

Takes Over First



BILL GILES . . . The Alliance sophomore football and baseball star will take over the first base duties from Ray Novak when the Nebraska baseball team meets Oklahoma this Friday and Saturday at Norman. Novak is slated for starting pitcher chores. (Courtesy of the Lincoln Journal.)

Strictly Kushner

By MARSHALL KUSHNER Sports Editor Cryin' in the Rain

The weather man has struck another hard blow at the intramural softball leagues. For the second straight year, the inclement weather conditions have forced a cancelling of all regular scheduled league games in order to go into the playoffs.

Again, as last year, softball players in the leagues are moaning the present single elimination tournament. And they have a legal gripe.

Many teams have yet to play a single game against opposition this spring, which means that these teams will be forced to go into the final tournament "cold."

On top of that, baseball teams, as in every other sport, have their ups and downs. A poor underdog could upset a strong team and weaken the caliber of teams in the tournament (this argument might also be directed at the fallacy of pitcher-catcher emphasis in the game as played today . . . but who's gonna revise the game?)

At any rate, the ears of this writer have been opened to the many complaints of dropping the regular IM play and putting the single elimination into effect.

This little masterpiece of American literature isn't intended to reprimand the intramural department in any way. We are aware of the fact that there is less than a month to complete the tournament and this action was taken as a last resort.

But wait until we get our hands on ole Jupiter B. Pluviosus!

Complaint Department

Open your mouth about the outcome of the major league season and you can't help but put your footsie in it.

When we came out with our selections for the 1952 major league finishers we were the natural target for a barrage of complaints. Most of the tongue lashings came from loyal Cleveland Indian fans.

One fan, who insisted on calling me a "bum" even though I didn't have my Brooklyn uniform on that day, couldn't see how I could choose "those old bunch of ex's and not a sprited, fighting St. Louis Brown team." (The "old bunch" he referred to are the New York Yankees.)

We'll have to admit the Yankee team, as a whole, has a great deal of "experience" behind it, but they are far from the point of diminishing returns on American league victories and World Series invitations.

At any rate, we won't budge from our stand that the Yanks and Dodgers will be in the 1952 World Series. (All bets taken at the sports desk between 2 and 5 p.m.)

Missouri Gridders Finish Drills

They'll all be in after Saturday. That is to say the Big Seven spring practice sessions will be climaxed by the Missouri Tigers in their finale against the Tiger alumni.

Some mighty flashy names appear on the Bengal grandfathers roster. Johnny Kadlec, Bus Entsminger (coach), John Gloriosi, Dick Brazzell, Ed Stephens and the Fuchs boys, Bob and Bill.

It should be one of the toughest games the Missouri varsity will encounter this year. It's hard to think about football with this spring weather prevailing and spring sports dominating the sports scene.

The Box Scores Don't Lie

We had to adjust the bifocles and even afterward we couldn't believe our eyes. BOB CERV HAD BROKEN INTO THE YANKEE FOLD.

The Mighty Cerv At The Plate

T'was a gloomy day In the empire state, The Yankees were behind, The innings were eight.

When out of the hole Just this side of third, Stepped Strongboy Bob Cerv The ovation clearly heard.

All spines were a tingling Of hopes for a blow, The pitcher wound up And here comes the throw.

T'is a bingle in left And Cerv is the gun, But the Red Sox are joyous, They romped three to one.

But down through the years, Though losing the game, The Yanks'll remember That glorious eighth frame.

T'was a gloomy day In the empire state, But joy reigned in Boston, Cuz Cerv's hit was too late. Emerson Kushner



Kushner

Nebraska B Baseball Team Beats Wesleyan

By RON GIBSON Sports Staff Writer

A steal of home by Fred Seger in the sixth inning gave Nebraska's "B" baseballers a 2-1 opening-game victory over Nebraska Wesleyan in a game played on the NU diamond Thursday afternoon.

Seger stole home on Wesleyan Pitcher Archie Gustafson in the bottom of the sixth frame to break up a 1-1 tie.

Lanky Fred's double to right and a muffed grounder by Wesleyan shortstop Leon Lehr put Seger in position to sneak home with the score despite the efforts of Gustafson and Plainsman Catcher Bob Witham.

The Nubbins had scored in the first inning on a pair of singles by George Mink and Denny Korinek along with Seger's infield out which scored Mink.

The Plainsmen got their only run in the top of the sixth on

Glenn Reed's hit to left field, left-fielder Walt Finke's error and a single by Ron Olson which scored Reed. The tally came after two were out.

In a game which was well-played, especially for this early in the season, Husker pitchers Bob Gleason and Don Muenster hooked up in a tight mound duel with Wesleyan's ace, Gustafson.

Gleason started on the hill for the NU seconds, yielding three hits and striking out seven.

Muenster came on in the sixth frame for Nebraska, and allowed a brace of bingles while fanning three.

