

Lukevics works WVU for 17 strikeouts

By RICK STARR
Assistant Sports Editor



Photos by Randy J. Woodbury

Lukevics had the moving fastball...

When Lion pitcher Mitch Lukevics starts to work on something, he always stays with it until it's done. Yesterday afternoon at Beaver Field, Lukevics started to work on West Virginia and nine innings and 17 strikeouts later the Mountaineers were done.

Penn State used the three hit pitching of Lukevics and some long-ball bat power to shut out West Virginia 12-0 and improve its record to 8-2.

All through the game Lion coach Chuck Medlar was planning on bringing in Steve Correll for some late inning work, but Medlar finally abandoned that idea when he saw that Lukevics' work wasn't done.

"I was going to let Correll pitch and give him some work in the last few innings, but I decided to let Mitch in to go for his strikeouts and the shutout," Medlar said. "He works very hard at everything he does, and by running he keeps himself in fine condition."

"Running strengthens the legs and a pitcher is only as strong as his legs," Lukevics said. "I'd say the legs are the most important part of any long-distance pitcher."

The Lion freshman also said that the atmosphere on this year's team has helped him adjust to his new environment at Penn State.

"I've never played with a better bunch of guys," Lukevics said. "This is a close knit team and that helps a lot, because everybody isn't out to cut each others throat. Stine and Coval keep me mentally alert during the game when before I would just take it easy after a big lead. They won't let me relax."

Lukevics' teammates did more than just keep him alert in yesterday's game. The Lions came up with an eleven-hit attack that included three homers.

Greg Vogel got things started in the fourth with his single and stolen base. Gerry Micsky then came up with a single to score Vogel. After a double to right by Stine, left fielder Rick Sherkel unloaded with a 425-foot homer to account for three of the inning's four runs.

Vogel started things up again in the fifth with another single which Micsky and Stine complemented with back to back home runs.

Penn State added a single run in the sixth and closed out the scoring in the eighth with four more runs on just two hits. In the eighth

Art Ochs and Lukevics walked and Ochs scored on Vogel's single. DeWitt cashed in two more tallies with a triple and then came in on an error by Mountaineer shortstop Don Porter.

Lukevics was never really in trouble as only two West Virginia runners made it to second base the entire afternoon.

Medlar said the difference between Lukevics pitching and work of Mountaineer starter Brad Haines was Lukevics ability to keep his fastball moving.

"You have to throw fast," Medlar said, "but you also have to make the ball do something. No matter how hard you throw, if the pitch doesn't have something extra, it's going to be hit. Lukevics has two speeds on his curve and he throws both of them to set you up for the fast one."

Lukevics said after the game that his good moving pitch didn't really start working until the final three innings.

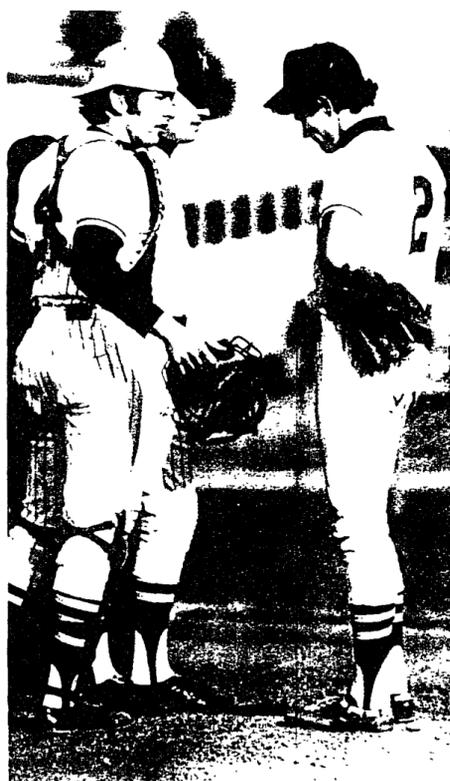
"The pitch didn't come in for me until late," Lukevics said. "Being up so far I decided to experiment with it a little. It's something between a slider and a curve and I really don't even have a name for it yet."

PENN STATE		WEST VIRGINIA	
ab	r h b i	ab	r h b i
Vogel 2b	5 3 4 2	Porter ss	3 0 0 0
DeWitt cf	5 1 1 2	Comko 2b	3 0 1 0
Micsky ss	5 2 2 3	Kirchner cf	3 0 0 0
Stine 3b	5 2 2 1	Young 3b	3 0 0 0
Sherkel lf	4 1 1 3	Beatty lf	3 0 1 0
Burker rf	2 0 0 0	Szakos c	4 0 0 0
Ochs 1b	2 1 0 0	Ruzicka rf	2 0 0 0
Coval c	3 1 1 0	Harris 1b	2 0 0 0
Lukevics p	2 1 0 0	Haines p	1 0 1 0
Koch c	1 0 0 0	Whitcotton p	1 0 0 0
Korb ph. rf	1 0 0 0	Ungvarsky ph.	1 0 0 0
Lammie 2b	0 0 0 0	Neelen ph. p	1 0 0 0
Total	35 12 11 11	Sanders ph. rf	1 0 0 0
		Palumbo 2b	0 0 0 0
		Cunningham cf	1 0 0 0
		Tiberio 3b	1 0 0 0
		Total	31 0 3 0

West Virginia 000 000 000—0
Penn State 000 431 04x—12

E—Vogel, Ochs, Stine, Micsky, Ungvarsky, 2.
Porter, LOB—PS 4, WVU 7. 2B—Stine 3B—Vogel
SAC—Porter, Lukevics

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	K
Lukevics (W, 2 0)	9	3	0	0	2	17
Haines (L, 3 2)	3 1/3	3	3	3	0	5
Whitcotton	2 2/3	5	2	2	0	3
Neelen	2	2	4	3	2	3



Photos by Randy J. Woodbury

...Haines didn't

sportscene

LACROSSE
Penn State at Corland, 3:30 p.m.

TENNIS
PSU women at MALTA Tournament, Mary Baldwin College, Staunton, Va., 12:00 p.m.

ARCHERY
Penn State club at Madison (Wisc.) College, 2 p.m.

Kentucky wins

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP)—The Kentucky Colonels, getting 31 points from forward Dan Issel, never trailed as they registered a 107-96 victory over the Carolina Cougars last night for the East Division crown and a berth in the finals against Indiana for the American Basketball Association championship.

Lion second in marathon

Karl Thornton of the Philadelphia Track Club won the grueling 26-mile, 385 yard Penn Relay marathon yesterday in 2:32.7. The

former Penn captain covered the distance nine seconds off the event record.

Thornton took the lead at the 21-mile mark from Lion freshman George Christopher. Christopher, who runs the three and six mile races admitted he died after taking the first 10 miles like "a Sunday jog."

Christopher almost dropped the second position to Columbia's Steve Fiamingo. The Lion trackster was forced to sprint the final yards to edge Fiamingo 2:35.27 to 2:35.35.

"The end was a marathoner's nightmare," Christopher said. "I had to sprint at the end. I was in agony for about half an hour, but afterwards I thought I could do it again."

The temperature, in the mid-70's at race time, apparently took its toll; 67 started the event, but only 29 eventually finished.

Also finishing for Penn State was frosh Carl Bechdel. The Lion runner completed the course in 2:53.9 to finish eighth. —BG

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India

1959

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