

Between The Lions

With DON DAVIS

Case of Sophmoritis

When Joe Bedenk's weather-frustrated hurlers take to the green turf in their opener with Western Maryland Saturday, it will be with six even greener sophomores in the line-up. "And that," quoth Joseph yesterday, "makes up just about the 'sophmorist' team I ever remember putting on the field."

Guess we shouldn't have taken so much for granted as to ask Joe how his pitchers were doing, cause according to Bedenk, there is really only one pitcher on the team that can be relied on as yet. This being Ed Tuleya, a disciple of southern delivery. Completing the roster of moundsmen are sophomores Johnny Roberts and Whitey Fyer and senior Paul Lazar, all greatly in need of experience.

Although it is much too early to have any idea as to how the baseball squad will fare this Spring, we do say that by the time Summer games start, Bedenk will have worked off a surprising number of rough edges and the sophomores will be working like veterans.

More On Intramurals

Last week we brought up the possibility of sponsoring interschool intramurals to supplement the limited intercollegiate schedule this summer. Comes word that Billy Sheridan, Lehigh wrestling coach, asked his intramural wrestlers whether they would be in favor of supplying their own transportation and expenses to come to this campus some Sunday afternoon to meet Penn State's intramural grapplers. The response of his boys was overwhelmingly favorable. It may be a little late for wrestling this year, but when and if this coach should approach College officials concerning such a meeting of the two schools, we suggest that any move in that direction would be wise.

Masterful Move

Smartest move of the month was pulled by the Phys Ed School with its approval of scheme whereby proficient varsity trackmen under direction of track captains take over frosh coaching duties in place of Navyman Bob Grieve.

First college to take such action, it not only protects the departed coaches' jobs, but it also gives varsity athletes a valuable opportunity to learn by teaching.

Lion Stickmen Practice With Johns Hopkins; Drop Game By 10-0

Aiming for their season opener with Navy this weekend, Coach Thiel's stickmen engaged Johns Hopkins' national champions in a practice game and dropped the tangle by a 10-0 count last Saturday.

Outstanding work was turned in at the inside defense spots by Captain Bill Giegenfus and Jim Gotwals. Mort Saler was credited with numerous defensive saves at his position in the nets.

The entire travelling squad of 20 men saw action in Coach Thiel's effort to put them into game condition.

Coach Thiel attributed the loss of the session with the Baltimore team to poor physical condition of his group which has been confined to Rec Hall for practice because of weather conditions.

The remaining time before the fray with the Midshipmen will be spent in heavy scrimmages and conditioning drills, according to the Lion coach.

Diamondmen Prepare For Western Maryland

Lack Of Practice May Hamper Lions



POSSIBLE STARTER — George McWilliams, sophomore catcher, is giving his classmate, Oggie Martella, a stiff battle for the nod to start behind the plate in the Penn State baseball opener against Western Maryland here Saturday afternoon. McWilliams and Martella are two of six sophomores expected to fill five starting positions.

Lions Hold First Spring Scrimmage

Penn State's spring football practice got its first real boost yesterday when the various members of Bob Higgins' grid outfit went through their first scrimmage since the "big snow."

Most interesting element of the spring drills was the grooming of the present freshman stars who will fill in varsity slots for the 1942 campaign, both as regulars and reserves.

Dave Alston, halfback, Joe Cackovic, center, and Leo Nobile, guard, all stars on Marty McAndrews' undefeated '45 squad during the past fall, look like sure-fire members of the Higgins' varsity, while the chances of Durkota, Tucceri, Suhey, Weitzell, and Uliniski look good if they show continued success throughout the spring drills.

In the scrimmage held yesterday the Blue backfield made up of Weitzell, Bud Davis, Durkota, and Skuta was pitted against the Alston, Banbury, Tucceri, and St. Clair Orange outfit.

Jack Banbury, last year's reserve fullback was the only experienced man in either backfield for the scrimmage, "but backs like Aldo Cenci, Sparky Brown, McWilliams and McFarland are still dominant in the picture.

