

Playing the Field

WITH BILLY EVANS

BEAT the Yankees is the pet slogan of the American League and it has no greater advocate than Connie Mack of the Athletics. Apparently, the taciturn Mr. Mack, in his desire to overthrow the supremacy of the New York Yankees, has decided to fight fire with fire. To be more explicit, he intends to give the Athletics an offensive punch that will rival the Yankees.

That is the one and only explanation that can be offered for his signing Tris Speaker and Ty Cobb. While these two famous stars have slowed up in the field and on the bases; they are as dangerous as ever at the bat.

It is one of the phenomena of the game how the outstanding stars at various positions first show signs of going back as to their legs. Such a fault reacts in their work on the bases and in the field, but somehow they retain the old batting eye, which age does not seem to dim.

PROBABLY no manager in the history of baseball ever opened such a field for debate as did Mack when he added Cobb and Speaker to the roster of the Athletics. You can find plenty of supporters pro and con on the question.

If one were to name the twelve greatest players in the history of the game it would be difficult to overlook Cobb and Speaker without being deluged with letters requesting that your sanity be investigated. They have been outstanding as outfielders, batsmen, base runners, smart baseball men.

Not only have they starred as players, but each has had a fling at the managerial game. Speaker in 1920 won a pennant and a world championship for Cleveland. Cobb had varying success with the Detroit Tigers.

There are many experts who question the wisdom of Connie Mack in placing two of the game's greatest stars, players who have been big league managers, in the lineup of the Athletics. There is in many quarters a belief that it won't work out.

FEAR is expressed that other players of lesser reputation won't like the situation, the "hogging" of the spotlight by the stars, and there also is a belief a feeling will exist that there isn't the proper basis as to salary.

I am inclined to the belief that, in the parlance of sport, Mack is "shooting the works." In other words, it is my opinion Connie would be glad to retire if he could put over another pennant winner. He doesn't like to get out, while numbered among the also-rans after leading the procession for so many years.

For several years the Yankees have literally battered or batted their way to a pennant, as you prefer it. When pitching failed, when slowness of foot handicapped, when errors in the field made the Yankees' defense look like a sieve, the trusty bats of Ruth, Gehrig and Company invariably came to the rescue.

The Yanks have in a sense triumphed because the club boasted the greatest offense in baseball. Mistakes in other directions didn't matter.

In placing Ty Cobb and Tris Speaker in his outfield, Connie Mack is unquestionably adding a real punch but is sacrificing speed on the bases and a defense in the field.

GIANTS SET FOR RACE

New Yorkers Win 21 Games in Spring Training Grind.

NEW YORK, April 9.—The New York Giants today awaited the opening of the National League season against the Boston Braves here Wednesday with the best spring record in many years.

The Giants won twenty-one games and lost four, two to the Athletics and two to the Senators. One tie was played with the Newark Bears. The Giants won thirteen games before they lost to the Senators Saturday.

ATTEMPT RECORD SPIN

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla., April 9.—An attempt to break the world's motor car speed record was to be made over the Daytona Beach course today by Ray Keech in the J. M. White Triplex special.

A rough beach Sunday prevented the test although the machine went through a practice spin at about 151 miles an hour. The record is 206.95 miles an hour.

BAKER VS. FRIEDMAN

BROOKLYN, April 9.—Sergeant Sammy Baker, Mitchell Field, L. I., welterweight, faces Sailor Friedman of Philadelphia in a scheduled ten-round bout at the Broadway arena here tonight.

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Indians Take Light Drill to Top Off Training for Opener

Holke's Condition Improves, and He Expects to Be in Lineup.

FERD SCHUPP TO PITCH

Yde and Burwell Also Are Ready; Other Gossip.

BY EDDIE ASH

Batting practice and infield and outfield drill today topped off the Indians' preparation for the big opening when the Minneapolis Millers will be met as the A. A. curtain goes up at Washington Park Tuesday.

Walter Holke, first sacker, who was taken ill Friday night, showed improvement today and advised Manager Betzel he believed he would be able to start in the feature struggle.

Betzel expects to send Ferd Schupp, veteran left-hander, to the mound if he shows well during the warm-up Tuesday, otherwise Emil Yde, the southpaw obtained from Pittsburgh, will be used.

Burwell Also Ready

Bill Burwell also is ready and in condition to fill the assignment if Manager Betzel makes a last-minute decision to use a right-hander.

