

Lions Nine Beat W. Maryland

Vesling, Weidenhammer Star in 17-6 Triumph

By DICK McDOWELL

The Nittany Lions unlimbered their big bats yesterday afternoon as they battered four Western Maryland pitchers for 12 hits—eight of them extra base blows—to win their third contest of the season, 17-6.

While hurler Keith Vesling spun a six hitter, his teammates collected three home runs and three triples in the Lions' best hitting performance of the campaign. Vesling himself blasted one of the circuit blows along with centerfielder Sil Cerchie—his second of the season—and rightfielder Tom Werner.



Keith Vesling Pitches 2nd Win

Cold Winds

Shortstop Ron Weidenhammer, who had managed only one hit in the previous two outings, caught fire at the plate and blasted triples and a single in five times at bat to lend the Lion attack. Left fielder Rex Bradley got the other Lion three bagger.

Only a handful of fans turned out for the contest as cold winds swept Beaver Field. The temperature seemed to have some effect on the fielding also. Both teams were shoddy on the defensive side. The Lions committed six errors while the Terriers bobbled the ball five times.

Right hander Jerry Troy started the game for the Nittanies but ran into trouble in the first frame. A single, sacrifice, two walks and his own error put him two runs behind and Vesling came onto the mound.

Two Runs, No Hits

The big righthander, who won his second game of the season, gave up a double to third baseman Phil Jackson, scoring two more tallies. The Terriers touched him for two more in the eighth on two hits and an error but that was the best they could do.

The Lions scored two in the second frame without manufacturing a hit when starter Don James walked four batters and threw a wild pitch. Two more crossed the plate in the fourth. The Lions had their big innings in the fifth and sixth, scoring nine runs in the two frames. In the fifth Bradley tagged his triple with the bases loaded and Cerchie followed with his homer, a tremendous 375 foot clout to left field.

Werner led off the sixth with a screaming liner down the left field line, good for four bags. An error, walk, and Weidenhammer's first triple brought three more runs across. He scored when Bradley grounded out short to first.

State scored again in the seventh on Vesling's two run homer and added another pair in the eighth on two hits—Weidenhammer's second triple and third baseman Burt Gold's single—and two errors.

The Lions go on the road this weekend, traveling to Lafayette Friday and Rutgers Saturday. They return to Beaver Field April 22 when they will meet American University. The following day they take on Gettysburg.

DUGOUT NOTES: Vesling's strikeout total now stands at 20 in two games. He's given up 13 hits, five runs, and seven walks. . . . Bedenk's crew has scored 33 runs but have committed 10 bobbles. . . . bad weather has been a definite handicap for the Lions. Rain and low temperatures have put the damper on quite a few

Baseball's Big Leagues

NEW YORK, April 14 (AP)—A 10th-inning home run by a Milwaukee rookie and a one-hit pitching performance by Bob Lemon of the Cleveland Indians provided the highlights today as the major league baseball season got off to a full-scale start before disappointing crowds.

Cold, raw weather cut attendance in the East and a snowstorm in New England forced postponement of the Red Sox opener with Washington in Boston.

The Milwaukee rookie was Bill Bruton, who thrilled a sellout crowd of 34,357 at Milwaukee by hitting the extra-inning home run to beat the St. Louis Cardinals, 3-2.

It was the home debut of the transplanted Braves, bringing big league ball to the city for the first time in half a century.

Lemon, ace of the Cleveland staff, pitched his one-hitter as the Indians trumped the Chicago White Sox, 6-0, before the day's largest crowd, 53,698. The only hit off Lemon was a single by Minnie Minoso in the first inning. Lemon also hit a home run.

The New York Yankees, bidding for their fifth straight pennant, got off to a wobbly start as Alex Kellner of the Philadelphia Athletics shut them out, 5-0, on five hits. It was the first opening day defeat for the world champions since 1947.

Only 23,534 turned out to watch the Yankees hold flag-raising ceremonies and then bow to the Athletics. There were just 12,433 of the Dodger faithful at Ebbets Field where Brooklyn's National League champions opened their campaign with an 8-5 victory over Pittsburgh.

The Dodgers relied on an old success formula, the relief pitching of Joe Black and home runs by Roy Campanella and Duke Snider to beat the Pirates on four-run outbursts in the fourth and fifth innings.

The Dodgers' perennial National League rivals, the New York Giants, got off on the right foot by trimming the Phillies at Philadelphia, 4-1. Airtight pitching by Larry Jansen and a two-run homer by Bobby Thomson turned the tables against the Phils' Robin Roberts, a 28-game winner last year.

In the other National League game, the Chicago Cubs edged the Cincinnati Reds, 3-2, when a throwing error by third baseman Bobby Adams of the Reds set up a two-run double by Ransom Jackson in the eighth. A crowd of 21,222 attended at Chicago's Wrigley Field.

The Detroit Tigers and St. Louis Browns were scheduled for a night contest at St. Louis.

Jesse Arnelle needed only one and one-half seasons of play to top Penn State's former high in basketball career scoring.

Soccer Practice

Spring soccer practice will start at 3 p.m. today. Candidates must take a physical examination at the Dispensary before reporting to Rec Hall for equipment.

