Prospects for the 1926 Baseball Team

Michigan’s baseball team is now in the South on its annual conditioning pilgrimage.

Were it not for the wonderful facilities offered by Yost Field House, pupils would have been forced to start the trip almost without any real practice. Inclement weather balked outdoor work, but the huge dirt arena of the field house gave opportunity for practically every form of drill save outfield training.

Michigan starts the 1926 season with unusual battery strength and untried and inexperienced material pretty nearly every place else. If the aggregation develops batting strength there seems to be every reason to believe that the 1926 Varsity will be up among the Conference leaders this season.

Jablonski and Walters are lettermen and are the two veterans Coach Fisher will have as pitchers. Ruetz wears an “AMA” by reason of his mound work in past games. Miller, a junior who has never been on the squad before, is being relied on to prove the star of the pitching staff, with Gawne and Thorne as the other two recruits who are showing much promise. The only weak point in this pitching staff is the fact that every one of the men is a right hander; Fisher would like to have a southpaw.

Edgar, a junior who was ineligible last year, seems to be slated for the regular position behind the bat. Edgar is a real star, with standing offers for big league contracts in his pocket. He will be assisted by Davis, “AMA,” and Wolrock, ‘29.

Captain Wilson, with Jablonowski, the only man on the squad boasting of two letters in baseball, will occupy first base, his regular post. Fuller and Oosterbaan, both football stars, are contesting his right to the position, however. If Oosterbaan wins a letter in baseball he will be the only three sports man on the Campus at the present time. Neville, a senior, and Skidmore, a sophomore, are fighting it out for second base, with Gilbert, Friedman of football history, and Oosterbaan, working for the right to occupy third base. Loos, a sophomore, Parker, a senior, and a football letter man, and Weitzel, who wears letters won in hockey, all want to be shortstop on the Varsity of 1926.

Puckolwartz is the lone “M” man in the outfield. Lang, a sophomore, and Termen, a junior, are his leading running mates at the present time; with indications pointing to the use of Miller and Jablonowski in the outfield when they are not busy in the pitching box.