

Old Coaches Never Die—They Fade Away

By RAY KOEHLER
Collegian Sports Editor

Although they may not realize it, there is a cross-section of humanity banded together for the sake of mutual admiration and protection which might well bear the slogan—"Ulcers, Inc."

No business society this, however, but an intrepid group of diehards called coaches who stand related through this mutual "occupational hazard."

While today it is the athlete who revels in the public eye, here is often a far more colorful figure behind his achievements—his coach. And the shame of it is that more of the public can not see or hear what goes on around a varsity bench while an athletic contest is underway.

What with the pressure that modern coaches are under, it is of small wonder that so many develop comic routines to buoy their spirits. Those who take the game too seriously wind up as a page in a psychiatrist's case-history book.

Although he may be cussed at in one breath and then praised with the next, there is something about the game which holds him. The average coach has no more chance breaking away from sports than a dope addict has of swearing off morphine.

They couldn't give up sports even if they were headed for the fate described in a banquet story by LaSalle's Ken Loeffler. It seems that a coach had died and gone to purgatory. There, along with a number of other compatriots in crime, he was made to stand in a sewer up to his chin. "What have we done to deserve this?" he lamented to the man on his left. "This is a horrible punishment."

"This is nothing," the other fellow told him. "Wait'll the alumni come by in speedboats!"

Let's take a trip up on Beaver field to the home

baseball dugout and look in at Coach Joe Bedenk with his continual line of chatter.

"Holy smokes," as his favorite expression goes, "I don't know what it is with you guys. Second base is still in the middle of the diamond, they haven't changed it for 112 years." or "Holy cripes, Howard," he'll chirp to an umpire he's known for years.

To an opposing pitcher entering the game in a tight spot he'll sympathize: "Hey, pitch, this is a pretty tough spot to come into. Those men on the bases aren't your friends. I wouldn't like to be in your shoes." Then Chuck Medlar, assistant coach, will chime in—"Ah-h-h, quit yer cryin' pitcher, you'll know when its over by the crack of the bat."

An extreme opposite is basketball Coach Elmer Gross who probably wouldn't wink an eyelid if the Rec Hall roof started caving in during a game. Indeed, Gross is so nonchalant—even during the most exciting moments of a game—that he gives one the impression of his going to sleep.

A pessimist by nature when it comes to basketball, Gross usually looks on the dark side of things before the season opens. "We'll be lucky to win five ball games," he said at the beginning of the 1950-'51 court season in which he won 14 contests.

Boxing mentor Ed Sulkowski coaches like Joe Louis looks—dead-panned. But just as soon as a round ends you'll see him running up those ring steps at a mile-a-minute pace all the while giving his fighter the scoop. While on the bench you couldn't tell from his face whether his fighter was winning or losing.

Oggie Martella, assistant boxing coach, tells this one on himself. It happened while he was playing Class A Eastern League baseball for Utica. Seems as though for several weeks during one particular sea-

son Oggie just couldn't buy a hit. This forced Eddie Sawyer, then managing the club, to bench him.

During a closely-contested game with the score tied, a runner on the base-paths, and the pitcher due to hit, Sawyer elected to have Oggie pinch-hit.

As soon as he picked up a bat the fans set up a terrific din of booing, jeering, and cat-calling. Coming down from the 3rd base coaches box Sawyer said, "Oggie, don't listen to those birds in the stands. They're not booing you—they're booing me for letting you bat!"

Wrestling boss Charley Speidel is what is known as a "wriggler" in trade parlance. He just can't sit still during a match. Many fans thought he was in a trance the time Don Maurey fought Dick Gregory of Navy and advanced his man to a point where it was a sea-saw struggle for the pin.

There sat Charley—his arms and legs straight and stiffly held out in the air in suspense—looking for all the world like a Yogi practitioner. Those in the stands held their breath and watched bug-eyed until he finally relaxed after the referee mercifully called the pin.

Soccer Coach Bill Jeffrey, who acquired the monicker "Old Ironsides" because he was the only member of the Penn State Iranian good-will tour to escape a food sickness, is a happy-go-lucky kind of guy whose good spirits are contagious.

Jeffrey doesn't believe in criticizing a man in front of the whole team, but when someone does something especially good he'll usually offer some words of praise. And here is one man to whom the name Bobby Burns means more than a 25-cent cigar. Jeff is always reciting the poetry of this Scottish bard.

So, the next time you go to an athletic contest, keep your glimmers peeled on the coach over on the bench. Chances are that he'll give you a better show than the advertised main attraction.

Mikan Heads NBA All-Star Cage Selections

NEW YORK, April 23 (AP)—George Mikan, basketball's "Mr. Big" in every respect, today headed the National Basketball association's all-star squad.

