

# The Fantasy Five: Prokop, Heffelfinger Lead All Star Ballot For Independent Leagues 12, 14 And 15

By JIM COURTNEY  
Staff Sports Writer

As the all-opponent team ballots were cast, five cage members of various round-ball teams around the campus became part of the mythical, but selective, All-Star team of the 1 n dependents leagues 12, 14 and 15.

These fantasy five cage members were picked because of their superi- or hard court versatility, and their outstand- ing playing ability during the regular season.

None of the teams submitted



Courtesy Lincoln Star  
Bob Prokop



Courtesy Lincoln Journal  
DEAN BRITTENHAM

## Pirates Picked For Fifth Spot By Rag Expert

By BOB WIRZ  
Staff Sports Writer

Perhaps most of the publicity coming out of the Pittsburgh Pi- rates training camp this spring concerns the feats of young Slu- ger Dick Stuart. However, the Pirates do have the makings of a good ball club.

Manager Bobby Bragan in his second year as a big league skip- per has undoubtedly the best sec- ond division club in the National League.

No one department on the squad is outstanding, but none of them are bad. Bob Friend, Ronnie Kline and Vern Law are Pitts- burghs top three starting hurlers. Friend started fast last season but finally finished the long season with a 17-17 mark. The righthand- er possibly lost some of his ef- fectiveness by being overworked.

Kline also started fairly fast. At 25, Kline should improve his 14-18 mark of last year. Law had a 8-16 mark but possibly he could be called the tough luck hurler on the team. If Law gave up three runs in a ball game his team- mates could only get two or if he gave up a dozen the Pirates would get 11.

The other starter could be Luis Arroyo, Bob Garber, Dick Hall, Cholly Naranjo, or Bob Purkey. Elroy face 12-13 last year will again be the chief fireman. Ex- Lincoln hurler, George Witt has a fair chance of sticking with the club as a relief man with infre- quent starts. Benny Daniels has a outside chance.

Hank Foiles and Danny Kravitz or Dick Rand will share the re- ceiving. Last years regular, Jack Shepard has decided to give up baseball. Foiles hit only .212 last season with Pittsburgh while Rand and Kravitz spent most of their time in the minors.

Dale Long will again be at first base for Bragan. While this young slugger probably won't hit homers in nine consecutive games this year he should have another banner season. Long finished with a .263 mark and 91 RBI's. His main competition for the job will come from Johnny Powers.

Second base could go to any- one. Spook Jacobs, Gene Freese, and Dick Cole will bid for the job. All three men are weak hitters.

Dick Groat and Frank Thomas round out the infield. Groat is im- proved at shortstop where he bat- ted .273 last year. Thomas was a pleasant surprise in 1956 when he was moved from the outfield to become a regular third baseman. Thomas played every game in 1956 and hit a strong .282.

Bill Virdon is the only outfielder assured of his job. The speedy Virdon is back in center-field. Bob Skinner, Roberto Clemente, Lee Walls, Roman Mejias and Stuart are the other candidates. Skinner can only hit singles. Clemente hit .311 last season but is a hot and cold performer. Walls is a slick defensive man but is not the best with a bat. Mejias is up from Hol- lywood and appears a good bet to stick. He has a lot of hustle and could improve rapidly. Stuart you could talk about all day. The 24- year old slugger, hit 66 home runs at Lincoln last season breaking several league records. He has power, that is certain, but can the big guy improve enough in the other departments to be of any good to the club. Stuart doesn't seem to care much about anything except hitting the ball over the fence.

## League 12, 14 And 15 All Star Team

### First Team

Bob Prokop  
Gail Heffelfinger  
Dean Brittenham  
Bill Schuethe  
Wilbur Rubesamen

Chemists A  
Baptists  
Phi Epsilon Kappa  
Newman Club  
Inter-Varsity

Ken Frantz  
Lee Herman  
Dave Beadle  
Ted Lindberg  
Phil Etzelmiller

Phi Epsilon Kappa  
Presby House  
Geologists  
Park Ave Five  
Dental College



Courtesy Lincoln Journal  
DEAN BRITTENHAM

The next to gain his fame by winning a berth on the fantasy five is Gail Heffelfinger of the Baptists five. Gail, who played an out- standing forecourt game during every contest easily breezed to his All-Star spot.

The next of the magic men to stand beside the first two men- tioned in Dean Brittenham of Phi Epsilon Kappa. Dean was the only member of the Phi Ep's team to gain first team distinction but his outstanding cage ability assured him of a berth early in the season.

