

## THE NATIONAL GAME

Mertes is still unsigned.

Wait for the second of May.

Work on the grounds will commence next week.

There seems to be some hitch in Omaha getting Hulin.

Two weeks from today and the exhibition season will open.

Omaha has a very fast outfield in Donnelly Slagle and Shaffer.

Several Lincoln amateurs may be found in the Iowa State league.

Jimmy Stafford is a fixture at second base on the New York team.

Hollingsworth shows up well at practice and covers a great deal of ground.

Will any photographer be enterprising enough to make a picture of the 1895 team?

Preston, who played third base for St. Joe last season, is playing a good game for Louisville.

Paul Hines, the old Washington player will captain the Burlington team in the Iowa State league.

Ladies will be admitted free on Mondays—bear this in mind and postpone the washing until Tuesday.

Manager Ebright and short stop Hollingsworth have gone to housekeeping near the base ball park.

Bill Devereaux, Tommy McCarthy, Pequigney, James Sullivan and Young Johnson are still on the coast.

Ed Young's Indian says that Manager Ebright has a surprise in store for the cranks, but he refused to give up what it was.

Anson of the Chicago club says that he cannot win any Sunday games on account of having only one pitcher who will work on Sunday.

Very few of the players have answered the letter in which they were notified to report, but it is reasonable to suppose that they will all be here on time.

This season will find a great many amateur clubs in this city; several of the leading firms will have a uniformed club and will contest for the city championship.

Great things are expected of young Hollingsworth this year, and it is the opinion of THE COURIER that he will cover more ground than any other short stop in the association.

The new uniforms have been ordered through Spaulding's agents, the H. T. Clarke Drug Co.; they will be of the best material that can be obtained and will be grey trimmed with white.

Every warm afternoon the players who are in the city may be seen at the M street park taking batting lessons and indulging in exercise that will fit them to begin the season in good shape.

The *Bee* of Sunday intimates that Manager Ebright wants to trade Barnes for Donnelly; no such deal has ever been proposed and Manager Ebright would not trade Fernando for the Omaha franchise.

Manager Ebright showed good judgment when he signed six pitchers; it shows that he does not mean to be weak in the box. If Fisher finally concludes not to come to Lincoln we still have five pitchers in Barnes, Kimerer, Gragg, Simons and Myers.

In a letter to a friend in this city Tommy McCarthy says that he is negotiating with Manager Nicol of the Rockford club and that there is only \$5 per month between them. Tommy has a large number of friends in this city who would be pleased to see him in the Western association.

Chauncey Fisher, who signed a contract to pitch for the Lincolns, informs Manager Ebright that he has concluded not to play ball this season; this may be a bluff so that he can get his release and sign with some other city but it will not work—he will play in Lincoln or he will not play anywhere.

Secretary Hickey will give an annual pass to the lady who guesses nearest to the number of paid admissions at the opening game; as a result there are a great many ladies who would like to be on speaking terms with the person who will sell the tickets, hoping in some way to get an inside track on their sister fans.

McDougal, who was drafted from the Quincy club to the St. Louis Browns, pitched two innings in a recent game against the Little Rock club and struck out the first six men at the bat. He did so well that Manager Buckenberger put him in the next game for nine innings. All went well until the ninth inning when the Little Rock club jumped onto him for nine runs, and some say that he threw his arm out and will probably be of no use to the Browns this year.

The following dispatch appeared in the *Chicago Times-Herald* and if it is true Manager Nicol will be less one large first baseman, and if Nicol has his contract it is to be hoped that he will push his claim and force Kreig to play in Rockford or quit playing ball for the season of 1895: "Galesburg, Ill., March 18.—The Galesburg team of the Iowa league will be managed by W. H. Kreig, formerly of the Rock Island's. Boxendale, pitchers, of the Omahas; Whistler, of the Western league, third base, and Sanderson, short stop, were signed today."

We wish to emphasize the fact that the residence of Manager Ebright in this city during the winter months has been a good thing for base ball. Manager Ebright and Kid Speer have made many friends since the closing of last season who will take more interest in the game this year than ever before. The signing of two boys who make their home in Lincoln will have a good effect on the crowds. Notice when either Kimerer or Barnes officiate in the box and see if the crowd is not a paying one; each of these players has a large following that will turn out every time he goes into a game and already there is quite a rivalry between the admirers of the two.

Among the players who have once wore a Lincoln uniform may be mentioned: Jake Beckley, who will guard first base for Pittsburg this year; Jesse Burkett, who will play left field for Cleveland; Ehret, who has signed with St. Louis; Raymond, of the Detroit; Roat, of the Indianapolis club; Johnson, of the Scrantons; Gienalvin, of last year's Detroit; Fear, of Grand Rapids; Dave Rowe, of Omaha; Jack Rowe, of Buffalo; Moehler, of Des Moines; Darnbrough, of the Inter-state league, who will be remembered as having pitched a seventeen inning game against the Minneapolis club, Lookabaugh, of Bloomington; Wilson, of New York; Rogers, of Scranton; Lawrence, of Memphis; Hart, of Pittsburg; McGreevy, of Quincy; McKibben, of Des Moines; Baltz, of Omaha and Stafford of the New York's.