

CRAWFORDSVILLE's "PRO" Team

1888 --

Source: Crawfordsville Weekly Journal 21 April 1888 p 6 The baseball season of the Crawfordsville Club will begin next Monday and Tuesday at Lafayette when the "Hoosiers" as they are styled with cross bats with the Star City's club, which is a good one. Before seeing a game the people would, no doubt, be interested in knowing something of the personality of the players.

The captain of the club is: A.W. SNYDER – who plays behind the bat and on first base alternately. He is a large, fine looking man with a perfect physique, not unlike Fred Newman in personal appearance, is 5'9" in height and 25 years of age. He is the heaviest man in the club weighing 190 pounds. This is his third season as a professional ball player having played in Leavenworth in '86 and with the Champaign (sic) Clippers in '87. Kewanee, Ill is his home where he teaches school in the winter time. He is quiet in his demeanor and is not disposed to talk a great deal but when he says that a man can't drink whisky and play ball at the same time, he means, it. He will have sober, honest ball players around him or none at all and the people may rest assured that no Jerry O'Brien kind of a man will be tolerated.

Another catcher is FRANK MUSGROVE ... who also hails from Kewanee, Ill. He is 24 years of age, 5'8 ½" high and weighs 150 pounds. He has played professional ball for two seasons last year being with the Bayviews of Milwaukee.

When not playing ball he works at his trade, that of a welder in a pipe mill. W. BARNETT with the accent on the last syllable, is a protege of Fred Newman who discovered him and brought him here. He kicks the beam at 167, towers skyward 5' 11 ¼ " and was 23 his last birthday. He was raised on a farm near Wellsville, Kansas but for the last three years has been devoting himself to baseball with Topeka, Wichita and Emporia clubs. He is a catcher and one of the kind that can't hold 'em when they come easy. He practices daily catching croquet balls "to get his hands hard."

Center field will be covered by covered by SAM BATES who made such a brilliant record with South Bend last year, although it was his first season. He is 25 years old, weight 160 pounds and is 6' high making him the tallest man in the team. His face is adorned with a dark mustache he is solidly built and is already making a reputation as a heavy batter. At his home in New Carlisle, Ind, he clerks in a grocery store.

The colored man, JOHN W. FOWLER is already well known among our people on account the Lafayette episode. His age is 32, height 5'10" weight 150 pounds and his color is very black. He has been on the diamond professionally for 12 years, bats both ways and plays every position on the field. Second base will be his place with the Hoosiers. Last year he was with the Binghamton, NY and in '86 with Topeka, Kansas. Mr. Fowler is much superior to the average colored man, having graduated from Oberlin

College with honors. He is well informed, has traveled extensively and is an absolute teatotaller. He will be our mascotte. J

AMES SWEENEY is a pitcher and was expected to arrive this afternoon. His age is 22, height 5' 9" and weight 150 pounds. In '86 he was with Milwaukee, in '87 with au Claire and Nealsville. In the latter place he pitched 15 games and won 13. His residence is in Milwaukee and he is a switchman.

The famous ... AL FISHER will be our short stop. In '86 he was with Zanesville and last year with the Champaigns. He is a little young fellow 20 years of age, with light hair and eyes, weighs 150 pounds and is 5'7" high in his socks. He works in a carriage factory at Indianapolis in the winter.

DOUGLAS BARNES is the name of the man who will stop all the balls that come near third base. He is 24 years old and has played professional ball for 6 years at Fort Wayne, Evansville, Terre Haute, Springfield, O; Richmond and Zanesville. He weighs 150 pounds an dis 5'5" tall. Indianapolis is his home.

Jolly, affable, HARRY CAMPBELL is the benedict of the crowd and his perpetual good humor is a standing argument in favor of marriage. He has an embryo ball player with him 10-months old who will attend all games and encourage his papa to make home runs. He is 22 years old, stands 5'8" high and weight 149 pounds. He pitches both right and left handed and is good at all infield positions. He has played professional ball since '85 with the Ohio State League, the NY State Leagues and was with Des Moines last year. His home is at Akron, Ohio.

Another pitcher is ... ISAAC N. HADDING of Utica, NY. .His business sin the winter is sign painting and paper hanging. He is 28 years old, 5'10" high and weight 174 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds. He has been a professional since '79 having played with the Ohio State League and the American Association. FRED NEWMAN is so well and favorably known that a description is hardly necessary. He is 30 years of age, 5'11" high and weighs 170 pounds, making him second in age, third in height and second in weight. He will play in the outfield.

He and JAMES SHERLOCK are the only ones who were with us last year. Jim is the swiftest runner in the club. He is 25 years old, 5' 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " high and weighs 150 pound. His home is in Dayton where he is a packer. Last year was his first year as a professional but, as Crawfordsville well knows he made a splendid record.

He brought with him ... ANTHONY WETZEL, an out field who will make his debut in the profession this year. His age is 20, height 5'10" ad weight 154 pounds. Painting is his profession and he is said to be quite an artist in that line.

LOUIS GEMIN ... is not here yet but soon will be. He has played professionally before and is said to have a full variety of the latest curves which he deals out with his left arm. He has had a chance to join the Ohio State but the salary was not sufficient to induce him

to leave his present position. He is 22 years old, 5'7" high and weighs 140 pounds.

This completes the list with the exception of Greene, a pitcher, who is not yet on the ground. Out of these it will not be difficult to select a crack club of 11 or 12 men and Crawfordsville an depend on having a fine set of players to champion during the season. - kbz