In the meantime, Gustafson was holding the Huskers at bay on five hits over the full nine innings, and was striking out nine.

Top hitter of the day was Second Baseman Al Karle, whose single in three at-bats matched Plainsman Bob Starke's two-for-four.

Bob Kremke, a pitcher, filled in at third base for Coach Ed Berg's Nubbins, and turned in a good performance.

In addition to scoring the winning run, Seger made a game-saving stop of Starke's hard shot to short in the fourth inning with runners on first and second. Although unable to make a throw, Seger prevented a run from scoring.

Friday the "B" team journeys to Milford for a game with Milford Trade School. Coach Berg indicated that Bob Kremke would probably be the starting pitcher.



CHANGE OF UNIFORM . . . Bob Kremke and Don Muenster, both out for the Nebraska varsity basketball team, are starting pitchers on Coach Ed Berg's Nebraska baseball B team. Muenster is from Omaha, Kremke from Millard.

NU Baseballers Face Rugged OU

It'll be a "do-or-die" proposition when the Nebraska baseball team makes its trip to Norman, Okla., to match runs with the Oklahoma Sooners.

The Huskers must win the doubleheader or they will be all but out of the running for the league championship. They will have to keep both eyes on the tough Sooners and just hope that the Kansas State diamond can rise to the occasion and bump off the undefeated Missouri Tigers.

Ray Novak will make his second starting assignment for Coach Tony Sharpe Friday in the opener. Novak has been working on the team as the starting first baseman and also beat the Drake Bulldogs in the second game of that doubleheader.

It was the only hurling Novak has done for the Cornhuskers this year and it was a nifty three inning one-hit performance. Bill Giles, sophomore from Alliance, will take over Novak's first sack chores.

Pat Mallette, pitcher from Uehling, will take the hill for the Huskers in the Saturday finale.

Mallette twirled a two-hitter at Kansas State as the scarlet came through with a 14-1 victory.

Bob Diers, who Coach Sharpe hopes has found the range after a slow start in hitting, will move to the clean-up position in the batting line-up to replace Novak.

Nebraska's conference record now stands at two wins and one loss. They dropped the Wildcats twice at Manhattan and dropped a 6-1 decision to the University of Kansas.

The traveling squad: Ray Novak, Pat Mallette, Dick McCormick, Fran Hofmaier, Charley Wright, Jim Cederdahl Backhaus, Bill Giles, Bobby Reynolds, Ray Mladovich, Bobby Decker, Jerry Dunn, Bob Diers, Milt Frei and Dick Christoph.

The Kansas State baseball team will play a return match with the Huskers when they visit Lincoln, April 29-30. This is expected to boost Nebraska's chances of overtaking the Missouri club for league leadership, if the Cornhuskers can beat Missouri when they battle at Columbia, May 12 and 13.

Eager Cyclone Track Team Enters Relays

The six University of Nebraska entries in the annual Drake Relays will have to cope with competition from Iowa State college when they make their trip to the Iowa State capital.

Iowa State will enter all events on the Drake Relays program, Coach Carl Burl V. Berry announced today.

"We may shift out of some events if it will help us in others," Berry said, "but we'll complete in a heavy list of events just the same."

Berry has listed 33 men for seven relays and 11 individual events. Top individual performers entered are Jim Robertson, 1951 place winner in the discus; John Wilkin, who has placed second and third in the Texas and Kansas Relays, and Jim Kent, a place winner in the Kansas Relays and hop-step-jump event.

The entries: Bruce Abele, Don Arney, Page Arnold, Ray Ball, Don Barber, Larry Bjornson, Chris Buck, Virg Byerly, Ill Carpenter, Jack Duston, George Eastburn, Capt. Merle Harris, Ray Hoffman, Al Tolman, Bill Honnold, Jim Kent, Ken Mallis, John Maney, Jim Mielkus, Harold Rhode, Jim Robertson, Dick Robbins, Jim Shearer.

Tom Shupe, Dick Silver, Lee Spence, Al Stevenson, Dick Wendt, John Wilkin, Tom Willet, Dave Williams, John Williams, and Don Young.

Meanwhile the Iowa State baseball team left today for a four-game road trip against Missouri and Kansas. Cap Timm, Iowa State coach, and 16 players will make the trip.

Cyclone opposition on the trip will be two of the toughest teams in the loop. The Tigers have come up with a lot of new faces but even greater power than in 1951. Coach Hi Simmons' nine is rated as most likely to stop the Oklahoma march to a second straight Big Seven title.

Over at Lawrence, Kans., the Jayhawks are figured to have the top pitching staff in the league headed by fastballer Carl Sane-fur.

Timm probably will use Don Burgess and Jack Luhning as his starting pitchers on the trip. In its only Big Seven start, the Cyclone team dropped an 8-6 decision to Kansas State last Monday. Rain cancelled the second game of the series.

