

OPENING DAY MAY BE WET

GROUNDS DRAGGED AND SUN-SHINE ONLY NEEDED

Former Sporting Editor Will Umpire Opening Game

Last night's rain made dubious the possibility of a game tomorrow here, when Elgin was to come to open the Eastern Oregon league season but re-dragging the field may put it in shape. A few hours strong wind could dry the field sufficiently well to let the game proceed.

Admission Is Reasonable
A two-bit admission, this to include the grand stand, has been fixed and if possible this will be retained throughout the season. There is no question but that the grade of ball will be above the average amateur, and the determination to hold the admission down is meeting with popular favor.

Old Editor to Umpire
The umpire tomorrow will be J. A. Horan, for many years sporting editor of the Portland Journal and for a long time prominent on the Multnomah football squad. He is now a resident of La Grande.

The field was dragged yesterday and water will not pool for long on the diamond if the sun come out for any period.

Here are some rambling statements by the Elgin Recorder in regard to the showing made at Elgin a week ago in the practice game:

"La Grande has an excellent club, and the team that heads them in the pennant chase will know they have been playing ball."

"The La Grande aggregation is composed of a clean lot of young fellows, who, from all actions Sunday, are true sportsmen. Elgin can boast of the same, and with Phillips at the helm of the Union club, and Jackson managing the Baker boys, the four best ball towns of Eastern Oregon are due to receive good, clean baseball this season."

"McKinstry who held down the position at third during the fore part of the game, and twirled during the latter part of the contest, shows every appearance of being a 'heady' player, and wears the 'smile that won't come off'."

"Heck" McInnis, manager of the visiting team, has been playing ball in La Grande for a good many years, and is well known to local fans. He has not only solved the problems of the game, but is a gentleman on the diamond and is popular with fans wherever he goes."

"Manager Leonard Morelock, of the Elgin club loses no time in attending to the duties connected with his official position. The gentle zephyrs that wafted warm currents of air from the Japan radiator over Elgin disconnected the roof from the main part of the structure and laid low several sections of the fence. The season is starting earlier than usual, but, despite this fact, he had all necessary repairs made and the grounds in good condition for the opening game."

Baker, April 3.—Unless Jupiter Pluvius steps in and interferes, as is possible this uncertain weather, the baseball lid will be pried off in Baker tomorrow. Baker, under the management of J. P. Jackson, a ball player too well known to make comment on his record and ability necessary, will start the season against Union in the Eastern Oregon semi-professional league. While in the minds of some this will be a poor substitute for league ball, we believe that after a game or two the fans will think the offering is as good as class D. At least the players will be known to all of us, and it is a fact that the players in a semi-professional league, playing mostly for the sport put up better baseball than their professional brothers.

Stiles, the Vale pitcher whom Jackson thinks is one of the best young

WHITE MAN'S BURDEN RESTS UPON WILLARD

SNAPPED AT THE FRONT, PICTURES FROM THE TRAINING CAMPS IN CUBA.



Jack Johnson

From Left to Right in the Top Picture is Shown Johnson Entering training Quarters, Johnson Boxing with Dave Mills, A Sparring Partner, Willard and Skipping Rope. Below, Johnson alone.

Willard—Weight 230, height 6 ft. 6 in., chest (normal) 44 1-2, chest (expanded) 47 3-4, reach 83 1-2, neck 17 1-2, biceps 16, forearm 15, wrist 8 3-4, waist 37, thigh 28, calf 17, ankle 10, age 27.

Johnson—weight 210, height 6 ft. 1-4 in., chest (normal) 43 1-2, chest (expanded) 47, reach 76, neck 17, biceps 15, forearm 13 1-2, wrist 8, waist 35, thigh 22 1-2, calf 15, ankle 9 1-4, age 38.

Havana, Apr. 3.—In a specially constructed arena, inside the race course at Miramar, Willard, formerly a Kansas cowboy, Monday afternoon will take up the white man's burden. The young giant—he's well over six feet tall and weighs nearly 250 pounds—will go against Jack Johnson in a forty-five round battle for the heavyweight championship of the world.

Not since James J. Jeffries, once the unbeatable, met and was conquered by the black title holder at Reno, Nev., years ago, has there been such interest in a pugilistic combat as has been evinced in tomorrow's struggle. A strongly rooted faith in the minds of a great many persons that this time the big black has met his match is the chief cause of so much interest. On every side one hears the opinion expressed that Willard stands the best chance of beating Johnson that any of his opponents have had.

Johnson isn't the great fighter that he was when he wrestled the title from Little Tommy Burns, nor even when he crushed the shell that once was the mighty James J. Jeffries. His gay life—wine parties, joy riding and the like—has stamped its effect on him.

Shrewd trainers, men who know when fighters are in condition by looking at them, usually shook their heads after watching Johnson work, as though they believed there was something wrong. The snap wasn't there. The big black didn't glide around with the speed that he once showed. And his work against his boxing partners was very poor.

Willard is no match for Johnson on straight ability. Even the white man's most ardent admirers admit that. But his youth is being counted on to triumph over Johnson's age.

