

Nittanies Boast Strength On Mound, Behind Plate

By JOHN MORRIS

(Last in a series on the Penn State baseball team.) Penn State pitchers and catchers just happen to be the favorite conversation topics of assistant baseball coach Chuck Medlar and this year it appears he has something to talk about.

The Lions have their whole starting rotation back from last year and a couple of new faces who show promise.

Marlin Biesecker, Ed Kikla, Dave Bergey and Tom Durbin are all back to take their turns on the hill.

Either Biesecker or Kikla will get the assignment in the Lions' opener at Gettysburg April 5.

Biesecker compiled a 3-2 record with a 1.90 ERA last year as a sophomore.

"Marlin looks a lot better this year," Medlar said. "He threw too much side arm, but now he's throwing with a good three-quarter motion."

Kikla also has been looking good in practice. The fire-balling lefty slipped to 2-6 last year after a 9-1 record as a sophomore.

Bergey was instrumental in filling the gap left by Kikla's demise last season.

Injured for the first part of the campaign, he pitched 22 2/3 innings without allowing an earned run.

Durbin is the last member of the "Big Four" and he had the best won-lost record in 1960.

The slim righty was 3-0 last year, and Medlar thinks he is much better this spring.

"Tom has a little control trouble," Medlar said, "but he's got real good stuff. He looks better already than he did last year."

Among the newcomers, Bob Fenton and Bill Saul figure to get a close look.

"Fenton is only a sophomore and he's going to be a real good one," Medlar said.

Saul, center on Rip Engle's Reddy unit, is a hard-throwing right hander.

"Bill needs some hot weather," Medlar said, "but I think he'll help us quite a bit when he gets loosened up."

Holdover Lee Rentzel and sophomores Dick Stellman and

Lion G-Men Underdogs In Nationals

Penn State has won the NCAA gym crown for two straight years but coach Gene Wettstone says it will take a minor miracle for the Nittanies to win it again this season.

The Lion mentor expects Southern Illinois, Southern California, Michigan and Illinois to battle it out for the team title at Champaign, Ill., April 6-8.

However, Wettstone says State does have a chance to win a couple of individual titles.

He rates Greg Weiss as a definite threat in the all-around and gives Gerry Schaefer a good chance to win the flying rings.

"A team has to have three good all-around men to be in the running for the team championship," Wettstone said.

State's chances for the team crown were weakened considerably when sophomore Tommy Seward, second in the Eastern all-around, was dropped from the squad for disciplinary reasons.

"We only have Greg now, but if he hits he could win the all-around for us," the veteran coach continued.

Weiss has won the Eastern all-around title for the last two years and placed third in the NCAA competition in Rec Hall last season.

But the all-around field at Champaign will provide a stiff test for the Lion junior.

Wettstone rates Fred Orlofsky of Southern Illinois as the favorite.

Orlofsky, a 22-year-old sophomore, was a member of Uncle Sam's Olympic delegation to Rome and the high scorer for the United States in the Russian meet in January.

Wettstone expects Michigan's Dick Montpetit, Southern Cal's Bob Lynn and Ray Hadley of Illinois to be the chief opposition to Weiss and Orlofsky.

Two of Orlofsky's teammates, Bruno Klaus and Roy Simms, also rate consideration.

The flying rings figures to be one of State's best events.

Junior Larry Yohn, fourth in the Easterns, and veteran Jack Donohue back up Eastern champion Schaefer.

Wettstone has entered team captain Bob Mumau, Bud Williams and Bruce Fosnocht in the race climb.

Gene Harlacher in the free exercise, George Sayre on the side horse and Ken Morrow on the parallel bars round out the team.

Correction

Tom Pugh pinned Bob Miles in 5:25 in the Independent IM wrestling finals in Rec Hall Friday night.



PENN STATE
TOM DURBIN

Ed Giegucz are other candidates for the staff.

The Lions lost Harry Beans, last year's starting receiver, but Medlar thinks the Lions are pretty well off in the catching department with footballers Don Jonas and Galen Hall and holdover John Adams.

"Jonas is the number one catcher right now," Medlar said, "but Hall and Adams are pushing him hard."

"Jonas is strong and has the makings of a good hitter and he has a very good arm," he continued.

"Right now our pitching and catching look real good," Medlar said. "Let's wait and see what happens in a game."

Daring Dark Will Have San Francisco Hustling

By JACK STEVENSON

Associated Press Sports Writer PHOENIX, Ariz. (AP)—Alvin Dark brings studied daring to the San Francisco Giants this season.

The captain of the 1954 world champion Giants starts his first campaign as a manager, but for the past 10 years he has been thinking what he'd do in such a situation.

You can expect to see a lot of the squeeze play and other maneuvers designed to get that single run this year. In past springs the emphasis has been on the big inning.

Alvin's the respected boss of the club, a hard taskmaster operating with a quiet demeanor, akin to a velvet hammer.

