

1904 – 1906 Urban Park Teams

PLAYERS

Players who went on to the Majors:

“Dutch” Arthur Earl Wilson – 1908-1921 Chicago F., Pitt. Nat’l; Chicago Nat’l; Bost. Nat’l; Clev. Amer.

“Jack” John Bellew Boyle – 1912 Phil. Nat’l

“Laughing Larry” Doyle – 1907-1920 New York Nat’l; Chicago Nat’l

“Jack” John Wallace White – 1904 Bost. Nat’l (1 game)

“Ollie” Oliver Daniel Pickering – 1896-1897 Louisville Nat’l; Clev. Nat’l; 1901-1904 Clev. Amer.; Phil. Amer.; 1907-1908 St. Louis Amer.

Jim Cook – 1903 Chicago Nat’l

Organized: May 13, 1904 a meeting was held in Mattoon to form a local base ball club. Sponsored by the Mattoon Athletic Club.

March 2, 1905: A street car company has taken hold of the base ball team and will play ball at Urban park halfway between Mattoon and Charleston.

1906 Fred More, Circuit Clerk is managing owner and E. A. Potter, President of Mattoon City Railway Co. (Interurban) are lead figures; also James Vause in 1905. September 1906 talk of a “Brush League” w/ Paris, Charleston, Mattoon, Shelbyville, Pana, Litchfield and Taylorville. Each city would raise \$1,000. October 1906 Joe

Adams from Pana proposes a Big Four League w/ Shelbyville, Paris, Mattoon, Danville, Taylorville, Litchfield, Mt. Olive, Charleston and Pana. \$500 subscription fee.

Where: Urban Park: (first called Riley then Union then Urban); grandstand completed June 17, 1904; June 21, 1904 Regulars will put diamond in shape at their expense and other teams will pay a percent of gate to them; 1905 diamond in fairly good shape, grandstand needed built; June 25, huge weeds at 3rd Base; diamond will be improved in 1906: enlarging grandstand and adding bleachers; in April work would begin on “commodious addition to the grandstand, the location of the diamond changed and considerable work will be done to improve the general conditions at the park”

Players: 1904 All-Stars (same team basically as Regulars, but using left over 1903 end of season name)

Webb – Catcher (also served as umpire for Regulars)

William “Frock” Beatty – Pitcher & Second

Richard – 1st Base

Scott – 2nd Base & Pitcher

Needham – Shortstop

Cory – 3rd Base

T. Beatty – Right Field

Boyle – Center Field

Pritchett or Pritchard or Prather– Left Field

Watson – Catcher

Shannon – Shortstop

Honn – 3rd Base

Martin – Right Field

White – Center Field

Rogers – 2nd Base

Fitch – Pitcher

Butch – Pitcher

Walters – 1st Base

Weaver – shortstop

Higdon – catcher

Dodds – 3rd Base

1904 Regulars (mostly workingmen)

Stevenson – Catcher

Schneiderjon – Pitcher (also pitched for Leo Club) & Left Field

Martin – 1st Base & Right Field

Dr. Rogers – 3rd Base

Lon Dodds – 2nd Base

Swanson – Right Field

Gus White – Center Field (Captain)

Pruitt – Left Field

Weaver – Shortstop

George Butch or Butsch - Pitcher

Higdon – Catcher

Dr. Walters – 1st Base

Harry Fitch – Pitcher & 1st Base

Harry Mosser – 1st Base

Ed Boruff -

Brown - Catcher (Effingham)

John Miller – Pitcher (Effingham)

Sona – 3rd Base

Donovan – 2nd Base

Everett – Center Field

1905

Harry “Red” Welch – 2nd Base (Mattoon)

Joe Adams – Manager & Pitcher

“Dutch” Arthur Earl Wilson – Catcher (Macon) & 1st Base

Col. Niagaro Langdon – Catcher (Moweaqua)

“Dooley” Weaver – Shortstop & Left Field

Bertie King – 3rd Base & Pitcher (Herrick) (recalled by Terre Haute, July 16, wanted back a week later)

Chippis – Left Field (Moultrie Co.) (released late July)

John Miller – Pitcher & Right Field (signs on early June, won’t go to old job of railroading until after the season)

Jack Dowell – Pitcher (leaves early July but comes back)

Jack Boyle – Right Field (released early, but back at end of season)

Larry Doyle – 3rd Base

Tracy – 1st Base (deserted after a few games)

Jack? White – Outfield (released early)

Amyx – Outfield, Left Field (released early)

Pritchard – Outfield (one game)

Joe Frank – Shortstop & Center Field? (Ramsey) (one game? Plays at end of season, too)

Rogers – Center Field (released early)

Peacock - 2nd Base (one game)

Bernnett – Center Field (released early)

Duane – Shortstop (short lived)

“Snake” Moore – Pitcher (one game?)

