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Managers Reid and Williams of the famed St. Paul Colored Gophers have succeeded in acquiring some very promising material for their 1909 team. The policy of the Gopher management, to have only gentlemanly players on the club, has again been strictly adhered to. It is Mr. Reid's desire to have his nine composed of ball players, but, above all, they must be gentlemen.

The Gophers will commence their third season on May 8 at La Crosse. From there on the team will make a short trip through Wisconsin and northern Minnesota.

Manager Reid has secured the use of the St. Paul American association team's ball parks on such days as the St. Paul club is on the road.

"Rat" Johnson, the reputed colored catcher, has put in an appearance at St. Paul, as have several other players. The signed contracts of McMurray, Wallace, Garrison, Croxton and Barton have also reached Secretary Williams. Binga, the crack third baseman of the last year's Minneapolis Keystone nine, was among the early arrivals.

Secretary Williams announces that his team will make a visit to the range country the later part of this month. He has arranged a series of games with the Hibbing club to be played on May 20, 21, 22 and 23.

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With the greatest of diligence and persistency, the Keystone colored tossers

are exerting their utmost efforts to get into condition for the opening games with the Merrill, Wis., club. The cold, inclement weather of last week has retarded practice somewhat, but the boys have been working out at the local gyms and they all appear to be in the best of form and condition.

The infield of the Keystones will be lightning fast. McCune on third, "Bunch" Davis at short, Schaeffer at second and "Bob" Marshall at first make up the quartet. The outfield, with Willis Jones in left, Hopkins at center and Barton in right is surely placed in capable hands.

The pitching department appears much better than that of last year. Jessup, "Slick" Jackson and Martin are the trio of hurlers that are being depended upon by Manager Mitchell. Jessup and Jackson were with the club last year; Martin is a new-comer and is touted a wonder. He is a big fellow with plenty of smoke.

Manager Mitchell gives out the following last year's record of the players he has signed for his 1909 team:

	Batting Average	Fielding Average
Campbell, catcher .....	.300	.980
Greene, catcher .....	.285	.970
Jossup, pitcher .....	.300	.950
Jackson, pitcher .....	.280	.960
Marshall, first base.....	.250	.960
Schaeffer, second base....	.295	.970
Davis, shortstop .....	.265	.960
McCude, third base.....	.255	.970
Barton, left field.....	.300	.925
Hopkins, center field.....	.295	.970
Jones, right field.....	.250	.970
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Club batting and fielding total310	.995
Giving each man a grand average, batting and fielding301	.905

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