Roy Spencer, who came to the Indians with Yde, is slated to do the backstop work Tuesday. Betzel will start at second if his leg injury does not prevent, and Holke will be at first, Haney at third and Wardner at short.

Herman Layne will be in the left garden, Jacobson or Mueller in center and Russell or Anderson in right.

Miller's Due Tonight

Mike Kelley's Millers won't reach the city until tonight, and they will make their headquarters at the Severin Hotel. It is thought Manager Kelley will use Benton or Brillhart on the mound. Both are southpaws.

The Indians were knocked out of their Saturday and Sunday exhibition tilts with the Chicago White Sox. The weather was too raw for the athletes and both clubs decided to pass up gate receipts in order to protect the players from the effects of wintry breezes and damp ground.

Manager Betzel made a third cut in his squad today when he permitted Ralph Miller, 1927 utility man, to go to his home in Ft. Wayne. Miller has been granted permission to make a deal for himself. He did not make the training trip to Florida with the Tribe.

Ed Onslow, new first sacker, reported to the Tribe Sunday and took a workout. He is not in condition to perform in a game owing to the fact that he did not have spring training. He played with Rochester last season. Umpire Fife of the International League, who officiated in the White Sox-Indians game last Friday, said Onslow is a good fielder and capable batsman.

Umpires Powell and McCafferty will handle the opening struggle.

The baseball parade starts moving at 1:30 Tuesday under the direction of Capt. H. M. Franklin, marshal. Parade will form on Delaware St. at Walnut St., and adjacent streets. Line of march: West on North St. to Meridian St., south on Meridian St. to Washington St., west on Washington St. to hall park. Organizations participating in the event are requested to report at their places of assignment at 1:00.

The Em-Roe sports good company delivered the new home uniforms to the Indians today and the athletes donned them for the first time to get the proper "draping."

Ten thousand general admission tickets will go on sale at the park at noon, Tuesday. All box seats have been sold. Some of the grandstand seats have been reserved for booster organizations. Many good seats are unreserved and fans on the job early will get them.

The trophy to be awarded for the most unique float in the parade comes from the Em-Roe sports good company. The Charles C. Carr company has a trophy for the most beautiful float. Largest attendance in the parade will be rewarded with a cup by the Indianapolis Power and Light Company. Many prizes have been obtained for the players for feature feats in the opener. All prizes are on display in the window of the Indiana Bell Telephone Company, New York at Meridian St.

The trophy committee is indebted to the following for player prizes: Wilson Western Company, Sinclair Oil and Refining Company, Quick Tire Service, Dilling Candy Company, Jud's Men's Duds, Harry Levinson hat shops, McLoughlin Manufacturing Company, Smith-Hassler-Sturm sports good company, Gus Habich sports goods company, A. E. Spalding & Bros. sports goods company, Em-Roe sports goods company, Grayber Electric Company, Hatfield Electric Company. And there were other prizes being collected today.

Jack Lelivell's Milwaukee Brewers, the pre-season favorite to win the A. A. pennant, opens with the Senators at Columbus Tuesday. St. Paul is at Louisville and Kansas City at Toledo.

The weather man says rising temperature Tuesday. Oh, boy, if the sun shines, and with warmth, the Indians and Millers are sure to be greeted by a packed throng.

Mike Kelly has several new players this season and is boasting he'll race for the pennant if he obtains two more right-handed pitchers of quality. For catchers he has Kenna and Warlick, and on his pitching staff are Moon, Benton and Brillhart, southpaws; Hubbell, right-hander, and others. Cotter or Orsatti will play first base, Brady, Rawlings or Black, second; Emmer or Devoricos, shortstop; Ezell or Bohne, third. In his outfield he has Duncan, Smith, Zach Wheat and

Hoppe Holds Advantage in Cue Tourney

Veteran Billiard Star Undeclared in National Three-Cushion Event.

By United Press

CHICAGO, April 9.—The veteran Willie Hoppe of New York, with four victories and no defeats, held the lead in the National Three-Cushion Billiard tournament here today.

Hoppe gained the lead Sunday night when he defeated Arthur Thurnblad, Chicago, 50 to 33, in 60 innings. Hoppe had a high run of 6. Thurnblad's best was 4.

