The Lineup

Baseball Season Near; Trades Deemed Must

Chuck Klasek

Only Two Months Away . . .

Believe it or not, that great game of baseball is only two months away. Spring baseball drills for the sixteen major league teams are scheduled to begin in early March and even in late February.

Currently representatives of the major league teams have been holding meetings in Phoenix, Arizona, discussing major diamond problems and policy. Behind the scenes, team officials have been talking, bargaining, even pleading with one another in order to make important trades or sales of players which would improve the strength of their respective ball clubs. The St. Louis Browns and the Detroit Tigers have already negotiated the largest deal of the current meetings. Involved were such players as Johnny Groth, Virgil (2-no-hit) Trucks, and J. W. Porter.

Klasek

However, the team that should be most concerned with trades and sales has not made a move. The Cleveland Indians, who for the past two years have been forced into the runnerup position in the American League pennant race, are still looking for men to fill their major weak spots.

Many baseball people, not only Indian fans, still find it hard to believe that the tribe actually blew the pennant in '52. They look at these things:

(1) The Indians of 1952 boasted the greatest Big Three pitching corps in the business. Early Wynn won 23 and lost 12, with four shutouts. Mike Garcia was 22 and 11, with six shutouts. Lemon had a 22 and 11 record, and turned in five shutouts. The Big Three totaled 67 wins, including 15 whitewashings.

(2) Cleveland's left-fielder, Dale Mitchell, was Ferris Fain's closest rival for the American League batting title, with a .323 average. The Philadelphia first-baseman beat him by only four points.

(3) Mitchell, Al Rosen (.302), and Bobby Avila (.300), gave Lopez three men with solid batting averages.

(4) Larry Doby won the league runs-batted-in title with 106. Rosen finished second with 105.

(5) In home-run production, Doby was the league-champion, with 32. Luke Easter, with 31 homers, 97 runs accounted for, and a terrific late-season pace, was widely rated one of the league's most valuable players.

(6) As a club, the Tribe with its 148 homers, topped the Yankees for the league title by a margin of19. In driving in runs, the Indians, with 720, again outdid the Bombers with 669.

It was in fielding and in speed that the Tribe lost the pennant. Critics called the Indians' defenses the shabbiest in the American League.

Trades Necessary . . .

If the Indians even hope to be in contention for the 1953 American League pennant, they are going to have to vastly strengthen their weak spots by key trades, or the Tribe will be destined for a second division finish.

Now that Bob Feller has been removed from the ranks of starting pitchers, and now that it appears that the Cleveland Indians need more than three twenty-game winners for a pennant winning team, it looks as if the Tribe's first problem is the acquisition of another starting pitcher. Feller should make an outstanding reliefer, joining the ranks of the immortals, Joe Page, Hugh Casey, Joe Black, and Jim Konstanty.

A second desperate need is a sharp fielding, good hitting shortstop to replace the weak Ray Boone. If the Indians could strengthen these two weak spots, then the New York Yankees might be removed from their perch high atop the American League.

Gym Squad Trimmed; Underclassmen Dominate

By GARY FRANDSEN
Sports Staff Writer

Coach J. G. Geier has recently narrowed down his 1952-53 Nebraska gymnastics' squad to eight men as they continue to prepare hard for their Jan. 17 clash with the Kansas State aggregation in Lincoln.

However, before tasting their first outside action, the Huskers will face a stiff test this Thursday when an Alumni outfit will participate along with two equally-divided squads of the Scarlet and Cream to form a triangular.

This week's affair at the P. E. building should give a fairly good indication of what the Cornhuskers will do during the coming campaign. Freshmen will be among the members of the two Nebraska teams. The meet will get underway at 4:30 p.m.

Lettermen Max Kennedy, Tom Kidd, Danny Fogel and Don Hodge head the varsity squad of eight with the remaining four being composed of Bert Linn, Dave Brand, Dick Raecke and Chuck Sprague.

It is definitely a team of underclassmen as there are no seniors and only two juniors, Kennedy and Kidd. Geier stated that "the overall strength is not quite as strong as last year, but we have a lot of hopes as the boys are working hard."

Geier also commented that he has three freshmen who could prove very valuable assets this year if they were eligible to compete. He named the three as Ken Kohler, Burrell McMaster and Bruce Nichols.

Here is the rundown on the lettermen and their specialties in the field of gymnastics: Kennedy — tumbling and trampoline; Kidd — horse, hi-bar, parallel bars and rings; Fogel—hi-bar, rings, parallel bars and tumbling; Hodge — tumbling and trampoline.

Other varsity performers shape up something like this: Linn—horse; Brand—trampoline; Racke—horse; and Sprague — hi-bar, parellel bars, rings and trampoline.

After their encounter with the Wildcats, the Huskers play host to North Dakota on Feb. 7. The following week they journey to Colorado where they tangle with Colorado State and Colorado on successive nights.

