Baseballers Return; First Game Thursday

DAVE FORE
. . . strong behind plate

By DON McKEE
Collegian Sports Writer

Two days before the Penn State baseball team left for a week-long stay in Florida, coach Chuck Medlar voiced a little apprehension about the trip. Recalling the previous year's 3-1 exhibition record, Medlar commented, "You can't do that too often in baseball. We stepped off the plane and won three of four ball games."

Last Friday, with five of the seven scheduled games in the record books, it looked as if Medlar's misgivings had been justified. The Lions' record stood at a dismal 0-5 and practically nothing had gone the way it was supposed to go.

At first the hitters were hitting well, but so were the enemy batters—mainly because State's pitchers were not up to par. When the pitchers got straightened out the hitting disappeared.

Compound Agony

To compound the agony, Jim Allgyer, a senior who is heavily counted on to turn in a topnotch pitching record this year, pulled a muscle off his left rib cage. He's still not ready and won't be back throwing for another week.

But perhaps the Lions had only needed time to warm up. After all, they had been practicing in the Ice Pavilion while Florida State and Wake Forest were playing the start of their regular seasons under the sunny Southern skies. Springfield had been working out in its field house since the first week of January.

After the Flordia sun had worked on the Lions for several days, they were able to put everything together for the first time during the trip. In the final two games State punished Wake Forest, 9-5 and 6-0. The team totaled 24 hits in the two games.

The best news in the two victories was the recovery of the pitching staff. In the first game Denny Lingenfelter, who had turned in a fine performance in a losing cause three days earlier, gave up just two earned runs in six innings. Sophomore Bill Micsky came in and pitched hitless ball the rest of the way.

In Saturday's seven-inning getaway game, Gary Manderbach went five innings, surrendering two hits and no runs. Frank Spaziani preserved the shutout, giving up just one hit in his two-inning stint.

Good Week of Work

Medlar described the exhibition trip as, "a good week of work," and one in which he was able to work out a tentative starting line-up for the season opener, Thursday.

"We experimented a little at first," said Medlar, "and we were able to put it all together in the last two games."

The line-up appears set except for the continuing dog fight at third. Rod Cowburn is attempting to take the spot away from Jim Owens, who had looked good in the early trials but has slowed down.

Dave Fore is solid behind the plate. Mike Egleston looks like the first baseman despite tenseness in the exhibition games. Medlar is waiting for the 6'4" soph to break loose and show the power which everyone knows he has.

Keystone Combo Returns

Returnees Ken Barto and John Featherstone hold down the middle of the infield. Barto, a fine fielding second baseman, is expected to provide more muscle with the bat than he did last season when he hit only .186.

Featherstone was one of the big hitters last season and looks like the cleanup man this year.

The top outfielder is Gary Kanaskie, who led the team in home runs and RBIs a season ago. Flanking Kanaskie in the garden are Joe Comforto and Dick Dreher, both starting for the first time.

Perhaps the biggest surprise in the pre-season going has been the performance of pitcher Micsky. The soph didn't show a lot in freshman ball last season and wasn't counted on at the beginning of this year. But he has come a long way under Medlar's tutelage and right now looks like a winner.

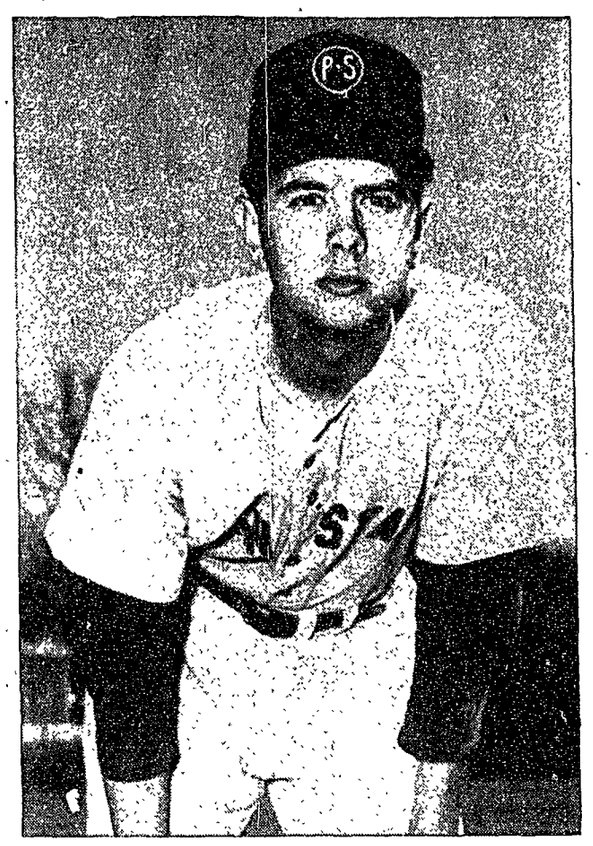
The season opener is just three days away and the final practice sessions will be devoted to rounding out overall performance. Lingenfelter is expected to get the nod to start Thursday's game at Bucknell. The senior righthander threw three hitless innings in a practice game with Lock Haven State yesterday and said his arm felt strong. He should be the staff leader this year.

