

Hitting at .305 Clip...



THESE THREE LION infielders have had a lot to do with Penn State's 10-4 baseball record. The trio (l.-r.) Ron Weidenhammer, third base; Cookie Tirabassi, shortstop, and Captain Charlie Russo, second base; carry respective .451, .287 and .200 batting averages into today's 3:30 p.m. Beaver Field contest with Villanova. Together they own a .305 average. Weidenhammer and Russo are both three-year veterans, while Tirabassi is a sophomore.

Villanova Seeks To End Lions' Winning Streak

Villanova, currently running among the top four in collegiate baseball's widely-scattered District Two division, comes to Beaver Field this afternoon, bent on disrupting Penn State's home winning streak—now at seven.

Game time is 3:30 p.m.

Either sophomore Eddie Drapcho (7-1) or Bill Burcin (0-0) will take the mound for the Lions, with Norm Van Ord or Lou D'Orsaneo behind the plate.

The Wildcats, 13-5 for the season, are in strong contention for 1955 District Two honors. Their latest win was a 7-1 victory over St. Joseph's on Monday. West Chester State Teacher's College accounted for two of their defeats.

Topped Wildcats in '54

Last year the Nittanians dropped Villanova, 7-3, on the strength of a 11-hit attack.

Should Burcin take the hill for the Lions this afternoon, he'll mark only the fifth pitcher. Bedenk has used in the Nittanians' 14 games to date. In addition to Drapcho's 7-1 slate, Lynn Harold is 2-0, and Stan Larimer owns a 1-3 log.

Reliever Stan Szymanski has gone eight innings, yielding five hits, but is without a won-lost record.

Drapcho, a recruit who has teamed up with veteran Ron Weidenhammer to return Penn State to title consideration in the NCAA race, has practically developed into a one-man pitching staff. In going the route in eight of the Lions' 14 games so far, he already owns a no-hitter, two-hit and three-hit shutouts, and is rated the finest prospect to perform for the Lions in years.

Wealth of Know-How

Bedenk, an his aide, Chuck Medlar, credit Drapcho with a wealth of know-how.

"His fast ball," says Medlar, "does things when it goes up to the plate. He just doesn't try to throw it past the hitter."

In notching seven of his team's 10 wins, the poised southpaw has given up only 21 runs and 28 hits in 66 innings on the mound.

Weidenhammer, who moved from shortstop to third base at the start of the season to make room for newcomer Cookie Tirabassi, currently is setting the pace at the plate with a .451 average. He's hit safely 23 times in 51 trips.

Leads Comeback Drive

The first to regain his batting poise, Weidenhammer is now leading the Lions on a comeback drive which promises to revive their pennant aspirations.

Troubled by the Lions' early-season batting slump, Bedenk revised the lineup again and again in an effort to find a hitting combination.

The outfield found the major portion of revisions, with Bedenk alternating in center and right

nearly every game. But Jim Lockerman banging away at .364 in center and Bob McMullen hitting at .452 in right seem to have solved the problem there. Rex Bradley roaming the leftfield pastures for the third year, leads all comers in ballhawking and is swinging at a .268 clip.

Although McMullen is leading Weidenhammer by one thousandth of a point, he's made only 31 trips to the plate compared to Weidenhammer's 51. McMullen has hit safely in the past eight games.

Outfielders Hitting .342

Together, the trio of outfielders own a .342 average.

In the infield, Weidenhammer, Tirabassi and Captain Charlie Russo have started at third, short, and second every game to date, with Paul Palumbo relieving Pat Kennedy at first the past four outings.

The infield, mainly on the strength of Weidenhammer's .451, is setting a .305 pace. (Including just the three regulars at second, shortstop, and third).

Tirabassi is .267 and Russo, hitless in the past five games, is batting an even .200.

Kennedy owns a .275 mark and Palumbo, in four games, is .154.

Used Four Catchers

Behind the plate, Bedenk has alternated with four starters—Phil Saunders and Wally Mrazs in addition to Van Ord and D'Orsaneo.

With three games behind him, D'Orsaneo leads the backstops with an even .300 percentage. Saunders and Mrazs are both .143 (Saunders' two hits in 14 trips doubles Mrazs' output in both departments) and Van Ord rounds out the catchers' plate performances with a .111 average.

Following today's game, the Lions take to the road to meet Colgate Friday and Syracuse in a Saturday twin-bill. They then return to Beaver Field for their final three games.

Senators Hint at Series Of 'Big Name' Trades

WASHINGTON, May 17 (AP)—The Washington Senators, off to a miserable start this year, are toying with a series of proposed trades that may send their biggest "name" ball players to other clubs before the trading deadline, June 11.

Involved in the trade talk are pitchers Bob Porterfield and Mickey McDermott, first baseman Eddie Yost and outfielder Roy Sievers.

Lacrosse Seek 3d Straight Win Against Hobart Today

By FRAN FANUCCI

Hunting its third straight win, Penn State's lacrosse team encounters the Hobart Statesman in the first of two final home games at 3:30 this afternoon on Beaver Field. The Lions finish their season on Saturday when the Quakers from Pennsylvania invade the Nittany campus.