Bill Schuethe of the Newman Club cage squad was the only mem- ber of that quintet to net the honor of being placed on an equal rating with the other first team magic men although the team of the New- manites consistently looked well.

Last but not least on the list Rubesamen of the Inter-Varsity club. Wilbur was the Inter-Var- sity's only contribution to the All- Star ranks but his basketball play- ing certainly netted him his de- serving lauds.

On the second team we find a complete new list of teams offer- ing their contributions to the ranks except the Phi Epsilon Kappa squad who also placed a man on the second five as well as the first.

The other four players represent four new teams.

These five, who could have very easily been named to the first squad with a few more votes, take their place closely behind the first string. It consists of Ken Frantz of Phi Epsilon Kappa, Lee Her- man of the Presby squad, Dave Deedle of the Geologists quintet, Ted Lindberg of the Park Avenue boys and Phil Etzelmiller of Den- tal College.

Some of the other outstanding cage players in independent com- petition who polled enough votes are placed on the all deserving Honorable Mention list. These men are Mitch Nielson, Geologists; Bob Reimers, Park Ave.; Ron Schultz, Sam's Has Beens; Bob Long, A Street Club; and Pete Christensen, Navy ROTC.

## The Hot Corner

By BOB WIRZ  
Staff Sports Writer

Interest Shown in Hockey . . .

Some 4,825 people turned out Saturday night and Sunday afternoon in poor weather to witness the first Hockey games at new Pershing Memorial Auditorium. St. Paul and Minneapolis of the U. S. Central Hockey League took part in the exhibitions to see if Lincoln was capable of supporting a team.

Officials were well pleased especially with the Sunday game turn- out of 1,589.

Possibly this league will expand to eight teams next winter and, if so, Lincoln will be in line to get a team. Also, Omaha, Des Moines, and Sioux City are being considered as entries.

The Lincoln rink is about 35 feet shorter than the average hockey rink but officials say this is a small problem since the center area can easily vary in size.

Lincoln would need to obtain about 15 players if they have a team. These men would have jobs in town and then receive from \$25 to \$50 per game depending on their value.

Officials say that the scores in their league vary greatly from night to night. One evening the two squads may play a 1-0 game and come back the next evening and have a wild scoring contest such as those witnessed the past week end.

This sport was very popular a few years ago in Omaha and it is believed Lincoln fans would enjoy it more as they began to understand the rules.

Holdout ends . . .

Baltimore shortstop Willie Miranda found out Sunday that it doesn't pay to hold out for more money. The 29-year old Cuban signed his 1957 contract Sunday and at the same time was fined \$1,000. He had reported 25 days late. Miranda told officials that he had a wife, four kids and a dog and parakeet and they all had to get visas. With a revolution and everything concerned they just couldn't get to Scotts- dale, Arizona, on time.

Miranda is the last major league player to sign his contract.

Another athlete joins NU . . .

Dick Place of Nebraska City has announced that he will enroll at the University of Nebraska next fall.

Place has received a scholarship for football. Last season the pre- star scored 137 points in 10 contests and gained 427 yards to top Class A players in the Cornhusker State.

Cerv begins to hit . . .

Bob Cerv ex-Husker athlete, has finally begun to hit the ball in the Kansas City A's training camp in Florida. Cerv worked himself into shape in February by working out with the Nebraska baseball squad. Cerv also led the drills for a time while coach Tony Sharpe was coach- ing freshman basketball.

The former Weston, Nebraska, athlete has pounded out two home runs and several other key blows in the last few days of training.

Lincoln to start training . . .

Manager Larry Shepard and his 27-man Lincoln Chiefs squad begin workouts today in Jacksonville, Florida, in preparing for the 1957 campaign. Only three of the men starting workouts were on the championship Western League club last year.

Catcher Joe Zavattaro and pitchers Dom Rosello and Myron Hoff- man are back. None of the three were outstanding but all should be improved with an extra year of experience. Zavattaro believes his hitting will be improved since he worked out most of the winter with Dale Long of Pittsburgh. The Pirate first sacker taught him a lot of the tricks.

Shepard hopes to have some of the other Chiefs back from last year's squad by the time the regular season opens against Topeka at Sherman Field the night of April 26.

