

Baseball Squad Loses, Improves

By RON KOLB
Assistant Sports Editor

When baseball coach Chuck Medlar took his 22-man squad down to Florida last week, he knew he'd be facing teams like Florida State and Wake Forest in the Florida State Invitational Tournament. He also knew the games would be like scrimmages matching green rookies against seasoned veterans.

The rookies from University Park weren't exactly rookies as far as service is concerned. Many had returned from last year's 16-8-1 team, also having played in the NCAA District 2 Playoffs.

However, as far as this year's preparation was concerned, they were rookies. A month's work in the ice pavilion, without competition or Florida sunshine, was limited by space and in value. What they gained by beating the weather they lost in experience.

They Played Before

On the other hand, the Southern teams were well into their regular seasons, and when the Lions got off the plane last Friday in Tallahassee, their opponents had won-lost records in the teens.

As a result, the Lions proceeded to lose their first five scheduled games. Spring training is intended to point out mistakes and to give the coach an opportunity to smooth down rough edges before the regular season. When Medlar and the squad return to Penn State tonight, they'll have a good idea of what needs smoothing before next Thursday's opener, Florida State, Springfield (Mass.) and Wake Forest taught them well.

The team's first problem appeared to be pitching after FSU rocked three State hurlers enroute to a 10-5 win last Saturday. Jim Allgyer, a senior considered the key to another high Lion finish in the East, gave up 7 runs and 11 hits in just four innings. The Seminoles tagged junior lefty Gary Manderbach for the other three runs, though only one was earned.

Hummer Was Off

"Allgyer's fast ball wasn't working," Medlar said after the game. "His curve was okay. Except for the five-run inning, we played pretty well for our first game."

Allgyer, the 6-0, 180 pound hurler from McVeytown, had a mediocre junior year, finishing 3-1 in 12 games, with a 3.45 earned run average. As a sophomore, he sparked with a 6-1 record and a 1.43 ERA. Allgyer's hitters were rather weak in the first game, managing only six scattered singles among six different players. In the four-run eighth, they finally reached winner Linn Garrett with a two-out rally. Ken Barto scored after singles by Joe Comforto and John Featherstone. Dave Fore walked to load the bases, Gary Kanaskie singled home two more, and soph Mike Eggleston added the final run batted in.

Out of Focus

Sunday's practice session focused on batting and offensive setups, but in Monday's 8-3 loss to Springfield, it seemed that only shortstop John Featherstone profited, collecting three hits and an RBI.

The game wasn't really as lopsided as the score indicated since it went 12 innings before it was decided. In the final frame, the Maroon shocked reliever Bob Absalom with a two-run homer and a three-run double.

Most promising in the loss was senior pitcher Denny Lingenfelter, top hurler on last year's team with a 4-3 record and a 1.29 ERA.

"Lingenfelter looked sharper than he did all last year," Medlar said. "He pitched five strong innings, and he looked sharp, giving up only three hits." "With the exception of Denny, we've been disappointed with the pitching."

Wayne Burns, a 5-10 junior who could turn into a starter on the mound, deserved a better fate. Springfield scored two unearned runs in the seventh to send the game into extra innings, marring an otherwise fine five-inning performance.

In the hitting department, Featherstone was backed by outfielder Dick Dreher, who had two hits, and Gary Kanaskie and Dave Fore, with one each.

Fore had been a question mark defensively this season, moving from right field to catcher, while no one doubted his hitting ability. In Florida, the hits have been scarce, but Medlar said, "Dave's doing a good job behind the plate." Now all the slugger (310 last year) has to do is put his talents together.

In the first half of a Tuesday day-night doubleheader, the Lions lost another game (5-0 to Springfield), but they gained a pitcher. In a six-inning stint, sophomore righthander Bill Miesky, from Richeyville, gave up only three hits and one run. Frank Spaziani yielded the other four in a relief role.

At the same time PSU managed only two hits against winner Ken Demond. The night game wasn't much better. State got just four hits off Florida State's Steve Mastin, and the Seminoles rolled to a 7-2 win. Manderbach, who gave up the first four runs in six innings, "looked a lot better than he did Saturday," according to Medlar.

Should Come Around

"We're not hitting, but I feel we'll come around," the coach added. "We've been hitting a lot of balls right at people." At the same time, he said that Mike Eggleston, also a member of the PSU basketball team, will be the starting first baseman this year, and that soph Jim Owens may remain at third.

