

LEAGUE SEASON OPENS WITH GREATEST YEAR FORECAST FOR SUCCESS OF NATIONAL GAME

CHEERS GALORE AS FANS LIFT BASEBALL LID

Long Auto Parade With Bands an' Everthing Precedes Tribe-Hen Game.

WEATHER MAN DELIVERS

At Washington Park

Indians. Mad Hens. Winkler, r.t.
O'Malley, 3b. Kores, 3b.
Zwilling, cf. Wilholt, lf.
Covington, 1b. J. Kelly, cf.
Schoeller, ss. Jones, 3b.
Wolf, 2b. Beall, 1b.
Rehg, lf. Fox or Thompson, 2b.
Gossett, c. McNeil or Bresnahan, c.
Cunn, p. McColl or Middleton, p.
Cumpies, Knapp and McCafferty.
Time—3 o'clock.

By EDDIE ASH.

What's that we hear? Sure it isn't potatoes taking a sudden drop or the switchmen rushing back to work!

It's something more important to thousands of Indianapolis citizens today. It's the old electrifying cry of "PLAY BALL!"

With bands playing and people shouting the rest gouger the profiter, the all-right and all-wrong candidates were thrust aside like so much chaff today while baseball enthusiasts of the city took charge of things and sent the fair with good old diamond enthusiasm.

THIS OPENING DAY A THRILLER.

Opening day always carries a thrill but there was more thrill than ever in the electrification started this afternoon on the occasion of the Indianapolis club's 1920 start in the American Association race.

The Chamber of Commerce, Rotary club, Advertising club, Kiwanis club, Knights of Columbus and other organizations launched both active and static programs and when they mobilized forces this afternoon there was no end of baseball excitement.

First came the auto parade, starting at 11 a.m. and ending at 12:30 p.m.

Headed by mounted police, followed by state, city and county dignitaries, members of the press, politicians and leading men and just plain fans, both organized and unorganized, the parade attracted much attention as it passed over the downtown streets, and its passing was the signal for the start of one that could get away from work to make a break for Washington park.

GOVERNOR, MAYOR AND OWNER SMILE.

In all, 500 cars in the parade were led by Gov. Goodrich, Mayor Jewett and William C. Smith Sr., owner of the club.

Following the car parade came the marchers carrying the two team managers, Roger Bresnahan of Toledo and Jack Hendricks of Indianapolis.

Next came marchers carrying the flags of the racing clubs and following these were the Rotary club baseball delegation and other organizations in the position assumed by the grand marshals.

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Numerous cars participated because all fans were welcome and they took positions following the organized forces.

The parade formed at Meridian and 11th streets and marched westward, ending at 14th. The baseball pageant moved south on Meridian to Ohio, east on Ohio to Pennsylvania, south on Pennsylvania to Washington and west on Washington to the fair park.

Soldiers took part in the game. Fifty regulars from the Indiana Guards paraded about 100 from the Speedway and also members of the local United States army recruiting force under the direction of Col. George E. Eggers.

The soldiers rode in army trucks, which were festively decorated. The entrance of the khaki clad into the big fair park was a welcome sight.

The bright sunlight of the morning put the final touch on the scene, and the band and the girls, with the exception of the K. of C.,

had a hand in making the league trophy offered for the highest opening day attendance.

LEAGUE TROPHY GOAL OF FANS.

This city always has been the leader among the leaders in turning out the masses of spectators and with the exception of the various city organizations, Washington park fences were literally expected to bulge this afternoon.

Gov. Goodrich and Mayor Jewett graced the parade and bali park with their presence, and they entered into the spirit of the occasion with keen enjoyment.

The governor occupied a special box at the game and it was in this box that the game was unwrapped.

After hundreds of hungry baseball eyes got peep at the spangled and gaudy garments of the various baseball fans, the governor to the mayor, who then took his annual turn on the Washington park pitching mound and threw the first ball over the plate.

Then the game was on!

A hand that kept things lively in the band continued its musical roofing because during the game and, as a result, the huge crowd was kept properly tuned up throughout the contest.

