

Bison nine fight back, bow out 5-2

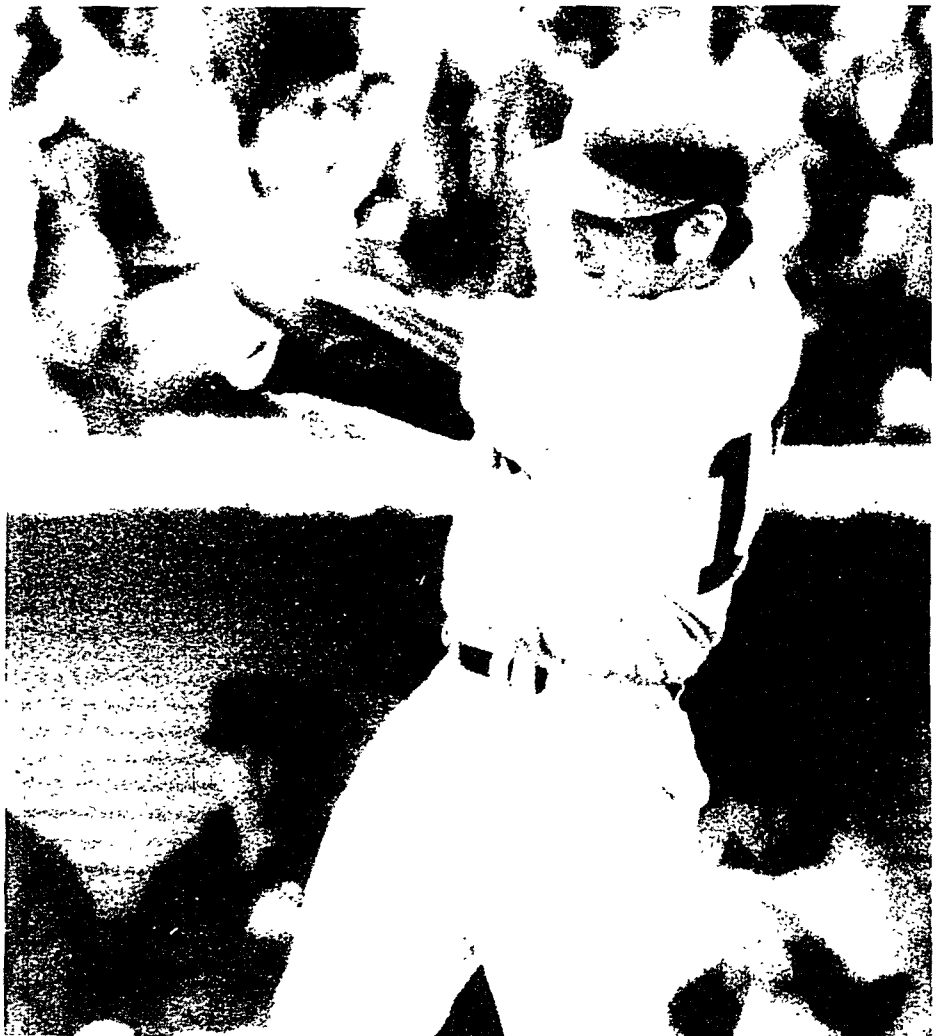


Photo by Randy J. Woodbury

Dennie DeWitt pushes Lion bat attack along

By RICK STARR
Assistant Sports Editor
"Don't believe what you read in the papers," baseball coach Chuck Medlar warned his players before yesterday's game against Bucknell. "I know you guys have read that this team is 0-5, but forget that. On any given day..."

Medlar's words turned out to be a fitting preview of yesterday's 5-2 Penn State win, played before a small crowd at Beaver Field. What, on any given day, should have been a relatively easy afternoon for the Lion nine was turned into a real grinder by Bucknell lefty Rich Baines who, despite four errors by his mates, kept the Lions pretty well in check all afternoon.

In the first inning however, the Bisons' play was unworthy of Medlar's warning. Penn State second baseman Greg Vogel led off with a walk and center fielder Dennie DeWitt, who had a two for four afternoon, followed with a single.

Jerry Micsky then blasted a double play one-hopper back to the mound, but Baines decided to go to third with the play and threw low into the dirt, loading the bases with none out. After George Coval walked, Don Stine and Rick Sherkel produced deep sacrifice flies. A strike out by Kevin Burke closed out the three-run, one-hit inning.

The Bisons came part of the way back in the top of the second when Bucknell first baseman Bill Walsh walked and second baseman Bernie Berninger tripled to right. Burke made a diving attempt for the ball but didn't come up with it.

Penn State yielded another tally in the fourth when pitcher Steve Correll walked Berninger, wild pitched him to second and then gave up a single to Baines.