Weather Worries

With the team getting into shape Medlar's biggest worry now may be something he is powerless to control. That's the location of the new baseball field. The University turned the old field into a quagmire which will one day be two new classroom buildings. A new field, complete with heated dugouts, was laid out on the far Eastern part of campus. So what's Medlar's worry? The wind.

The gales were bad at old Beaver Field but they are truly spectacular at the new one. The outfielders are forced to play so far back that they're almost out of sight, and watching the players scramble for pop-ups makes the coaching staffs go pale. Yesterday Featherstone caught a low pitch and lofted it toward left-center. The jet stream whipped it over the fence with room to spare.

If the spring winds keep up it should be an interesting year in the new-found hitter's paradise. Especially with all those right handers in the lineup.



JIM ALLGYER
. . . injury clouds future

Tennis Officials Lash at Britain

LONDON (AP) — Tennis officials in the provinces bitterly accused Britain's top officials yesterday of retreating on the question of open tournaments.

Briitsh delegates won approval for open tennis at a special meeting of the International Lawn Tennis Federation in Paris over the weekend.

But the British, who previously had declared their intention of abolishing all distinctions between professionals and amateurs, compromised and were restricted to three open events this year in addition to Wimbledon.

Organizers of three other tournaments, who had expected to run their events on open lines, complained they had been let down.

Peter Davies, secretary of the North of England Tournament which is played at Manchester in June, said: "We are disappointed that Britain has compromised almost to the point of complete negation of the freedom we sought as a national body."

Extremely Surprised

Mrs. Hilda Smith, secretary of the Bristol Tennis Club which runs the West of England Championships, said: "We are extremely surprised and feel we have been let down."

John White, secretary of the Hoylake tournament, said: "If it goes on like this the whole circuit could be a chaotic shambles. It should have been all open or nothing."

Jim Manning, columnist of the Daily Mail, reported the Paris talks under the headline "Tennis Sell-Out."

Britain was nominally suspended three months ago after saying it would tear up the ILTF rules and admit professionals to all tournaments.

The compromise was to prevent a break-up of the ILTF. But officials of the British Lawn Tennis Association contended they had gained a victory—even though they had agreed to a limit on the number of open tournaments.

The ILTF wants to limit open events, apparently because it fears professional promoters might have too much say in running the world game.

There were some doubts in other countries, too.

Step in Right Direction

Owen Williams, director of the South African Championships, said the ILTF vote was a step in the right direction, but added: "I would want to know the full implications before saying it is entirely satisfactory."

Henk Van Hoegee, secretary of the Netherlands Lawn Tennis Association, said he was disappointed a compromise had been made.

Tennis officials everywhere waited to see how the new setup would work out.

The ILTF now recognizes four classes of competitors — pure amateurs, registered players who may collect big expenses and make a profit, touring professionals under contract to promoters and professional coaches.

But every country has been given the right to decide policy for itself. Britain, for one, has said it will cease to recognize any differences between pros and amateurs at all.

★ ★ ★

Top Amateur Stars Turn Professional

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) — Billie Jean King, the world's No. 1 ranking women's tennis player, turned professional yesterday along with three other gals and Australia's Roy Emerson.