The players were not to be outdone, but the athletes were expected to step lively nevertheless and the soggy condition of the ground was forgotten by both players and spectators.

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POPULAR ROGER THE MEN LEADER.

The Indianapolis players were toged in for the game and were trimmest in cardinal, and they made a natty appearance on the field.

The Toledo athletes appeared in gray uniforms and their manager, Roger Bresnahan, always popular here, was given a welcoming ovation by the fans.

Jack Hendricks sent his best players to the game, the Indians with Cal Crum doing the pitching and Gossett behind the bat.

The grandstand was profusely decorated outside of a heavy coat the setting was perfect for the grand baseball opener.

For the game a flag raising was scheduled with Gov. Goodrich and Mayor Jewett in charge of the ceremonies.

The players, band and officials of the two clubs were to be present. They were to march from the home plate to center field, where the flag was to be hoisted.

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Get it now. No use to wait when the first small payment gives you possession right away.

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The Openers Today

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.
TOLEDO AT INDIANAPOLIS.
Columbus at Louisville.
Minneapolis at Kansas City.
St. Paul at Milwaukee.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.
Boston at New York.
Philadelphia at Brooklyn.
Chicago at Cincinnati.
Pittsburgh at St. Louis.

AMERICAN LEAGUE.
New York at Philadelphia.
Washington at Boston.
Detroit at Cleveland.
St. Louis at Cleveland.

Opening Day Breezes

They're off for 168 games.

It's a long road with many twists and turns.

Here's hoping the Indians make it a speedway and burn up the track.

President Smith will pay for the tire, and he cares not how fast Jack Hendricks drives the Tribe machine.

Political candidates looked with envy on the crowd. It was a much larger gathering than the present day office seekers seen when he is making speeches.

The governor and mayor went through it all with the spirit of democrats.

When Indianapolis boosters boost they do it from soup to nuts. That parade was put over in fine style.

The more baseball the less unrest.

Russia might try organizing a couple of leagues. Ditto Mexico.

The low gas pressure went unnoticed. The players and fans go by on their own steam.

Owner Smith is not only an owner but he is a fan. He was as much exhausted as the players at the finish. Before the game he said he would be willing to wait for thirty minutes without stopping if his Indians won.

Manager Jack Hendricks looked mighty serious on the coaching lines with new togs. He is as hard as nails, due to daily workouts with his players during the spring training.

There were many opening day boxes. Women fans were numerous.

Roger Bresnahan, the Toledo manager, has a record in baseball that will go down in the books forever. When in his prime he was among the great players of the game. Though catcher and all-around a great player, he was not distinguished for leading off in the batting order for the New York Giants. He was a great hitter, an exceptional base runner, but could play only in a limited way in his league style. While in the majors he worked behind the bat and played in the outfield and on the infield. The Duke of Toledo had a diamond record that few players can approach.

INJURIES MAY HOLD BACK SOME.

Aside from the effects injuries to players may have the various clubs may be forced to follow.

YANKEES—Fair condition; pitchers not in best form; plenty of individual ability among players, but a lack of teamwork.

RED SOX—Good condition; ability of young fielders a question; pitchers and outfielders ready; team as a whole hitting well.

PIREATES—Fair condition; shifts on the infield that placed Olson on second, Johnson at third and Ward at short working fine. Pitchers in form.

PIRATES—Poor condition owing to raw, training weather; pitchers unsteady.

RED SOX—Fair condition; morale of players low and absence of aggressive spirit noticeable.

ATHLETICS—Rebuilt with youngsters and a good new life; in good condition.

PATRIOTS—Good condition; stronger than last year and in line condition.

WASHINGTON—In fine shape and admittedly stronger than in 1919; but long trip to coast may affect condition.

WHITE SOX—Good condition; plenty of individual ability among veterans but a lack of cohesion in team work and some classism.

CUBS—Fairly good condition. Despite long trip to coast; pitchers in form; may be hampered by injuries to pitchers and Herzog.

