



First Row: A. Tscheiner, D. Ragan, J. Johnson, J. Gum, A. Jones, C. Hill, M. Johnson, J. Cannedy, T. Gwinnek, C. Samuels, M. Tigges. Second Row: T. Danicl, J. Albu, R. Beyer, D. Allen, G.

Thompson, J. Todd, R. Pepples, D. Richter, J. Laseke, C. Bell, B. Courtney, Coach Ronald Otto.

This year, the outlook is bright for the Hughes sackmen. The return of seven lettermen has bolstered the squad considerably: Bob Courtney, Cliff Bell, Dick Richter, Dave Gloeckler, Mel Johnson, Jim Laseke, and Darryl Allen. Of

Pitchers, Fielders,

these boys, Courtney, Johnson, and Bell have been elected co-captains. Add fourteen other boys to these veterans, along with Coach Otto, and you have a potentially strong team in capable hands.

The team prowess is highlighted by Bob Courtney's and Jim Laseke's excellent pitching, and Mel Johnson's dazzling infield play. Cliff "Punchy" Bell and Darryl Allen displayed strong hitting during the pre-season practice session. Dick Richter, a first baseman with power, also contributes heavily to the Big Red offense.

This year, the Hughes sackmen have been practicing five hours a day. There are few sure positions on the team, as Coach Otto has given every boy a fair try-out. A couple of infield positions, an outfield spot, and the catching are uncertain. The first game, April 4th at Coy Field, however, will find Hughes ready for Sycamore. Another winning season is anticipated, as the Big Reds material is of championship caliber.

Last year, Hughes had a winning season with a 15-10 record. The Big Reds came in second in PHSL competition for the third straight season, tying Taft with a 7-5 league record.

"Now this is what the game is played with!" says Coach Ron Otto to keystone man, Mell Johnson.