Fraily - 2nd Base & right field & Pitcher (Herrick) (released early)

“Shorty” Dang – 3rd Base & Left Field (released late July)

Snyder – 1st Base (Pana) (one game)

Williams – Shortstop (Pana) (one game)

1906

Bertie King – 2nd Base & Shortstop (Ramsey or Herrick)

Bob Armstrong – 3rd Base (Terre Haute) (resigns but returns for final games)

Pat "Rough House" McCarthy – Captain mid season Pitcher (Gilman, IL)

Jokerst – Pitcher (was w/Decatur)

Dowell – Pitcher & Left or Right Field

William Johnstone – Catcher (Blacksmith from Kenney, IL)

Col. "Snake" Moore – Pitcher & Right Field

Bierkotte – Shortstop & 2nd Base

Lane – Right or Left Field & Shortstop 1st Base (Shelbyville)

John B. Bartlett or Bartley – Left Field & 3rd Base (Cincinnati, OH)

McGill – Center Field (Louisville, KY)

Kraner – 1st Base (St. Louis)

Walter "Spider" Diehl – Pitcher & Outfield Center Field (Frankfort, IN) (gone awhile) (traded at end of season for Lotshaw from Jacksonville)

Curtis – 1st Base (had played w/ Paris) (came at end of season)

Pleasant – Pitcher (released after one game)

Earl Peters – Catcher (w/Decatur last yr.) (released early)

Stephelton – Infielder (Cleveland, OH) (released early)

McIntyre – Infielder (w/ Washington, IN last yr.) (injured before season, did not report)

Clifford Thomas – Infielder (Salem, IN) (released early)

Ollie Pickering – Outfield (Olney) (released early)

Peter Vance – Outfielder Right Field (Decatur, IN) (released early due to injury)

Claude or Clyde Holmes - Pitcher (Waynestown, IN) (released early)

Walter Raisor – Pitcher (Wingate or Lebanon, IN) (released early)

W. A. Cooper – Pitcher (Judson, IN) (released early)

Charles Neilds – Pitcher (Indianapolis) (released early)

“Dooley” Weaver – Outfielder (released early)

Ensign – Infielder 2nd Base (U of I member) (released early)

John Miller – Pitcher (released after one game)

“Chick” Fleming – 3rd Base or Outfield (Champaign) (released)

Jim? Cook – Center Field (released)

Wilson – 1st Base (released)

Bond – Pitcher (released)

Roy Troutman – Pitcher & Left Field (Lebanon, IN) (released)

John “Bob” Berryhill – Manager, 1st Base & Pitcher (Lebanon, IN) (resigns)

Duane – Shortstop (released after 1 game)

Bluford Walls – Outfield Left Field (6’ tall) (w/ Lebanon last yr.) (released)

Al Schissel – Catcher & Left Field (w/Henderson, KY last yr.) (released)

“Nig” Langdon – Catcher & 1st Base (w/Decatur last yr.) (fined and suspended) (brakeman for Railroad)

Doyle – Infielder Shortstop, 2nd Base & 3rd Base (suspended near end of season)

Pritchett – Left Field (Mattoon Grays) (released after 1-2 games)

Kipp – Shortstop & Right Field (released)

GAME NOTES

Admission: 1905: tickets were \$.65; 1906: \$1 souvenir ticket to opening game includes transportation; price reduced May 14 to \$.10 in old grandstand and \$.15 in new grandstand.

Game Time: afternoons, usually around 3 p.m.

Notes: 1904

Interurban cars first ran on June 5, 1904. Ball Park built in early June. First game was June 12 between Leo Club and Mattoon team.

Uniforms arrived June 8; made from pearl grap (gray?) material with an M monogram on the pocket of the shirt

June 10, 1904 considered for Star Inter-City league

Often played on Sundays.

Oct. 6 local players and management on outs and players have left for the season. Wed. the players got individual uniforms and bats but no money. Players side: they've played since Labor Day without pay and during that time \$50 is missing. Everett was to receive board free and the treasurer's account shows \$7 paid out for one week board when good board can be obtained for \$1. Members of team borrowed money from management at various times and this has been charged to account of the team. Charge for \$5 for expenses in Pana when Pana was to pay all expenses and there was only one meal and \$5 for 11 men is a bit steep. Management: settlement was equitable and goes so far as to say that \$250 worth of baseball goods were turned over to the players when they were entitled to nothing. The shortage comes from paying out of town players in order to induce them to remain with the team. No itemized statement to players because it is none of their business.

