

The Sportseer



Lions Standout By Stopping OSU

By Lou Prato Sports Editor

That character building program that baseball Coach Joe Bedenk had planned for this season may turn out to be a flop. At least, that seems to be the indication after the Lions' performance against highly-regarded Ohio State over the weekend.

Before the 3-game Buckeye set had started, this gum-chewing journalist figured one victory over the invaders would be a major accomplishment. After all, Bedenk's crew was loaded with greenhorns (5 of the starting 8) and didn't seem to have one dependable pitcher. Besides, they had barely squeezed by their first two somewhat "mediocre" foes—Gettysburg and Bucknell.

Ohio State, on the other hand, came roaring into the Nittany Valley with an 11-2 record, including seven victories it had recorded on its annual Florida excursion. And this was a team which had been practicing together since midwinter—spending three months in the OSU field house before going outside.

Bedenk's upstarts not only grabbed one victory, but two—both by surprisingly large margins, 8-2 and 6-1. And to tell the truth, the Lions should have swept the series. But shoddy fielding, an absence of clutch hitting and a couple of mental relapses led to the lone downfall, a 6-3 affair in the series opener Friday afternoon.

However, Bedenk's boys really looked sharp in Saturday afternoon's doubleheader—especially the hurling of two rookie southpaws, Ed Kikla and Tom Durbin. Kikla threw a two-hitter at the Ohio State nine and was almost never in trouble. Durbin's performance was somewhat different. He had men on base in just about every inning by a walk, hit or error. But he had the stuff when it counted—in the clutch.

Before proceeding, we should also single out the fine mound effort of Bill Benton in Friday's encounter. The sophomore lefty pitched a good game, but Ohio State made the best of the breaks—and won.

Except for the defensive work of third baseman Mike Hader, the Lions were very effective in the twin-bill. Hader, one of Bedenk's newcomers, had seven errors Saturday, and if it hadn't been for his bobbles, the Nittanians might have had double shutouts. We don't think Hader is as bad as he looked. He's been at the hot corner spot in both sandlot and high school ball and surely must have picked up enough pointers to handle the position. But everyone has a bad day. We hope that was his.

The lusty hitting of veteran second baseman Larry Fegley and rookie Zeke DeLong and the superb fielding of veteran shortstop Bob Hoover also stood out Saturday. Fegley drove in four runs with three hits and DeLong batted in a couple more with five hits.

Hoover was by far the fielding star of the day, although Ohio State's third sacker Hank Wheeler and shortstop Dave Holland gave him a close battle. The Lion captain halted many Buckeye threats with his flashy performance.

However, even in winning, the Lions looked bad in a couple respects—their baserunning and clutch hitting. They missed some good scoring opportunities because of their sloppy baserunning—a point that had and still has Bedenk boiling.

Although their clutch hitting improved from the previous outings, there is still a great deal of room for progress. Nine men were left stranded in the first game and 10 in the seven-inning second tilt to run the five game left-on-base total to 55—a sorry figure indeed.

But all in all, we are very happy with the Lion showing. They're still a relatively inexperienced team, but give them five or six more games and they'll be acting like veterans. Yes sir, we may land another berth in the District Two NCAA playoffs after all.

Musial Spoils No-Hitter Again

CHICAGO (AP) — Young Glen Hobbie, Chicago Cubs' emergency starter, had a perfect game bid shattered by Stan Musial's two-out double in the seventh yesterday as he gained a 1-0 decision over the St. Louis Cardinals with a one hit.

Hobbie retired 20 Cardinals in order before Musial, hitting .191, slashed a bouncer to left field just inside the foul line.

Musial last Saturday also ruined a no-hitter bid by San Francisco's Jack Sanford with a seventh inning single.

Hobbie had to pitch near-per-

fect ball to conquer a rookie Cardinal making his first major league start, Gary Blaylock, who scattered five hits.

Blaylock scattered 5 hits, walked 4 and struck out 5.

The Cubs scored in the second on Walt Moryn's single, a walk, an infield out and Sammy Taylor's single.

Hobbie, who will be 23 on Friday, had been tabbed for relief service this season. Because Dick Drott has been slow rounding into form and Bob Anderson is ill, Manager Bob Scheffing pressed Hobbie into service as a starter.

Badminton Finals Slated For Tonight

"Sammy" Phaungphakdi of Pi Lambda Phi, last year's intramural badminton champ, and Bob Gross of Phi Epsilon Pi, last year's runner-up will meet tonight in a rematch for the championship.

Last year Phaungphakdi limited Gross to three points in the two games of the finals and won the title for the second consecutive time. Phaungphakdi will be seeking his third crown tonight, while Gross will be out to avenge last year's loss.

