

Shea's Growing at McClancy

The Mets had one of the best outfielders in baseball last year. This year, that same outfielder is at McClancy. Well, the outfield grass is, anyway.

When the Mets decided to replace the turf after last season, John Fouchet, a member of Shea Stadium's operations staff and the father of a friend of McClancy coach Bob Lowenberg, arranged for Lowenberg to pick up the old turf. Lowenberg rented a truck and, with the help of his players, spent a day last November shuttling between Shea and the Jackson Heights school.

Mets head groundskeeper Pete Flynn came to the school to give Lowenberg pointers on how to lay and care for the grass. Then Lowenberg, his coaching staff and his players removed the old turf and laid down the Shea sod in the infield.

"The fact that they did all the work themselves makes [the players] very possessive, very protective. They have a lot of pride in it," Lowenberg said. "Sometimes it's rough when we have to play on city fields. They're not used to it."

Lowenberg estimates the deal with Shea saved the school \$10,000-12,000. "I figured the sod alone, without labor, would have cost \$7,000," he said.

■ Out for a walk

McClancy senior Sean Twitty has been having a season like Don Mattingly's. Opposing pitchers, knowing that the 6-3, 200-pound outfielder is one of the area's best prospects, have been pitching around him.

"He's had trouble getting something to hit, so when he does get something to hit, he's a little hesitant," Lowenberg said last week. "He seems to get walked every time up."

In a game against Hayes Saturday, Twitty came up with the bases loaded late in the game and Hayes leading, 10-9. Obviously, Hayes had to pitch to Twitty. The result was a grand slam and a 13-10 McClancy win.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Michael Dobie

■ Anything goes — almost

Just how far does "anything goes" go in a meaningless, non-league baseball game? How far a coach can bend the rules became an issue in Canarsie's 3-2 win over Westinghouse Friday.

The coaches, Bob Nappo of Canarsie and Carlos Rosado of Westinghouse, agreed to use 10-player lineups to allow for an extra hitter. But with Canarsie leading 3-2 and two outs and two on in the seventh, Rosado bypassed his No. 10 batter and instead sent up his No. 1 hitter, Danny Vera.

After Vera singled to drive in the tying run, Nappo protested and the umpire called out Vera for batting out of turn, thus ending the game. Westinghouse protested without success.

"We had agreed that everything goes," said Rosado, who claimed that Nappo made wholesale substitutions all afternoon. "It hurts that Bobby would pull something like this."

Said Nappo: "There are limits to 'anything goes.' This was ridiculous. The kid that was supposed to bat was hiding. It just wasn't right."

■ All Hallows all-winning

Cruising along at the top of the CHSAA's Howie Smith Division is All Hallows (6-0), which is doing its best to move out of the shadow cast by the Bronx school's celebrated basketball team. Second-year coach Paul Ortiz, who led the Gaels to a 9-3 record and a playoff berth last year, was an assistant coach on All Hallows' 1985 state championship basketball team.

"When people think of All Hallows, they think of basketball, and rightly so," Ortiz said. "I'm hoping that the way things have gone with the baseball program since I've been here, people will not only think of All Hallows in terms of basketball but also in terms of baseball."

In the last two years, the team has acquired an L-shaped pitching screen for batting practice, an indoor batting cage and new field equipment.

Key players for the Gaels include a pair of sophomores, shortstop Victor Durant and pitcher-third baseman Neoves Rodriguez, and senior outfielder Ernesto Lopez.

■ Not your typical Hoya

Dave Edwards' decision to sign with Georgetown was the biggest surprise of the local basketball recruiting season. Some feel the flashy guard from Jackson has a playing style unsuited to the Hoyas' disciplined approach.

Jackson coach Chuck Granby disagrees. "I think they play a system that is conducive to the way he plays," Granby said. "They play a lot of pressure defense and Dave plays well defensively. Also, he's a good ballhandler, so he can handle other teams' pressure."

One thing Edwards will not be at Georgetown is the dominant scorer he was in high school. "Those days of 40 and 30 points are bygone days," Granby said.

■ Nnenna heading to 'Nova

Nnenna Lynch of Hunter, the state indoor 1,500 and 3,000-meter champion, will attend Villanova on a full track scholarship. Her final choices were Wisconsin and Villanova from a list that originally included Texas, where her sister Shola is a sophomore track star.

"Ultimately, I decided it would be better for me as a person not to go to Texas [and join Shola]," Lynch said. "I decided that the huge-school atmosphere at Wisconsin really intimidated me. That left Villanova. Besides the fact, I really like the team."

■ Furthermore . . .

The CHSAA Hall of Fame and Golf Outing will be held May 4 at Canyon Country Club in Armonk. Inductees include Bobby Cremins, Pete Gillen, Frank McLaughlin, Bill Carr, Jack Sullivan, Bro. Aquinas Richard and Bob Hyland. Tickets for dinner and golf are \$100. For information, call Ray Nash at (718) 965-6425 . . . Linebacker Peter Lambrianakos and quarterback John Hur of Stuyvesant will attend Penn and MIT, respectively . . . Semifinals of the girls Wheelchair Basketball Classic begin tonight at 6:30 at the Milbank Center in Harlem . . . Led by MVP James Cerisier, the Madison Square Boys and Girls Club defeated Buffalo, 94-71, to win the Connecticut Invitational basketball tournament.

