Miller's .484 Tops Lion Hitters; Rainey Second

When baseball coach Joe Bedenk talked about Penn State's diamond prospects in late March, he mentioned the fact that his ace hurler Cal Emery would probably see action at first base when not on the mound.

Emery, only a junior, had been in that dual role last year when the Lions won second place in the NCAA baseball tournament and it was only natural that he retain the role. After all, the towering lefthander had wound up with a .326 average, third highest on the team, and had earned the Lions' home run title with three.

But after 10 games this season, the Center Hall Clipper has yet to see duty at the initial sack. And unless there is a quick reversal of form in the final eight tilts, he won't see any action either.

The reason is the rejuvenation of three-year veteran Gary Miller who's currently setting the Lion batting pace with an astronomical .484 average. Miller has been the

Gary Miller
. . . has 16 hits

regular first sacker since his sophomore year in 1956. But after hitting at a lusty .298 clip in his rookie campaign, he fell to a .191 last spring, lowest among the returning nine letterwinners.

However, this season Miller has been blasting away at opposing hurlers with the adeptness of a Gil Hodges. His .484 average is 114 points better than runnerup Ron Rainey—last season's batting king with a .338 average (.350 during the regular season — and he also leads the team in total hits with 16. Besides that, the lanky first sacker is tied with Rainey and junior Chuck Caldwell in the doubles department with three.

Ironically, Miller bats in the eighth position in the batting order—and it doesn't appear as if he'll move up either. "Why should he when he's hitting like that?" Bedenk asks. "Besides, in that eighth spot, he's our second clean-up hitter."

The other team batting leaders include Rainey, 17 runs-batted-in; rookie Larry Fegley, 2 triples; and Bob Hoover, 15 runs. Rainey, Hoover, Don Stickler and Jack McMullen are tied in the home run department with one apiece.

Emery, as expected, has posted the best pitching mark with a 6-0 won-lost record, a 1.18 earned run average and 47 strikeouts. Right handed Ron Riese ranks behind Emery with a 2-0 won-lost mark, a 2.01 earned run average, and 27 strikeouts. However, Riese hasn't been as free with his walks as Emery—giving up only three in 23⅔ innings to Emery's 25 in 38 frames.

STATISTICS FOR TEN GAMES

Batting Order	ab	r	h	ave.	bb	so	rbi
Larry Fegley	38	11	13	.341	7	7	6
Bob Hoover	42	15	12	.285	5	8	10
Ron Rainey	35	11	13	.370	4	2	17
Don Stickler	36	11	10	.277	5	4	8
Joe Moore	18	4	3	.167	4	3	4
or							
Doug Caldwell	18	5	6	.333	3	4	7
Dave Watkins	12	3	2	.167	5	1	1
or							
Jack McMullen	24	7	6	.250	6	4	11
Steve Baidy	33	5	6	.181	3	5	3
Gary Miller	33	7	16	.484	4	5	7
Pitchers							
Cal Emery	17	5	4	.235	2	2	3
Ron Riese	8	3	1	.125	2	2	0
Larry Baver	3	1	0	.000	1	1	0
Dave Simmers	3	1	1	.333	1	2	1
Larry Friedman	2	0	0	.000	0	1	0
Others							
Harry Beans	2	0	0	.000	0	0	0
Larry Beighey	2	0	0	.000	0	1	0
Wayne Breisch	1	0	0	.000	0	1	0
Tom Kaschak	1	1	0	.000	1	0	0
Walt Krauser	2	1	1	.500	0	1	0
Jack Michel	1	2	0	.000	2	1	0
TEAM	331	91	94	.283	49	56	78

EXTRA BASE HITS

Doubles—Miller 3, Fegley 2, Moore, Hoover, Rainey 3, Baidy, Caldwell 3, McMullen, Riese.

Triples—Fegley 2, Moore, Watkins, Emery.