REDS—Rebuilt to be in poor condition; team work below standard; pitchers unsteady.

BROWNS—Fair condition; pitching for players high spirited and team looks like a "dark horse."

CARDINALS—Top form physically except several pitchers, who need more condition.

PIRATES—Fair condition; team work not perfected; loss of Catcher Schmidt and shortstop Billie, both hampered.

SPOTS—Fair condition; favored men generally as pennant winners; pitching and fielding in good form.

TIGERS—Fair condition; need strong pitching; fielding and batting should be up to standard.

THEY'RE AWAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES ALSO

Big Fellows Swing Into Action With a Record Season Promised.

Major league baseball teams were to swing into pennant action today with the opening of the 1920 season.

Based upon the form exhibited in the spring training on several diamonds, the sixteen clubs of the National and American leagues appeared to be in fair physical condition and had good prospects for a record race for the respective league flags as well as exceptional attendance and financial receipts due to the unusual interest in the game this year.

GAMES NORTH, EAST AND WEST.

Eastern and western city clubs shared equally in the allotment of opening day.

In the National league Boston played at New York while Indianapolis made its first appearance at Brooklyn.

The western division teams of the American league schedule called for the opening day at Philadelphia; Washington at Boston; Detroit at Chicago.

The games to be played in the National league were to be inaugurated the forty-fifth consecutive season for the senior major leagues for the organization dates back to 1871.

Conch Jordan of the "Y" is negotiating with DePauw and some other organizations for winning the pennant in an effort to hold the "Y" team together until the state "Y" meet at Ft. Wayne.

While the local boys have the advantage of being brought up in a swimmer's atmosphere, created by the various swimming organizations of Indianapolis, the Indianapolis "Y" tank where they have done all their practicing, which would seem to give the collegians a decided advantage.

The Indianapolis experts will be competing in the tank thirty yards long as against the one hundred yards of the "Y" tank where they have done all their practicing, which would seem to give the collegians a decided advantage.

However, both teams are unknown quantity and any advance dope is purely hazard.

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"Y" Indiana Water Clash on April 17; Other Meets Sought

Coaches Rathbun and Jordan got together on the long distance phone last night and completed arrangements for the dual swimming meet to be held at St. Mary Juniors, 20 to 2. For games call Woodrow 1033 and ask for James.

The Haughville Stars have organized for the season and are ready to battle with the colored team in the city. Call Belmont 641 and ask for Squire.

Teams desiring dates with the Indianapolis Morris are requested to communicate with William Bell 2117 South New Jersey street, at 212 West Washington street.

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AN INNING WITH THE AMATEURS

By CHARLIE LARSEN

The Arsenal Cubs want games with the class of the 15-year-old talent. They got away to a flying start by defeating the St. Mary Juniors, 20 to 2. For games call Woodrow 1033 and ask for James.

The Haughville Stars have organized for the season and are ready to battle with the colored team in the city. Call Belmont 641 and ask for Squire.

Three Hoosier mat titles, heavyweight, middleweight and welterweight, will be contested for tomorrow night at Vernon hill, where the Indiana state wrestling tournament will be staged.

The tourney, which is open to all wrestlers in the state, is creating quite a little interest.

There will be two curtain-raiser bouts on the card, the first one starting at 8 o'clock.

Both the Indianapolis and Toledo baseball clubs have been extended invitations to the matches and will occupy ringside seats.

M. Charles, promoter, has announced that each bout will be decided by two out of three falls, but the first fall will take forty minutes and then it will take only one to decide the winner.

Hugh Webb, welterweight, and Gus Wachster, heavyweight, both of Indianapolis, are two favorites to cop their matches.

This gives every contestant an even "break" as was proved last season, when several ringers with strong handicaps were successful with the aid of large handicaps.

FIRST PRIZE GOES TO CLEVELAND.

CLEVELAND, April 14.—Matt Brock, Griffiths-Jack Clegg, ten-round bout.

After the confession Magee made to myself and John Heyder this is the limit for gall. We'll fight him to a finish and if he wins, we'll call it quits.

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