Political Aspirations

At least three Penn State athletes will be candidates for office in the spring elections. Dick Lemyre, Eastern wrestling champion, will aspire to All-College presidency while Jesse Arnelle, of football and basketball fame, will seek the junior class vice presidency. Ed Haag, also of the basketball team, is a candidate for All-College vice-president.

Baseballing Gridders

Three Penn State football players are preoccupied with baseball this spring. The three are Keith Vesling, of Clarendon; Don Shank of Norristown; and Matt Yanosich, of Midland. Another griddler, Rosey Grier, of Roselle, N.J., looms as track coach Chick Werner's best in the javelin, discus and shot put.

practice sessions . . . Kline hitless yesterday for first time. He's four for 11 at the plate.

Penn State		W. Maryland	
AB	R H	AB	R H
Russo, 2b	2 2 1	Moylan, 2b	4 2 1
Weidenhammer, ss	5 3 3	Mills, cf	4 2 1
Bradley, lf	4 2 1	Kaufman, 1b	4 0 1
Cerchie, cf	4 1 2	White, c	1 0 0
Cusick, c	6 0 1	Rausch, lf	4 1 2
Kline, 3b	4 1 0	Stewart, rf	5 0 1
Gold, 3b	1 0 1	Jackson, 3b	4 0 1
Walker, rf	1 1 0	Hutchinson, ss	5 0 0
Werner, rf	4 1 1	James, p	2 0 0
Shank, 1b	2 0 0	Sanders, p	1 0 0
Kennedy, 1b	1 2 0	Biddle, p	0 0 0
Troy, p	0 0 0	Clem, p	0 0 0
Vesling, p	3 4 2	Henderson, x	1 0 0
Totals	37 17 12	Totals	38 6 7

x—batted for Clem in 8th
W. Maryland—400 800 020—6 7 5
Penn State—020 254 22x—17 12 6
WP—Vesling (2-0); LP—Sanders, RB—Russo, Weidenhammer, 4; Bradley, 4; Cerchie, 2; Gold, Werner, Vesling, Bruce, Rausch, Jackson, 2.

Sports Thru The Lion's Eye

By JAKE HIGHTON
Collegian Sports Editor



Beaver Field's beautiful baseball lawn glistened in bright sunlight yesterday afternoon. The semi-frigid air made it a perfect day—for fireplaces and Rip Engle's beef cattle which were practicing across the way. However, a hasty calendar check showed that the football team wasn't due to begin operations until Sept. 26 while the baseball team did have, as suspected, business to transact with Western Maryland.

And although the eventual transaction was in keeping with the weather and thoughts of football—17-6 in favor of Penn State—there was enough baseball played during the two hours and 45 minutes of Siberian torture to get a fair idea of the Nittany baseball team.

Before chasing his boys out into the cold, Coach Joe Bedenk offered the sage observation, "every game is different." Already he was right in one way he probably didn't consider—the thimblefull of fans who did brave the icy blasts wore overcoats which probably had never seen a baseball game before.

Jerry Troy began pitching for State. But, after Troy yielded a single and three walks to be charged with four runs, Homer Bedenk called in his epic hero, Keith Vesling. Ves proceeded to lift the seige of Troy with seven splendid innings of runless pitching.

In the second inning, Vesling's strong right arm and high, hard kick of his left leg set a familiar pattern which was to record 13 strikeouts and advise most watchers that here was Bedenk's ace—both for starting crucials and in relief.

(Hustling in for the home half of the second, third baseman Hubie Klein offered the understatement of the day, "It's a little cold out there." Then Hubie partially remedied the situation by donning a rubber shirt.)

In the top half of the third, shortstop Ron Weidenhammer showed his basketball and ballhawking sense by racing into the infield gaps to stop hits marked COD for the outfield. But, he betrayed an arm which isn't as strong as it ought to be for a shortstop. Nevertheless, any slight throwing inadequacy of the Weedle's was made up for in the whippet arm of catcher Art Cusick. The husky Nittany backstop threw out one man, cut off another stealer by 10 feet, and kept every Marylander honest with throws that would have won Cusick a spot in a big league second-base barrel-throwing contest.

After State's two scores in the fourth tied matters at 4-4, the Arctic Bowl was definitely decided in the fifth. Leftfielder Rex Bradley tripled across three runs. Then the Kid's Choice, Sil Cerchie—who was dubbed the Home Run King by idolatrous youngsters behind the on-deck screen—provided the Babe Ruthian color with a 375 foot home run.

Enough said. Yet, the game of necessity had to drag to its obvious conclusion. Rightfielder Tom Werner and even pitcher Vesling broke some of the icy stillness and boredom with home runs. And, the monotony of Vesling's pitching—from the Maryland point of view—was broken up by two runs in the eighth, which did little but drag out the contest.

In the Maryland ninth, State's nifty Vessel set 'em down 1-2-3—the middle out on a called strike by the ump who was as eager to get home as the 30 spectators who stayed to the bitter cold end. When his end did come, not even the Marylanders were sorry. After all, the only winter accoutrement which was missing was the snow which prevented the Boston Red Sox-Washington Senator Beantown opener yesterday.

Trout fishing today? No thanks.

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