

Shooting At Sports

Nebraska's Cerv Must Come Through Or Else

By GARY FRANDSEN Sports Editor

Bob Cerv, former star basketball and baseball player at the University of Nebraska several years ago, is apparently at the crossroads of his professional baseball future with Casey Stengel's phenomenal New York Yankees.

Scribe Dan Daniel, writing in the SPORTING NEWS relates as follows: "Cerv is definitely on the spot this spring. He has had his chances and has not capitalized on them. It's time for Casey to make up his mind about Cerv, and it's time for Bob to make up his mind which way he is headed in the Yankee organization."

According to Daniel, Cerv's mental attitude is the one thing causing him all the trouble. As he puts it, "Last spring Cerv came here with the belief that he had no chance, and he was quite outspoken about that belief."

Daniel, as rabid Yankee follower as you'll ever find, summed up the Cerv situation in this way: "He is big enough and strong enough to make a place for himself in the American League, but his power and size will avail him nothing if he doesn't revise his mental angle."

FROM OUR point on the outside looking in, it appears that Cerv will have his best chance yet to nail down a position on the coveted Yankee varsity.

Mickey Mantle is experiencing the same old bugaboo, knee trouble, while Vic Power and Bill Renna, both outstanding outer garden prospects, have been traded to the Philadelphia Athletics in the Harry Byrd, Eddie Robinson deal.

Mantle, Hank Bauer, Gene Woodling and Irv Noren are currently the big four of the Bomber outfield, but Mantle's ailing knee isn't responding favorably and it could keep him out of action for some time. One can easily see Cerv has a tremendous opportunity to make good once and for all this spring.

The 27-year old Nebraska boy, who possesses one of the most powerful swings in baseball today, will probably receive his strongest opposition for a Yankee berth from a 25-year old Negro, Elston Howard, who is also receiving a trial behind the plate.

Howard batted .286, drove in 70 runs and pounded out 10 home runs for Kansas City, the Yankee farm in the American Association, last season, the same club which Cerv compiled his enviable record: a .316 batting average, 22 homers and 91 runs-batted-in.

TAKING A quick scan through the Yankee outfield roster Cerv seems to have a noticeable edge statistically-wise over the other four hopefuls—Howard, Art Schult, Emil Telling and Bill Virdon—but many times you can't rely on past achievements.

We're going on record right now with the statement that Bob Cerv will come through with a fine Grapefruit League showing to cement a job as the fifth man in the powerful Yankee outfield. It's no secret that Cerv has the tools to become an excellent ball-player and now with Renna and Power gone, we can't see anything in the way to keep him from reaching that goal.

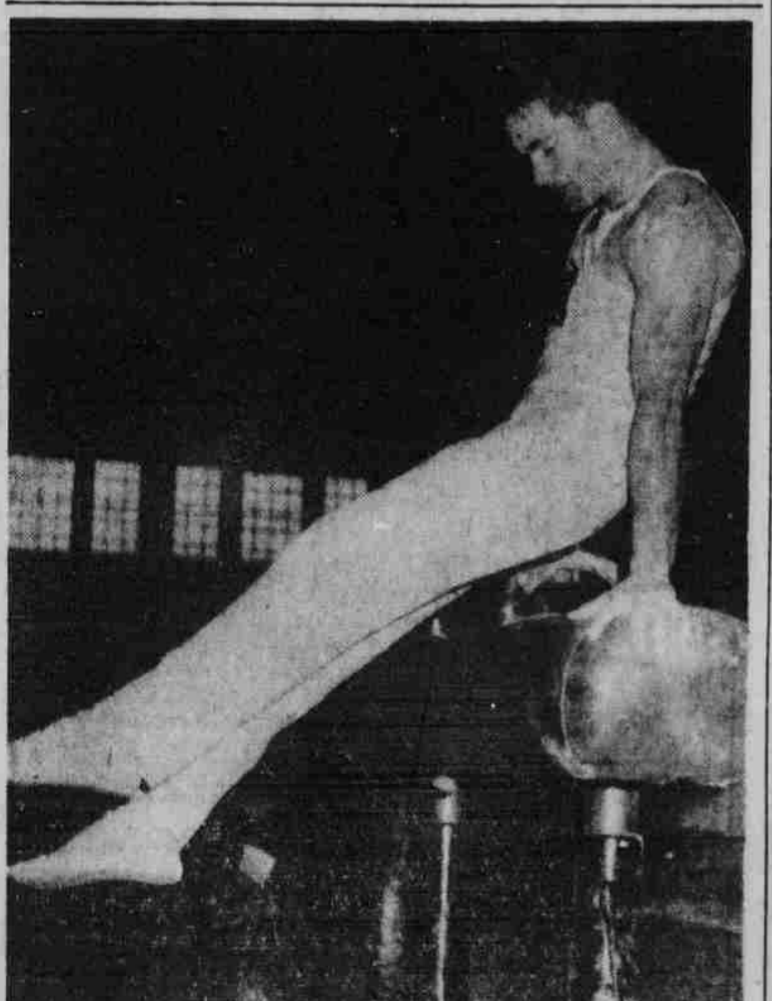
WHILE SPEAKING on the subject of Yankee baseball, their recent peddling of Pitcher Vic Raschi to the St. Louis Cardinals for \$75,000, part to be paid in young talent, has really got some of the Cardinals' National League rivals howling.