COACH JAKE GEIER . . . His gym squad of eight men will handle a heavy load this season. The Husker gymnasts will face a rugged preliminary test Thursday when they perform in an intra-squad-alumni triangular meet. The official season opens Jan. 17 for the NU team against Kansas State here.

On Feb. 21, the Cornhuskers join Navy Pier and Iowa for a triangular at Iowa City. To close out their schedule, it will be back to Boulder a week later for the All - College Invitational Meet.

There is no Big Seven gymnastics' tourney as there are only three schools in the conference competing in the sport.

Sigs, Acasia Roll

Sigma Chi continued to stamp itself as a team to beat by thumping Alpha Tau Omega, 32-25. It was the third straight win for the rampaging Sigs. Larry Dunning potted 11 and Ben Leonard eight for the winners while Al Blessing led the Taus with seven.

Acacia blasted Norris House 42-24 to hand Norris its second straight defeat. Only in the first stanza did the losers keep it close trailing 7-8. Dean Cunningham topped the Mason efforts with 19 tallies while Gordon Henke led the losers with nine.

AGR's Rampage

Alpha Gamma Rho "B" really went to town in lambasting Beta Theta Pi "B" by a 50-19 tally. Oddly enough, the Betas held the lead, 5-4 at the close of the first quarter, but that was as far as they ever got as the Aggies splurged to a 22-7 halftime lead and won going away.

Dick Monson with 18 and Don Plucknett with 12 were the AGR leaders. Bill Cirksena topped the Betas with six counters.

Hobe Jones To Run At Sugar Bowl

Hobe Jones, former Husker cinderman who excelled in the distance and middle-distance events for Coach Ed Weir's teams a few years ago, is home from the Air Force and preparing to run in the Sugar Bowl festivities Dec. 30 at New Orleans.

Jones plans to re-enter school at the University second semester, and will be eligible to compete beginning April 1, the date he left off in 1951, when he was called by the Air Reserves.

Near the end of last summer, Jones turned in the eighth best mile time in the nation, a 4:12.2,, and the seventh best time for the metric mile (1,500 meters), a 3:52.4.

As a sophomore on Weir's indoor team in 1951, Jones won the Big Seven 880 title in 1:52.4. He was called to active service prior to the opening of the outdoor track season.

Since entering the Air Force, he has worked out at Olympic training quarters at Columbus, O., ran in the Penn Relays, the Southern Pacific AAU meet, the All-Service Relays and the National AAU meet.

His qualification run in the Olympic tryouts failed when he fell down on the second curve in the metric mile.

Springfield Co-Captains

INVADE COLISEUM WEDNESDAY . . . Co-captains Alan Schutts and Larry McClements of Springfield College will be floor leaders against Coach Harry Good's Huskers Wednesday night at the Coliseum. Nebraska's cage team will be after their second consecutive home win of the season against Springfield—the school in which basketball was originated and was first organized.

IM Track Carnival Begins Tomorrow

By BILL MUNDELL
Intramural Sports Columnist

Two important dates loomed into prominence today concerning the running of the 1952-53 Intramural Track and Field Meet. The dates, 5 p.m. today and 7 p.m. Tuesday, mark the deadline for entries and the beginning of the preliminary events, respectively.

The competition will continue through the ten prelim events and on to the finals, set for Jan. 15 at 7 p.m.

All entries which are due today, Monday, must be placed on official entry blanks, already in the hands of most managers or available in the Intramural office. Each organization is limited to two men in each event.

No limits are placed on individuals entering unattached. However, each man entering is limited to three running events plus the relays. No restrictions have been placed on the field events.

Any man in the University is eligible to compete in the indoor affair with the exception of track lettermen and squad members of the present varsity basketball, wrestling, gymnastic and swimming teams.

As in previous years, there will be two divisions, the fraternity and Independent, with champions declared in each. Six men will qualify in each preliminary event for the finals with three additional men named as alternates who will be eligible for the finals in the case of absent finalists on Jan. 15.

Trophies will be awarded to champion houses while independent champions will be awarded I-M medals. A medal is also listed to be awarded the top individual performer of the meet while certificates will go to each first-place winner and to all record-breakers.

The schedule of events for Tuesday's preliminaries:

7:00 p.m.—60-yard dash, 12-pound shot put, broad jump.

7:30 p.m.—60-yard high hurdles.

8:00 p.m.—One-lap run, high jump, pole vault.

8:30 p.m.—880-yard run.

9:00 p.m.—440-yard dash.

Point scoring for this year's meet will be 13, 10, 8, 6, 4, 2, for relays and 7, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 for all other events.

The records under fire this year seems to be out of reach at this point. However interest is high in this I-M event and the clubs should come up with some surprisers.

Defending champion Sigma Chi in the fraternity division appears to be the team to beat at this early stage while it is not certain if the Spikes who ran away with the Independent honors last year will field a team.

