

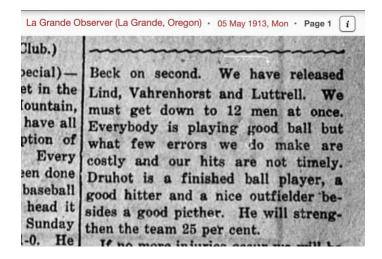
Arthur Vahrenhorst (aka Van Horst), brother of Harry Vahrenhorst



Vahrenhorst (also Farenhorst) in the St. Louis Republic



Final game with Le Grande in 1913?



The first three games featured Van Horst pinch hitting, Hornhorst pinch hitting, and Van Horst in center field, respectively, in the box scores. It was assumed these were just mis-spellings of Hohnhorst, but the newspapers explicitly stated that Hornhost joined the club in Covington.

Position: ph-cf
First game: May 6, 1913
Last game: May 189, 1913
of games: 3<P>

In the Terriers opening game, against Chicago at home on May 6, 1913, Van Horst pinch hit for pitcher Bridges in the eighth inning. Stis led off with a double and advanced to third on a single by Sheahan. After Pettit struck out, Van Horst came up and popped up for the second out. Sheahan was then caught trying to steal second, and St. Louis lost by a score of 7-4.<P>

The following night, "Hornhorst" pinch hit for pitcher Arbeiter in the ninth and made an out of a 10-5 loss. In the third game of the series, on May 8, Hooker started in center field, and the box score credits him with no at-bats and one run scored after a walk leading off the first inning. Von Horst is also in the box score as playing center field, with four at-bats, no hits, one run, and one error. (The article in the <i>St. Louis Globe-Democrat</i> reports that Hooker reached on an error in the eighth and scored, but that most likely was Van Horst.) No explanation for why Hooker was replaced was given; Hooker was released after the game.<P>

The easy explanation for the identity of "Van Horst" was that it was a obsfucation of Eddie Hohnhorst. However, several reports make this suspect. On May 9, the Terriers left on a road trip to Covington. The travelling group, as outlined in the <i>St. Louis Star and Times</i>, did not include either Hohnhorst or Van Horst. All other known players on the roster at that time were listed, except Manuel, who was hurt at the time. Further, both the <i>Cincinnati Enquirer</i> and the <i>St. Louis Post-Dispatch</i> imply that Hohnhorst was signed after the club reached Covington, his home town, and immediately started at first base. Finally, on May 9, on the same page the <i>Star and Times</i> listed the travelling party headed to Convington, it reported that Hohnhorst was getting a tryout with Montgomery. (He clearly didn't make the club.) All of this suggests that Van Horst wasn't Eddie Hohnhorst.<P>

So who was Van Horst? One clue is in the box score in the <i>Chicago Tribune</i> for the game of May 8, 1913. While the St. Louis paper identifies the player Van Horst, the <i>Tribune</i> has "Varenh't". The second clue is just a few weeks earlier, in the <i>La Grande Observer</i>. "Arthur Vahrenhorst, better known as Van Horst, and sometimes answering to the beckon of 'Blondy', has his history pretty well uncovered to local fans" (April 12, 1913, pg. 7). It lists his history to date as having played for Jacksonville in the Iowa League, then Denver, then Savannah. He then went west to play in Vancouver, and then came to La Grande in 1909, followed by Salt Lake City that same season. He was sold to Des Moines but refused to report and spent the next three sesons suspended. He then rejoined La Grande in the spring of 1913. He was still with club at the start of May, but the La Grande paper reported on May 4 that he had been released. Depending on exactly when he was released, he may have been able to get back to St. Louis by Opening Day on May 6. So Arthur Vahrenhorst could be the mystery Van Horst from the Terriers innaugural series against Chicago.<P>

Arthur Vahrenhorst was the younger brother of Henry Vahrenhorst, who appeared in one game for the St. Louis Browns as a pinch hitter on September 21, 1904. Baseball-Reference shows his last season in professional baseball as 1907, when he played for four different clubs.<P>

Therer is no conclusive proof that either Vahrenhorst was pinch hitter/outfielder Van Horst. However, either one had the background to be on the bench for manager O'Connor for that opening series, as he scrambled to put a club together. Both were born in St. Louis, Henry in 1885 and Arthur in 1887, and both were still living there in 1913. It seems unlikely that this player was Eddie Hohnhorst.<P>

News-Democrat (Paducah, Kentucky) • 26 Apr 1910, Tue • Page 6		
AR WEST	MANY APPLICATIONS ARE COMING IN	Bos Wa Cle St.
PULAR AND IN THE S.	BASEBALL PLAYERS WANT A BERTH IN THE PADUCAH TEAM OF KITTY.	Lot Ind Kar Mil
the most er made Pa- and who a hard fought room of the ation, is now working as enefit of his Charles Rid- ys ago, while Riddle was a the Paducah has seen xplained that was abthe most of cah. ack the acattle. About ngaged in a	Dozens of letters have been received by the directors of the Paducah association of the Kitty league, from players seeking positions. A few of them have applied for the job of manager. Among the latter is "Big Horse" Vahrenhorst, of St. Louis, who played with the Indians in 1905. He was a pitcher, but also doubled up in the outfield and at firstbase. He was a little bit shy with the stick for a fielder. However, when he met the ball, the fielder whose head it sailed over, generally on a long journey in pursuit. If Vahrenhorst can not win the job as manager, he is willing to become a player. While no manager has been selected it is predicted that "boss" chief of the Padukes will be a local man.	Am colors be H of Le best or th Good Grand at Be that same at Ri much Her ville lico Nevil