Neil F. Best and Roxanne Moses contributed to this notebook.

ARENA

Football Playoffs Proposal Outlined

The College Football Association has disclosed some aspects of its plan for a 16-team national championship playoff that would exclude the Big Ten and Pacific 10. The CFA presented its plan to representatives of eight bowls last week in Atlanta.

Executive director Chuck Neinas told the Daily Camera in Boulder, Colo., where the CFA has its headquarters, that the plan includes first-round on-campus games and a day-night semifinal doubleheader at one site — similar to the first day of basketball's Final Four.

The plan, which Neinas said would be structured around the current bowl setup, will be presented to the CFA's 63 members at its annual convention in Dallas June 1-3. If the plan is approved, the CFA will draft legislation for January's NCAA convention and the playoff could be implemented for the 1991 season.

The bowls represented at last week's meeting were the Cotton, Fiesta, Florida Citrus, Holiday, Liberty, Orange, Peach and Sugar. They reportedly voted unanimously against the plan.

Neinas said the 16-team playoff field for the December series would include seven automatic qualifiers — champions of the Atlantic Coast, Big Eight, Southeastern, Southwest and Western Athletic Conferences, plus the top-rated independents from the North and the South.

Edwards Accused of Battery

Former Indiana University basketball star Jay Edwards, the Big Ten Player of the Year, was charged with two preliminary counts of battery after an Indianapolis woman's accusations that he slapped and hit her at a party.

According to a Bloomington police report, Beth

Ann Irish, 20, claimed Edwards slapped her twice and punched her in the forehead. Contacted by The Associated Press, Edwards said he did not know the woman. "She said something to me, I said something back. I don't know if she was drunk or something, but she rushed me. I just slapped her once and that was it. They pulled her off of me, and that was it."

Edwards left school two weeks ago after deciding to forego his remaining two years of college to become eligible for the NBA draft.

Steroid Use Was Assumed

Ben Johnson's physiotherapist admitted that he administered muscle-building steroids to Canadian athletes but said he never discussed the topic with Johnson, his teammates or the doctor who supplied the banned drugs.

Waldemar Matuszewski, testifying at the Canadian inquiry into drug use in amateur sports, said he assumed the chemicals he administered were steroids but never confirmed that with Dr. Jamie Astaphan, Johnson's physician. "I never asked, but I knew," the Warsaw-born Matuszewski said. "Only steroids would build muscles like that."

In Ottawa yesterday, Sports Minister Jean Charest said Johnson remains suspended for life as a competitor for Canada despite word that the sprinter would be welcomed at the 1992 Olympics. Charest reiterated that Johnson will be able to appeal his lifetime ban in September, 1990.

Cris Carter Sentenced

Eagles wide receiver Cris Carter was sentenced in Chicago federal court to 600 hours of community-service work and a \$15,000 fine for crimes stemming from his dealings with sports agents **Norby Walters** and **Lloyd Bloom** before his college eligibility at Ohio State had expired.

Carter pleaded guilty in September to mail fraud

and obstruction of justice after agreeing to cooperate with the prosecution of the two agents.

Canadians Defeat Czechs

Dale Hawerchuck had a goal and an assist as Canada beat Czechoslovakia, 4-2, to finish third in the preliminary round of the World Hockey Championships in Stockholm. The Czechs finished fourth. In the final game of the eight-nation round-robin, the Soviet Union defeated defending world champion Sweden, 3-2, for the top spot, with Sweden winding up second. The four teams will compete for the medals, starting Thursday.

Accused Assistant Coach Quits

James Washburn resigned as an assistant football coach at Purdue, five days after being indicted in South Carolina for allegedly providing anabolic steroids to the Gamecocks' athletes when he was an assistant there.

College Baseball

Six home runs propelled John Jay to 17-12 and 12-5 wins over Hunter. Tom Tierney had two, his ninth and 10th of the season, and Anthony Cestari, Mike Mauro, Steven Lewis and Chris Condon had one each . . . Julio Rodriguez had two RBI and Ricky Montanez had two hits to lead CCNY to an 8-6 win over Manhattan . . . Concordia (20-8, 10-4 in the Knickerbocker Conference) scored six runs in the top of the ninth to defeat Queens, 11-5. Queens (4-18, 1-11) had scored five in the seventh, including a grand slam by Dave Calicchio . . . Brian O'Connor's two-out, two-run double in the bottom of the sixth gave St. Peter's a 3-1 victory over Fordham, 3-1. Mike Guilfoyle pitched a complete game three-hitter for St. Peter's (10-15, 4-10 MAAC Conference). Fordham is 14-16-1, 8-4.

Edited by Parker Smith