The current All-University records:

60-yard dash—Lee Alexander, Sig Ep, 1950, :06.4.

One-lap run—Lee Alexander, Sig Ep, 1950, :27.4.

440-yard dash—Lee Alexander, 1951, :51.9

880-yard run — Hobe Jones, ATO, 1951, 2:02.5.

60-yard high hurdles—Don Bedker, Phi Gam, 1951, :07.5.

60-yard low hurdles—Eugene Littler, Phi Gam, 1939, :07.3.

Pole vault—Leonard Kehl, ATO, 1948, 12' 6".

High jump—Don Rice, ATO, 1949, 6' ½".

12-pound Shotput—Nutzman, Phi Gam, 1939, 55' 1".

Broad jump—Glenn Beerline, SAE, 1950, 22' 11¼".

4-lap Relay — Spikes (Bob Fairchild, Yaylord Smith, Hoppy McCue, Jim Hurley), 1952, 1:54.0.

One-mile Relay—Spikes (Bob Fairchild, Gaylord Smith Hoppy McCue, Jim Hurley), 1952, 3:44.4.

Main Feature Clock

Varsity: "Eight Iron Men," 1:50, 3:45, 5:40, 7:35, 9:30.

State: "Cattle Town," 1:23, 4:12, 7:01, 9:50. "One Big Affair," 2:34, 5:23, 8:12.

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Methodists, Figi B's, ZBT's Win IM Games

By BILL MUNDELL
Intramural Sports Columnist

Intramural basketball completed its next-to-last week of pre-Christmas action Friday with several teams capturing their first fruits of victory.

Methodists Win

The Methodist Student House evened its seasonal record at 1-1 with a torrid fourth-quarter splurge that carried it to a 28-20 victory over Inter-Varsity. An especially slow-moving contest during the initial three stanzas, the game broke wide open in the fourth as the Methodists caught fire.

The winners held a 6-4 margin at the close of the first period but trailed I-V at intermission by a 10-8 tally. The losers still held a slim lead, 16-15 going into the final chucker, but that was their last moments of glory.

Behind big Rich Satterfield, who had scored all seven of the third-quarter Methodist counters, the winners poured in 13 tallies while holding Inter-Varsity to a lowly four.

Satterfield led the way in individual scoring with a 13-point total while Richard Tyrrell contributed another seven. Lee Hiegel topped the losers with eight points.

ZBT's Stop Tekes

Zeta Beta Tau won its first game in two outings by outlasting Tau Kappa Epsilon, 25-23. With Arnie Stern and Arley Bondarin leading the way, the Zetes climbed to a 17-11 halftime bulge and held tight during the rest of the fray to win.

Seven Tekes figured in the scoring but they couldn't match the output of four Zetes. Bondarin with eight and Stern with seven were tops in the game while Ron Shaw netted six for the losers.

Figi B's Victorious

Phi Gamma Delta "B" notched its second win in as many starts by toppling Sigma Alpha Epsilon "B" to the tune of 35-32. The Weeje Fijis had to fight from behind in the final quarter to keep their record unblemished. Seven points by Rex Fisher were the main factor in that last-period splurge of the winners.

Tom Cushing of the Sig Alphs topped all the scorers with a big 20 points while Fisher and Carl Backers shared honors for the Fijis with nine apiece.

IM Rules Film

A special film covering the 1952-53 basketball rules will be shown several times today to all IM cage participants and officials. The film covers many of the rules of the game, including all rule changes and will be shown at 5, 7 and 9 p.m. in the Physical Education Building.

Phi Psi's Drop Delts

Phi Kappa Psi "B" doubles the score on Delta Tau Delta "B" in their Friday contest. The rampaging Phi Psi juniors walked away with the contest, 50-25.

Jerry Hare was the big gun in the winners' attack with 17 points while Milt Dewhirst collected seven for the Delt Bees.

Sigma Nu, Sig B's Win

Sigma Nu "B" won its first game of the year, 31-28, over Alpha Tau Omega "B" and then had to forfeit because they did not furnish a referee. Theta Chi suffered the same fate for the same reason but lost the game anyway to Pi Kappa Phi, 28-24.

Sigma Chi "B" had an easy time with Sigma Phi Epsilon "B" in a 40-26 contest. The junior Sigs led all the way, although the losers kept it close throughout the first half.

Larry Callion topped the winners' output with 13 points while Jerry O'Connor led the way for the Sig Eps with ten.

Mencel Sparks 71-62 MU Win

Sparked by the twenty-four points of Chuck Mencel, the Minnesota Gophers eked out a 71-62 win over a game, but outmanned University of Nebraska quintet.

Mencel was backed by big six foot, six inch Ed 'Kalafat, who scorched the meshes for another 15 markers to aid in giving the Gophers their nine point edge.

Joe Good and Bill Johnson shared scoring honors for the Cornhuskers with 13 points each. Nine of Johnson's points came at the free throw line.

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