

I Believe



by Tom Henderson

Who's best today?

Who is the best player in baseball today?

According to major league baseball's general managers, it is Roberto Clemente, Pittsburgh's super star outfielder, obtained in 1954 from the old Brooklyn Dodgers' Montreal farm club for only \$4,000.

In a poll taken by Sport Magazine at the recent 1967 major league winter meeting in Mexico City, Clemente was named on eight of the 18 ballots cast (two of the general managers declined to vote), two more than the 1967 American League triple crown winner, Carl Yastrzemski of the Boston Red Sox.

Here's a look at the final tabulation.

Roberto Clemente, Pittsburgh Pirates	8
Carl Yastrzemski, Boston Red Sox	6
Hank Aaron, Atlanta Braves	1
Bob Gibson, St. Louis Cardinals	1
Bill Freehan, Detroit Tigers	1
Ron Santo, Chicago Cubs	1
Total	18

Stan Musial, then general manager of the St. Louis Cardinals, and Charles O. Finley of the Oakland Athletics did not vote.

How about Mays?

Many might ask why San Francisco's great Willie Mays or New York's Mickey Mantle were not even listed in the balloting. However, it must be remembered that the GMs were asked "who is the best player today," not who they would like if they were starting a franchise or who they would pick if they were filling one position on their team, or who they would choose as the best of the decade, but the best NOW.

Even Chub Feeney, general manager of Willie's own San Francisco Giants, could not honestly vote for his long-time star under these circumstances.

"Of course . . . there is really no question in my mind that the best ball player over the last decade has been Willie Mays," Feeney said. "Willie is a little older now . . . but he is still a tremendous ballplayer and again, next year . . . he could be the greatest again."

Feeney tabs Clemente

Feeney, however, could not justify a vote for Mays as the best now, and cast his vote for Clemente

"When you talk about the decade, you've got to consider Willie," Feeney continued. "Today I'd have to say that Roberto Clemente, who over a period of years has led the league in several departments, would be a great asset to any team. Henry Aaron, of course . . . and a lot of people underrated Pete Rose. On the basis of the little we saw of him in the World Series, you'd have to put Carl Yastrzemski right up there with the superstars."

"You cannot pin me down on this," Feeney said. "You can split them up. Mays in his prime, you could make a choice. My choice would be easy. But now," the Giant general manager concluded, "if you must pin me down to one . . . at this moment . . . I would say Clemente."

Record justifies vote

Clemente's record as a major leaguer justifies the general managers' faith in him. As a hitter, Clemente's major league batting average stands at .330, 18 percentage points better than Tony Oliva's .312, tops among players from 1960-67.

He has been the National League leader in that department three times in his career, while in the field, his arm has placed him first in outfield assists five times and second four more.

In the last four years, Clemente's batting average has won the NL title three times, while his 209 hits last year was tops in that department. He tied for the lead in number of hits in 1964 with 211.

Great tribute

Cal Griffith of the Minnesota Twins paid Clemente one of the greatest tributes during the balloting when he said: "I've got to go with Roberto Clemente. He's got to be the best around today because he demonstrates year in and year out that he can hit the ball."

Griffith concluded, "To me he's got to be one of the great stars in the game of baseball."

Husker Cage Stats

Rank	Runs	Hits	RB	AVG	Most Points—111—Cal State (NU-Big 8 Record)
Rank	150-323	68-79	112	18.5	Most RB—48—South Dakota
Lantz	127-256	106-132	143	17.7	Most PG—41—Cal State, Oklahoma
Scantlebury	96-228	68-82	74	12.7	Conservative FT—25—Oklahoma in Tourney (NU-Big 8 Record)
Grassop	64-149	30-79	111	10.1	FT Percentage—86.4 (27-28) Oklahoma in Tourney (NU-Big 8 Record)
Simmons	28-48	14-21	11	3.8	1. TOM BLAOK . . . 137
Damon	22-45	16-17	21	2.1	2. STUART LANTZ . . . 140
Van Suggars	22-42	14-24	40	2.5	3. HERSCHELL TURNER . . . 128
Letter	11-21	13-15	15	2.5	4. Nate Branch . . . 128
Marlin	10-22	5-6	7	1.7	5. Rex Eckwall . . . 80
Wagner	8-15	4-5	7	1.5	
Candle	6-25	4-6	30	6.6	
McPherson	2-1	0-0	2	0.4	
Turtus	1-3	0-0	0	0.0	
Totals	388	1365	281-695	627	79.0

Team Records: 81 Opponent St. Most points—28—Black, Wyoming, KSU in Tourney and Oklahoma; Lantz, Colorado. Most IP—12—Black, K-State in Tourney. Most RB—11—Black, Lantz, Scantlebury. Most St—11 at 13—Lantz, Hawaii (2). TEAM HIGHS

Current Movies

Times Published by Theater. Times a.m. Night times p.m. bold face

LINCOLN
Cooper/Lincoln: 'The Ballad of Josie', 7:10, 9:10.
Stuart: 'The President's Analyst', 1:00, 3:05, 5:15, 7:20, 9:20.
Varsity: 'The Good, The Bad and The Ugly', 1:00, 3:43, 6:26, 9:07.
State: 'Wait Until Dark', 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00.
Joy: 'Rosie', 7:15, 9:15.
Nebraska: 'Blow-Up', 1:00, 3:00, 5:10, 7:15, 9:20.
Starview: 'Texas Across the River', 7:30, 'Cat Ballou', 9:15. 'McLintock', 10:45.
OMAHA
In: 'The Hills': 'Gone With the Wind', 8:00.
Dunder: 'Far From the Mad-Ding Crowd', 8:00.
Cooper 70: 'Carnegie', 8:00.