Wednesday afternoon's game proved to be just another frustrating defeat for the Lions, and even more so for Allgyer. The righthander pulled a muscle off his rib cage on the left side while throwing to the second batter. Bob Absalom relieved Allgyer and gave up three quick runs that held the rest of the way, and Wake Forest handed PSU its fifth defeat, 3-2.

"Allgyer will be sidelined at least a week," an unhappy Medlar reported. "We were hoping for him to get a lot of work down here."

Though Absalom was tagged with the loss, he pitched well, the coach said. "A few days ago we were disappointed with our pitching. Now, all of a sudden, we've come up with some strong pitching performances."

Fore Hurt, Too

Catcher Fore also suffered an injury, though not as serious as his teammate's. The senior sprained an ankle, sidelining him for a day or two. Senior Gene Christina replaced him and got one of State's six hits.

Righthander Dreher, a 6-4, 210 pound senior from Havertown, emerged the Lions' top hitter of the spring as he collected two more hits, bringing his five-game total to six. Little second-baseman Ken Barto also added a pair to the total.

"I think we'll hit when we get home," Medlar said. "The boys are a little tired right now." He added that only an outfield slot is still undecided.

It doesn't matter how the Lions did in yesterday's and today's games against Wake Forest. Medlar now knows the capabilities of his players and the spots that need improvement. Even with five losses, he seemed satisfied.

Now when they return home, the players can make themselves comfortable at a brand new playing field next to Beaver Stadium. Coming back with Florida sunlans and much more experience, they can forget the ice pavilion for another year.



Take Me (Way) Out to the Ball Game

BASEBALL FACILITIES at Penn State have been relocated, to the delight of East Halls residents and to the dismay of everyone else on campus. The Lion squad, presently holding spring training in Florida, will now play its home games on the above field, just northwest of Beaver Stadium. In prior years, games were played in the north section of campus, near Chambers Building, where construction is presently taking place.

Gym Championships Next Week

Four Lions Preparing

By DAVID NEVINS
Collegian Sports Writer

Bob Emery didn't have much of a term break. Penn State's biggest hope in the upcoming NCAA gymnastics championships in Tucson, Ariz. spent his vacation working out two days a week with the hope of making up for his disappointing third place finish in the all-around in the Easterns.

Tom Clark, Dick Swetman and Joe Litov will join Emery as State's contingent to the nationals. For the first time in four years the Penn State team will not represent the East in the NCAA's due to an unexpected loss to Temple in the Easterns. Those Lions going to Tucson will be performing as individuals rather than as a team.

Emery Eyes Title

Besides the team championship, the most coveted award given at the nationals is the all-around championship. Emery will be entering this competition and hopes to capture Penn State's fourth title in a row. In 1966 and 1967 State's Steve Cohen won the title. Last year Cohen edged Southern Cal's Makoto Sakamoto for the honor.

"Sakamoto is a truly great gymnast and he will be tough for anyone to beat," said State's coach Gene Wettstone. "I think Cohen has been the only man to defeat him in recent years."

If Emery can go through the two days of competition without any breaks in his routines, he should have as good a chance as anyone to beat Sakamoto. Emery's routines are extremely risky, a definite asset in national competition.

Can't Be Easy

"Stock routines will not win any medals in the nationals," Wettstone said. "All the gymnasts are so good that an individual and unique routine is necessary to win."

Most of the attention in the nationals is focused on the team and all-around competition, rather than the individual competition.

"The individual competitors are somewhat lost in the excitement of the team and all-around competition," said Wettstone. "For this reason some of our men who qualified have decided not to go to Arizona."

The most noteworthy of State's qualifiers who will be missing will be ring and long horse specialist Paul Vexler. The Lion junior was undefeated this season on the rings and would have had an excellent chance of capturing the national rings title.

Perhaps Vexler is waiting until next season in hopes that the Lions will represent the East as a team. Since most of this year's squad is composed of juniors and sophomores, a championship team next season may not be just an idle dream.