1905

Mattoon independent team considered strongest in the central part of the state.

June 5, attendance has not been what they hoped, teams on Sundays have been poor players

Best attendance was June 29 with 1500 in stands, 1200 paid tickets sold

Urban Park management should stop open betting if they want the ladies to come.

When team is playing well its worth \$.65, but when the team is off, its not worth it. If you can't get good teams to play on Sundays it would be better not to have any. Local patrons won't stand for 3 vaudeville stunts. Letter from Fan on July 11.

Fans presented Langdon with new catchers mitt and Wilson with new protector July 16.

Team does well first half of season and then slides downward at end.

Mattoon fans gave Adams, Miller, Dowell, Doyle, Weaver and Welch each a nice sweater July 24. Welch also got pair of shoes and James Phillips gave Weaver a fine leather bat bag.

July 25, team needs more forenoon practices to better team work.

Colts measured for new suits, Aug 7, maroon trimmed in white.

Sept. 12, paper complains about uninspired playing of some team members. Playing for own amusement not that of the fans.

1906

Kitty League, admission fee is deposit of \$1,000 to guarantee team will finish season. Visiting teams get \$40 from home team. Almost didn't join because "it would be better to take the money it would cost to enter the league and build with it a better independent team than we could afford if we entered the league. We intend to have a much better nine than we had last year." Fred More,

Charleston, Circuit Clerk. Also concerned about many Sunday games being away, and the expense of traveling such distances.

Umpires wear blue serge trousers.

Named Canaries which has been used "since time immemorable to designate that peculiar genius who descends upon our corn fields in the fall with knife and profanity." Broomcorn Canary

They have to re-do schedule several times during season for teams coming in and out of the league.

Teams will travel between 4, 134 and 3, 816 miles during season.

Button badges were given out by the Journal-Gazette w/ portrait of Berryhill & axiom "The Journal-Gazette for base ball news."

Two men spiked in hand while sliding to second in game with Pana.

The umpires for the league were from Kansas City, St. Louis and Indianapolis.

By actual count "there was a total of one (1) paid admission from Charleston at the game Friday, and as that individual was Col. Alderman Robert Howard, master in chancery of Coles county, formerly an alderman and citizen of Mattoon who could hardly be called a genuine blown-in-the-bottle Charlestonian. No wonder the ball team should be called "Mattoon."

Manager paid \$150; team salary limit \$1,100.

Couple players have trouble with drinking liquor.

King & Doyle may have purposely been throwing games. Langdon and Doyle were suspended for too much unruliness and boosing. King straightened out without them.

SCHEDULE

Season: 1904

First game was June 8; Oct. 6th players left town.

May 31 Mattoon at Charleston against Normal nine

June 7 Mattoon All-Stars at Arcola

June 8 Mattoon at Westfield College

June 12 Mattoon All-Stars vs. Leo Club at Urban Park

June 16 Mattoon Regulars vs. Morning Stars (All-Stars?)

June 20 Mattoon Regulars vs. Charleston

June 22 Mattoon Regulars vs. Westfield (Odd Fellows will watch)

June 26 Mattoon Regulars vs. Champaign Indians at U. P.

July 2 Mattoon Regulars vs. Nokomis

July 4 Mattoon Regulars vs. Charleston

July 6 Mattoon Regulars at Tuscola

July 10 Mattoon Regulars vs. Westfield College at U.P.

July 12 Mattoon Regulars vs. Tuscola at U.P.

July 15 Mattoon Regulars vs. Sullivan at U. P.

July 16 Mattoon Regulars vs. Sullivan at U.P.

July 17 Mattoon Regulars vs. Creek Indians from territories

July 19 Mattoon Regulars at Sullivan Grays

July 21 Mattoon Regulars va. Westfield College at U.P.

July 24 Mattoon Regulars vs. Sullivan at U.P.

July 29 Mattoon Regulars vs. Champaign Indians

July 31 Mattoon Regulars vs. Effingham at U.P.

Aug. 2 Mattoon Regulars at Lincoln (cancelled)

Aug. 4 Mattoon Regulars vs. Tuscola at West End Park

Aug. 5 Mattoon Regulars at Bethany

Aug. 7 Mattoon Regulars vs. Charleston at U.P.