"He knows what he's doing all the time," says Willie Mays, a teammate on the 1954 club and now the highest paid player in baseball. "He knows what he wants and what the players want. I respected him as a player, as our captain and now as our manager."

Orlando Cepeda terms his spring training "hard but happy." The former Louisiana State University halfback from Lake Charles, La., commands respect without demanding it. Still he'll make mistakes and frankly admits it.

The squad's biggest question currently concerns Harvey Kuenn, the American League batting expert acquired from Cleveland in the trade that sent discontented southpaw hurler John

ny Antonelli and outfielder Willie Kirkland to the Indians.

Kuenn will play in the outfield or at third base.

Mays starts in center field. But when 12 San Francisco newsmen were asked to name the other probable starters for the April 11 opener in Candlestick Park against Pittsburgh, no two selections were alike. Last year at this time, the batting order was set and had been virtually since the opening of training.

Willie McCovey, the 1959 rookie-of-the-year who flopped in 1960, appears to be set at first base. Charlie Hiller, a rookie from Harlingen and most valuable player in the Texas League, could take second from slumping Don Blasingame.



Willie McCovey

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New York Chooses Stith in NBA Draft

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Indiana's Walt Bellamy—best of the giants—and St. Bonaventure's Tom Stith—a great shooter—were the first two choices in the National Basketball Association draft yesterday. Then the little-known players took the spotlight.

Chicago, the NBA's ninth and newest franchise, took the 6-foot-11 Bellamy as expected. The New York Knickerbockers, with the worst record in the NBA last season, had the next choice and took the 6-foot-5 Stith.

"Stith is the closest to Elgin Baylor (Los Angeles Lakers great scorer) that I've seen," said Ned Irish, president of the Knicks.

Detroit, with the fourth choice, took Ray Scott, 6-foot-9, who has played three seasons with Allentown, Pa., in the Eastern League after flunking out of Portland U. His class graduated this year.

Syracuse named Ben Warley, 6-7 former Tennessee A & I player now with Cleveland of the NBL. Players in the NBL are amateurs.

Other less-publicized players chosen in the first round were Wayne Yates, of Memphis State by Los Angeles; Tom Meschery, of St. Mary's, Calif., by Philadelphia; Cleo Hill, of Winston-Salem, N.C., by St. Louis; and Gary Phillips of Houston by Boston.

Cincinnati's first round choice was Larry Siegfried, teammate of Ohio State All-America Jerry Lucas, still a junior.

There is bound to be some competition between the NBA and the new American Basketball League, although NBA President Maurice Podoloff said the NBA anticipates no monetary battle and he insists the new league anticipates no trouble.

Bellamy has been drafted by the ABL's Chicago entry, Stith by Pittsburgh and Meschery by San Francisco.

The second round of the NBA draft also produced some sleepers, chiefly Ron Horn, 6-foot-7 all-Army player who was taken by St. Louis. Horn played as a freshman with Bellamy at Indiana, then joined the Army.

Spring Drills Await Gridders

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didates when I think back to their freshman performances. Joe Zink is a good tackle too.

"There could be a lot of surprises, though. You know some of these boys on my freshman team were hurt and didn't play too much. They'll be hungry this spring," Bruce said.

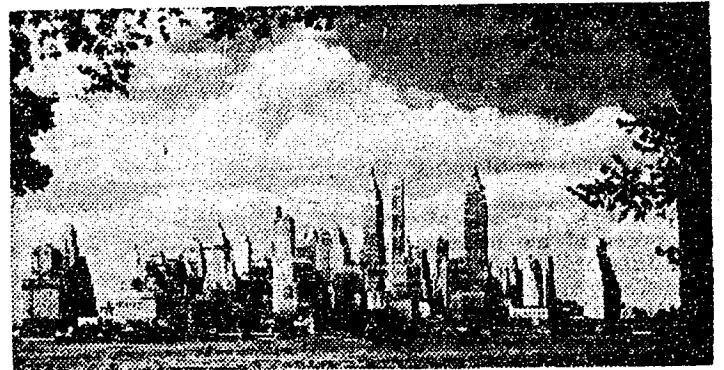
At end, Engle still has All-American candidate Bob Milinger and Dave Robinson, but he loses captain Henry Oppermann, John Bozick, Dave Alexander and Dave Truitt.

Tackle and center appear to be

solid positions for Engle. Captain-elect Jim Smith, Jerry Farkas and Charley Sieminski all return at tackle while Jay Huffman and Bill Saul have one more year at center.

Graduation Losses
End—Dave Truitt, Dave Alexander; Henry Oppermann; John Bozick
Tackle—Stew Barber, Bob Gilmour
Guard—Wayne Berfield, Bill Popp
Center—None
Quarterback—Dick Hoak
Halfbacks—Dick Pae, Ed Caye, Jimmy Kerr
Fullback—Sam Sobezak

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