Karate group plans (krunch) exhibition

by Bonnie Bonneau Sports Assistant

For the past five months the Tokoyo Karate-Do Club has been the only club in the university's intramurals department. Wednesday night it was joined by a fencing club.

The clubs are designed from the recreational angle of the sports with less stress on competition that the regular intramurals program, according to Joel Meier, assistant professor of physical education for men and director of the intramurals program.

Meier also added that the clubs give the beginner more of a chance since "the competitive sports often aren't much fun if you have no experience with them."

The karate club was formed in September on the incentive of Richard Schmidt who is currently directing and instructing the sessions.

The group, with about 30 members, will be holding a tournament and exhibition Tuesday night at 7 p.m. in the University High auditorium.

Special guest

Guest at the meet will be Takashi Akusawa, president of the National Tokoyo Karate-Do club of which the university extension is a member.

Akusawa will present some demonstrations at the Tuesday show, but will not compete in any matches as "we don't have anyone good enough to compete with him," Schmidt says.

Akusawa will also be present Monday night for the testing of karate club members for advanced belts. Akusawa has a fourth degree black belt. The highest honor possible is a fifth degree black says Schmidt, who holds a brown belt himself.

Schmidt explained that the belt colors start with white and work up to green, purple, brown and black with varying degrees in each color. Some of the members of the local club have seventh grade white belts, which is as high a white belt possible so they will be trying for

green belts in the test Monday night.

Shotokan style

Tokoyo Karate-Do practices Japanese style or Shotokan karate, Schmidt explained. "Do" means "art" or "way."

There are two parts of karate: Kata, in which the emphasis is form and Kumite, in which the emphasis is the actual competition.

The fights consist of hits and kicks, but no throws, as in Judo. "All punches are pulled on contact, of course," Schmidt emphasized. In matches, the points are scored on the number of potential killing blows. The matches last two minutes without any stops.

Larry Durst of the Lincoln Police Department is the club's adviser. Durst has been Schmidt's karate teacher for the past three years and is the head state instructor.

Men only

Durst is still teaching classes but the university club is designed for the students' convenience. The only difference between the classes is that Durst's classes are co-educational while the university courses are only for males.

There is a nominal monthly fee for the karate club, as it is a member of the national organization. The fencing club however, has no such fee, according to Meier.

The fencing club too is co-educational, as will be an archery club which may be started this spring, according to Meier.

Meier cited Schmidt and Jerry Novak as "instigators" of the karate and fencing clubs respectively. He says that it was their idea and he merely went along with it. "I like to let them handle it."

"We hope that the exhibition Tuesday will drum up some interest in the karate club," Meier said. "We also want to give the boys a chance to demonstrate their abilities."

Husker Happenings

Swimming — at Kansas State. Wrestling — State high school tourney.
Saturday
Basketball — at Kansas (troph basket-ball at Kansas). Swimming — at Kansas. Gymnastics — Colorado, Men's P.E., 3 p.m. Indoor track — at Colorado. Wrestling — N. W. Missouri State, Coliseum 7:30 p.m. Wrestling — State high school tourney.
Monday
Basketball — Oklahoma State, Coliseum 7:30 p.m. (troph prelim, 5:15). Wrestling — State College of Iowa.
Friday
Basketball — at Colorado, Big 8 TV game of the week. Fresh at Missouri. Swimming — at Iowa State; double dual with ISU and Minnesota. Gymnastics — at Kansas. Wrestling — at Iowa State. Indoor Track — Iowa State, Coliseum, 1:30 p.m.

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—Report from Jayhawk camp—

Owens set for his 'best game'

Daily Kansan sports editor Steve Morgan reports from Lawrence that Jayhawk coach Ted Owens apparently has nothing new to throw at the Huskers when they invade Saturday night.

"We plan no drastic changes," says Owens. "We will just try to do a better job of what we have been doing."

So far this year, Kansas has failed to live up to pre-season expectations. Returning all but one starter from last year's Big Eight champion club, the Jayhawks fell early outside of the conference to Louisville and Loyola of Chicago.

When they hit conference play, Mizou shocked them at Allen Fieldhouse, something which is just not doing, and Kansas State handled

them easily at Manhattan.

They have since had several one-and two-point squeakers, many of them surprisingly at Lawrence, and have failed to show the superiority over the league which had been expected.

Coach Owens blames the let-down on a sagging defense.

"We haven't been moving the ball, and we have been playing very bad defense. Defense has been one of our strong points in the last couple of years, and we just haven't been hustling this year."

Nevertheless, Kansas has won when they have had to, with the exception of the Missouri game, which was won on two free throws after the buzzer. And the fact remains that Allen Fieldhouse is a

very difficult place in which to win if you're not in a Kansas uniform.

And many Big Eight observers feel that the Hawks are overdue for an explosion.

At any rate, the two clubs haven't met so far this year, and with Owens' team just one-half game behind Nebraska in the league race, it should be a key game in determining how strong each is going to be down the home stretch.

Owens heaped praise on NU's dynamic duo, Tom

The KU mentor is also

looking forward to a big game Saturday night: "I think we are going to have to play better than we have been to win. In fact, we will probably have to play our best game of the season to win."

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