

# **MONARCHS OPEN 1923 SEASON TOMORROW AT ASSOCIATION PARK**

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The National Negro Base Ball League is all set for the big opening Saturday, April 28th at Association Park.

**Kansas City Monarchs vs Rube Foster's American Giants of Chicago.**

The Kansas City Monarches will open their season tomorrow afternoon at the old Association Base Ball Park, with their most formidable rivals, the American Giants of Chicago, under the leadership of Andrew 'Rube Foster, the greatest base ball leader in the country. The Monarchs are going to be put to the acid test right from the start as we all are aware that Foster is going to bring a fighting aggregation to this city and try and win the first series from the great Monarchs.

### **The Big Parade.**

As usual the local fans will usher in the season with their big auto parade which will traverse the principal streets of the city. A slight change has been made in the plans for the

parade. The parade will form on Lydia avenue between 15th and 18th streets, facing South, promptly at 12:30. An escort of motorcycle policemen will head the parade followed by a car containing Manager Rube Foster, Manager Sam Crawford, and Secretary Gilmore, after which will come the second regiment band under the leadership of Ctptain Cooper in a large auto truck closely followed by th Monarchs and the American Giants. Several visiting newspaper men from the different cities of the league will be here for the big opening. It is expected that more than 300 automobiles will be in the parade. A car containing several Negro members of the local police department also be in the line. There will be no places reserved in the line for any

certain parties and those coming early will get the best positions in the parade. The parade will traverse about the same route as last year. The parade will leave 18th and Lydia promptly at 1 o'clock.

### **City Officials to Attend the Opening.**

Mayor Cromwell, Commissioner Oppenstein, Mayor Gordon of Kansas City, Kans., and Judge Casimir J. Welch have been invited to attend and the two Mayors will act as the official battery for the opening.

### **Kansas City the First City to Use**

#### **Negro Umpires in the League.**

For the first time in the history of the National Negro League Negro Umpires will officiate. Two of the best known race umpires have been selected to start the season at Kansas

City. One comes from California, where he has umpired for several of the big league teams for several seasons. Another comes from the sunny South where he has officiated for the past 10 years. The officials of the league have secured the services of six race men to be used around the circuit this season and the local fans will have the opportunity of seeing them all work. Kansas City has always been in favor of race umpires and Owner Wilkinson was one of the first men to take action to secure the services of competent men to use

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## **MONARCHS OPEN SEASON**

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in the league.

### **The Same Old Monarchs.**

The Monarchs are one team that was not bothered by players jumping over East to the outlaws. Several new men are now trying out with the team but it looks like the same old gang will be found starting the season with a slight shifting of the men. Duncan and Williams behind the bat, Hawkins on first, Anderson on second, Moore at short, Joseph at third, with McNair, Donaldson and Heavy Johnson in the outfield. Allen will be used for utility roll with Joe Mendez doing relief work in the box.

The pitching staff should be the strongest in the league with Currie, Rogan, Gissentaner and Drake doing

their regular turns. It might be possible that Manager Crawford will pick up some promising youngster while down South that will make some of the old regulars hustle to hold their jobs.

Boss Wilkinson bought the boys a new set of uniforms during the series with the Blues last year, and this season he has bought them still another new set of uniforms and sweaters. It is the intention of the management to make the Monarchs the best looking team in the league.

The Monarch will play the American Giants starting Saturday, April 28-29-30, May 1-2 followed by the St. Louis Stars who will be here May 5-6-7-8-9. After this series the Monarchs will go to Milwaukee and Detroit for their usual battle.

## **Tickets On Sale.**

**Secretary Gilmore will place tickets on sale for the opening game Saturday the 28th, at Barker & Burke billiard parlor on Twelfth street, at the Panama Taxi Company on Twelfth, at Starks shining parlor and newstand, and M. Campbell & Houston drug store, 23rd and Vine. The Entertainers Cafe will also have tickets on sale. The usual prices will prevail.**

*The Kansas City Advocate, Kansas City, KS*

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