Johnny Layton, of St. Louis, fell from the undefeated class when he lost to Leonard Kenny, Chicago, 50 to 47. Kenny's high run was 5. Layton's 6.

Earl Lookabaugh, Chicago, defeated Charles Weston, Pittsburgh 50 to 35, in 64 innings; Gus Copulos, Detroit, won easily over Otto Reisel, Philadelphia, defending champion, 50 to 28, in 46 innings.

Today's pairings were: Kenny vs. Thurnblad; Kieckhefer vs. Weston; Hall vs. Copulos; Hoppe vs. Lookabaugh.

Light Heavies on Negro Card

One of the features of the all-Negro boxing show at Tomlinson Hall Thursday night is expected to be the eight-round semi-wind-up between Jack Hannibal, Indianapolis light heavy, and Battling Randolph of Springfield, Ohio. Both worked out Sunday in local gyms and railbirds were much impressed with the form displayed by both fighters.

Hannibal, shifty and a hard puncher, is expected to jump into plenty of opposition in the tough Springfield pug. Shifty Calloway and George Smith, welters, meet in the ten-round wind-up.

Kentucky Team Wins Prep Event

CHICAGO, April 9.—More than 400 preparatory school basketball players, who competed in Chicago University's tenth annual national interscholastic tournament, returned to their homes in thirty-six States today.

The honors of returning home a champion went to a husky team of mountaineers from Ashland, Ky., who defeated Canton, Ill., 15 to 10, in the finals Saturday night.

Legion Baseball in Kentucky

The Kentucky department of the American Legion has organized the entire quota of boys' baseball teams assigned it in the Legion's national junior baseball program. It was announced at national headquarters of the Legion here today, following a report from Thomas H. Hayden, adjutant and athletic officer of the Kentucky department.

Hayden stated that within thirty days he would have 200 boys' teams playing in the State.

Kentucky is the first State to complete its quota of teams for the National-wide competition which the Legion is sponsoring with the support of the national and American Leagues and which will culminate in a junior world series.

PLAY SECOND EIGHTEEN

Qualifying Round of North-South Open Postponed by Rain.

PINEHURST, N. C., April 9.—The second 18 holes of the qualifying round of the North and South amateur golf tournament was to be played today. It was postponed Sunday when a heavy rain fell.

George Voight, Washington, and Eugene Homans, Englewood, N. J., led at the end of the first 18 with 73. More than 200 golfers were entered.

ENTERS PRO RANKS

LONDON, April 9.—Mrs. Lambert Chambers, seven times British women's tennis champion, has announced her desertion of the pro-ranks and will start her career as a professional instructor Tuesday.

Honest Mark!

NEW YORK, April 9.—Helen Ballard, cashier at the Hotel Ansohia, found her account \$90 short. Just then a young man walked up to the window and said: "I have \$90 too much money, and I think you gave it to me when you cashed that check yesterday." The man was Mark Koenig, shortstop of the New York Yankees.

Spencer Harris, Orsatti also is an outfielder.

Among the boosters behind the opening day festivities are the following:

George R. Weilbaum, chairman athletic committee, Chamber of Commerce; Wallace O. Lee, vice chairman.

Parade Committee—Frank E. McKinney, chairman; Lunccheon Clubs—Thomas F. Hatfield, chairman; Jack Hendricks Jr., Charles Kenner.

Troubles and Judges—Charles Kaser, chairman; Robert J. Heustein, Publicity—Ed Herman, chairman; Horace Ryan, Frank Chance, O. F. Roberts, Ed Hunter, Lester Nagley.

Managers and Judges—Charles Kaser, chairman; Robert J. Heustein, Publicity—Ed Herman, chairman; Horace Ryan, Frank Chance, O. F. Roberts, Ed Hunter, Lester Nagley.

Second Season as Pilot

Bruno Betzel Fears No Nine and Predicts Indians Will Delight Fans With Hustling Spirit.



Manager Bruno Betzel

In common with some of the veteran managers in the American Association, who have been shouting in headlines anent "having the best team they ever piloted in an A. A. race," Albert Bruno Betzel, field boss of the Indians, can say the same thing and really mean it. No need of Bruno blushing while making a statement of that kind, for this is only his second season as manager and he KNOWS he has a stronger club than last spring.

Betzel is not given to making wild statements, but he is convinced he has a team that will hustle and fight in a way that will please the fans and grow stronger later.