Most of the clubs are moaning that Quick Vic, a Yankee—since he was 16 years old, could be just the gent to lift the scrappy Cards to their first pennant since 1946.

It's true Raschi is getting along in years, but he has still enough stuff to perform wonders with the Redbirds. The tougher they are, all the better for Vic. Raschi always wanted to pitch against the better teams according to Yankee officials so that should be welcome news for Manager Stanky when his Cardinals are meeting their bitter rivals, the Brooklyn Dodgers, a team Raschi should know plenty about.

During his career as a Yankee, Raschi rang up 120 victories against 50 defeats, making him the best pitcher in the majors by statistics.

When learning about the Raschi deal, there was just one question that puzzled us. How did the strong-armed righthander get waived out of the American League when so many clubs just love to get their prongs into Yankee talent? That's apparently one for the experts to answer.



Courtesy Sunday Journal and Star

Gymnastics Ace

One of the stars on Jake Geier's undefeated Nebraska gymnastics squad is Co-captain Tom Kidd. Kidd, a Lincoln boy, is currently the team's top scorer and is shown here working on one of his specialties, the horse. The Husker gym crew is currently embarked on a Northern trip for meets today and Saturday in Minneapolis.

Geier's Husker Gymnasts Test Gophers, Iowa

Coach Jake Geier's University of Nebraska gymnastics team heads northward this week for two tests. They meet Minnesota and Iowa in a triangular Friday at Minneapolis and will compete in the Northwest Championships at Minneapolis Saturday.

The Cornhuskers are unbeaten in collegiate competition and finished seventh in Midwest Invitational at Chicago in December. Season's record:

At Manhattan, Kans.: Nebraska 75, Kansas State 52, Kansas City Turners 20, Lawrence, Kans., Athletic Club 6.

At Lincoln: Nebraska 68, Colo-

Table with 4 columns: Team, Points, Opponent, Result. Lists various teams and their scores against Nebraska.

At Lincoln: Nebraska 87, Colorado 34, Kansas State 11.

At Lincoln: Nebraska 80, Mankato State (Minn.) 29 1/2, Kansas State 22 1/2.

Members of the team making the trip include Co-Captains Tom Kidd, Lincoln, and Max Kennedy, Beatrice. Others are Dan Fogel, Omaha; Don Hodge, Beatrice; Burrell McMaster, Beatrice; Bert Linn, Kimball; Charles Sprague, Grand Island; Ray Fallstead, Beatrice; Bruce Riley, Omaha; Bob Bevington, student manager.



Courtesy Lincoln Star, Courtesy Lincoln Journal, Courtesy Lincoln Journal

Husker Cage Seniors

Don Weber, Bill Johnson and Fred Seger (from left to right) are the only seniors on Nebraska's basketball team making their final home appearance of the season in the Coliseum Saturday night. The Huskers meet Iowa State, starting at 8 p.m. Weber plays forward and is currently the team's third leading scorer. Johnson, one of the conference's leading scorers, is the Nebraska starting center as well as their top point-guard. Seger, an All-Big Seven selection last year, performs at guard and is the squad's second high scorer.

Nebraska's Spring Football Drills Get Started Monday

Quarterback Replacement For Graduated Bordogna Will Be Tremendous Problem For Husker Coaches

Who will step into the shoes of John Bordogna as quarterback of the University of Nebraska football team?

That will be the question when Cornhusker spring football practice opens here Monday.

There are six possibilities for the signal calling position—Rex Fischer, Oakland; Don Erway, Lincoln; Charles Smith, Franklin, N. H.; Don Hargheim, Gering; Gordon Engert and Dan Brown, both from Sioux Falls, S. D.

Fischer and Brown are the only two with experience. Erway, 6-1 and around 190 pounds when at playing weight, will be a sophomore in the fall. He played half-back at Lincoln High School before coming to Nebraska.