It was then Bucknell's turn to be generous as the Bison infield booted two straight ground balls in the fourth putting Sherkel on third and Burke on second. Len Bartek let Baines off the hook however when he hit a double play ball to short.

DeWitt came up with his second hit in the fifth, a double that was really a triple. The veteran center fielder drilled a gap shot to right center but tripped and fell rounding second and almost got thrown out getting back to the bag. He was left on when Micsky grounded to short for the final out of the frame.

The Penn State fans who left after the sixth missed a good offensive and defensive show by the Lions, not to mention excellent relief pitching by John Maier.

With two out in the top of the eighth, Walsh was given Correll's sixth walk before Steve Stewart's double. Stewart's hit was a gap shot to left center which Sherkel hustled on, holding the lead man at third.

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Medlar then came on with Maier, who has been exceptional for Penn State in his three appearances so far. Medlar said he took out Correll, only a freshman, because he was just a little too wild.

"He didn't tire out," Medlar said, "he just got into trouble with bases on balls. He's a young kid with a lot of potential but bases on balls cost him two runs today."

Maier worked to a one and one count, then threw a hard curve right on the outside corner to Berninger. The next pitch was another curve that broke right across the plate. That pitch was also taken by Berninger, ending the Bison threat.

In the bottom of the eighth the Lions got a couple of breather runs off Baines, who took the loss.

Penn State travels to Gettysburg for a 3 p.m. game this afternoon with either Sherkel or Brian Masella slated to pitch. Medlar said he would like to start Mitch Lukevics, however the Lion freshman developed blisters on his fingers after his last outing.

DeWitt has been pulling a large share of the Lion offense along this season and Medlar made mention of it after yesterday's win.

"We always knew he was a good hitter with a lot of potential and this year, he's just doing it," Medlar said. Someone asked the Lion coach if he had been surprised by the Bison pitching. "You guys know baseball," Medlar replied. "On any given day..."

PENN STATE		BUCKNELL	
ab	r h bi	ab	r h bi
Vogel 2b	3 1 0 0	Bassi ss	4 0 1 0
DeWitt cf	4 1 2 0	Eck 3b	5 0 0 0
Micsky ss	4 2 1 0	Hays cf	4 0 0 0
Coval c	3 0 0 1	Dehm c	2 0 0 0
Stine 3b	3 1 2 2	Renneisen cf	4 0 0 0
Sherkel lf	3 0 2 2	Walsh 1b	2 1 0 0
Burke rf	3 0 0 0	Stewart rf	4 0 2 0
Bartek lb	3 0 0 0	Berninger 2b	3 1 1 1
Correll p	3 0 0 0	Baines p	2 0 1 1
Burkert rf	1 0 0 0	Knuth lb	0 0 0 0
Maier p	0 0 0 0	Linstrom rf	0 0 0 0
Total	30 5 7 5	Ansel p	0 0 0 0
		Steinitz ph	1 0 0 0
		Totals	31 2 5 2

Bucknell		Penn State	
DP	Bassi Berninger, Walsh	2B	DeWitt Stewart
3B	Berninger E.Sherkel, Baines, Walsh, Berninger, Dehm, SF.Stine, Sherkel, SAC.Bassi.	IP	H R ER BB K
Correll		7	2 3 5 2 2 6 8
Baines		7	2 3 7 5 4 2 3
Ansel		1	3 0 0 0 0 0



Photo by Randy J. Woodbury

Lion boss Chuck Medlar after summit

sportscene

BASEBALL
Penn State at Gettysburg, 3 p.m.

Scribes pick Heinsohn as NBA coach of year

NEW YORK (AP) — Tom Heinsohn of the Boston Celtics was named yesterday as the National Basketball Association Coach of the Year for the 1972-73 season.

"This is the first coaching trophy I've ever won," said the 38-year-old Heinsohn after the announcement by NBA Commissioner Walter Kennedy.

Heinsohn received 29 votes in the balloting by three sportswriters from each of the 17 franchise cities. Gene Shue of Baltimore was second with 15.

Larry Costello of Milwaukee and Cotton Fitzsimmons of Atlanta tied for third with two votes each. Red Holzman of New York, Dick Motta of Chicago and Bob Cousey of Kansas City-Omaha each received one vote.

Heinsohn, who became the Celtics' coach after Bill Russell retired following the 1968-69 season, currently is leading his team against the New York Knicks in the playoff for the Eastern Conference championship.

Heinsohn's won-lost record for the regular season during his four years as Celtic coach is 202-126, including a 68-14 record this season as the Celtics won the Atlantic Division title for the second straight season.

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