Homers—Rainey, Stickler, Hoover, McMullen.

Pitcher	IP	H	R	BB	W	L	Ave.
Cal Emery	38	17	8	25	6	0	1.000
Ron Riese	26⅔	15	6	8	2	0	1.000
Dave Simmers	8⅓	9	8	5	0	0	.000
Larry Baver	7⅓	11	9	4	0	1	.000
Larry Friedman	1⅔	5	3	1	0	1	.000
Team	82	58	34	39	8	2	.500

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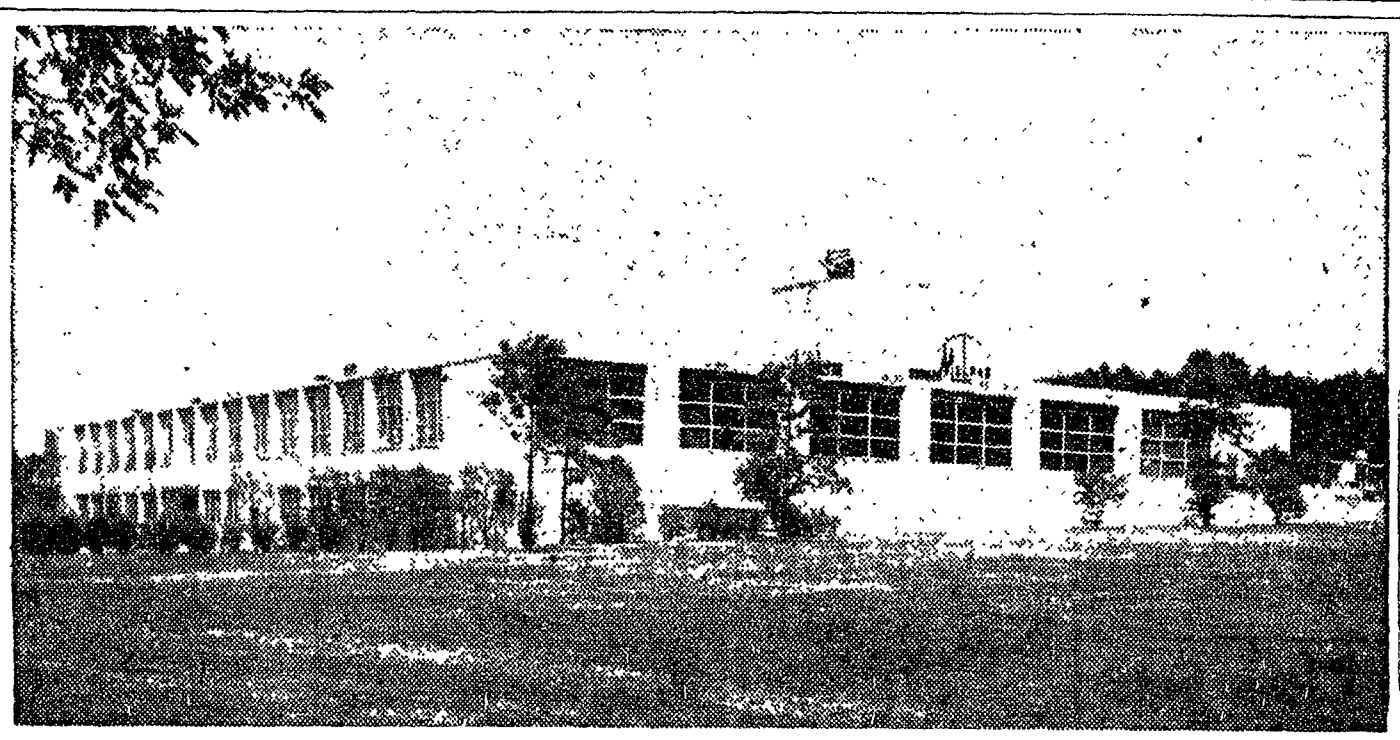

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