



THE MAN IN THE CAGE—Larry Fegley, Lion second-sacker tees off on pitch as other Lions watch during second day of outdoor practice. The Nittany baseballers open their season against Gettysburg Wednesday.

Nittany Batterymen boast Vets; Southpaw Kikla Is Top Hurler

By SANDY PADWE

(First of a series on the Penn State baseball team, tomorrow the outfield.)

When assistant baseball coach Chuck Medlar has something to say, everyone listens because "Big Stud" doesn't go off on many dissertations in the course of a year.

But yesterday was different. Medlar was expounding at length about his favorite subject—Penn State's pitchers and catchers.

And from the way he talked, coupled with a look at past records, you get the feeling that the Lion batterymen rank with the best anywhere in collegiate baseball.

The number one topic of discussion was southpaw Eddie Kikla, Penn State's leading pitcher last season.

The Lion junior finished with a 9-1 record and 1.46 E.R.A. last spring and he looks even better

this year. "Kikla has the ability to be one of the best college pitchers in the country," Medlar said while hitting fungoes to the outfield. "From what practice we've had I'd say he's stronger than last year."

Kikla, who led the Lions in strikeouts with 76 in 1959, has everything including a blazing fast ball, a sharp curve and good change of pace.

In addition to Kikla, the Lions have two other veteran lefties in Tom Durbin and Bill Benton.

Benton was 1-1 last year while Durbin finished with a 2-1 record. However, both saw considerable action when they weren't pitching.

Durbin, a lightning streak on the bases, played left field and wound up as the Lions' leading hitter with a .393 batting average (22-56).

Benton played first base quite a bit during the latter part of the campaign and wound up with a .333 average (14-42).

Two other lettermen, Larry Freedman (0-0) and Bob Arner (0-1) give the Lions some right-handed strength. But big Marlin Biesecker is the boy Medlar feels will be the number one rightie.

Only a sophomore, Biesecker looks like a real comer. "Biesecker could be a starter for us," said Medlar. "He's big, he's strong and can really fire the ball and he's very effective as a side-armed."

Two other sophs, Ken Bruni and Dave Bergey also could crack the lineup.

"Don't forget Lee Rentzel," cautioned Medlar, "he could be a re-

lief catcher. He's got good slow stuff especially a good curve."

Switching to the catchers, Medlar said this year's staff was one of the strongest State has had in years.

Last year's starters Harry Beans (204) and John Adams (360) are back along with transfer Jim Suplizio who came to Penn State from Colorado University. Suplizio is a dark horse and could steal the starting jobs from Beans and Adams.

Also on hand are John McSparran, a junior, and John Paris, a sophomore.

Senators Beat Phillies

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Faye Throneberry smashed a two-out single in the ninth inning—his fifth hit of the game—to score Harmon Killebrew and give the Washington Senators an 11-10 victory over Philadelphia Wednesday.

The Phils blew an 8-1 lead, which they stacked up in the first two innings off Russ Kemmerer.

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Lion LaX Fortunes Depend on Sophs

Four sophomores are expected to be in the lineup when the Penn State lacrosse team meets Loyola Saturday in the 1960 lidlifter at Baltimore, Md. Coach Earnie Baer expects to start three juniors and three seniors along with the Sophs.

Baer summed up the situation this way, "We'll be just as strong as our sophomores and I have a lot of confidence in these boys."

Although there are six lettermen returning, the Lions will have to play without All-American attackman John Behne, the club's leading scorer last year. But sophomore Gordon Bennett, who has looked good in practice, is being counted on to step into Behne's shoes and supply the scoring punch.

Jim Kane, honorable mention All-American last year, returns to hold down the second attack position. Battling for the third spot are two-time letterwinner Dick Hammond and senior Hank Schilling. Hammond moves to attack from midfield where he played last year.

In addition to losing Behne, the Lions also lost high scoring Bob Swanson and veteran Lee Herman.

Another soph, Lou Meier, is being counted to bolster the midfield corps and captain Dick Bullock is set at another spot. But the third is up for grabs with Dick Swanson, Mike Raiser, Dick Janda, Dick Hinkle, Dick Mears, Ted Steinman and Bud Haag battling for the spot.

Vets Dave Erwin and Andy Moczy give the Lions a good one-two punch at defense, but the third slot is wide open. Either Andy Lockhard, Tom Greenlee, Chuck DiPuppo or Hugh Palmer could be the choice.

Sophomore Jim Irwin and senior John Castella seem to have the inside track on the goalie slot.

Grid Practice Now Scheduled For Saturday

One look at the IM football field was enough to convince the Penn State coaching staff that spring grid drills should be held-off until Saturday.

The rapid thaw brought on by spring temperatures turned the practice area into a sea of mud, and the coaches felt it would be better to wait until the field dries instead of risking injuries in the soft turf.

Yesterday's postponement was the third for the Nittanies this spring. Originally practice was scheduled for March 19, but snow cancelled those plans and another storm forced the second postponement last week.

Saturday's practice, which is open to the public, is set for 1:30.

IM Cage Playoff

Alpha Phi Alpha and the Phakes, winners of the fraternity and independent basketball championships, will meet tonight at 9:30 in Rec Hall to determine the all-university champion.

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IM Results

IM HANDBALL

Fraternities
Barber-Danks, Beta Theta Pi, beat Baker-Baldwin, Phi Sigma Epsilon, 21-0, 21-0
Johnson-Herrala, Theta Chi, beat Hoover-Hart, Theta Delta Chi, 21-15, 21-8
American-Romey, Omega Psi Phi, beat Goodrich, AChiRho, 21-10, 21-18
Zimmerman-Fenwick, Delta Sigma Phi, beat Plankhorn-Abnerzinskas, Delta Phi, 21-11, 21-15
Fifer-Faire, Beta Theta Pi, beat Rea-Hughes, SAE, 21-4, 21-10
Minor-Miller A2, beat Jones-Hegman, Triangle, 21-8, 21-8
Mont-Breitfeldt beat Wingard-Mills, 21-9, 21-12
Schmholts-Daly beat Trostel-Wrigley, 21-3, 21-4

IM BOWLING

League A
Delta Theta Sig 3, Beta Theta Pi 1
Phi Mu Delta 8, Tau Phi Delta 1
Sigma Chi 3, Alpha Chi Sigma 1
ATO 4, Lambda Chi Alpha 0
Delta Phi 4, AChiRho 0
Alpha Phi Delta 4, DTD 0

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