Mrs. King, of Long Beach, Calif., could earn up to $70,000 in her first year of play-for-pay, the tour president estimated, while Emerson could make $100,000 for each of the two years he is under contract.

Also signing with the National Tennis League, headed by former Davis Cup captain George McCall, were Ann Haydon Jones of England, Francoise Durr of France and Rosemary Casals, 19-year-old star from San Francisco.

"A great deal for me and a great deal for tennis," declared Mrs. King, a 24-year-old who has won or shared a dozen United States championships. "I have always wanted to be a pro. In this country, if you're a pro, you're somebody. If you're an amateur, you're nobody."

No Exact Figure

MacCall didn't announce the exact figures of the contracts but said Emerson was guaranteed about $75,000, Mrs. King between $40,000 and $50,000 and the other three women in the $25,000-$30,000 neighborhood.

The new professional group which already had included Ron Laver, Ken Rosewall, Fred Stolle, Andres Gimeno and Pancho Gonzalez, makes its American debut at the forum in Inglewood on Sunday.

MacCall said the pros will compete in the open tournaments at both Bournemouth and Wimbledon in England, and he hopes to have them compete in others.

"We are scheduled solidly through the middle of August," he declared.

The professionals in the National Tennis League will play the best two of three sets under regular rules.

Among All-State Choices

Persson, Stansfield Honored

Two Penn State basketball players received all-state college honors from sports writers, broadcasters and telecasters in Pennsylvania, it was announced today.

Jeff Persson, the Lions' team captain this past season, was named to the third team all-state squad, while teammate Bill Stansfield received honorable mention.

Averaged 17

A 6-3 senior, Persson averaged 17 points per game during the 1967-68 campaign, in which State finished 10-10. He hit 41.7 per cent of his shots from the floor, also converting 69 of 96 free throws for 339 total points. Persson is now fifth on the all-time Penn State scoring list with 1,090 career points.

Stansfield, a 6-8 junior center, missed the first few games this past season because of an arm injury. However, in 16 games, he became the team's third scorer (11.3 average) and rebounder (141).

Also named to the third team with Persson were Dan Kelly of St. Joseph's, Larry Lewis of St. Francis, Frank Smith of Edinboro and Bernie Williams of Lasalle.

First team selections included 6-5 junior Larry Cannon of Lasalle, 6-5 junior John Baum of Temple, 6-4 junior John Jones of Villanova, 6-1 junior Norm Vanlier of St. Francis, and 6-6 senior Ron Guziak of Duquesne.

Cannon, who made the third team as a sophomore, harnessed all the fire and energy of an individual standout into a team performer as he led LaSalle to a 20-7 season and the NCAA Championship playoffs.

In 28 games the 6-foot-5 inch junior from Philadelphia scored 546 points, grabbed 278 rebounds and handed out 134 assists. He was a 44.1 per cent shooter from the field.

Baum, the 6-foot-5 Temple leaper, was just a shade behind Cannon in the voting. He helped Temple to a 19-7 season and a bid to the National Invitation Tournament.

Villanova's Jones was defense-minded Villanova's offense. He scored 565 points in 28 games for a 20 point average and grabbed 251 rebounds. His high was 38 against Wyoming in the NIT. It was Jones' fine shooting which helped Villanova win 17 of its last 20 games and earn an NIT bid. The Wildcats finished 19-9.

Guziak, a pre-law student from Pittsburgh's St. Casimer, is the only senior on this otherwise all junior all-star team. The 205-pounder scored 465 points for an 18.5 per game average to become the sixth best scorer ever at Duquesne with 1,049 for three seasons.

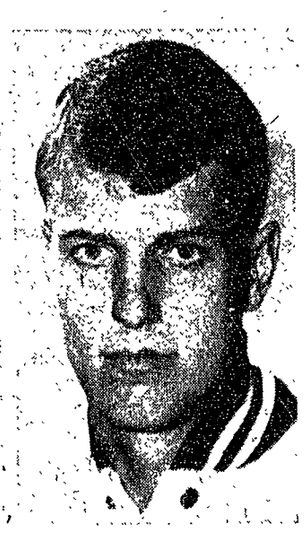
Second Best

The 6-foot-6 Guziak was his team's second best rebounder. His 50 points against Duquesne was a school record. The Dukes finished 18-7 and went to the NIT.

