with the assistance of big John Killian coached Wesleyan to the greatest football victory ever clutched from a Mountain State gridiron.

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