Mikan, the Minneapolis great, was the only unanimous choice of the team which was picked by sports writers and sportscasters throughout the circuit.

The first team:
George Mikan, Minneapolis.
Ed Macauley, Boston.
Bob Davies, Rochester.
Alex Groza, Indianapolis.
Ralph Beard, Indianapolis.

The second team:
Dolph Schayes, Syracuse.
Joe Fulks, Philadelphia.
Frank Brian, Tri-Cities.
Vern Mikkelsen, Minneapolis.
Dick McGuire, New York.
Each player on the first team will receive \$200. Second-team choices will collect \$100.

Today's Major League Pitchers

NEW YORK (AP) — Probable pitchers for today's major league games (won-lost records in parentheses):

National League—New York at Philadelphia—Jansen (1-1) vs Heintzelman (0-1). Boston at Brooklyn (night)—Bickford (1-1) vs Newcombe (2-0). Chicago at Cincinnati (night)—Minner (1-0) vs Fox (1-0). Pittsburgh at St. Louis (night)—Chambers (1-1) vs Poholsky (0-1).

American League—St. Louis at Chicago (2)—Widmar (0-1) and Starr (0-1) vs Gumpert (1-0) and Dobson (0-0). Philadelphia at New York—Kellner (1-0) vs Shea (0-0). Washington at Boston—Marrero (1-0) or Consuegra (1-0) vs Parnell (0-1). (Only games scheduled)

Tennis --

(continued from page six)

starting lineup will be Dick Wieland as No. 2 man, Bill Aiken, No. 3; Ed Davis, No. 4; Bill Wood, No. 5; and either Gus Bigott or Forrey as No. 6.

Landon and Wieland will form the No. 1 doubles combination. Handling the No. 2 team chores will be Aiken and Davis, while Bigott and Wood will compose the No. 3 twosome.

Penn State's 58-year-old coach, Bill Jeffrey, is earning a reputation as America's No. 1 soccer emissary. His tour of Iran with the Nittany Lion eleven marks his fourth foreign excursion since 1934. He went to Scotland in 1934, Italy in 1945, and Brazil in 1950.

Goodness . . . He Made It!



Elmer Gross

Which Is My Man?



Charlie Speidel

Psst. — Get 'Im This Time



Eddie Sulkowski

Pass It — Laddie



Bill Jeffrey

garden on the 18th. The New York commission will recognize the winner as world champion.

Holy Smokes!



Joe Bedenk

Gavilan Given Draft Physical

NEW YORK, April 23 (AP) — Kid Gavilan, Cuban welterweight contender who meets NBA welterweight champion Johnny Bratton May 18, was given a pre-induction physical examination today. He was ordered to report tomorrow to Fort Jay Base hospital at Governors island for further medical examinations.

An office at the Army's pre-induction center said that in all probability Gavilan will be deferred because he is married and has a seven-months old child. He underwent the same tests last Aug. 31 and was deferred until today.

Gavilan and Bratton are scheduled to fight in Madison Square

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Major League Results

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Yesterday's Results
Washington 7 Boston 5
Cleveland 5 Chicago 2
New York 3 Philadelphia 0

Standings

	W	L	Pct.
Cleveland	6	1	.857
Washington	5	1	.833
New York	5	2	.714
Chicago	4	2	.667
Boston	3	4	.429
Detroit	2	4	.333
St. Louis	1	6	.143
Philadelphia	1	7	.140

NATIONAL LEAGUE
Yesterday's Results
Boston 7 Brooklyn 4
Pittsburgh 6 Chicago 4
St. Louis 3 Cincinnati 1

Standings

	W	L	Pct.
Brooklyn	5	2	.714
Chicago	4	2	.667
Pittsburgh	4	2	.667
St. Louis	3	4	.429
Boston	3	4	.429
x-Philadelphia	3	3	.500
x-New York	2	6	.250
Cincinnati	1	6	.143

x—Playing night game.

European King Beats Beshore

LONDON, April 24 (AP)—Don Cockell, British and European light heavyweight champion, pounded out a one-sided decision victory over Freddie Beshore of Harrisburg, Pa., tonight in a non-title ten rounder before a capacity crowd of 10,400 in Harringay arena. Beshore outweighed the Londoner, 185 to 181.

Blonde Freddie first lost \$420 in the afternoon for weighing three pounds over an agreed 182 and then he took a good shellacking from the 22-year-old Englishman in the evening.

There was never much doubt in this contest from the first round on. Cockell drew blood from Beshore's nose midway in the first round with three solid lefts, rocked him hard throughout the bout with whistling right uppercuts and battered him with a tremendous body attack at the final bell.

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