

Tennis senior: ATW

by Erin Morrell
Collegian Staff

This week's Housing and Food Service's Athlete of the Week is senior tennis player Karl VanTassel. VanTassel attended Seneca High School and has been playing tennis since he was nine years old.

"I've been playing table tennis since I was young. My dad got me started with tennis," said VanTassel.

Head Coach Chuck Keenan believes that VanTassel has been playing very well and deserves to be the ATW.

"I feel that Karl was chosen as the ATW because he plays first singles and has only lost two matches. That's a pretty impressive record for someone in that position," coach Keenan said.

VanTassel enjoys tennis thoroughly. "My favorite aspect is the fact that you can do something that you thought was impossible. You don't know what you can do until you try, and trying helps you set goals higher. On top of that, it's fun," VanTassel said.

In response to Van Tassel's playing ability, Coach Keenan is very impressed.

"Karl is probably the hardest worker I've seen since I started coaching. He's very tenacious, never quits, even at practice. He also has a 'never say die' attitude--that's how he wins matches," explained Coach Keenan.

As for VanTassel's belief in his strengths, he appears to have

confidence in his performance.

"Besides being in shape, I feel I'm an all around player. My two-handed back hand is a plus. I can't contribute one thing as my most powerful aspect," VanTassel said.

Every athlete has an area that could be improved Van Tassel agreed, "I don't have any major weapons. I'd like to improve on my ground stroke power and work on having a powerful serve. Michael Chang is my model, if he can do it, so can I."

Teammate Brent Dias commented on Van Tassel's playing style.

"He's improved quite a bit since last season. He has a kind of unorthodox style of playing which helps him to win matches," explained Dias.

According to Coach Keenan and VanTassel's teammates, VanTassel is the kind of player you can count on.

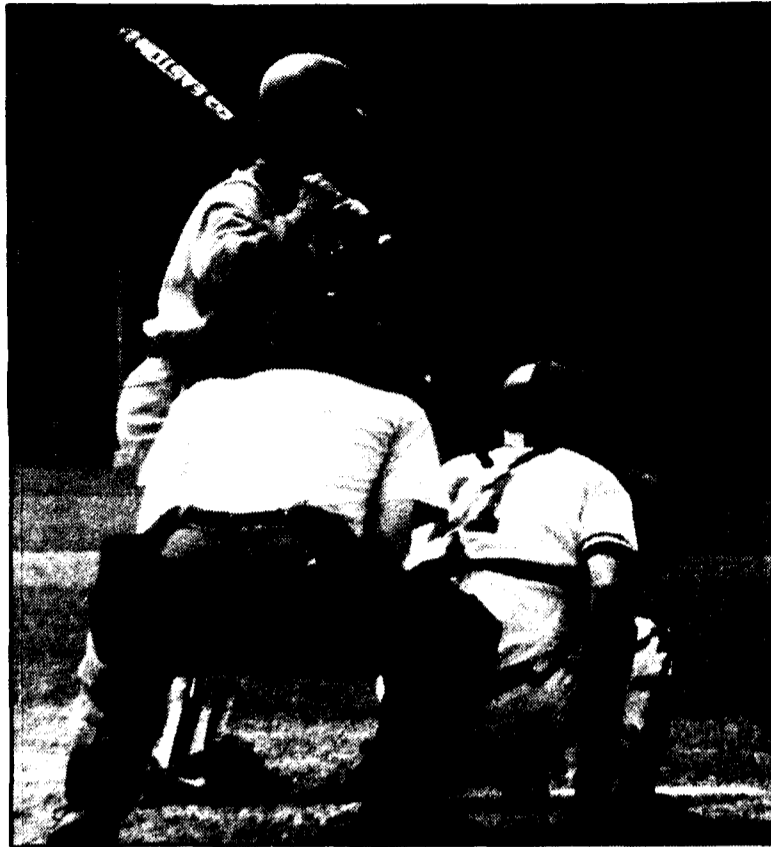
"He's the type of player that if the match gets tight, we know we can depend on him," stated Dias.

Brant Suhrie agreed, "Karl is a good player and he is playing well above his potential."

As for the team as a whole, Van Tassel said, "With a new coach and a fairly new team, we're as good as last season. I'd like to see the team with an over 500 record. I'd like us to win and have fun."

As for himself personally, he wants to continue to play, "I still have a couple of good years left in me and tennis has been a good experience for me."

Behrend still struggling



Collegian File Photo

Behind the plate: Behrend men as they hope to break their current losing streak this afternoon.

by Brian Stadler
Collegian Staff

The diamond's been idle and Behrend has not played in two weeks. For Coach Dan Perritano and his players, the layoff has been very frustrating.

The lone senior on this year's team, Tom Gardner, has really

felt the layoff.

"This is not the way you want your college career to end up. Being my senior year, it has been very frustrating not to play," said Gardner.

Four doubleheaders were canceled due to the weather and will not be made up. The Lions

have a full schedule of games next week and games can not be made up after April 30. Only five doubleheaders remain.

The Lions lost a tough doubleheader to SUNY-Fredonia in their last game on April 5 and needed to get back to the basics of hitting and fielding for the final games.

Lion hurler, Bob McLaren, has also been frustrated by the lack of games.

"We're taking it in stride and doing the best we can but it has been frustrating," stated McLaren.

McLaren agreed that the Lions had not been scoring runs and that Coach Perritano has given them a lot of chance to hit during the layoff.

Coach Perritano also agreed with McLaren's assessment. "We emphasized hitting the past couple of weeks, and getting comfortable at the plate."

Asked how he thought his team would respond after the layoff Coach Perritano replied, "The adjustment will be minor, the guys should be excited again and motivated."

McLaren feels the team, "learned a lot during the first part of the season and that the team should be better because of it."

The Lions are scheduled to play a doubleheader today at Westminster College starting at 1:00 p.m. As always, around this area in April, weather permitting.

Sports Bits

by Nick Zulovich
Assistant Sports Editor

Montana retires: Former San Francisco and Kansas City quarterback Joe Montana retired from the football yesterday. The three time Super Bowl MVP decided to quit the game at age 39. After 16 season in the NFL and after 11 various injuries Montana announced his retirement at a downtown press conference held by the 49ers.

Another HOF?: Just as Joe Montana announced his retirement from the Kansas City Chiefs, another future hall of famer might join the Chiefs next season. Reports say that safety Ronnie Lott might join the Chiefs. Lott has played his career with San Francisco, L.A. Raiders and recently with the New York Jets.

Draft day approaching: The NFL draft will begin Saturday at noon in New York. The Carolina Panthers own the top pick, with fellow expansion team Jacksonville holding the second. Penn State running back Ki-Jana Carter is expected to be the first player selected. Other players expected to be selected highly are Penn State quarterback Kerry Collins, USC offensive tackle Tony Boselli, and University of Miami defensive tackle Warren Sapp.

Legion of Doom: The Philadelphia Flyers' starting line of Eric Lindros, John LeClair, and Michael Renberg has becoming one of the most dominant scoring forces in the NHL. Since the three have played together, the Flyers went from sixth to first place in the Atlantic division.

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