Aug. 9 Mattoon Regulars vs. Mattoon Alerts at West End Park (practice)

Aug. 9 Mattoon Regulars vs. Bethany at West End Park

Aug. 10 Mattoon Regulars vs. Shelbyville at West End Park

Aug. 14 Mattoon Regulars vs. Tuscola at U.P.

Aug. 15 Mattoon Regulars vs. Tolono at West End Park

Aug. Mattoon Regulars vs. Linton, IN at U.P.

Aug. 17 Mattoon Regulars vs. Leo Club at West End Park

Aug. 20 Mattoon Regulars at Tuscola

Aug. 21 Mattoon Regulars vs. Picked Nine representing Charleston (recruited from all over state, cost \$150)

Aug. 23 Mattoon Regulars vs. Chicago Union Giants (colored team)

Aug. 2? Mattoon Regulars vs. Kansas? For Harvest Picnic

Aug. 26 Mattoon Regulars at Bethany

Aug. 29 Mattoon Regulars vs. Bethany at West End Park

Sept. 2 Mattoon Regulars at Tuscola

Sept. 4 Mattoon Regulars vs. Charleston (cancelled) Champaign instead at U.P.

Sept. 5 Mattoon Regulars vs. Effingham at West End Park

Sept. 7 Mattoon Regulars vs. Champaign at West End Park

Sept. 10 Mattoon Regulars vs. Virden at West End Park

Sept. 11 Mattoon Regulars vs. Nokomis at U.P.

Sept. 13 Mattoon Regulars vs. Pana at West End Park

Sept. 15 Mattoon Regulars at Pana

Sept. 16 Mattoon Regulars vs. Arcola at West End Park

Sept. 27 Mattoon Regulars vs. Pana
Sept. 28 Mattoon Regulars vs. Decatur at U.P.
Sept. 29 Mattoon Regulars vs. Decatur at U.P.
Oct. 1 Mattoon Regulars vs. Decatur at West End Park
Oct. 2 Mattoon Regulars vs. Pana at U.P.

1905

Began practice Apr. 12; Apr 15 First game; season ended early Oct.

Apr 15	Mattoon vs. Pana at U.P.
Apr 20	Mattoon vs. Sullivan at U.P.
Apr 23	Mattoon vs. Decatur All-Stars
Apr 26	Mattoon Colts at Pana
Apr 28	Paris at Mattoon
Apr 30	Brazil, IN at Mattoon
May 3	Mattoon at Sullivan
May 5	Pana at Mattoon
May 7	Champaign Indians at Mattoon
May 10	Sullivan at Mattoon
May 18, 19	Chicago Leland Giants (colored) at Mattoon Large attendance by colored people
May 20	St. Ann's semi-pro from St. Louis at Mattoon
May 22	Danville Unions (colored) at Mattoon
May 28	Lynch Ryes team from St. Louis at Mattoon
May 30	Brazil, IN at Mattoon (doubleheader)
June 1	Mattoon at Pana
June 2	Mattoon at Moweaqua

June 4	Terre Haute Grand Avenues at Mattoon
June 7	Mattoon vs. Paris at Oakland
June 8, 9	Leland Giants at Mattoon
June 11	Champaign Indians at Mattoon
June 13	Pana at Mattoon (Ladies Day)
June 16	Mattoon vs. Pana
June 17	Mattoon vs. Charleston w/ 5 semi-pros and 4 others on each team; the guys play for where live
June 19, 20	Mattoon at Frankfort, IN
June 21, 22	Mattoon at Lebanon, IN
June 23	Sorento Sun at Mattoon
June 25	Mattoon at Frankfort, IN
June 29, 30	Frankfort, IN at Mattoon
July 2, 3	Brazil, IN at Mattoon
July 4	Brazil at Mattoon (doubleheader 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.)
July 5, 6	Mattoon at Pana
July 9	Effingham at Mattoon
July 13, 14, 15	Leland Giants at Mattoon
July 16	Collinsville Reds at Mattoon (cancelled) Delmar Ryes of St. Louis came instead
July 17, 18	Mattoon at Lebanon, IN
July 19, 20	Mattoon at Frankfort, IN
July 21	Mattoon at Kentland, IN
July 22	Mattoon at Fowler, IN
July 24, 25	Lebanon, IN at Mattoon
July 26	Mattoon at Paris