In this county until a regular warden is named, which it is expected will be within a few days.

N. K. West and his bowling trojans trimmed the Bankers to a queen's taste at the contest at the Club alleys last evening.

Yale-Penn Crews Meet

Philadelphia, April 3.—Crews of Yale and the University of Pennsylvania hold their annual race on the Schuylkill river today. Betting is slightly in favor of the New Havenites because of their reported advanced early-season form. A big contingent of the Blue accompanied the crew here.

OF LOCAL INTEREST.

Some People We Know, and We Will Profit by Hearing About Them.

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Is more worthy of confidence Than one you know nothing about. Endorsed by unknown people. Mrs. M. E. Nibler, 2106 Third St., La Grande, says: "My back ached and I had severe pains through my right side. I was all crippled up, and I found it hard to do my housework. One of my relatives had used Doan's Kidney Pills and advised me to try them. Two boxes drove away the aches and pains, and I have had no trouble since." (Statement given May 20, 1910.)

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UNUSUAL LINE OF HORSES IN TRAINING HERE

FASTEST ONE-MAN STRING SEEN HERE, COMES

La Grande Again Looked Upon as Ideal Training City

A string of seven pacers and one trotter, that, combined, make one of the classiest stables ever brought to La Grande by one man, is now in training on the fairgrounds track. C. W. Todd the Portland horse fancier and buyer, is the owner, and he selected La Grande as the training grounds during the pre-racing season for several reasons, among them the splendid hay available here, and also the track facilities, the half mile course here being considered one of the best in the country. They were brought up from the lower altitude for training and schooling that they might be able to go anywhere, it being a well known fact that a race horse can race equally well in a lower altitude from the one trained in, but can't reverse the trick.

Tom Gorman recognized as one of the foremost trainers in this section of the Northwest, has the string in charge, and daily the workouts convince him that the old-established heroes and heroines in the string and the keen stock as well as coming to the front for a fine year on the turf. The quality in the string makes the animals eligible for any races up that may come within a wide scope of territory. Aside from the fact that La Grande can boast of a remarkable training school facilities and looks with pride upon the fact that so formidable a stable is headquartered here, lies the desirable publicity La Grande will get through the notoriety that will go with the string when it is moved—from the La Grande training quarters to the racing world. Considerable sums of money are spent here also, because of the adoption of La Grande as a workout school.

Bert Witcomb of Portland, is helping Mr. Gorman look after the horses.

Haltmont, one of the string calls to the mind the famous six-heat race at Winnipeg last year when the big Canadian stake purse was being paced for. The animal behaved nobly on that occasion and won it and the race helped to bring him notoriety, which few Oregon bred horses enjoy. College Gent, known in La Grande got into the money at that race, too.

Here is a list of the stable; Haltmont probably has the string because of the long string of victories he has won. He is considered the fastest pacer ever raised in Oregon, having a mark of 5:4, has no bluish and not a white hair on its body. His sire is Hal B and dam Alta by Altamont. More money has been won by this animal than any other Oregon pacer, it is said.

Morris S. is a bay horse with a mark of 2:06, and the sire was King S and Lady Lockenvar is the dam. He has won \$10,000 for his owner in two years of racing.

Bonnie Antrim is a 2:12 animal, by Bonnie McKay, dam Vintrim, by Antrim. Bonnie Antrim, has raced on the La Grande track.

Aldine, by Altrin, is a Bay Kan-

sas bred mare, with a mark of 2:13. Holdman is sired by Brownell and the dam is Del Norte. She is a fast green pacer with a great deal of promise and style.

Leacom, by Commonwealth, Lena Andrews being the dam, is a green filly and the only trotter out of the string. This animal has local significance because it is the progeny of that splendid stallion Commonwealth, owned by N. K. West for a number of years.

Dick Hal is a bay gelding, by Hal B. the dam being Dictatress by Dictator, and has a mark of 8:4. The breeding from both sire and dam in this animal is probably the most fashionable of any of the group. He has great speed and style coming to him by inheritance from both sire and dam.

Haltmont by Hal B., the dam being by Altamont, is a green pacer, with a promising record before it according to its trainer.

The stallions in the stable will make a short-season stand at the fair grounds.

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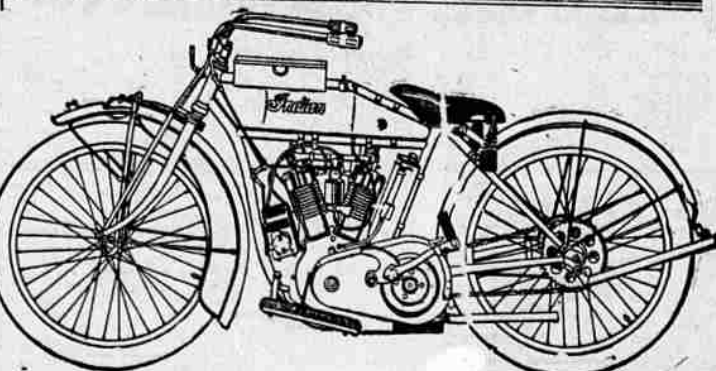
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