# THE NEBRASKAN Sports

## April 6: All-Sports Day Features Six Teams; Spring Football Ends Against Alumni

By STAN WIDMAN  
Sports Staff Writer

Six varsity teams will don the Nebraska Red and White and pa- rade before thousands of sports fans on the traditional All-Sports Days to be held April 6th. Many of the boys will be playing their last contests as Huskers.

The festivities will start with the Scarlet and Cream squaring off against Drake University at 10 a.m. in a baseball contest. The game will be the second of two games played against the Bull- dogs and the first series of the season of both teams. Coach Sharpe will have two seniors on the squad playing in their last sports carnival. They are Roger Bottorff, pitcher and John Bei- deck, first base. Both lettered last year. Another senior letter winner, Don Erway is still doubtful due to his injured knees.

Being held simultaneously with the Baseball game will be a tennis match against Creighton U. Coach Ed Higginbotham will send six men in action against the Blues. Only one of them, Tom Stitt, is a senior while three, Stitt, Art Wea- ver and George Fisk are letter- men. Bill North, Charles Kress and Jack Clark are also slated to play. This will be the first match of the season for the racketmen.

At 12 noon, the track squad will step into the spotlight running off a dual meet against Colorado A&M. It will be the first home outside track meet of the year. The sport fans will be able to get some idea of their potential as the team will already have seen action against Colorado at Boul- der, March 30. Coach Frank Sevigne will count on Keith Gar- dner to bring home some more vic- tories as he did in the indoor sea- son when he won twelve straight races and took a first and two seconds in the Big Seven indoor meet at Kansas City. Other letter- winners expected to carry the load are Bill Hawkins, Bob El- wood, Larry Gausman, Dale Kno- tek, Bill Martin, Ken Pollard and Knolly Barnes.

The feature presentation of the day will be the Alumni-Varsity Football game held in the Me- morial Stadium at 2 p.m. The game will see the parting of the present seniors and will offer the

people the last time to view many of them in action. Outstanding players for the Alumni who played for the Big Red last fall are the three who held up the middle of the line and acted as co-captains. The three are La- Verne Torczon, All-Bog Seven guard and now signed up with the professional Cleveland Browns,



Courtesy Lincoln Star  
Fleming . . . To oppose Varsity

Bob Berguin and Jim Murphy. Jack Fleming, another standout lineman will also be making his last appearance in a Husker uni- form. Gordie Englert was the only senior backfield man on the Hus- kers last fall and will be making his last appearance also.

Expected to lead the varsity are George Harshman and Roy Stin- nett two outstanding quarterbacks from last year. Leo George and Jerry Schroeder have both been running well at fullback while Larry Navioux the other letterwin- ner of last year's first backfield has been going strong at right half- back. On the line, Dick McCash- land, Jerry Wheeler, Stu Hower- ter, Mike Lee, Marlin Hilding, Don Rhoda, Art Klein, Don Kam- pe and Clarence Cook are all ex- pected to give the Alumni trouble.

Coach Bill Jennings has stated that foul weather is forcing the cancellation of many practices and fears that the boys might not be quite ready. Ready or not, the game never fails to be good one

for thrills and emotion watching some of the Husker greats of the past recalling their college days and giving their all for the Scarlet and Cream.

Following the football game, the swimming and Gymnastics teams will take over for exhibitions. Coach Hollie Lepley will stage sev- eral races featuring the squad members and Freshmen. The races will consist mostly of short sprints and relays.

Gene Cotter and Bill Tagney, the diving duo which gave NU so many points during the season will give an exhibition of straight and clown diving. This will be the last chance for Husker fans to see Cotter, Tagney and Fritz Helms- doerfer as all three are seniors.

The Gymnastics exhibition will feature Wayne Strickler, the top Husker point man during the sea- son and one of the best NU Gym- nasts of all time. Wayne will be making his last appearance in a Husker uniform. The team will be put through their paces by Coach Jake Geier. They will do man to man stunts, diving, tumbling and put on some regular meet events. All the men including the Fresh- men will perform.

N Club Scholarship Trophy ap- plications are being mailed to Nebraska high schools this week. This trophy was revived a year ago and is presented to each high school where the athletic let- ter men rank higher scholastically than the total school average.

Schools are divided by enroll- ment. Schools with less than 100 enrollment a year ago had three winners, Bennington, Dodge and Walton. Neill was the winner in the 100 to 299 class and Lex- ington won the 300-600 class. Alvo won a place on the honor roll.

There were no winners among schools with 600 or more enroll- ment.

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