July 28, 29	Mattoon at Frankfort, IN
July 30	Paris at Mattoon
Aug 1	Atwood at Mattoon
Aug 3, 4	Havana at Mattoon
Aug 5, 6	Paxton at Mattoon
Aug 8	Mattoon at Atwood
Aug 9	Pana at Mattoon
Aug. 12, 13	Brazil, IN at Mattoon (doubleheader starts at 2 p.m.) (record-breaking crowd)
Aug. 19, 20	Kentland, IN at Mattoon
Aug. 22	Pana at Mattoon
Aug 24	Mattoon at Paris
Aug. 26, 27	Fowler at Mattoon (cancelled due to disbanded)
Sept. 1	Mattoon at Pana
Sept. 3, 4	Havana at Mattoon (7 th doubleheader)
Sept. 6, 7	Chicago Nationals at Mattoon
Sept. 9, 10	Lebanon at Mattoon
Sept. 11, 12, 13	Leland Giants at Mattoon
Sept. 19	Mattoon at Shelbyville
Sept. 20	Mattoon at Moweaqua
Sept. 23, 24	Mattoon vs. Moweaqua at Pana
Sept. 27	Mattoon vs. Shelbyville
Sept. 29	Mattoon vs. Nebraska Indians
Oct. ?	Leland Giants at Mattoon

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1906

Players are to report on April 10; 1st exhibition game April 15; Opening game May 3; ended early September

Apr 12	Mattoon at Indiana University or Bloomington, IN league team (paper is unclear)
Apr 15	Mattoon vs. Decatur Anheuser-Busch Independent (Sun.)
Apr 16	Mattoon vs. Eastern Illinois Normal School
Apr 18	Mattoon vs. Eastern Illinois Normal School
Apr 21 & 22	Mattoon vs. Pana Coal Miners (also called Colts)
Apr 23 & 24	Mattoon vs. Keokuk 3 I team at home
Apr 25	Mattoon vs. Eastern Illinois Normal School
Apr. 26	Mattoon at Paris Colts
Apr 29 & 30	Mattoon vs. Sullivan at home
May 3, 4, 5	Mattoon at Paducah
May 6, 7, 8	Mattoon at Cairo
May 9, 10, 11	Jacksonville at Mattoon
May 11	Ladies Day
May 13 & 14	Mattoon at Jacksonville
May 15, 16, 17	Danville at Mattoon
May 18, 19, 20	Mattoon at Danville
May 21, 22, 23	Mattoon at Vincennes
May 24, 25, 26	Vincennes at Mattoon
May 27, 28, 29	Cairo at Mattoon
May 30, 31	Paducah at Mattoon (30 th doubleheader)
June 1, 2, 3	Mattoon at Paducah

June 6, 7	Mattoon at Cairo
June 8 & 9	Jacksonville at Mattoon
June 10, 11, 12	Mattoon at Jacksonville
June 14, 15, 16	Danville at Mattoon (both doubleheaders)
June 17, 18, 19	Mattoon at Danville
June 20, 21, 22	Mattoon at Vincennes (22 nd doubleheader)
June 23, 24, 25	Vincennes at Mattoon (25 th doubleheader)
June 26, 27, 28	Cairo at Mattoon
June 29, 30	Paducah at Mattoon
July 1	Paducah at Mattoon
July 2, 3, 4	Mattoon at Paducah (4 th doubleheader)
July 5, 6 & 7 Mattoon won)	Mattoon at Cairo (5 th no game because Cairo disbanded,
July 8, 9, 10	Jacksonville at Mattoon
July 11, 12, 13	Mattoon at Jacksonville (11 th doubleheader)
July 14, 15, 16	Danville at Mattoon
July 17, 18, 19	Mattoon at Danville
	Mattoon at Vincennes
July 23, 24, 25	Vincennes at Mattoon (23 rd doubleheader)
July 26, 27, 28	Cairo at Mattoon
July 29, 30, 31	Paducah at Mattoon
Aug. 2, 3, 4, 5	Mattoon at Paducah
Aug. 6, 7, 8, 9	Mattoon at Cairo
Aug. 10, 12, 13	Jacksonville at Mattoon (9 th Children's Day, 13 th doubleheader)
Aug. 18, 19, 20, 21	Danville at Mattoon
Aug. 22, 23, 24, 25	Mattoon at Danville?

Aug. 27, 28, 29 Mattoon at Vincennes (28th doubleheader)

Aug. 30, 31, Sept. 1, 2 Vincennes at Mattoon (because of county fair and races games at 10:30 a.m.)

Sept. 3 Cairo at Mattoon (3rd doubleheader)