

Adoption of Decatur's Plan Might Give Madison a Team This Year.

DECATUR, ILL., TO GIVE BASEBALL FANS FREE GAMES THIS SUMMER; SUGGESTS NEW WAY TO MADISON

Here's a town brave enough to attempt free baseball. And league baseball at that.

Decatur, Ill., is going to let the fans in free—men, women, boys, everybody—to see its Three-I league team pay ball.

The idea would mean the biggest boom baseball ever has had—combined with the Cleveland amateur plan, would make baseball more popular than it ever has been and perhaps re-establish it on a sound basis.

Decatur has been maintaining a Three-I league club, generally at a loss, with an annual report of management and failure.

The backers of the club want to play out the Three-I league schedule without charging admission save on holidays. They are going to raise a subscription fund to carry the club through the coming season.

It is planned to play the regular season at home, throwing open the gates to all respectable persons, and appeal to the fans to attend the holiday games paying double admission on those days.

The club probably draws 40,000 paid fans during a season playing 100 games. The idea now is to appeal to the patriotism of the fans and ask them to turn out on Decoration day, July 4, Labor day and the local holidays. One would think that any fan who had been entertained free of charge at perhaps a dozen parties would strain a point to attend on the pay days and repay the club in part.

If the holiday crowds reach an average of 1000 for the three big holidays of the season at the larger price the club would be ahead.

The big gain would be in attracting to the free games the youngsters who are to be the next generation of baseball fans and to make baseball a sort of municipal enterprise in which all citizens will have pride.

The response to the proposal of the franchise owners is said to be hearty. Baseball men and others believe that it will be of immense benefit to the community and it is more than probable that Decatur will have the honor of being the first municipally-owned professional baseball team.



Table with columns for various sports teams and their records, including 'Moose League' and 'Clothiers' League'.

Advertisement for 'Eddy Ryan' featuring a portrait and promotional text.

Wouldn't Decatur's Plan Be Popular in Madison?



COMPANY G GUNNERS ACTIVE

Are Anxious to Have Best Marksmanship of Any Guard Company in State

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The company has been divided into squads of four to five men under a squad coach, usually a non-commissioned officer. Two squads fire the full instruction course each night.

Squads 1 and 2 shoot Mondays, squads 3 and 4 on Tuesdays, squads 5 and 6 on Wednesdays, squads 7 and 8 on Thursdays, squads 9 and 10 on Fridays and 11 and 12 on Saturdays.

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POTTER WINS GUN CLUB SHOOT

Takes Leg On J. I. Case Trophy With Break of 47 Out of 50

George Potter won the J. I. Case trophy yesterday for the coming week at the regular shoot of the Madison Gun club with a break of 47 out of a possible 50.

The competition was exciting as C. Knope, N. Mueller and B. Nelson were tied for second with a score of 46.

Next Thursday the club members will contest for the Gilbert trophy, offered by the Du Pont company. The Gilbert trophy is named after the veteran marksman who has been connected with the powder company for the past 20 years and who is one of the most skilled shots in the world.

It is a beautifully engraved cup and will undoubtedly be the cause of keen rivalry.

Yesterday's scores: Shooting from the 16-yard line—W. Long, 29; P. Schultz, 40; E. Sanborn, 36; T. N. Thompson, 43; Stewart, 44; Person, 43; Harris, 24; Gratiot, 41; Felton, 39; Opper, 35; Knope, 46; George Potter, 47.

From the 18-yard line—Mrs. Potter, 39; Fauerbach, 41; August Schultz, 43; Meloy, 41; Dorning, 41; W. E. Miller, 39; Nelson, 46; Moseley, 42; Skolns, 42.

From the 20-yard line—Waterman, 42; H. L. Potter, 45; Buckles, 36; Jones, 38; N. Mueller, 46; Morris, 43; Wright, 33.

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Coveted Prize Goes To Victor of Badger-Maroon Basket Contest

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Has being crippled from an injury during the Christmas recess, and the contest could hardly be called one representative of the Badger's strength.

Dope since that game points with favor to the Wisconsin tossers. Ohio State defeated the Midway team; and was in turn defeated twice by Wisconsin. But this can hardly be called a true foundation as such dope seldom follows out consistently.

Nevertheless the game that "Doc" Meanwell's men have been playing in the last contests of the season shows such marked improvement over the first attempts in the conference field that the Cardinal supporters are very optimistic over the contest and are looking for a victory although it will without doubt be close.

The line-up for the two teams will probably be: WISCONSIN Forward: Stevenson, Haas, Levis, Lango, Smith, Olson, Guard: George. CHICAGO Forward: Stegeman, Center: Des Jardens, Guard: Kilmiller, George.