Ends Bob Davis, Will Van Lenten, Bob Hart, and Bucky Walters worked out during the practice alongside tackles Schoonover, Kerns, and Mundwiler, all veterans, and Red Moore and Reid McCloskey, frosh prospects.

Probably the strongest-fortified position is at the guard spot where John Jaffurs, Bob Perugini, Steve Suhey, Fred Kreuter, and Harry Rywak hold forth with Nobile.

The Blue and White gridders will hold practices tomorrow and Saturday.

NITTANY:

"Wild Bill Hickok Rides"

CATHAUM:

"King's Row"

STATE:

"The Jungle Book"

"Condition unchanged." That was the only word from Joe Bedenk, coach of Penn State's baseball nine, as the Lion diamondmen worked out in their second poor outdoor practice this week.

Coach Bedenk was dissatisfied with Monday's drills, and yesterday found the Nittany baseballers still far from prepared for Saturday's opening contest against Western Maryland here.

However, the Green Terrors also have a weak diamond squad, and the Saturday tilt may be a battle to determine the weaker of the two teams.

Sophomores will dominate the Penn State lineup for the opener, as at least five '44-men are expected to start.

Catching duties will be handled by either Oggie Martella or George McWilliams, both sophomores, Fran Donovan, another soph, may also see action behind the plate.

Bill Sidler, who turned in a good performance with the freshman nine last season, is almost certain to get the nod at the third base post, and three more sophomores are expected to patrol the outfield when the Green Terrors come here.

Joe Piontek is the probable starter in left field, Jack Burford will be stationed in center, and Bob Vail in right.

Non-sophomore starters include Captain Bill Debler at first base, Franny Farris, senior, at second, and veteran Whitey Thomas at short stop. Debler will be counted on to furnish a large part of the Lions offensive, since he led the team in hitting last year.

Certain to take care of the hurl-

Medlar, Former Lion Hurler, Joins Buffalo

Chuck Medlar, pitching star of Penn State's baseball team last season, is now in spring training with Buffalo in the International League, and seems to be headed for a successful campaign in his second year of organized baseball.

Medlar, giant right-hander, won seven games and lost three for Coach Joe Bedenk last year, then joined Beaumont in the Texas League where he pitched mostly in relief roles, winning three and losing four. While with Beaumont he showed enough promise to be moved up a step to the International League.

Medlar was elected co-captain of Penn State's baseball team this year along with Bill Debler, but decided against finishing school, choosing to attempt to make the grade in the big leagues.

ing assignment is Ed Tuleya, only experienced pitcher from last year. Tuleya, a left-hander, will be used "whenever his arm is in good shape" according to Bedenk.

Others on the mound staff are Sophomores Johnny Roberts and Warren Pyers, and Paul Lazar, a senior. Pyers is the only right-hander of the quartet.

It's pretty doggone hard right now for a man to find a place on this earth where he can go to get away from it all.

Physical Fitness Conference Here

To show community leaders how they may assist in improving the health of the nation is the purpose of the physical fitness conference scheduled here Saturday.

Dr. A. C. Marts, director of the state council of defense, and Dr. William Mather Lewis, president of Lafayette College and former state director of selective service, will speak.

The School of Physical Education and Athletics in co-operation with extension services of the College are sponsoring the conference. Dr. Lewis will talk on "The College's Responsibility For The Physical Fitness of Its Students," and Dr. Marts, "The Importance of Physical Fitness in Civilian Defense."

Recreation programs for men and women will be considered in sessions conducted by Ray M. Conger, and Marie Haidt.

Dr. Lloyd M. Jones, professor of physical education, is in charge of the conference. Other members of the College faculty taking part are Dean Carl P. Schott, School of Physical Education; Dean M. R. Trabue, School of Education; Dr. Frank Koos, professor of educational administration and Ray V. Watkins, scheduling officer and regional director of the Pennsylvania State School Directors Association.

Thanks —

I wish to take this opportunity to thank all those fraternity and non-fraternity men who supported me in the A.A. elections.

Barney Plesser

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