

East and West Mining Towns to Meet for Allan Cup?

Evans Rates Pirates Not Good Despite New Strength in Todd

Peculiar Pittsburgh Pirates Still Judged Not Good Enough to Win Baseball Championship. Club is Always at Its Best in the Spring.



Al Todd . . . may be a Cochrane to Pittsburg

By BILLY EVANS
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Canadian

The Pittsburgh Pirates for several years have been one of those peculiar

ball clubs, always better in the spring than during the season. For two years the Pirates have been favoured by experts, but have disappointed.

This spring the Pirates are not getting as much consideration as in the past as pennant contenders. The shift of the experts is certain to work to the good of the club, for it won't be carrying the responsibility that goes with a highly-favoured team.

I rate the Pirates a good ball club, but not good enough to win. I was stronger for the Pirates of the past two years for pennant chances than the present aggregation, though it is much the same club that has been just short during the seasons of 1934 and 1935.

Likely Rookies
Pittsburg is practically a standpat

club. True, some rookie pitching strength has been added in John Tising from Louisville and Clarence Struss from Little Rock and Kansas City.

Three new infielders, Jim Browne of Little Rock, Wilbur Brubaker on option with Kansas City, and Bernard Cobb of Fort Wayne, will attempt to catch the eye of Manager Traynor in spring work, but none of these rookies is going to supplant the veterans. The outfield will be the Waner brothers and Jensen, with Dan Hefey fighting for a berth and proving helpful to have around.

If there is one sport in which Manager Traynor feels that he has helped his club, it is in catching. Last season he was far from satisfied. He has always liked Al Todd of the Phillies and when offered the chance to make a trade, jumped at the opportunity. Traynor tells me:

"That boy Todd is going to help plenty in solving our catching problem. I really think he has the makings of a great catcher. I do know that he is a real good hitter. You know how a good catcher, Cochrane, changed Detroit into a pennant winner. Plenty of opportunity to work, which Todd will get with the Pirates, ought to make him, and make the Pirates, too. With Todd and Padden, I am not worrying about our catching."

Why Not Brubaker?
In commenting on the rookie strength of the Pirates, I am wondering just what a ball player must have to be a big league possibility. I have in mind Wilbur Brubaker, who has been around with the Pirates something like three years for spring training, only to be handed a minor league ticket prior to the opening of each season.

Last summer I spent some time scouting in the American Association. I saw Brubaker play in about a dozen games, most of them at first base. In those games Brubaker was far and away the best infielder I saw perform in the minors. In addition he looked like a million dollars at the bat. He starred in every game I saw him play.

Of course, I knew Brubaker was the property of the Pittsburgh club and not on the market, but had he been available, I wouldn't have hesitated about offering \$25,000 for his services. He had big league written all over in the games I saw.

I have heard that Brubaker isn't consistent at the plate, that he strikes out a lot and that his fielding suffers when he is in a batting slump. However, in the games I saw him, Brubaker showed none of those faults. As I recall it, he has had his three years on option and must either be retained or sold by Pittsburg this year. Manager Traynor had better look him over carefully this spring, even though he is a competitor for Traynor's position at third base.

Better Pitching
One reason why the Pirates may surprise this year, lies in the pitching staff. Unless I am badly mistaken, Pittsburg is going to get much better pitching

from almost the same staff.

No one can make me believe Guy Bush is washed up on what he showed me in two games. I saw him pitch last summer, even though he lost both games. Bush won only 11 games. He should have no trouble winning 15 this year and, with a few breaks in luck, might come close to the 20 mark.

Traynor is looking for great things from Mace Brown. Late in the season he showed promise of becoming another Blanton. In figuring his starting pitchers, Traynor is certain to give Brown consideration.

Don't overlook Struss as a prospect. Not as big as I like my pitchers, he has plenty of stuff and a real chance. As a matter of fact, I like him better than Tising of Louisville, despite that pitcher's impressive strike-out record. Tising did much of his best pitching under lights. The Cincinnati Reds won't relish his fast ball if he sticks with the Pirates and does night duty in Cincinnati.

Students at the Timmins High and Vocational School had a chance recently that comes only once in a lifetime—that of seeing an examination paper a few days before the paper was to be tried. Many of them took advantage of the opportunity, but they now find that it will do them not one iota of good.

