

HUC BREAKS EVEN; ONE TO GO---

GET IN THE BALL GAME

Baseball seems to be the greatest outlet for our energies. Some of us participate, others spectate, but we are held in some sort of bondage to this sport. Maybe we are proud because it is an American invention and sit back smugly to watch the whole world adopt it as a part of their lives, as we have. With all due respect to the forthcoming season, yours truly would like to present a resume of how to put your profile in Baseball's Hall of Fame—1950 style.

In the bubble-gum era of today traditions are broken and old laws are abandoned to streamline this project. A uniform is necessary to begin with. The louder it is, the better. But this suit must come from a reliable source, say Esquire, and be made of the finest material possible. Still it must be light for warm weather, must be able to stand up under adverse conditions, hold a crease well, look neat, be comfortable and, by all means, must appeal to the ladies. The undergarments are specially designed, the shirt fits snugly but allows a maximum of movement without wrinkling ever. Your shorts are of a modern design, no buttons, you need grippers; a button may break at a crucial moment and hamper your playing. Socks are easy; all you need is neon lighting.

Your shoes will be of soft leather so you don't harm your little tootsies. They will have an arch supporter whether you need it or not; after all if the type with arches are good enough for Pro's, who are you to quibble? Your cleats are aluminum; they are light to give you speed. Now your cap must have a wide brim to shield the sun from all angles; how can you hit the ball if the sun sneaks in under a small brim? Also included

in this cap is a pair of sun glasses that drop into place automatically when you tilt your head to a certain angle like suppose they toss a "Blooper ball" at you. As for your bat, that's most important. We measure your batting grip, height, weight, color of hair, eyes, have you psycho-analyzed, translate your dreams, study your background, consult your horoscope, then our staff will compose your own personal bat. It doesn't matter what kind you like; we know what is best for you so shaddup.

Now that you are properly dressed let's see what you can do in the batter's box. Heavens no, don't put your elbows out that way; Gehrig never does it that way. Step up closer to the plate, now back a little, relax, dig in your toes, make yourself comfortable, not too much, no, no, that will never do; do you ever see Williams stand that way? Try the DiMag style now; see how nice? It's going to take practice but maybe we can make a ball player out of you yet.

So you see, with men who know baseball best you are capable of doing nothing right. You will have to imitate this one and that one and maybe we can send you out to play on our farm team until you sharpen up a bit. You will have to read the history of baseball's immortals and try to do as they have done. Carry twenty volumes of their advice on your back and when in doubt look it up in the manual. You should never act on your incentive or intuition, or you will have an investigating committee on your neck, be given a fair trial and then sent back to the Crystal Ridge Eagles until you make the grade. While the time is ripe it would be good policy for you to rush right out to purchase all your tools of trade and get hep to the paper work and if you are still sure you want to play—well, have fun.

Beats Pottsville and Swarthmore; Loses To Keystone And York

Since the beginning of this second semester the court proteges of Syd Rudman have shown a marked improvement in ability and determination in their cage battles. Any of those few HUC fans who have faithfully followed the team's action will testify to this, and certainly two victories over tough opponents are testimony enough.

There are, of course, reasons for this sharpness—the addition of several previously ineligible veterans: Jack Sipple, Chicky LaMonica, and Bill Radzwitz; and increased motivation due to increased attendance, both friendly and hostile. Whatever the causes—it is certainly a change for the better, and watching any of the last four games was a distinct pleasure.

The fact that this team went into every game with a real desire to win regardless of odds is reflected in the improved record. This team deserved more support than it ever received.

HUC 55 — Keystone Jr. College 72

The Hazleton Staters' return to action was marred by defeat, yet even in this defeat Coach Rudman sensed an awakening of team spirit and noted the improved play of veterans and newly eligible players. Jack Sipple, one of the latter, led HUC's scoring with 16 points. Mulligan, Woods, and Lefkowitz demonstrated that they hadn't lost the scoring touch by raining 31 markers through the hoops. This was to no avail, however, for while HUC was raining, Keystone was pouring — pouring 72 points through the baskets.

Thus though Keystone prevailed, the debut of the Hazleton Center basketballers was a portent of better things to come.

HUC 80 — Pottsville Center 70

The better things came—and at a very appropriate time. The Rudmanites came through with a well deserved victory over their arch-rival neighbors, Pottsville. The win was doubly appreciated, for it not only gained revenge for HUC's defeat earlier in the season at Pottsville but it also was accomplished before a large band of Pottsville rooters here for the "Welcome Pottsville" festivities.

Jack Sipple again led Hazleton's attack — to the tune of 25 points. Zack Taylor's left-handed hook shots garnered him 17 important tallies. Knyrim and Lefkowitz chipped in 26 more points, and big George Woods was a demon under both baskets. The victory was regarded as an upset in many quarters but it was no surprise to those who had seen the rejuvenated HUCsters in action.

HUC 71 — Swarthmore 69

Two victories in a row didn't happen very often in this year's cage campaign but this is one of the times that it did. It is beginning to read like

history but Jack Sipple was high scorer again for the evening's festivities. The ability of the HUCsters to convert fifteen charity foul tosses into points, while Swarthmore was racking up eleven fouls, paid off. Phillips of Swarthmore was high individual scorer with 21.

Thus this strengthened Hazleton aggregation had made good on two out of three attempts this far.

HUC 69 — York 73

York Junior College brought their champion team to the A. D. Thomas School gym with the league title sewed up and a string of victories trailing behind them. Hazleton's scalp was already under their belts in first-half league competition. When the final smoke of battle had cleared, the second scalp was tucked away, also, but it was hanging by only one thread. York had led all the way, but in the last quarter the HUCsters came within two points of a tie—the score was 71-69, York, with thirty seconds left to play.

York then drew two fouls and made them good to trample the HUC rally. Sipple had 23, Taylor 12, and Lamonica 11 points to pace the Hazleton attack.

L. I. U. WILL BE LAST FOE

The Hazleton Center basketball team will play the last game on the 1949-50 schedule when they tangle with the Long Island University Freshman Basketball team. The game will be the first of two attractive pairings at the Hazleton High School Gym on March 13. The Penn State tossers have competed in this Dream Game preliminary several years straight and have never failed to provide a thrilling contest against some top-flight competition.

Last season the HUCsters faced the Temple freshmen in the Dream Game and handed that highly touted Temple aggregation their first defeat of the season. Syd's boys would like nothing better than to send the LIU frosh back to Long Island City minus their scalps.

LIU has continually been one of the country's basketball powerhouses, and their renowned coach, Clair Bee, is sure to have a well drilled aggregation. Two of Long Island's men are certain to stand out in the night's proceedings — Felix Raymond, six-foot-ten scoring ace, and Murray Tannenbaum, reserve center who scrapes his head on a seven-foot-two ceiling. With men like this it follows that LIU will come to Hazleton sporting a better record than HUC has compiled.

Tickets for the Dream Games can be obtained here; Coach Syd Rudman will handle the ducats. Why not buy one, and treat yourself to a night of good basketball?