Scarlet 'Play And Pray' That Mizzou Team Loses

Nebraska's baseball team will be playing and praying at Norman, Okla., this weekend when they meet the Sooners.

They'll be playing hard to beat Oklahoma and stay in the Big Seven conference race and praying hard that the Missouri Tigers, league leaders, will take their first beating this year.

Rained out of the Kansas series at Lawrence Monday and Tuesday, Mizzou's baseball team will take on Iowa State at Columbia, Friday and Saturday in Big Seven contests.

For Coach Hi Simmons' club, the two clashes with Iowa State will be the last home games until May 9. In the interim, the Tigers will be on the road for five straight games. They then return to their own diamond, playing the last six conference games at home.

Simmons will pitch his two best moundmen—Dick Atkinson and Don Boenker—against Coach Cap Timm's visitors. Both own 2-1 records so far, with Boenker's one-hitter in the T.C.U. triumph giving Mizzou top-flight hurling.

The chunky right-hander from Normandy high in St. Louis plucked up his loss in relief against Oklahoma. A home run by Dale Roark tagged him for a two-run homer in the ninth.

Boenker, incidentally, is carrying Missouri's offensive lead in fine style, too. He leads M.U. hitters with a .667 average, while second baseman Ken Kurtz owns the best mark among the regulars at .471.

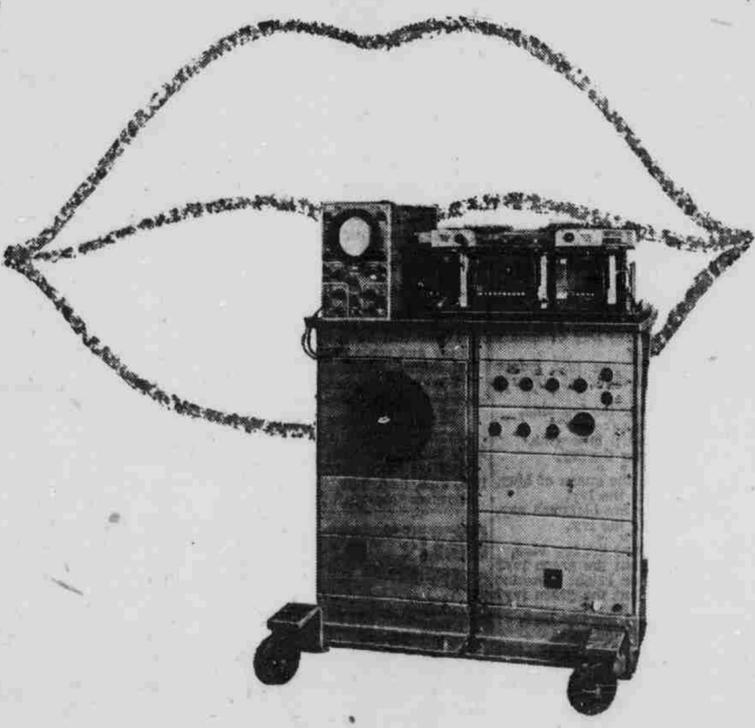
His timing off after missing the first seven weeks of pre-season batting drills, Captain Junior Wren is well down the table in the early averages. Wren took a fractured wrist out of its cast just four days before Mizzou's opener, and is now hitting .143 against his final .356 average last season.

Table with columns: Player, ab, r, s, rbi, ave. Rows include Don Boenker, Ken Kurtz, Bob Schoonmaker, Jack Pachett, Ross Weaver, Carl Barbour, Herb Gellman, Gil Laur, Ralph Monroe, Dick Robinson, Junior Wren, and Others.

IM Tennis Rescheduled

A new timetable was assigned to the intramural tennis-doubles tournament. Because of the failure of any of the games having already reached a decision which apparently would lead to overloading the courts just before the deadline dates, a new set-up has been instigated.

All first round matches must now be played on or before April 26. The tennis courts have been reserved for I-M match play all day Saturday. Six matches have been assigned to the courts at 8:30 a.m., 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 3 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.



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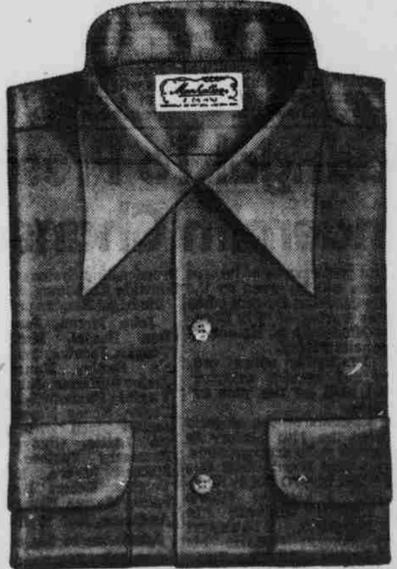
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