

# Mauch Feels Phillies Can Win Pennant

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is the third of 20 dispatches on the 1964 prospects of the major league baseball teams.)

By LEO H. PETERSEN  
UPI Sports Editor

CLEARWATER, Fla. (UPI)—Things are looking up for the Philadelphia Phillies.

Manager Gene Mauch feels that given a break here and there the Phillies could win the National League pennant, ending a 14-year-old drought.

The breaks he needs involve solving two problems—coming up with a third baseman and some left handed relief pitching.

"If we do, and I think we will, watch out," Mauch warns. He directed his club to a fourth place finish last year—the first season since 1955 it has finished in the first division—with a total of 87 victories, only 12 less than the winning Los Angeles Dodgers.

Except for third base, a plating problem in left field, and a bullpen problem his club is all set. It figures to miss the big bat of Don Demeter, but the two players they acquired for him, pitcher Jim Bunning and catcher Gus Triandos, may take up the slack.

#### Balanced Catching

Triandos will catch when the opposition uses southpaw pitchers; Clay Dalrymple when right-handers go against the Phillies.

Bunning, only 12-13 with the Detroit Tigers last year, will be one of the starting pitchers along with Dennis Bennett (9-5), Chris Short (9-12), Art Mahaffey (7-10) and sophomore Ray Culp (14-11). Throw in the veteran Cal McLish (13-11) for spot starts, and it give Mauch plenty of starting pitching potential. Bennett and Short are left-handers, the other four righties.

Right-handers, led by workhorse Jack Baldschun (11-7) dominate the bullpen. The others are Ryne Duren (5-2) and Johnny Klippstein (5-6). Dallas Green (7-5), also a righty, probably will be the long man in relief and draw occasional starting assignments, especially against the Dodgers against whom he usually is effective.

There doesn't seem to be any left-handed pitcher in camp who can fill the bullpen void. There are some youngsters, but they appear to be a year or so away. So it looks like the Phillies will have to make a deal to come up with a left-handed reliever.

#### Weak At Third

The infield will have veteran Roy Sievers at first, Tony Taylor at second, Bobby Wine at short and rookie Richie Allen at third. Allen is the key to that set up.

Allen, 22, hit .288 at Little Rock last season with 33 home runs and 97 runs batted in.

Mauch points to centerfielder John Callison and right fielder Tony Gonzalez as "two fellows who can keep us up in there for many years to come."

Callison hit .284 in 1963 with 26 home runs and 78 runs batted in. Gonzalez batted .306 with only four home runs and 66 RBIs.

The veteran Wes Covington, who hit .303 last year with 17 HR's and 64 RBIs, will be in left field when right-handers oppose the Phillies. Mauch is looking for a right-handed hitting partner with him. The leading candidate is rookie Alex Johnson, who hit .329 at Twin Falls last year.

# Sports

## Sandy Koufax Hopeful For Better Season

By CURT BLOCK  
UPI Sports Writer

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The big spring event will be held at the Youth and Community center and will begin at 6:30 p.m. with dinner. Featured speaker for the banquet will be announced in the near future, Worthman explained.

The banquet is held each spring by the D-Club, the Decatur high school lettermen's organization. The banquet is featured by basketball and wrestling awards presented by the Decatur high school Booster club.

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