

Colorado Territorial *All-Stars* 14, Berthoud *Blues* 9

August 15, at Berthoud

It seemed a sure sign that the travelling *All-Stars* were in trouble when Captain *Bicycle Mike* Roberts had to reach de-e-e-e-ep into the hurling rotation and peg the *Deacon* as his starting hurler. No one else made the trip who had any innings this year (as *Mad Dog* Mason was handing the umpiring duties). It had been a long time (early last year) since the *Deacon* had stood behind the hurling line, and a lot longer than that since he had shown any prowess at the position. The only alternative was anyone who wanted to try their hand at the toss for the first time ever, and *Breadbasket* Beckers stepped up in relief.

As it ended up, the *Deacon* and *Breadbasket* ably handled the assignment, although it should be noted that the *Blues* acquitted themselves much better today than against the same opponent in June.

The match was delayed about 10 minutes when the skies let loose just as the introductions had begun. The rain revisited lightly late in the match, but really the only effect was a slip here and a slide there.

Despite some rustiness, the *Deacon* managed to hold the *Blues* in check for the first four innings, with ample assistance by a quick and steady defense, especially with *Skinny* Timme and *Red Dog* Wickett catching every foul-tip opportunity. The *All-Stars*, in their turn, gave plenty of offensive support, moving out 8 to 2.

In the fifth frame, *Breadbasket* took his turn. While warming up, it appeared he might have some trouble delivering hittable pitches, but as soon as he faced a striker, he got enough balls close enough to keep the game interesting and the visitors well in front. In the eighth he appeared to tire some and four *Blues* rang the bell to make it close. But, fortified by another two tallies in the bottom of the inning, the *Deacon* came back on to wrap this one up on four pitches (and efficient defense).

For the *Territorials*, the indomitable *Fearless* Foster led all strikers with three tallies. Following with two were *Wheels* Harris, *Rattler* Gallegos, and *Crazy Legs* Brighton. *Buckeye* Bob Mitchell, *Tiny* Heine, *Breadbasket*, *Skinny*, and *Bike* each added one, while *Fast* Eddie Phelan and *Just-in-case* Breese each hit it hard, but unluckily.

For Berthoud, only *Hustler* Nunez -- on loan from the D&RG *Reds* -- managed to tally twice, although Captain and hurler *Cannibal* Tinney and *Packrat* Orłowski each struck safely all four times at the plate. Ringing the bell once were these two, plus *Hands* Phelan, *Scurvy* Weedin, *Spider* Michaud, *Judge* (?), and *Newsboy* (?). Rounding out the *Blues* were *Slappy* Heller, *Hobo* Vaughn, *Scoop* Womsley, *Sodbuster* (?), and *Farmer* (?).

While the aforementioned *Mad Dog* called the match, it was recorded for posterity by Miss Sharon, and numerous cranks were witnesses as well -- including *Digger* Hadix and the Morris and Mason clans. Of special note was the fund-raising object of the day, as *Traveler* Tinney made his first appearance at a match since his recent illness sidelined him since opening day. Though obviously frail, he was game to greet his old pards and we all wish him the speediest of recoveries.