

Messersmith — no sale ...

NEW YORK (AP) — Commissioner Bowie Kuhn's meeting with principals in the New York Yankees-Andy Messersmith controversy broke up without a decision yesterday and the former Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher was asked to be on hand for a renewal of the case today.

George Steinbrenner III, owner of the Yankees, was the first to leave the commissioner's office at 5:55 p.m., EST. When asked what news there was, he responded tartly: "Nothing!"

Marvin Miller, executive director of the Major League Players Association; his attorney, Dick Moss; and Herb Osmond, the agent for Messersmith, followed in a group.

"We have nothing to announce at the moment," Miller said. "We have agreed to continue talks at 10:30 a.m., EST, Friday (today)."

The Associated Press learned that Messersmith, who reportedly had agreed to sign a \$1.5-million contract with the Yankees and then decided differently, had been summoned by the commissioner to be on hand for the meeting.

It is the Yankees' contention that Osmond, acting as Messersmith's legal representative, had signed the agreement, which the Yankees said was binding.

Messersmith has been at his home in Newport Beach, Calif.

The four-hour meeting ended with both sides sticking to their guns.

Osmond said he had not signed a contract for Messersmith to play with the Yankees. Meanwhile, Gabe Paul, president of the Yankees, said he had a written agreement, signed by Osmond, "to have Andy Messersmith play this year with the Yankees."

The sticky part of the controversy involved what Osmond signed in the wee hours of the morning Sunday, and how binding — if at all — it is on Messersmith.

Osmond said he had signed a memorandum, not a contract. He said he still thinks Messersmith is a free agent.

Miller said Osmond has no power to bind Messersmith to anything. "Osmond could negotiate for him but not sign for him," Miller said. "He had no power of attorney. He only had the authority to negotiate."

... but AL lands Toronto deal

NEW YORK (AP) — Commissioner Bowie Kuhn gave the American League permission to place a franchise in Toronto yesterday — with the understanding that a provision be made for some AL games, possibly by the Baltimore Orioles, to be played in nearby Washington, D.C.

He gave the American League seven days in which to work out a formula to satisfy Washington, which has been

without a franchise since the Senators moved to Texas in 1972. The commissioner said if an agreeable formula could not be worked out, he would withdraw approval for a franchise.

Then the National League would be given an opportunity to vote for a Toronto franchise.

The American League rejected the commissioner's move. In a three paragraph statement, AL President Lee

MacPhail insisted any attempt by Kuhn to interfere with its plans for a Toronto franchise "is neither just nor fair."

"The American League intends to go forward with its plans for Toronto," MacPhail said. "If the National League desires to expand to Washington, it may do so. There are other fine cities available for a 14th franchise."

Drexel starts laXers season

Coming off an impressive preseason schedule, the Penn State lacrosse team will feature a more balanced squad as it prepares for a run at a third consecutive winning season and a bid for the NCAA playoffs.

The first step will be taken this afternoon when the Lions take on a high-scoring Drexel squad in Philadelphia.

Going into a preseason term break trip to Long Island to play several strong college teams, coach Dick Pencsek was a bit worried since he had lost three key defensive players to graduation: Kevin Campbell, Jay Levine and Buddy Tesner.

"We were very surprised about our play on Long Island," Pencsek said. "We went there knowing what our first two midfield lines and our attack could do, but worrying about our defense. By the end of the week, we started to jell as a team and we came away from the trip believing that we have a good team."

The lacmen jelled to the point that they

soundly defeated teams like Suffolk, Hofstra and Farmingdale Community College and tied Nassau Community College, a perennial community college powerhouse.

More importantly, Pencsek found excellent replacements for the departed defencemen in freshman Fred Lomady from Abington High School and sophomore Pete Kowalski.

At midfield, Pencsek said he is blessed with two solid lines although today he will be missing the services of last year's leading total point scorer Larry Warshaw, due to a recurring knee injury.

Rich Mauti, an honorable-mention All-American last year and one of the team's quickest players, will be coupled with Bob Cooper and Jack Barry on the first line. Paul Repp, Steve Ezratty, and Dan Pinkerton, replacing Warshaw, will form the second line.

—Jerry Lucci

the daily Collegian sports

Jabbar voted MVP

NEW YORK (AP) — Kareem Abdul-Jabbar of the Los Angeles Lakers was named winner of the National Basketball Association's Most Valuable Player Award for the fourth time yesterday, edging rival centers Bob McAdoo of the Buffalo Braves and Dave Cowens of the Boston Celtics.

The 7-foot-3 Abdul-Jabbar is the NBA leader in rebounding, blocked shots and minutes played and second to McAdoo in scoring. He received 409 points on the basis of five points for first place, three for second and one for third in balloting by the league's players.

McAdoo, winner of the league's Podoloff Trophy last season as the MVP, was second this time with 393 points. Cowens, the 1973 winner, finished third with 378 points in the closest three-way race in NBA history.

"I'm very flattered to win the award," Abdul-Jabbar said. "I didn't expect I would win because it usually goes to a player on a winning team—the Lakers currently are 38-40 and fourth in the Pacific Division. But I thank the guys I play against for voting for me and I thank the Creator."

Abdul-Jabbar is in his first season with the Lakers after six seasons with the Milwaukee Bucks. At Milwaukee, he won the league's MVP Award in 1971, 1972 and 1974.

He is the third player in NBA history to gain the honor at least four times. Center Wilt Chamberlain was a four-time winner and center Bill Russell won it five times.