A number of these supporters will also remain for the swimming, gymnasium Saturday.

Gym Meet With one good swap under their belt the gym team will go after the acrobats and swimmers from Chicago Saturday.

The men have all recovered from the effects of the Illinois meet, and are this week taking things just a little lightly, for the coach will take no chances with the members of his squad. The meet last Saturday has given the team the confidence and courage which is so essential to men who work on gym apparatus.

The team proclaimed the winner at the end of the contests will have a very good claim to ruling favorite when the combined teams of the West clash at Nebraska in three months to decide the winner of the western intercollegiate.

Three men will be taken in addition to the men who entered the meet last Saturday. The personnel of the team will include Capt. Garling, Tommy Noble, Russell Smith, Pritzsche, Anderson, Kietzeln, Hoppe, Banta and Niemand. The latter three men will augment the men in the tumbling, parallel bars, and on the horse. The team accompanied by the Coach, will leave at 1:05 this afternoon.

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Such cooperative showings so far, such a series ought to result in an easy victory for the Wisconsin high. The city highers have had the poorest season in a long time, while the university prep have a fast and game bunch which will hold its own with the best high school teams in the state.

If the proposed game could be held in the varsity gymnasium, it would probably draw a large crowd of university students besides the supporters of each team. Another advantage of using the varsity gym would be that neither team would have the advantage of having its own gym. Now that the varsity season is over, let's all pull for the "prep" championship game or series.

WILLIE RITCHIE DEFEATS WELSH

Englishman's Knack of Holding On And Running Away Only Things That Saved Him

By BARRY FARIS United Press Staff Correspondent NEW YORK, March 12.—That Freddie Welsh is still lightweight champion of the world today is due largely to his ability to hold on and to run away.

These two things constituted most of his efforts last night when he met Willie Ritchie in Madison Square Garden. Ritchie whipped the Englishman all the way, whipped him so badly that after the fight even Welsh had nothing to say in defense of his rotten showing.

The Californian didn't knock the title holder out—which was what he had to do to regain his title—but he did everything else to him that was possible under the circumstances. Ritchie's snake-like left found Welsh's jaw time and again but the Englishman was unusually running away and the power of the blow was lost.

Carried Off Feet Welsh forgot his boasts that he was going to stand up and fight. Almost carried off his feet by Ritchie's rushing attack the Englishman fell to defensive boxing in the first round and he never changed his tactics. All through the whirlwind sessions, he was either running away or clinching. Not once did he assume the offensive.

The booting and husing of the crowd did not phase the Englishman. He refused to mix it with Ritchie at all. Even in the clinches, where Ritchie blazed away with both hands, Welsh was content to try and hold instead of trying to punish.

Ritchie Never Let Up The American never let up for a minute. He started off like a whirlwind in the opening round and maintained the pace all the way. The near-fatal approach to a knockdown came in the sixth round. Ritchie's "one-two" connected and the Englishman went staggering across the ring. As Ritchie charged in to him to follow up his advantage the Englishman fell into a clinch and Referee Roche literally had to pay him off the American.

BROWNS WELLS: George Anderson, Stevens and Claude Cooper will make up the Brookfields regular outfield. Boss Magee made this announcement today.

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MADISON HIGHS MEET TOMAH FIVE TONIGHT

The Madison high basketball team will meet the Tomah aggregation tonight at the local gym.

The game will undoubtedly be the best high school game played here this year, as the locals are primed for the fray and expect to make the upstate five extend themselves to win.

As a curtain raiser, the senior class team will meet the Randall Junior high team.

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Speedy Moments With the Drivers in the Vanderbilt Cup Race

Dario Resta and Eddie Pullen Fighting It Out For First Place in the Vanderbilt Cup at the World's Fair



"EATING SMOKE" ON STRETCH

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Refusing to watch him drive, Mrs. Resta had covered throughout the whole afternoon in a theater box, oblivious to her surroundings, while the intrepid Italian was demonstrating his track mastery over a score of speed kings.

"I'll be gray-haired in a short time," she resumed, "unless Dario gives up his racing. In my pride over him now I can almost forget the anguish. But at the next contest it will be just the same, a frenzy of suspense.

"A woman's love is a queer thing; it answers to pride in a husband's daring and mastery, and at the same time it towers in agony for his safety. The two things mightily at a woman's heart.

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Leading cars, left to right—No. 8, Harry Grant; No. 9, Resta; No. 24, Tomaso; and No. 4, Pullen.

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