Vanlier, a 6-foot-1 do-it-all type player, tallied 475 points in leading St. Francis to a 19-5 record, and runnerup in the Holiday tournamert at Philadelphia.

He averaged 18 8 as the Frankies posted a 19-5 record. He made All-State as a sophomore and has a chance next season to become one of the few to be honored three consecutive seasons.

JEFF PERSSON



BILL STANSFIELD

Recalled Youngster Gets Second Trial

WINTER HAVEN, Fla. (AP) — Joe Lahoud, a young left-handed slugger with less than two full seasons of experience with Winston-Salem in the Class A Carolina League, is getting another trial with the Boston Red Sox.

Lahoud, who was among the first players cut by the Red Sox March 21, was recalled in a surprise move by Manager Dick Williams Sunday from the Louisville farm of the International League.

Needs Beefing Up

"The outfield needs to be beefed up," Williams said when asked if Lahoud's recall was prompted by Tony Conigliaro's disappointing performance in rebounding from the serious eye injury suffered last August.

Lahoud showed tremendous power in training camp before being cut by the Red Sox. He will not be 20 until August 14 and has been rejected by the Army because of flat feet.

Given Chance

"He will be given a full chance" Williams said. "I like what I saw of him very much. His speed is deceptive. He's much faster than he looks. He has a fine arm and has shown a good bat for a young player."

Although he suffered a hairline fracture of his right leg last year, Lahoud hit .287 with 16 homers from Winston-Salem. Major league Schoendienst such as Red Schoendienst of the St. Louis Cardinals and Mayo Smith of the Detroit Tigers were impressed by the way he attacked the ball in appearances this spring.

Lahoud popped up a pinch-batting appearance Sunday as the Red Sox dropped a 3-2 decision to the Minnesota Twins in 12 innings at Orlando.

Conigliaro who struck out four times Saturday in hiking his number of whiffs to 18 in 60 times at bat, did not make the trip to Orlando. The Red Sox said he was confined to his room because of a sore throat.

To make room for Lahoud, the Red Sox shipped outfielder George Spriggs to Louisville.

AAU Shuns Boston

BOSTON (AP) — Will Cloney, president of the Boston A.A., sharply criticized the Amateur Athletic Union Monday for ignoring the 72nd annual BAA marathon April 19 in selecting six other runs as regional trials for the U.S. Olympic team.

"No one ever gave us a chance to have the BAA as an Olympic trial," Cloney told a news conference. "No one asked us. The long distance running committee of the AAU did not contact us. The only word we got was what we read in the newspapers."

Cloney, who directs the annual BAA indoor track meet and the Patriot's Day marathon, both sanctioned by the AAU, noted that the 26-mile, 385-yard Hopkinton-to-Boston run is even older than the AAU.

"The BAA was the only trial for the Olympics in this country until about 25 years ago," he said. "It still is in every sense an Olympic qualifying trial."

Cloney was particularly disturbed by the AAU's scheduling of a marathon in San Francisco as an Olympic trial on April 21, just two days after the Boston event.

Boston College Now On Cage Card

Boston College has been added to Penn State's home basketball schedule for next season.

The Eagles will play in Rec Hall Feb. 15, giving State 10 home games instead of nine as previously announced. The other home games are with Georgetown, Pitt, West Virginia, Army, Syracuse, Navy, Rutgers, Bucknell and Carnegie-Mellon.

The Nittany Lions will play at Boston Colleg in 1970.

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The Ninth Annual TIME-HRB MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

will be held on Tuesday, April 2 at 7 p.m. in Room 109 McAllister Building. This competition is open to ANY undergraduate student of Penn State.

No registration is necessary.

The contest is divided into two divisions: Elementary, for freshman and sophomores; (terms 1-6 inclusive) and Advanced for juniors and seniors (7-12 terms inclusive). HRB has generously donated most of the prize money, which will be split between the two divisions.

The examination will take about two hours.

This contest is sponsored jointly by Pi Mu Epsilon (National Mathematics Honorary) and HRB-Singer, of State College.

For further information, contact W. L. Harkness, 207 McAllister Building

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