

BASEBALL

A heavy schedule marked the opening of the baseball season of 1919-1920, at the Armour Institute of Technology. The baseball team began their season's training with no easy competition ahead of them. The infield as well as the green in Ogden Field were mercilessly pounded out of shape by heavy rainstorms. The institute players practiced in the gym, where they were relegated for several months.

The Armour nine welcomed the first appearance of real baseball weather by donning their grays and hitting the pill around in true outdoor fashion. An artificial diamond was built in the outfield and used until the regular one permitted invasion.

The institute's hurling staff comprised Bready, Gilbertson, Desmond, and Van Dyke, all of whom pitched airtight ball throughout the season. These players were able to put enough of "something" on the ball to smoke out even the most skillful batters that faced them.

We had a pair of steady catchers in Grueb and Liu, the former having earned the appellation of "pinch hitter." Malpede occupied first base, while Rowe played second, and Schumacher third. Sevic was at short, and had a whiz of a whip. The outfielders were an integral part of the team, and muffed very few flies that came their way. That part of the game was well handled by Zingheim, Mooney, Erickson, and Plocar.

The Tech players started out the season with a double-header, playing Hillsdale College in the morning, and Lake Forest in the afternoon of April 16, 1920. After losing the morning game to Hillsdale of Michigan, 11 to 6, Armour Institute slammed the pill hard and defeated Lake Forest, 10 to 7, in the afternoon encounter. Bready and Zingheim each soaked home runs in the morning.

The institute players invaded Indiana on April 19, where a hot contest was had with Valparaiso University. Strangely enough, this was a hoodoo day for the Hoosier team, as well as for Armour. A section of the bleachers fell, toppling many rooters to the ground. A number were slightly hurt. To top the climax, Valparaiso defeated Armour, 11 to 2.

On April 24, Armour Institute poled sixteen healthy swats for a 10 to 5 victory over Augustana College of Rock Island. Bready and Grueb each connected for two doubles and a single and Mooney poled a homer and a single.

An old rival dropped a game to Armour, when the latter defeated Valparaiso University, 7 to 0, in Ogden Field on April 27. Airtight pitching by Bready, who allowed only two hits, gave Armour Institute an easy victory over the visitors. Armour won the game in the sixth inning when Grueb hit a home run with two mates on the bases.

Armour conquered its former adversary in the Little Five Conference when Lake Forest lost a close game to the former. Finishing in sparkling style, the Tech players carried off a ten inning victory, 9 to 8, on the loser's diamond. After the nines battled through alternate rallies, Lake Forest tied it, 8 to 8, by a three run onslaught in the eighth, and was on the verge of winning in the ninth when Mooney's peg from deep left cut off a run at the plate. In Armour's half of the tenth Grueb tripled and scored on a sacrifice.