

Off to a roaring start

by Keith E. McFall
Co-sports Editor

"The Lord has blessed her with an unbelievable amount of natural talent," said Head Softball Coach Paul Benim of his star outfielder, Terry Pegher.

Pegher, a junior MIS major, earned the honor of being selected Athlete of the Week for her performance during the Lady Lions' annual spring break trip to Florida.

On a 5-1 trip, Pegher batted .368 going 7 for 19 with a homerun. She drew three walks, scored six runs (second on the team), and had three stolen bases.

On defense Pegher performed flawlessly. "Defensively she was superb. She held many hits that should have been doubles to long singles, which kept runners out of scoring position," said Benim.

In a double-header against Mount Union College this past Tuesday, Pegher went 4 for 8 with two runs scored and two RBIs. This performance raised her batting average to .407 for the year.

Pegher is from Wexford, Pa. where she attended North

Allegheny High School. During her senior year she led her team to the second round of the WPIAL play-offs.

She was recruited to Behrend in the fall of 1991. "I came to Behrend because I liked the small school atmosphere and because it wasn't too close to home, but not too far away either," she said.

She has set a high and very achievable goal for the team this year. "I would like to get back to the ECAC play-offs again and win. It would be an honor to bring home the championship for the third straight year," she said.

She added, "We don't have any seniors on the team, so if we can keep the players we have together, we can continue our winning tradition next year also."

She admitted that during the fall season she was a little unsure about the team because of the amount of freshmen. But, she added, "After the Florida trip I was much more confident, not only about my playing, but also about the team as a whole."

Pegher said that the thing she likes best about playing at Behrend is having coaches

similar in age to the players (referring to 1992 Behrend graduate Benim, and Assistant Coach Bill Graham, who will graduate in May). "They can relate to us better both as players and students," she said.

During the off-season Pegher participates in intramural activities for Weimer's Women. She also played softball during the summer for the Pittsburgh Patriots, a travelling fast-pitch women's softball team for 18-25 year-olds.

"I used to have to drive an hour each way every day to practice. You really have to have a love for the game, as I do, to go through that. Playing gave me a lot of practice and experience."

On tap for Pegher's future is a successful career in her major, a happy marriage and having children.

As a final statement Pegher stressed that she would like to see more fans come out to watch the Lady Lions. "We are one of the most successful teams in Behrend history and I would like to see more people witness what we have accomplished."



Amel Balcitra/Assistant Photo Coordinator
Athlete of the Week, again: Terry Pegher, junior outfielder for the Lady Lions, was named ATW in last Spring's final issue.

Key word: potential

by Joe Mottillo
Collegian Staff

"The key word is 'potential.' We're very balanced with outstanding potential," said first-year Behrend baseball coach, Dan Peritano, of the team. "We're going to play good defense."

The team returned to the great white north after a 2-4 Florida trip. With those two wins, the team matched its total of last season. The wins came against Swarthmore and Nichols of Massachusetts.

"Fielding is definitely one of our strengths," said senior tri-captain, Dave Mazur. "We have a lot of potential."

Freshman centerfielder, Quinn McGuire, led the Lions with a .267 average and was 7 for 7 in stolen base attempts. Senior tri-captain, Bill Weimer, was second with a .231 average.

"If we get Quinn and Bill on base we're set," said Peritano of his one and two hitters.

On the mound, junior Dan Shrock went 2-1 with a .46 ERA. He had 15 Ks and only 6 walks.

"Our pitching staff is young in terms of collegiate experience," said Peritano of the young staff.

The team opens their northern season with Thiel on March 29. That gives the team more time to work out the bugs and get ready for a promising season.

Said Mazur, "We've been working really hard and everyone is anxious for the season to start."

"Our season can be measured in potential right now," said Peritano.

Behrend men's basketball update...

Behrend to replace head coach, again

For the third time in less than a year, Behrend will have a new head basketball coach. After the departure of former coach Fred Paulsen last year, Behrend hired Joe Shapiro for the job. After a rocky 2-6 start to the 1993-94 campaign, Shapiro resigned for what he stated were personal reasons. This led to then assistant coach Chris Gilmartin taking over as head coach. He led the team through the rest of the season, showing promise as the year progressed. Near the end of the season the Athletic Department began to accept resumes for the head coaching job. Gilmartin applied, but on Tuesday removed his name from consideration for the job because he is going to pursue an advanced degree, a prerequisite most schools require so that a person can both coach and teach. It is unfortunate that Behrend must now choose a new coach to come in and start over with the returning players. Will Behrend ever again be able to keep hold of someone that will be around to coach a player both as a freshman and a senior, or better yet, for more than two months? We'll have to wait and see.

Plyler and Thorne give last performances

Adding an exclamation point to two very successful careers, seniors Don Plyler and Byron Thorne played in an all-star game on Tuesday night at Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pa. The game pitted Division II and III players against NAIA players from around the region. Plyler won the three-point shoot-out in a sudden death tie breaker over a home court favorite from Westminster, and Thorne participated in the slam dunk competition. The NAIA won the game by one point.

College basketball	
Most career points:	Points
Pete Maravich, LSU	3,667
Freeman Williams, Portland St.	3,249
Lionel Simmons, La Salle	3,217
Alphonso Ford, Miss. Valley	3,165
Harry Kelly, Texas Southern	3,066

SOURCE: National Collegiate Athletic Association