But to register a win over Hobart, which beat the Nittanians, 18-16, last season, will be a man-sized job for the stickmen. The Statesmen boast a solid attackman in Jon Kraus, who is regarded as one of the nation's best all-around players, and a top defenseman in Henry Bolin.

Senior George Laster is Hobart's mainstay in the midfield.

Snape is Missing

But, Hobart lacks all-American Jack Snape, who broke the school's scoring record and also broke the Lion's back when he scored ten goals in last year's contest. Whether the Statesmen can win without him will be seen in today's game.

Lion mentor Nick Thiel will start the same lineup as he used against Swarthmore. In the midfield will be Bob Hamel, who tallied eight goals in last year's Hobart game, and Frank Locotos, and Jim Hay.

Joe Erwin, leading the team with 17 goals, will head the attack trio. Ron Youtz and George Bicklehaupt will be the other starters. On defense Bob Bullock, Erv Weidner, and Herb Horikawa will get the starting nods, with captain Don Bell covering the net.

Lion Scored 86 Goals

A win will give the Lions a 6-5 record, which will be the first time in three years that they will be over the .500 mark. In the regularly scheduled contests this season the stickmen have scored 86 goals while their opponents have accounted for 84.

Thiel expects a high scoring but close game. In the past, the two teams have always ended in double figures but separated by only a goal or two.

This will be the 19th game with Hobart in a series which started in 1914. During that span of years the Statesmen have copped ten games while the Lions have garnered seven, with one ending in a tie.

Another sidelight in today's contest will be the scoring of Erwin, who needs just six goals to tie the record held by Al Fulton. Erwin was injured just when it seemed certain that he would break the record of 23 easily. Runnerup in the Lion scoring is Bob Hamel who scored 21 last year, second to Fulton.

Rocky Praises Foes 'Durability'

SAN FRANCISCO, May 17 (AP)—Rocky Marciano brimmed over with praise today for doxy Don Cockell's "durability" as the heavyweight champ's manager talked about a possible September rematch in London.

Manager Al Weill said Bob Baker or the winner of the June 22 match in New York between light heavy champ Archie Moore and middleweight king Bobo Olson would be acceptable as a New York opponent. But he insisted he was not committed and was considering a "good proposal" from Jack Solomons, British promoter.

"If the terms are right—and that takes in a lot of territory—I think England is as good as any spot for a rematch," said Weill. "I'm going to be with Jim Norris, president of the International Boxing Club, in New York and we'll decide which is best."

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Don Bell Defensive bulwark on Lion lacrosse team



Joe Erwin Offensive bulwark on Lion lacrosse team

Sigma Nu Leading In IM Competition

By VINCE CAROCCI

Sigma Nu is leading 51 fraternities in the race for top honors in intramural competition, according to the latest figures released by the IM office.

Although Sigma Nu has failed to capture any IM championships thus far, it had enough entries finishing in the top slots to accumulate a total of 635 points, a lead of 35 points over the second place fraternity, Phi Delta Theta.

The leaders picked up 185 points in the boxing tourney and 135 points in the basketball tournament to obtain slightly less than one half of their total points.

Phi Delta Theta, holding the runnerup position with 600 points, copped 155 points by winning the touch football tournament and 135 points by winding up second in handball singles play.

In third place with 562 points, is Delta Upsilon, runnersup in the wrestling competition.

Theta Xi holds down the fourth slot in the standings with 496 points, 130 of which came by finishing second in the volleyball tournament. Theta Xi also picked up 110 points when its entry won the badminton crown.

Breathing down Theta Xi's neck is Delta Sigma Phi with 495 points. Delta Sig copped 110 points by capturing second place in the football tourney, and 95 points by placing second in swimming tourney.

Sigma Chi, holding down the sixth slot, is right on the tail of Theta Xi and Delta Sigma Phi with 489 points. The biggest pointer for Sigma Chi was the bad-

minton tournament when the house finished second.

Beta Theta Pi, 468 points, Phi Kappa Sigma, 460 points, Chi Phi, 410 points, and Delta Chi, 404 points, round out the top ten in that order.

Zeta Beta Tau was the only fraternity to win more than one championship as its entries won both the singles and doubles crown of handball play.

Other championship winners were: Beta Theta Pi, swimming; Alpha Sigma Phi, golf-medal; Phi Kappa Sigma, boxing; and Kappa Delta Rho, basketball.

Phi Delta Theta won the football title, Chi Phi copped the wrestling crown, Theta Xi claimed the badminton laurels, and Delta Chi retained its volleyball championship for the second consecutive year.

Kappa Delta Rho with 391 points tops the second ten in the standings. Following KDR are: Sigma Alpha Epsilon, 371; Alpha Sigma Phi, 350; Phi Gamma Delta, 337; Phi Sigma Kappa, 305; Alpha Zeta, 301; Beta Sigma Rho and Alpha Epsilon Pi, tied with 300 points; and Pi Kappa Alpha, 293.

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