Phaungphakdi reached the finals by defeating Jerry Carp of Beta Sigma Rho, 15-7, 15-2, in the quarter-finals and then beating Mel Royer of Alpha Tau Omega, 15-0, 15-6, in the semi-finals last evening. The nine points by Carp were the most scored against "Sammy" in any two games during the tourney.

Gross advanced to the finals by defeating Jack Behler of Theta Xi, 15-6, 15-5, in the quarter-finals and then besting Al Horne of Alpha Zeta 15-1, 15-11, in the semis.

In the independent finals, Washington Mokha won the title by defeating Mike Mendell, 15-0, 15-1. Mokha reached the finals by beating last year's champ, Matt Stirling, 15-6, 15-14, in the semis. Mendell qualified for the final by edging Bob Stewart, 6-15, 15-11, 15-11.

Summaries: FINALS: Mokha (Ind) def. Mendell (Ind), 15-0, 15-1. SEMI-FINALS: Phaungphakdi (PiLPhi) def. Royer (ATO), 15-0, 15-6; Gross (PhiEpi) def. Horne (AZ), 15-1, 15-11. Mokha (Ind) def. Stirling (Ind), 15-6, 15-14; Mendell (Ind) def. Stewart (Ind), 6-15, 15-11, 15-11. QUARTER-FINALS: Phaungphakdi (PiLPhi) def. Carp (BS-Rho), 15-7, 15-2; Royer (ATO) def. Anderson (DC), 9-15, 15-12, 15-10. Horne (AZ) def. Rauschenbarger (DC) 15-3, 15-12; Gross (PhiEpi) def. Behler (Theta Xi), 15-6, 15-5.

MAJOR LEAGUES

Table with columns for American League and National League, listing teams, wins, losses, and percentages.

Netmen To Face--

(Continued from page six) binations it will be Bibleheimer and Carp, Ludwig and Moore, and McCartney and Blanck.

To date the Lions are 1-2, winning over the Indians of Juniata, 9-0, in their second match of the season. The netmen dropped their opener against a strong Cornell team by the score of 8-1 and bowed last Saturday to an equally strong Maryland team by the score of 6-3.

Cindermen Prepare For Penn Relays

A Penn State track team that has established itself in early season trials as a power of the East will be one of 618 teams entered in the Penn Relays Friday and Saturday and is being tabbed by sportswriters and officials as favorites to win three, and possibly four, of the major relay events.

Almost 4000 athletes are slated to compete on Penn's Franklin Field in the 65th annual Philadelphia cinder circus that is generally conceded to be the "relay championships of America."

After a ten year dearth, Coach Chick Werner's baton-passers are rated as the top threat to dethrone Villanova from its 3-year reign as the outstanding team entry.

Led by their all-time great, Ron Delany, Villanova has managed to capture three major relay titles for the last three years. The Wildcats hold a monopoly on the mile and both medley relays. But without Delany they are not expected to withstand the challenge of the Lion distance medley team which last week at Quantico ripped off the fastest time ever run by an Eastern team.

In addition to the distance medley, the Nittanians are favored to capture the 2-mile and 4-mile relay tests.

Penn State has not won a Penn Relays title since its 3-year dominance of the 4-mile relay in 1947-48-49. In 1948 the Lions also won the distance medley.

Team captain Ed Moran will be the key figure in the Nittanians' plans for the weekend extravaganza, for he will anchor all three of these 'favored' relays. The Kane senior was runner-up to Delany in the IC4-A half-mile and mile races last year and set a record in the IC4-A 1000-yard indoor run this winter.

He also anchored the Blue and White's "traveling" indoor 2-mile relay team which set several records and came within 17 seconds of the current world standard. In most cases, it was Moran's brilliant final leg that was responsible for the record.

Dick Engelbrink and Chick King will also run on the 2-mile, 4-mile and distance medley quartets.

Engelbrink, who runs the



Captain Ed Moran ... Key man in relays

three-quarter mile leg on the medley, is IC4-A indoor 2-mile king and set a stadium record in the outdoor 2-mile at Navy last Saturday.

King reaped individual laurels in the Navy meet by cracking the stadium half-mile mark which had stood for 20 years.

On the strength of their record-shattering performance at Annapolis the Nittany mile-relay foursome must be considered a top contender in the Franklin Field test. Moran was also a member of this quartet and turned in the fastest quarter-mile leg of 48.3. Don Davies, Bill Schwab, and Dick Hambricht ran the other legs to give the Lions a combined time of 3.162.

Frosh LaX Team Opens at Cornell

Penn State's freshman lacrosse team travels with the varsity to Cornell today to open its 1959 season against the Bear cubs.

Coach Lew Girard, having nine men with high school experience, is optimistic about his team's chances. "We are suffering from a lack of practice facilities, but we have some good boys who could pull us through," says Girard.

Midfielders Gordon Bennett and Lou Meier and defenseman Mike Raiser are some of the stickmen who show promise, according to Girard.

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