Term examination papers at the school are run off on a mimeograph machine. The wax impression paper is usually destroyed as soon as the required number are made, in fact the janitor is under strict instructions to dispose of them properly after they are placed in the waste basket in the office. This time the janitor forgot, and emptied the basket, master sheets and all, into a large container in the boys' basement.

Curious youngsters discovered them and instead of reporting the matter to the principal, as better judgment would suggest, they found the temptation too great. Just one Upper School paper was included in the lot; the others were Lower School tests.

The students' action was discovered, of course, when examination days rolled around. Teachers knew only too well that some pupils couldn't make the grades they did.

The Upper School paper was re-written; and the Lower School papers simply won't count, for in these the local school has complete control.

So instead of helping themselves, the students who took advantage of the chance to see the papers, made more work not only for themselves but for their fellow students.

It won't happen again—in Timmins.

ONE GOOD POINT ANYWAY

(From the Edmonton Journal)
Nudism has one good feature at least; its women devotees never would keep anyone tied to their apron strings.

ALBERTA FIRST PROVINCE TO DEFAULT ON BONDS

Alberta failed to meet principal payments of \$3,200,000 on provincial bonds yesterday. A new set-up of Dominion-Provincial financial relations may come as a result.

Detroit News:—Everyone is amazed how well Mr. Hoover is getting along with his comeback, considering how far he had to come.

COBALT TAX RATE MAY BE AS HIGH AS NINETY MILLS

Cobalt is all braced for a high tax rate—the highest in the town's history. Despatches from Cobalt suggest that it will be 90 mills on the dollar.

DOUBLED



James J. Braddock of the boxing Braddocks, who wears the heavy-weight crown with a fine nonchalant smile takes a few whiffs of salt breeze at Miami. The smaller edition on the left is James Jr.

SPORT-ORE

From All Levels

The fans who went down to see Perkies put out of the Memorial Cup playdowns seem to agree pretty well that the West Toronto Nationals have the team all right. "You could see the Toronto Maple Leafs on the ice all the way through the game," said one, explaining that the same tactics were used as in the big professional club. That's only natural too, for more than one of the Nationals will be seen on the ice at the Gardens one of these days in a Leafs uniform.

The Nationals showed no mercy to Quebec Aces in the first Eastern semifinal on Tuesday night when the Toronto team outscored the Quebec champions 16-4 in Toronto. The second game in the best two-out-of-three series is in Quebec to-night but most fans are looking on it as a mere formality. Pembroke's Little Lumber Kings are next on the list for the Nationals unless they break a few legs before to-night's game.

Junior Goes Well

Tony Grabowski, who was the mainstay of this year's Sudbury Cub Wolves, gave a good account of himself in the two Brockville-Sudbury games in the Eastern Canada Allan Cup finals. His brother Joe is also a member of the Falcons team. Tony waited until the juniors were eliminated before trying to move up to senior company, then stepped right in to the finals. Godfrey, junior-aged South Porcupine player, quit the junior Perkies in the middle of the season, because he thought the seniors were going places while the juniors weren't. Once the step was taken, there was no turning back. He might have made a big difference to the Perkies' chances in Toronto, since defence seemed to be where the Toronto lads had it over Perkies.

A Veteran Returns

Joey Ironstone, who has been keeping plenty of goals out of the Sudbury Falcons nets in the playoffs, got a royal welcome in Montreal, for he once performed with the Ottawa Senators against Maroons and Canadiens.

Straightened Out

Even the country's best sport writers seem to get confused about the Allan Cup and Memorial Cup system of playdowns. All the series now to be played are best-two-out-of-three games. Two draws and a win are sufficient to decide even the semi-finals, but in the finals the winning team must have an edge on the two games.

Finals To-Night

The Western junior finals get under way to-night when Winnipeg Elmwoods meet Saskatoon Wesleys in Winnipeg. The second game is on Saturday and the third, if necessary, on Monday.

To-night, too, the O.H.A. Intermediate "B" title is at stake as Durham meets Whitby at Oshawa in the second of the series. Durham won the first game 3-2 in overtime.