Smith, 6-2 and 185, attended Hebron Academy in Maine. He is a righthanded passer.

Margheim is a six footer and weighs 190. Engler is 6 feet tall and weighs 175.

Coach Bill Glassford points to the signal calling position as "our biggest problem."

Actually, a veteran halfback contingent, an end, a pair of

Grabbers Travel

Husker Wrestlers Go Against Minnesota, Mankato Squads

University of Nebraska wrestlers go north this week end for matches against Mankato State Friday at Mankato, Minn., and against Minnesota at Minneapolis, Saturday.

Coach Al Partin hopes to get his team into a .500 position in dual tests, but to do it the Cornhuskers must win both duals. They now have a 2-won 4-lost record.

Charles Bryant and Max Kitzelman, both of Omaha, lead the Nebraska mat men with 4 victories and one loss. The wrestlers who will make the trip with the individual records:

FRANK KUCERA BARBER SHOP. 1 block north of the Student Union. 512 N. 14th St.

Table with 4 columns: Name, W, L, T. Lists various athletes and their records.

Lincoln. The Stars of 'I LOVE LUCY'. LUCILLE BALL DESI ARNAZ. The LONG, LONG TRAILER Color. Marjorie MAIN - Keenan WYNN. TOM 'N' JERRY. Color Cartoon. Open 12:45! 65c to 1!

Saturday Midnite Preview! RIDGE CLEAR OF DIABLO! COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR. AUDIE MURPHY SUSAN CAROT DAN DURYEA. SATURDAY PREVIEW! ALL SEATS 80c. DOORS OPEN 11:15 P.M.

Scarlet Cagers Meet Iowa State Saturday

Huskers Complete 1953-54 Home Campaign Against Pesky Cyclones

Hoping to end a six-game losing streak, Coach Harry Good's Nebraska basketball team closes out their home season Saturday night at the Coliseum against the Iowa State Cyclones. Game time is 8 p.m.

The Huskers started off their Big Seven campaign with four straight wins, but since then things have been gloomy. The Scarlet are currently engulfed in their long losing streak.

Iowa State has won only two games out of ten starts and one of the defeats was a 60-74 decision to Nebraska. Both of their wins have been over Kansas State.

The Cyclones have improved in their recent outings, having dropped close games to both Kansas and Oklahoma.

Good will probably start the usual five with Stan Matzke ready for early duty. That means Don Weber and Willard Fagler, forwards; Bill Johnson, center; and

Fred Seger and Charlie Smith, guards. Weber, Johnson and Seger are the seniors making their final home appearance.

Chick Sutherland, the Cyclone coach, will probably open with Barney Allemen (6-2) and Howard Johnson (6-2) at forwards, Charles Duncan (6-5) at center and Larry Wetter (6-0) and Carl Van Cleave (6-3) at the guards.

Johnson still leads the Husker scoring with a total of 343 points in 19 games for an average of 18.1 per game. Seger ranks second and Weber is third.

Reiners, Dale Lead Nebraska Track Team Into Big 7 Meet

Counting on a 1-2 punch in the shot put plus possible first-place points in the high jump, a 20-man University of Nebraska track team goes to Kansas City this week for the Big Seven Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships.

Ken Reiners, a 195-pound junior from Indiana, and defending Big Seven Indoor Shot Champion Cliff Dale, Falls City senior, have the best throws in the conference this year.

Reiners got off a throw of 51 ft.-3 in. against Oklahoma in a dual meet here last week, while Dale placed second on a heave of 51-2 1/2.

Dale's last put sailed 51-8 but he stepped out of the ring, thus nullifying the throw. He explained later that the shot had slipped from his hand, and he thought the toss would be no good.

Conference indoor record is 52-4 1/2, set by Rollin Prater of Kansas State in 1948.

Bidding for high jump honors again will be Phil Heidek, senior from Fairbury who shared the loop title with a Kansas State last year. Heidek's winning effort then was 6-3.

This year he went 6-4 1/2 against Iowa State in a dual

Main Feature Clock (Schedules Furnished by Theaters) Lincoln: "The Long Long Trailer," 1:25, 3:25, 5:30, 7:30, 9:35.

Stuart: "Hell and High Water," 1:00, 3:05, 5:10, 7:20, 9:25.

Nebraska: "The Great Jesse James Raid," 2:30, 5:32, 8:24, "Man Crazy," 1:11, 4:03, 6:56, 9:48.

Varsity: "Miss Sadie Thompson," 1:00, 3:08, 5:16, 7:24, 9:32.

State: "Man In The White Suit," 1:36, 3:37, 5:38, 7:40, 9:40

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