

Baseballers look for sunny skies

Penn State baseball coach Chuck Medlar would like to follow the United Airlines travel agent's advice and "come on down" to Florida for a pre-season exhibition workout.

Unfortunately, Medlar and his baseball team won't be heading south this year, as they normally do, so their progress as a team will be delayed unless Happy Valley gets some balmy spring weather.

"We've got to get outside," Medlar, who also doubles as head of Penn State's trainers, said yesterday while deciding whether to send his squad outside for an afternoon of practice.

"We'll know more about some of our players once we get outside. We need a break in the weather and if we don't get it we'll be behind all the teams we play during the early part of our schedule," he added.

As for the team, a position-by-position roundup would be appropriate at this time, seeing as how the baseball

team plays its first game on April 5 (at Lehigh) and this newspaper doesn't begin printing again until April 10.

PITCHERS—The Lions return two starters from last season: lefty Jim Conroy and righty Rick Sherkel. Conroy, a senior, will be the staff leader. He's "sneaky fast, throws a nice curve, changes speeds well and complements Sherkel quite well.

Sherkel is one of those guys who likes to fire fast ball after fast ball and then, when the batter least expects it, slip by a fat change of pace. He had great success in the latter half of last season.

Medlar went with three starters last year. Righthander John Maier and lefty Frank Stulgis have the most experience of the other returnees and should vie for the third spot. Pushing them will be Tom Kirsch, Carl Dunn, football player Jack Koniszewski, John Stoken, Fred Adams and Len Bartek.

Medlar says each pitcher has shown promise thus far

but reiterates, "you never know for sure until you get outside." The baseball team has spent most of its practice time inside the Ice Pavilion, where a dirt layout has been provided.

INFIELDERS—Medlar is set at three positions. Mark Tanner, the leading home run and rbi producer last season, will again man the first base slot.

Soph Jerry Micsky, who hit over .300 as a freshman last year, is again at shortstop while Don Stine will play third base.

Pete Warchal has the inside track on the second base position vacated by Mike Smith. Medlar says "he looks fine in the field, is aggressive and attacks the ball at the plate."

Other infielders are utilitymen Jim Taylor, Rob Kepler, Sam Lammie, Glenn Morsey and Ken Smith.

OUTFIELDERS—Harry Rogers, Dennis DeWitt and Cliff Steffy. Remember the names. You'll see them more than a few times before the

Spring term is over. The first two were regulars last year while Steffy, a senior, has played sporadically over the past two years and is finally stepping into a spot of his own.

Others competing for jobs are Bill Burkert, Jack Throm, Lammey (he also plays outfield), Art Ochs and Bill Tussey.

CATCHERS—George Coval, last year's regular, is back and that's a comforting thought for Medlar. Competing with him for a job are football player Gary Hager and an ex-GI, Walt Stankus. Both handle the glove well and the only question is whether they can make contact, according to Medlar.

OUTLOOK—Medlar has sent the Lions to four post-season tournaments in his nine years as coach, including two years in a row. With six regulars returning, along with two experienced pitchers, Medlar may make it three in a row. A little sunshine wouldn't hurt his chances at all.



Play ball?

MARK TANNER, first baseman on the Penn State baseball team, may really be a "cool" character. Tanner and the Lions will not be making the spring trip to Florida this year. Their fate is in the hands of the State College weather.

Netters will be strong again

By MARK SIMENSON
Collegian Senior Reporter
One of the most notable revivals on the Penn State campus has been the Lion tennis team.

Playing a schedule that yielded more defeats than victories for several decades, State received an antidote for its losing plague in 1965. The medicine came in the form of a new tennis coach, Holmes Cathrall. The Lion mentor has reversed the tennis program and has made the netters an Eastern power.

Last year Cathrall used only two lettermen and a few underclassmen to post the most wins (11) in any season in 60 years. After finishing second to Columbia in the

Easterns, Penn State was the highest ranked team from the East at the Nationals with a 20th place.

The team that made their opponents know the meaning of the word "love" is back practicing at the indoor courts next to the Ice Pavilion.

Putting it simply, the squad is loaded with talent this year. Cathrall has eight letter winners returning and that includes the entire 1971 team.

"We are stronger down the line where most teams are stacked at the top of their line up," Cathrall said.

This year's team presents Cathrall with the problem of who will be the number one

player on the courts. "Any of our top four can beat each other," he said.

Cathrall indicated Walker Shivar has the inside track for the top spot due to his play as the top seed last Spring.

Applying pressure on Shivar will be Tom Wright, freshman Jan Bortner and sophomore John Karr. Wright, a 142-pound wrestler for coach Bill Koll during the winter, is also a doubles player.

The State College native is teamed with Shivar. They were the best doubles team in the East last year.

The upcoming tennis season has been made tougher by scheduling three tennis powers, Penn, Columbia and Hampton Institute.

would be an accomplishment, but Cathrall won't be satisfied until his team goes undefeated all the way.



SHIVAR

Lady gymnasts end season

Penn State's women's gym team (9-4) finished its season Saturday with a 88.6-82.5 win over Towson State College.

Cathy McCardle took a first in the vaulting competition with an 8.5 while Debbie Renton won the runner-up honors by tabulating a score of 8.45. Miss Renton also won the floor exercise with an 8.05.

Margie Kessler placed twice, winning the balance beam (7.75) and finishing third in the floor exercise with a 7.95. Darcie Stolz' 6.65 was good enough for second place in the balance beam.

Peg Portman led the Lady Lions on the parallel bars compiling an 8.05. Dorrie DeLuca finished behind her

with a score of 7.95.

Miss Kessler, Miss Renton and Miss Portman will compete in the eastern championships March 18 in Springfield, Mass.

Brown All-ECAC
Penn State sophomore Ron Brown was named to the All-ECAC team last week after scoring 25 points in the Lions' 77-66 win over Rutgers Saturday.

Brown, a strong candidate for ECAC sophomore-of-the-year, appeared on the weekly team three other times this season.

PSU Hockey Club faces full slate

The Penn State hockey club will face a full schedule this weekend in the Ice Pavilion.

The Hampden Leafs, who hail from the Harrisburg-Hershey area, will face off against the Penn State "B" squad Friday night at 10:10. The Leafs lost both their previous encounters this season with coach Larry Hendry's "A" team.

The Penn State "B" team is composed of 20 players chosen from the hockey club's six intramural teams.

The Lions' "A" crew will meet Maryland Saturday afternoon at 4:30 and Sunday morning at 9:30.

There is no admission charge for any of the games.

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Thursday March 9th Shows at 7:00 & 9:00
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