Netmen challenge Maryland in opener

As marches through the South go, the Penn State men's tennis team's recent exhibition tour there will probably not make anyone forget General Sherman.

The team warmed up for Sunday afternoon's opener at Maryland by losing all 11 matches in the 11-day swing.

"I'm glad we had the chance to play and work some things out before we had to face Maryland," he said. "We have some players who haven't faced college competition before, so the trip had to help them."

Although obviously less than happy with the winless performance, Cathrall is not too concerned with the string of losses. "The matches don't start to count until Sunday."

On that day, the Lions will be meeting a highly-touted Maryland team that features basketball All-American John Lucas. Lucas is not merely satisfying an athletic whim

with his tennis participation; he is also an All-American on the tennis court.

The Lion most likely to face him will be the lone senior, Miguel Maurtua. Maurtua nailed down the top spot for Penn State, and should be ready for Lucas despite a leg injury that hampered him on the southern trip.

The second and third spots will fall to juniors Jimmy Ellis and Mark Darby, respectively. The other courts are up for grabs between freshman Jim Howell and a freshman quartet of Alex Davidson, Pete Cole, Fabricio Valdivieso, and Jim Whiteside.

The doubles pairings seem set, at least for the opener, with Maurtua and Ellis holding down the top court. Following them will be Whiteside and Darby on second court, with Cole and Davidson third.

—Jack Paton

Dine cards 75 in opener

Linksmen club Villanova

Despite the wind and cold, the Penn State men's golf team bunched five golfers in the 70's yesterday to defeat Villanova 382-402 and win its season opener.

Senior Bob Dine copped medalist honors, carding a three-over 75 in the 20 miles per hour wind and forty-degree temperature.

Dine, who notched four birdies, was closely followed by Dick Conn and Sherman Hostetter, who both posted 76's over the 7010-yard Penn State Blue Course.

Completing the Lions' 382 total, with which coach Joe Boyle was pleased, were Dave Grill's 77 and Rod Franc's 78.

With the weather and the greens still not in good condition, "I didn't think we'd do that well," Boyle said.

Dave Shimko led Villanova (1-1) with a 78, but the Wildcat's number one man, Henry Kilroy ballooned to an 82.

Villanova coach Mike Selloff, who hoped for a better performance from Kilroy, said, "If he would have shot better, it would have been closer."

The Lions tee-off again tomorrow afternoon, hosting Navy at the Blue Course.

—BK

Farr blanks Engineers

By GARY SILVERS

Collegian Sports Writer

The Penn State baseball team, behind a brilliant seven hit performance by pitcher Jim Farr, fought off the rain Wednesday and buried Lehigh 10-0 in the season's opener.

"The defense committed just one error," said Penn State coach Chuck Medlar "which was really impressive since we had such little practice time."

The Lions, who went scoreless in the first two innings, mustered all 10 runs in the back five. In the third inning, a walk and doubles by Kevin Maronic and Garry Koch put State on the board.

It was all Dave Delenick in the next two frames as he tripled and scored on a pass ball in the fourth and blasted a two run single with the bases loaded in the fifth.

In the sixth inning, the Lions plastered Lehigh pitching for three more on a bases loaded triple by Greg Vogel and a sacrifice fly by Maronic. During Lehigh's half of the inning, State pitcher Farr began to tire and was replaced by junior Dick Miller, who retired the side in order.

"The bad weather really affected Farr's velocity," Medlar said, "but his excellent curveball made up the difference."

Centerfielder Larry Kramer iced the cake in the seventh with a two run single. In the bottom of the inning, Miller allowed just one hit and the rains halted the action.

"Miller is really gonna help us," Medlar said. "He has an excellent curve and throws strikes."

The Lions are in action

three times this weekend, starting tomorrow afternoon when they travel to Villanova to meet the Wildcats. Pitcher Steve Nielsen, coming off a rib injury, will get the nod for State, whose last victory over the Cats came in 1973.

"I don't know much about Villanova," Medlar said, "except that they've always had good teams and have given us good competition."

Ithaca, who the Lions meet in their 1 p.m. opening doubleheader Sunday, also has a good squad and have made it to the NCAA College Playoffs a number of times.

"Ithaca is a small college with a good pitching staff," Medlar said. "Sunday will be their opener."

"We're still scrambling for pitching," he added, "since Tim Pearson still isn't ready. Our probable starters Sunday are Farr and Steve Correll."

Netwomen travel to Madison

By BARB SHELLY

Collegian Sports Writer

Penn State's women's tennis coach Joan Nessler is optimistic about the depth and potential of her young team but says she needs to see them under the pressure of a match.

A look at the schedule hints that pressure won't be hard to come by. Penn State could have one of the toughest schedules in the east.

The Lady Lions travel to Madison tomorrow to warm up for perennial powers such as Princeton, the University of Virginia, Ohio State and the University of Maryland. "If we play the way we've been practicing, we ought to beat Madison," Nessler said.

A look at the lineup shows that Penn State

has plenty of talent of its own.

Freshman Joy McManus has won the number one spot. Wendy Gavett, a sophomore from Mount Lebanon, will play second singles, followed by Joan Backenstose in third singles. Backenstose, a freshman, is a sister of Carol Backenstose, a former number one player at Penn State.

Molly Wesner, Bailey Symington and Mon Androsko round out the singles lineup.

The only junior on the team, Micki Larkin, earned a place in the singles lineup but will not play singles tomorrow because of a knee injury. A transfer from Hollins College, Va., Larkin is expected to team with McManus for the second doubles match. Gavett and Backenstose will play first doubles and Wesner and Symington will play third doubles.

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