

levine's sports line

Manager's Work Is Never Done

By PAUL LEVINE
Collegian Sports Editor

Not too long ago, offensive backs were the only players to be heralded by football fans or the press.

Many a football follower can remember the 1959 world champion Baltimore Colts. And they may talk of Johnny Unitas, Lenny Moore, Alan Ameche, or Raymond Berry. Not very many, however, can remember the supporting players who helped the stars gain all the publicity. But television changed all that.

Thanks to "isolated camera" techniques and all the other electronic gimmickry of the 1960's, the nation's sports fans became aware of the defensive stars and even the offensive linemen. For who could help but be awed as a nimble 240-pound linebacker is caught in slow-motion stop-action just as he applies the cruncher to a hapless runner.

This new-found appreciation for the linemen and defensive players has carried over to the collegiate level. Penn State football fans—at least the knowledgeable ones—kept their eye on little Tim Montgomery in the defensive backfield last year. They watched linebacker Dennis Onkotz maneuver past opposing linemen or saw defensive tackle Mike McBath as he crashed into the backfield. Those who can really follow the action might have even caught a glimpse of offensive tackle Rich Buzin opening a hole at the line of scrimmage or center Bill Lenkaitis setting up the pocket to protect the passer.

But still one group of participants went largely unnoticed. They showed up at practice about a half hour before anybody else, and more times than not, they were the last to leave. And although spring football practice is nearly two weeks away, they began working yesterday.

You may want to catch a glimpse of them, but

don't expect to find their numbers in the program. For these participants don't wear shoulder pads and helmets. Their equipment consists largely of water buckets, scrub brushes and laundry bags. And although they may not qualify as heroes, the Penn State football managers are certainly unsung.

Allan Meyer, the new head manager, had his crew begin work yesterday to prepare for the upcoming three weeks of spring practice. As usual, this was done without much fanfare. The Collegian didn't announce in 60-point type, "Managers Back at Work Again." President Johnson didn't make special note of the fact Sunday night when he dropped the biggest surprise since the Washington Redskins' Sam Huff announced he was hanging up the spikes for the last time.

But nonetheless, the managers have begun their spring ritual. And, as usual, they are looking for some new blood to fill the ranks. Any student up to fourth term standing is welcome to try his hand at becoming part of the Penn State football machine.

"Not enough people know what the managers really do," said Meyer. "Some think we get scholarships like the football players. But being a manager is like any other activity. There are no prerequisites and it doesn't take any outstanding ability."

Anyone interested in becoming assistant football manager may fill out an application in Room 235 Recreation Building. Numerous positions are available on the managerial staff.

There are some characteristics, however, that a manager must have. Meyer lists a "desire to be part of Penn State football" and a "willingness to work" as two requirements of the job.

It's hard to determine which requirement is most important, but the prospective manager must certainly be willing to work. The job carries with it responsibilities which range from handing out equipment to being a first-class scavenger on football trips.

"On away trips, a large part of the job is fulfilling coaches' requests," Meyer said. "Sometimes we have to work pretty quickly. On one trip, Coach Paterno decided on Friday night that he wanted to have a Saturday morning Mass. It was up to the managers to arrange it. On the Gator Bowl trip,

some of the players wanted to put decals of the Union Flag on their helmets. It was up to the head manager to find them. None of the novelty shops in Jacksonville had any, but finally one place said they'd make them for \$150. The idea was vetoed because of the cost."

Although the managers do work hard, there are advantages to the job, and head manager Meyer is the first to tell of them.

"All managers receive the intangible benefits of being associated with the football team," Meyer said. "Getting to know the coaches and players is a rewarding experience for anyone. And there are the material benefits of training table meals and trips to away games. Of course, the best of all is a bowl game. Last year we had a two-week expense-paid trip to Florida."

Any freshman who joins Meyer's staff now as an assistant manager could reasonably expect to make at least one away trip in the fall. It's on the away trips that the managers are the busiest. They have to keep track of all the players and be certain that people are where they're supposed to be when they're supposed to be. On game day—whether home or away—a manager is kept hopping.

"First, we prepare the supplies of oranges, chocolate bars, ice and gum," Meyer said. "We take the equipment to the stadium and set up the locker room. Before the game, all the uniforms are given to the players, and players are supplied with towels and water. At all times, a manager should be prepared to fix or replace any equipment. After the game, equipment has to be gathered and taken care of."

Meyer had his crew of managers working yesterday as they readied the field for next week's opening of spring practice. It didn't cause much stir in the sporting world, but there is still hope.

If only the slow-motion, stop-action cameras would zero in on a manager.



LEVINE



ALLAN MEYER

Giants' Armor Has Its Chinks

PHOENIX, Ariz. (AP) — You have to look hard to find chinks in the San Francisco Giants' armor, but they are there.

Except for getting in shape, spring training and its necessary exhibition games mean nothing, contends Manager Herman Franks.