"We fear no club," says Bruno, "despite the fact that several teams in the A. A. are inclined to think we're not going anywhere. Our spring training exhibition record was not bad and evidently we have some power our rivals are overlooking."

The Betzelites, slightly crippled, go into championship action Tuesday against the Minneapolis Millers, and if fair weather prevails Washington Park is certain to be packed. The fans are determined to give the Tribe pastimes a royal send-off and President Hickery will be here to view the ceremonies and game.

'Uncle Robbie' Confident Dodgers Stronger and Will Make Trouble

Pilot of Brooklyn Club Believes Addition of Bancroft Plugs Hole in Infield; Likes Pitching.

(Copyright, 1928, United Press)

BROOKLYN, April 9.—The best pitching staff in the National League, a tighter defense and increased hitting strength will make the Brooklyn Robins a far more dangerous team than in 1927, Wilbert Robinson told the United Press today.

"I do not claim the Robins will be contenders," Robinson said, "but I expect them to be far more troublesome than they were last season."

"I do not think another team in the National League has a pitching staff as formidable as mine. Dazzy Vance is the league's best right-hander and Jess Petty, the best left-hander. Doug McWeeney is a greatly improved pitcher and Bill Doak, Jim Elliott, Watson Clark and Rube Ehrhardt round out the staff."

The addition of Dave Bancroft, Robinson believes, has plugged the gap at shortstop and steadied the entire infield.

"Ricarda will help the infield a lot, too," Robinson said. Robinson thinks the Pirates and Cardinals shape up as the strongest teams in the league, but would not be surprised if both clubs were headed off.

"It's hard to say what will happen in the National League race this year," Robinson said. "The Cubs are liable to be dangerous; the Giants should make trouble; the Robins will have a far better team."

ON EXHIBITION TOUR

ATLANTA, Ga., April 9.—Bobby Jones and Watts Gunn will begin a series of exhibition golf matches April 17 to raise funds for the American Olympic team.

The tour opens in Augusta, Ga. Other cities to be visited include Columbia, S. C.; Washington, Baltimore, Albany, N. Y.; Macon, Ga.; Birmingham, Ala.; Athens, Ga.; and Chattanooga, Tenn.

SOCCER TEAMS IN TIE

NEW YORK, April 9.—The soccer championship of the United States remained unsettled today after the Chicago Bricklayers and New York Nationals played a 1-1 overtime tie at the Polo Grounds Sunday.

Another game will be played at Chicago next Sunday to decide the title. A crowd of 16,000—a new record for the national challenge cup final—saw the two-hour struggle between the two finalists.

DECIDING MATCHES

BARCELONA, Spain, April 9.—With the South Americans leading two matches to one, Chile and Spain met today in the deciding singles matches of their first round European zone Davis Cup engagement.

SUNDAY'S EXHIBITIONS

Yankees, 8; Washington, 6 (14 innings). Jersey City, 2; Giants (2nd team), 0. Phillies, 6; Newark, 0. Cincinnati, 7; Cleveland, 5. Memphis, 5; Pittsburgh, 2 (10 innings). Cubs, 13; Kansas City, 4. Cardinals, 5; Brown, 2.

Detroit vs. Wichita Falls, cancelled, cold. White Sox vs. Indianapolis, cancelled, cold.

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Information in detail upon request.

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All Set for Opening Day in Big Show

Officials of Major Circuits Predict Most Prosperous Season on Tap.

By Frank Getty

United Press Sports Editor

NEW YORK, April 9.—Golf, radio and flippers were popularly supposed a few years ago to be putting baseball on what was sometimes slangily referred to as the blink.

The idea now is as outgrown as the slang. The national pastime had a lure of its own, all the way from "one old cat" on the corner lot to the climax of the world series and when the pennant races of 1928 get under way this week the presence of a quarter of a million fans at the opening games will attest baseball's pennant popularity.

Presidents Confident

President John Heydler of the National League and President E. S. Barnard of the American League both have predicted through the United Press that the coming season will be the most prosperous and best attended ever.

When the number of golfers in the United States increased from a few hundred thousand to several million, pessimists wrote the obituary of organized baseball. When the radio brought the game to every speaking, crepe hangers prepared a big black bow for baseball's gate receipts. The cheap automobile was expected to depopulate the nation's ball parks in a season or two.

