

Rickey Promises Mustang Official 'Hustling, Interesting' Ball Club

HUNTSVILLE, Tex.—Rockwood Brown, vice president of the Billings Mustangs, arrived here with his wife Wednesday just in time to attend a special barbeque in honor of Branch Rickey.

Mrs. Brown was the only woman present at the scheduled stag affair

and was quickly crowned "queen for the night" by Rickey, Pittsburgh vice president who left the Bucs' local minor league training base immediately after the affair.

Rickey talked with Brown considerably during the barbeque about Billings' baseball outlook for the coming season.

Rickey said, "We'll do our best to give Billings a top-flight ball club this season. The people up there always support the team wonderfully and they deserve to have a winner."

"Spring training has turned up some very good-looking newcomers and the Mustangs will get their share—enough to give the town a hustling, interesting team."

The Browns, who came here after a visit to Mexico City, are on their annual vacation swing and said they would spend "three or four days" looking over and getting acquainted with players likely to be placed on the Billings roster.

In a speech at the special outing, Rickey said that he was "very pleased with the camp in Huntsville" and added that there is a remote possibility that the Pirates will join the minor league teams here in springs to come.

The Mustangs are scheduled to play an exhibition game against Hutchinson, Kan., as part of a Sunday afternoon double hitter.

However, according to camp officials and Billings Manager Cliff Dapper, the game will amount to little more than an intrasquad game since team rosters will not be made up until about the middle of the month.

Brownies Have 'New Vic Wertz'

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Now it's "meet the new Vic Wertz" the bulging bicep of the St. Louis Browns' planned power arm.

A year ago it was "meet the new Browns," as Bill Veeck swung into his first full season as club owner. But the new faces in the field and in the front office didn't prove too successful, either in the American League race or at the box office.

Since then the Browns and Veeck have drafted a new plan for making friends and influencing people. With such potential sluggers as Wertz, Johnny Groth, Roy Sievers, Hank Edwards, Clint Courtney and Jim Dyck they hope to compensate for a weak pitching staff and develop a crowd pleaser as well.

The plan is to get a hitting star. One who can not only bring the fans to their feet, but bring them to the ball park too.

Victor Woodrow Wertz is expected to be the big man in the big plan for a big year.

What's more, the 28-year-old

Browns Both Attend Rickey Barbeque in Florida

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