Yet the Giants were worried enough about first baseman Willie McCovey's lack of hitting to send him to a hospital for a checkup.

McCovey, who hit .276 with 31 home runs and 91 runs batted in last year, had only one extra base hit, a double, in the first 10 exhibition games.

"He's not getting his bat out in front," said hitting Coach Hank Sauer.

Hiatt, Cline First

Jack Hiatt, a .275 hitter while playing most of his 73 games as a catcher last year, and Ty Cline, .270 in 64 games as an outfielder, have played first in spring training.

Besides McCovey, the only left-handed hitters are Cline and rookies Ken Henderson, Don Mason and Bob Schroder. Henderson and Mason are expected to start the season at Phoenix of the Pacific Coast League.

Ron Hunt, acquired from Los Angeles, and shortstop Hal Lanier, will give the Giants a solid double play combination.

The Giants gave up long ball hitting catcher Tom Haller for Hunt and infielder Nate Oliver.

Dick Dietz, who hit .225 in 56 games for the Giants last year, is regarded as most likely to catch the opening game. He and Bob Barton, who hit .293 in 103 games for Tacoma, Wash., of the PCL last year, have hit well this spring.

Bob Etheridge, 25, is making a strong bid for third base. Etheridge hit .325 in 91 games last season for Phoenix.

He is given insurance in case Jim Davenport can't go the full season at third.

The outfielder is set with Jim Ray Hart, .289 with 29 homers last year, in left; Willie Mays in center; and Jesus Alou, the Giants leading hitter at .292, in right. Ollie Brown, .267 in 120 games last year, is the fourth outfielder.

Mays, who had his poorest season at .263 with 22 homers, says he is fit and ready to play.

Eight Clinched

It is believed the Giants will go into opening day with nine pitchers and eight already have clinched jobs: Juan Marichal, Ray Sadecki, Mike McCormick, Ron Herbel, Bob Bolin, Gaylord Perry, Joe Gibbon and Frank Linzy.

That leaves veterans Bill Henry and Lindy McDaniel among others, fighting for one job.

If they are to improve on their second-place finish, 10½ games back, the Giants must get better pitching from Marichal and another good year from Cy Young Award winner McCormick.

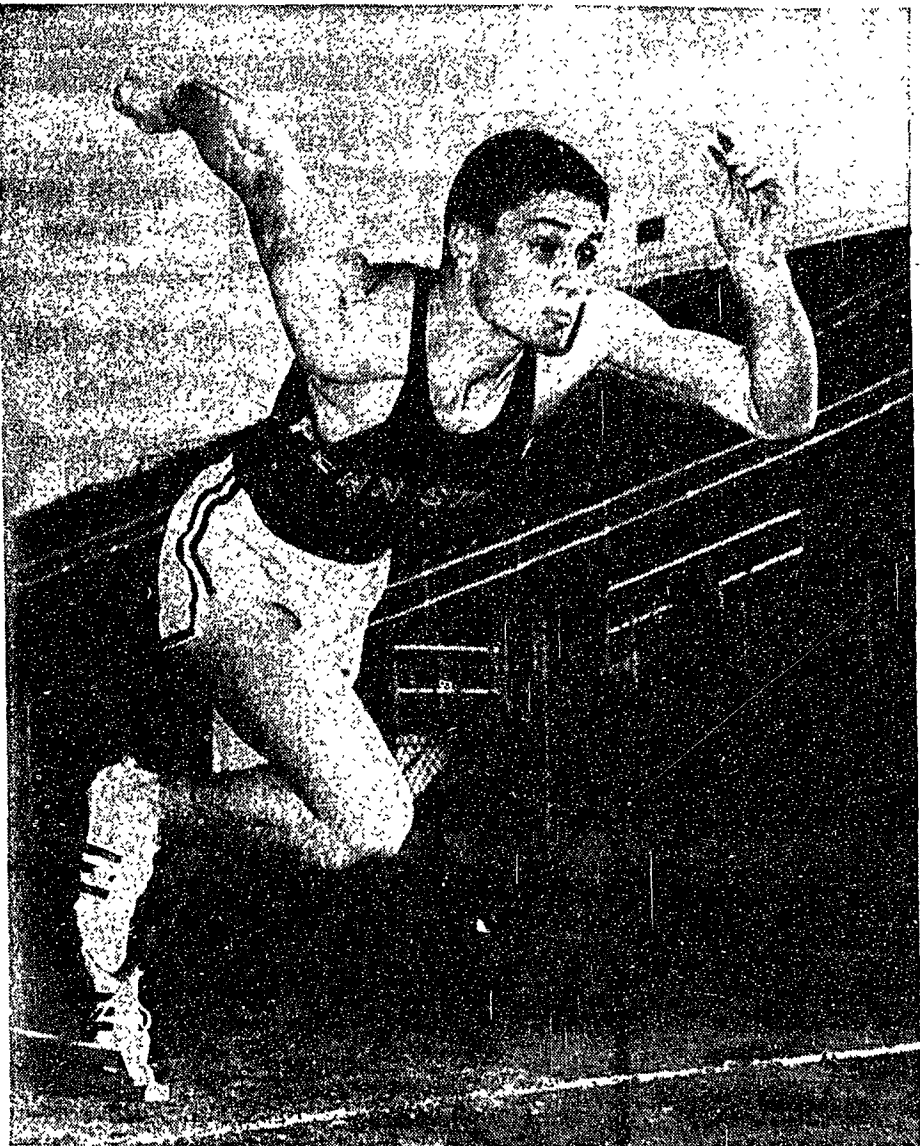
Marichal, beset by injuries, was 14-10 last year after four straight seasons of 20 or more victories.