Game Holds Own

And then the staunch old national pastime went right ahead and broke major league attendance records for the past five seasons in succession. "The same thing will happen in our league in 1928," predicts Heydler. "That goes for our league, as well," chimes in Barnard.

The major league season opens a day early in Washington this year, out of courtesy to President Coolidge. So seriously do the folks who run the pastime take the business of having the first ball thrown in by some frack-coated dignitary that they have arranged a special game at Griffith Stadium on Tuesday for the President's benefit. Afterwards, the Red Sox and the Washington Senators will journey to Boston and open the season all out again with the others Wednesday.

Season's Estimate

Twelve million fans are expected to pay or crash their way into the major league parks from April to September, 1928. And that is believed to be a conservative estimate of this coming season's attendance.

Both pennant races are expected to be better than last year's. Yet both Yankees and Pirates are picked to repeat. There is a widespread feeling among the nation's fans that the world's champions will not be able to make such a runaway race of it this coming season, but on paper no club figures to beat them.

The Pittsburgh Pirates are rated the strongest club in the National League, but the senior circuit is better balanced than it was in 1927, and every club except Philadelphia has a fighting chance to make the first division.

Odds Quoted on Major Races

NEW YORK, April 9.—Jack Doyle, Broadway sportsman and stakeholder, has quoted the following odds on the 1928 baseball races:

Team	Win	2nd	3rd	4th
New York	3-5	1-3	1-20	1-30
Philadelphia	6-1	1-2	1-6	1-20
Washington	2-1	1-2	1-6	1-10
St. Louis	8-1	3-1	1-6	1-6
Chicago	20-1	10-1	1-6	1-6
Cleveland	100-1	40-1	20-1	10-1
Boston	200-1	100-1	20-1	10-1

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Team	Win	2nd	3rd	4th
Pittsburgh	9-5	1-2	1-6	1-10
Chicago	5-2	Even	1-4	1-8
St. Louis	5-2	Even	1-4	1-8
Philadelphia	30-1	10-1	4-1	2-1
Cincinnati	30-1	10-1	4-1	2-1
Philadelphia	100-1	50-1	20-1	10-1

FLYWEIGHT TITLE SCRAP

NEW YORK, April 9.—Corporal Izzy Schwartz of New York, recognized as world's flyweight champion by the New York State commission, sheds Roudier Parra of Chile in a scheduled fifteen-round title match at the St. Nicholas arena tonight. The National Boxing Association recognizes Frankie Genaro as the 112-pound champion.

FRED MITCHELL HARVARD UNIVERSITY BASEBALL COACH

"WHAT FRED MITCHELL TELLS HARVARD PITCHERS" Reveals some secrets of the slabbman's art to Handley Cross

SPORT STORY

MAGAZINE APRIL 8th THE BEST IN SPORT ALWAYS

CLOTHES CLEANED

WITH ENERGINE AT CLEANER Leonard DYER

Belmont 4000 Belmont 4001

2216 WEST MICHIGAN

Meets Keller Mexican Scrapper in Feature Bout at Armory Tuesday.

Kid Lencho

When Kid Lencho, Indianapolis Mexican bantamweight, steps into the Armory ring next Tuesday night he will oppose Babe Keller, tough Toledo fighter. The bout is one-half of the scheduled double wind-up. It was recently reported that Lencho scored a victory over Jimmy Sayers of Lafayette, Ind., at Dayton.

Illness, Injuries Handicap Cincy

CINCINNATI, Ohio, April 9.—The Cincinnati Reds will open the season badly handicapped by illness and injuries. Clark Pittenger, utility infielder, had his thumb nail split in batting practice Sunday and the Reds will be without the services of a utility infielder until Horace Ford recovers from a sore foot and cold and replaces Jack White, former Fordham College star at shortstop.

Three pitchers are on the disabled list. Jackie May has a sore elbow, Red Lucas is ill and Carl Mays is out for a month with a weak heart.

They'll Work in Opening Games

NEW YORK, April 9.—Pitching selections for the opening day game, according to a poll of the major league managers by the United Press, are as follows:

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Team	Opponent	City
Boston (Ruffing)	at Washington (Gaston)	
St. Louis (Gray)	at Detroit (Whitehill)	
Cleveland (Uhl)	at Chicago (Lyons)	
New York (Pennock or Hoyt)	at Philadelphia (Grove)	

NATIONAL LEAGUE

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They'll Work in Opening Games