100 Baseball Games Each

Each team plays 100 games in the new professional baseball league called the Canadian-American. Oswego, Watertown and Ogdensburg on one side of the St. Lawrence, with Ottawa, Brockville and Perth on the other make the six-team loop. Smith's Falls, Pembroke and Renfrew will probably drop back to senior E.O.B.A.

How About the Leafs

Toronto's Maple Leafs are right up against it to-night when they meet New York Americans in the last of the semi-final games in the Stanley Cup series. Detroit Redwings are having a good chance to rest up while waiting for their opponents to be chosen in the Stanley Cup series.

Gordon Slanker, ping pong player of some note in Toronto commercial league circles, is in Timmins this week-end looking over the local competition.

Owner Asked to Call for This Valuable Parcel

It sounds like the far-away old days of the Ontario Temperance Act, but the authorities at Sudbury are looking for the owner of a parcel containing nine quarts. A number of transients were gathered in the C.P.R. yards at Sudbury apparently trying to catch a freight out of the city. A railroad constable saw a group of the transients together and made for them. They all fled so rapidly that he could not get near them. He wasn't anxious to meet them or anything like that, but he was afraid that some of them would be injured or killed in their rather reckless attempts to board some of the swiftly-moving freights. He saw a couple of particularly narrow escapes and then he gave chase. One of the men chased was carrying a large parcel which seemed to hamper his progress. Eventually the man dropped the parcel and then he got away easily. The constable saw the parcel and when he realized that he could not overtake the man he picked up the parcel. To his surprise it contained no less than nine quarts of alcohol. The parcel is held at the C.P.R. department of investigation. It will be handed over to the owner, provided he can show he is the real owner. Whether it would be wise for a man to give such proof is another matter. But anyway if that transient has come to Timmins as so many of them do, then at least he can know where his liquor is.

COBALT TAX RATE MAY BE AS HIGH AS NINETY MILLS

Cobalt is all braced for a high tax rate—the highest in the town's history. Despatches from Cobalt suggest that it will be 90 mills on the dollar.

Windsor Bulldogs Win First of Buffalo Series

Windsor Bulldogs continued their fight for a place in the International hockey league finals by defeating Buffalo Bisons last night in the first semifinal with the score of 2-1.

Winner of the Windsor-Buffalo series will meet Detroit Olympics in the final three-out-of-five series.

PARTING OF THE WAYS

A business man who had been prevailed upon to accompany a friend on a bear hunt had concealed his nervousness manfully, although his first night in camp in the mountain fastnesses was a sleepless one.

Starting forth in the morning, the two had walked but a short distance, when they came upon fresh tracks which the enthusiastic sportsman recognized as those of a large bear.

"Tell you what we'd better do," said the business man, brightly. "You go ahead and see where he went, and I'll go back and see where he came from!"

TEACHER DIDN'T BELIEVE IN WRONG SPECIES OF SPEED

(Magazine Digest)

A prominent educationalist, when teased for his slow driving in his car, made this timely and pertinent reply: "I'd rather be five minutes late here than 20 years too early hereafter."

Quebec Chronicle:—In the small town you can't get old without everybody knowing it.

Falcons Tie Series with Brockville M's

Third Game in Eastern Canada Hockey Finals is Now Necessary.

Sudbury Falcons got Brockville Magedomas back on their "home" ice—Maple Leaf Gardens—last night and tied up the round in the Eastern Canada finals. Smarting under the 5-4 defeat they took at Ottawa when the Brockville team beat them out on a protested goal, the Falcons didn't let their rivals score a single point in the 5-0 game.

Meanwhile, Kimberley Dynamiters, British Columbia's Western Canada champions, are waiting for the outcome and will probably be in Winnipeg, where the Allan Cup games are to be played this year, a couple of days ahead of either the Falcons or Magedomas. Original C.A.H.A. plans were to begin the Allan Cup finals on April 7th.

The third game of the Sudbury-Brockville series is to be played in Toronto. Last year these same two teams met in the Allan Cup eliminations, Sudbury as N.O.H.A. senior champions and Brockville as O.H.A. senior "B" champions. Sudbury were easy winners of the series but were just as easily eliminated by Toronto Stars.

This year Magedomas went into the Ottawa senior league and won the crown. They played off with Moncton Maroons, Maritime champions, while Sudbury was busy winning the O.H.A.-Q.A.H.A. series.

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