WILLIE MAYS

Lucas Optimistic After Florida Relays

Trackmen Return From Florida



Senior Bob Beam Led 440-Yard Relay Team in Florida Relays

By DAN DONOVAN
Collegian Sports Writer

While most Penn State students returned home for their term break, six members of the varsity track team traveled to Florida to undergo an intensive conditioning program.

According to coach John Lucas, "The purpose of the trip was to bridge the gap between the indoor and outdoor seasons. It also was an attempt to bring as many men to campus in as best shape as possible."

The six men who took the trip include the key men in Penn State's hope for a successful outdoor season. Captain Warren Rockwell led the team of seniors Bob Beam and Charlie Hull and juniors Ken Brinker, Steve Gentry and Bob Carter in the Southern sojourn.

The athletes endured a rigorous schedule of three workouts daily during their week of activity. The workouts included running on the beaches, sprinting on a track and lifting weights.

These trackmen returned so strong from their trip that Lucas is optimistic about his squad's chances against strong Army this week at West Point and against undefeated Villanova next week.

The highlight of the trip was the 25th annual Florida Relays in Gainesville last

Saturday.

Although outrun by the highly conditioned Southern schools, State's runners made a fine showing compared to other Northern teams.

Penn State's finest showing came in the 440-yard relay. The team of Caster, Brinker, Hull and Beam was the top Northern four-some in the race as they finished in 41.5, just .2 of a second off the school record.

It was Close
The race was a thrilling one, with six yards separating the first place team and State's sixth place finishers.

Rockwell gave the Lions their other medal by finishing fifth in the triple jump with a leap of 48 feet.

The workhorse of the team was Brinker, as the fleet junior participated in four events. Besides running second on the relay team, Brinker ran the 120-yard high hurdles in 14.6, traveled the 440-yard intermediate hurdles in 55.0 and led the sprint medley relay team to a seventh place finish.

Lucas called the trip "highly successful" and also indicated his desire that next year more players would be allowed to make the trip. The coach said he hopes "three times as many men will be able to travel next season, strengthening the team in early outdoor meets."

IM Entries Due For Swim, V-Ball

Men's intramural volleyball and swimming entries are now being taken at the Intramural Office, 206 Recreation Bldg. Teams must enter by Thursday.

The volleyball tournament is open to all graduate and undergraduate men, while the swimming tournament is for undergraduate men.

Pagan's Hit Gives Bucs 4-3 Victory Over Mets

FORT MYERS, Fla. (AP) — Jose Pagan's run-scoring single, his third hit of the game, snapped a tie and gave the Pittsburgh Pirates a 4-3 victory over the New York Mets yesterday in an exhibition baseball game.

Pagan's hit in the eighth scored Manny Jimenez, who got aboard on a force play and moved to third on Donn Cendon's single. Jimenez clobbered a 400-foot homer in the third,

driving in two runs and giving Pittsburgh a 3-0 lead.

The Mets scored all their runs off Juan Pizarro. They got one in the fifth on Art Shamsky's single and a double by Ed Charles. In the sixth, consecutive tripler by Ron Swoboda and Amos Otis and Shamsky's sacrifice fly produced two more runs.

Rookie Bob Moose was the winner. He pitched the last three innings and was touched for one hit.

Freshman Tennis

All freshman tennis candidates should report at 3 p.m. for the remainder of this week to the courts behind Sigma Nu for tryouts and practice. Also, varsity tennis tryout and practice are continuing the rest of the week. For further information call 238-3839.

SUMMER JOBS

Over 30,000 actual job openings listed by employers in the 1968 Summer Employment Guide. Gives salary, job description, number of openings, dates of employment, and name of person to write. Resorts, dude ranches, summer theatres, United Nations, national parks, etc. Also career oriented jobs: banking, publishing, engineering, data processing, electronics, accounting, many more. Covers all 48 states. Price only \$3, money back if not satisfied. Our fifth year! University Publications—Rm. H75, Box 20133, Denver, Colo. 80220. Please rush my copy of the 1968 Summer Employment Guide. Payment of \$3 is enclosed. Name _____ Address _____

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