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Florida State	Penn State	Springfield	Penn State	Florida State	Penn State
Canly, 3b	AB R H	AB R H	AB R H	Canly, 3b	AB R H
Gold, 2b	5 1 4	2 Owens, 3b	4 0 2	Gold, 2b	4 1 3
Sumner, cf	2 0 0	4 Dreher, rf	4 0 2	Sumner, cf	2 0 0
Schulze, pf	1 0 0	2 Feather, ss	4 0 0	Schulze, pf	1 0 0
Gurnick, lf	3 0 0	0 Kaneski, cf	0 0 0	Gurnick, lf	3 0 0
Hitchcock, lf	2 0 0	0 Christina, c	1 0 1	Hitchcock, lf	2 0 0
Cook, c	5 0 0	0 Kanaskie, cf	4 0 0	Cook, c	5 0 0
Hogan, ss	3 0 0	0 Williams, 1b	3 0 0	Hogan, ss	3 0 0
Eason, 1b	1 2 1	1 Comforto, lf	2 0 0	Eason, 1b	1 2 1
Mason, rf	2 1 2	1 Eiston, lf	4 0 0	Mason, rf	2 1 2
Mastin, p	3 1 1	2 Barto, 2b	3 0 0	Mastin, p	3 1 1
		1 Wanders, p	0 0 0		
		Yearick, p	0 0 0		
		Worlock, p	0 0 0		
		Frymire, p	1 0 0		
Totals	35 7 11	Totals	32 2 4	Totals	41 10 17
Penn State	000 000 000-2 3	Penn State	000 000 000-2 3	Penn State	000 000 000-5 6 3
Florida State	000 000 000-7 11 2	Springfield	000 001 13X-5 7 2	Florida State	000 000 000-10 17 0
RBI—Mason 4, Mastin 4, Gold, Dreher 2, E-Mastin, Gold, Barto, POA—Florida State 27, Penn State 24-1.		RBI—Wojcikiewicz, Hommernick 3, E-Sprague, Eiston, Williams, Frymire, Clayton, 2B—Wojcikiewicz, HR—Hammernick, 3B—Lauritz 2, LOB—Springfield 4, Penn State 4, POA—Springfield 27-10, Penn State 24-10.		RBI—Eaton 2, Mason 3, Cook, Featherstone, Kanaskie 2, Eiston, Dreher, E-Kanaskie, Frymire 2, POA—Florida State 27-10, Penn State 24-9, 2B—Cook, HR—Mason, Easton, 3B—Gold, DP—Fore and Williams, LOB—Penn State 6, Florida State 10.	
Pitchers: IP H R ER BB SO		Pitchers: IP H R ER BB SO		Pitchers: IP H R ER BB SO	
Manderbach (L) 6 7 4 4 7 8		Mickley (L) 6 3 1 1 0 2		Manderbach (L) 4 11 7 1 1 2	
Yearick 1 0 0 0 0 0		Spaziani 2 4 1 0 0 1		Burns 3 3 1 0 0 0	
Worlock 1 0 0 0 0 0		Spaziani 2 4 1 0 0 1		Garret (W, 1-0) 1 0 0 0 0 0	
Mastin (W) 1 9 4 2 2 3 14		Demond (W) 2 2 0 0 0 0		Loft 1 0 0 0 0 0	
WP—Manderbach 2, PR—Fore 2, T-2:30.		HBP—By Mickley (Sienna), T-2:01.			

Sanders Fires 65 for Lead

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Golf fashionsetter Doug Sanders thundered out front in the first round of the Greater Jacksonville Open yesterday, firing a seven-under par 65.

The jovial, fun-loving Sanders, whose clothes are always a symphony in color, flashed an all-white wardrobe — he called it "pure white" — and declared his slow start this season was a deliberate attempt to build up to winning a major tournament—the Masters, U.S. Open, PGA, or British Open.

It was an eagle three on the 13th hole that sent Sanders to a narrow lead over the star-spangled field unit up for the Masters, two weeks away. He socked a wood shot 212 feet from the cup on the 541-yard dog leg and sank the putt.

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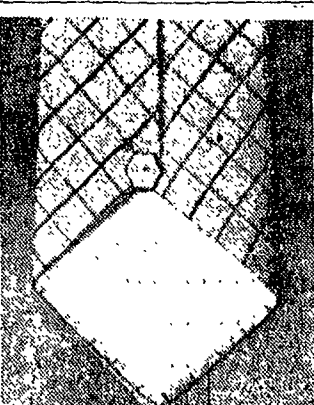
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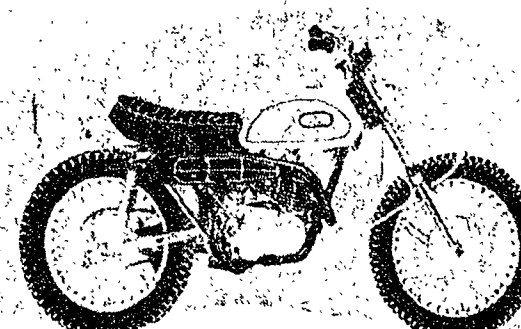
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