

BASEBALL 1953

It seemed extremely rocky for the Woodward nine that day as the score stood 2 to 4 with but one inning left to play. "Play ball!" (That familiar cry) is sweeping the country today with even more enthusiasm than in preceding years. These two strong predominating words are the signal for every red-blooded, able-bodied, American boy to start hunting frantically for that battered potent stick or perhaps the autographed big league ball. Whether it be fly catching on the sand lot, or a raw throat, gotten sitting in the sun-laden bleachers. There's no denying that bat, ball, and "boos" are symbolic of America's greatest past-time, Baseball.

Woodward is no exception to the rule, for every year along about this time, every glove-happy, sore arm, "hombre" in Woodward High storm to the invitational practice to display their talent to the watchful eye of manager and coach, Bob Krausher.

After the masquerade is over and all is peaceful and quiet, the team is chosen. It doesn't take long for the team to get the familiar sensation and rhythm of that "boom" stick and the customary sting of a high velocity horsehide.

With those tight biceps loosened up and the "gastro" conditioned with frequent sprints, the squad shifts into high gear and start the old "apple" to doing tricks. Days and weeks roll by rapidly consumed with long hours of improving practice. Then at long last, the opening game. "We made it, let's gittum, gang!"

Draft, graduation, "suit your fancy!" took some of our top men from last year's spike clad boys. Sv Broughton, hot corner enthusiast, is replaced by a newcomer, Willie Grant, a sophomore. Ron Payne has attempted to fill the shoes left by the departed Joe Somori at short stop. Frank's out, Charles is in. Sid Bradnax is a newcomer at second base.

The rest of the diamond remains unchanged. Don Oliver, ace pitcher and initial sacker, Adolph Frazier, Al Kien, Hosea Patterson, fly chasers. So far this season Woodward has completed three games, winning two, while dropping one. Wins were 6 to 3, Norwood. Asset to win, Billy Grant who smacked a four bagger to untie the score and defeat them. Woodward 2, Walnut Hills 1, tells the story of the second win.

WOODWARD TRACKMEN

There's thunder above as the track team gallops merrily around into the inside track, getting in condition for the coming season. The most freakishness of spring weather ever recorded in the history of Cincinnati, hampered the expectations of some well-wishers to invade the hallowed grounds of Deer Park at an early date.

However, inclement weather didn't postpone the conditioning season as most of the workouts were done in the gym. Finally, after a long delay, they were able to climb up Thirteenth Street, over Reading Road, and on to Deer Creek.

As of now, they have participated in two track meets, rising to third place on both occasions.

Over the gruelling summer months, military services' ever-present hand took possession of some of last year's top track performers. To name a few — William Lawson and Fred Brown. Graduation also took its toll — Ralph Kelly, Dave Cox, Nat Pugh, Dave Wright, and many more. This year's squad is in the process of rebuilding. Those returning and the incoming freshmen will make the bulk of the TEAM!

