

Swept the other way

by Bill Graham
Collegian Staff

In a season of doubleheader sweeps, the broom finally swept the other way for the Lady Lions softball team.

Behrend has now dropped its last four games to nationally ranked teams Buffalo State and Allegheny College. The losses snapped the team's nine game winning streak, which was a new softball record for consecutive victories.

On Tuesday against Allegheny, the Lady Lions ran into the best pitcher they will face this season. Laurie Machuga, an All-American last year, threw a two hit, twelve strikeout gem at the Lady Lions while Allegheny pounded out ten runs to complete the 10-0 whitewash.

Karen Strait and Terry Pegher managed the team's only hits, which were two more than Machuga's last outing.

In the second game Behrend came out with some fire, but Allegheny, ranked 4th in the last Division III poll, was again too much. Despite a solo home run by Marlesse Schlott and a couple hits by Julie Chimera, Behrend dropped a 13-6 decision to the Lady Gators.

Last Thursday the Lady Lions took on Buffalo State at home and treated everyone to a thriller. Behrend fell behind early and looked out of it until the sixth inning when they scored four runs to pull close at 6-5. In the seventh, the Lady Lions pushed across the tying run to force extra innings.

In the extra frames, the Lady

Bengals scored one run to make it 8-7 going to the bottom of the 11th inning. Behrend loaded the bases with only one out but couldn't score the rest of the way, losing by an 8-7 mark.

The second game got worse for the Lady Lions as Buffalo State took advantage of four Behrend errors and routed the Lady Lions 10-1. This day proved to be the first sweep in over two years against Behrend.

Despite the setbacks, the outlook remains positive for the Lady Lions. Behrend has reached number two in the region and remained 16th in the last national poll.

It's a busy week for the Lady Lions as they went to Westminster yesterday, play John Carroll at home today and travel to Waynesburg on Saturday.



Jen Colvin/Photo Coordinator

The hot spot: Junior third baseman Sue Mazur crouches in anticipation for a shot down the line.

Lions starting to roar

by Greg Kristen
Collegian Staff

The Behrend Lions baseball team had a productive week of hardball as they went 4-4 in their longest homestand of the season against opponents Thiel, Bethany, Fredonia and Hilbert.

On Tuesday, the Lions roared past Thiel as they got off to a fast start with three runs on three hits in the first inning. Derek Haynes led the charge with an RBI double.

Dan Shrock led the cagers as he had another strong performance on the mound, mowing down 13 Tomcats on the way to his second win.

Tom Gardner had the hot bat going 2-4 with two runs scored. Behrend dominated the whole game and in the end came out with a 9-3 victory.

In game two, Tom Gardner started where he left off in game one as he knocked in two runs in the first inning.

The Lions then collected three more runs on eight hits. They also received a strong combined pitching performance from Gardner who pitched five strong innings, while Bob McLaren came in and closed the door on the Tomcats. The end result was

a close 5-4 victory which upped the Lion's season record to 6-12.

Lion captain Bill Weimer said, "Things are looking up. We're going to try and reach 10 wins."

Last weekend the Lions had a less than stellar performance as they dropped consecutive doubleheader outings to Bethany and Fredonia on Saturday and Sunday.

On Sunday, the Lions lost game one 8-6, while game two was an 11-1 loss. Both games were lost by the lack of defense by the Lions.

Head Coach Dan Perritano said, "We didn't make the plays we had to defensively. We made some timely errors that cost us some runs and I think a strength of this team at times has been our defense."

Lions pitcher Dan Schrock commented about their 8-6 loss, "As far as earned runs go, it was a 2-2 game and the rest of their runs were unearned."

He added, "I think we have our ups and downs because some innings we're together and other innings we're not."

The Lions lost the other double-header on Saturday, but their hitting was starting to come around. Perritano said, "Our hitting has improved and our

team average has improved tremendously. Guys are really hitting the ball at key times and through the order the guys are really starting to hit the ball well."

The verification of his team starting to hit well is the fact that Tom Gardner went 3-6 and scored three runs in the twin-bill.

Last Thursday, to start off their homestand, the Lions swept Hilbert College, 5-3 and 8-4.

In game one Dan Schrock pitched well enough to allow the Lions to get their third win of the season. They pulled out two runs in the bottom of the sixth to pull out the win.

Perritano said, "We were really consistent against Hilbert and we definitely got key at bats when we needed them."

In game two the Lions got off to a slow start, but in the fourth inning their hitting came alive as they exploded for five runs on five hits. Justin Uhron led the explosion with a leadoff double, while Andy Erwin, Quinn McGuire, Gardner and Dave Schrock each added key singles.

Today the Lions finish their five game homestand against Westminster College with first pitch scheduled for 1:00 p.m.



Jen Colvin/Photo Coordinator

Keep your head up: Athlete of the Week Dave Shrock tries to cheer up teammate Andy Erwin.

Shrock soars

by Joe Mottillo
Collegian Staff

The strength of any good baseball team is up the middle. Behrend is no different.

Their strength starts with catcher, Dave Shrock, this week's Athlete of the Week. The sophomore catcher went 10 for 20 with five RBIs and three doubles in the Lions' 2-4 week.

"Dave's a competitor," said Lions' coach Dan Perritano. "He comes to play everyday. He's got a hot bat and he's seeing the ball well."

"We're developing a better relationship on the field," said Shrock of the young Lions. "We have a lot of potential. These guys are more athletic and have more baseball ability than teams

I've played with in the past."

For the season, Shrock is hitting .341 with 15 hits and 9 RBIs. He also leads the team in doubles (4) and at-bats (44).

"He's been doing a real good job hitting the ball and handling the catching duties," said senior captain Bill Weimer. "He's been a solid ball player."

Shrock kept up his hot bat during two victories against Thiel on April 19. In the twinbill, Shrock went 3 for 5 with two RBIs, a double and two runs scored.

Shrock, an accounting major, played four years of baseball at Conneaut Lake High School. He didn't play his first year here at Behrend and sat out most of last season with shoulder problems.

Netters finish up-and-down campaign

by Paul D. Young
Collegian Staff

The Behrend men's tennis team served up a sixth place finish in the season-ending Marketplace Tournament held this past weekend.

The event was held in Rochester, NY and was hosted by Nazareth and St. John Fisher Colleges.

Coach Dan Gallegos' squad finished its up-and-down

campaign with a 13-7 ledger.

In the Marketplace Tourney, the Lions finished third in their respective flight with a 1-2 record. Their lone victory came on a 3-2 squeaker over Monroe Community College. The two defeats came at the hands of Nazareth (1-4) and Oneonta (2-3), which was last year's champion.

Behrend's counterpart from the second flight was Oswego, which downed the Lions 3-2 to gain fifth place.

Last Thursday the netters competed in their final dual match, surrendering Grove City College's home at Behrend.

The match, however, were not entertaining to Gallegos as the Wolverines swept all nine matches on their way to a blanking of Behrend.

Junior Karl Van Tassel and sophomore Greg East were both able to take their singles matches to the distance but fell short in the end.