

Behrend looking to improve

by Brian Stadler
Collegian Staff

The '95 season is winding down for the Behrend baseball team. It opened with promise, a doubleheader sweep of Thiel, then the rains come and added frustration. Now the last few games are once again showing promise. Behrend's record stands at 7-14.

Tuesday, the Lions traveled to Case Western Reserve University, just outside of Cleveland. Their stay at Case Western would be a short one due to rain. The Lions were on the short end of a 4-2 score after rain halted the game in the fifth



Photo by Dan Nowicki

At bat: for the Lions Behrend baseball team member hits one to left field to drive in a run.

inning. Behrend's ace, Greg Gapen, had allowed only six hits and three earned runs through the five innings completed.

Coach Dan Perritano remarked about the game, "If the game had continued, we would have had the opportunity to score more runs."

Centerfielder Quinn McGuire agreed with his coach, "Every inning, we had the opportunity to score but base running mistakes and bad calls cost us runs."

Tom Gardner and Fred Veith each contributed an RBI. McGuire walked three times.

This past Sunday, Behrend destroyed visiting Hilbert College by the counts of 12-1 and 18-5. The Lions had 24 hits in the two games to go with the 30 runs they scored. Both games ended early by the ten run mercy rule.

In the first game, pitcher Bob Vadala gave up only four hits and one run in six innings. John Maston and Bill Vitron paced the Lions with two RBI's apiece. In the nightcap, the Lions jumped on Hilbert early scoring ten runs in the first inning on their way to a five inning 18-5 win.

Winning pitcher Mark Burcharowski went four innings of six hits and five strike-outs. Bob McLaren finished the five inning affair. Burcharowski aided his cause by contributing two hits and two runs batted in. Chris Straub, McGuire, Gapen, J.J. Stickney, and Gardner all added two hits apiece for Behrend. Gapen and Gardner each added two runs batted in.

McGuire was happy to sweep the doubleheader, "We hit the ball extremely well."

That assessment was very kind to the Hilbert pitchers who were slapped around.

Last Thursday, Behrend dropped a doubleheader to Westminster by the scores of 6-0 and 11-5. McLaren and Burcharowski only

gave up seven hits but three Behrend errors hurt their cause. Worse yet was that Behrend only managed one hit in the opener. The long layoff endured by the Lions may have had its effect as they also dropped the second game.

Gapen went the distance allowing nine hits and eleven runs but many of the runs were

unearned due to three more Behrend errors. The hits were scarce again as Behrend managed only four hits.

McGuire commented afterwards, "We did not hit the ball, we jumped out early (5-0 after one-half inning) and through six innings we did what we had to do defensively to stay in the game but plays weren't made in

the bottom of the sixth and we fell apart."

Though the season is winding down, both McGuire and Perritano agree that in the next two doubleheaders Behrend is capable of winning all four games.

Perritano concluded, "We want to end the season on a positive note."

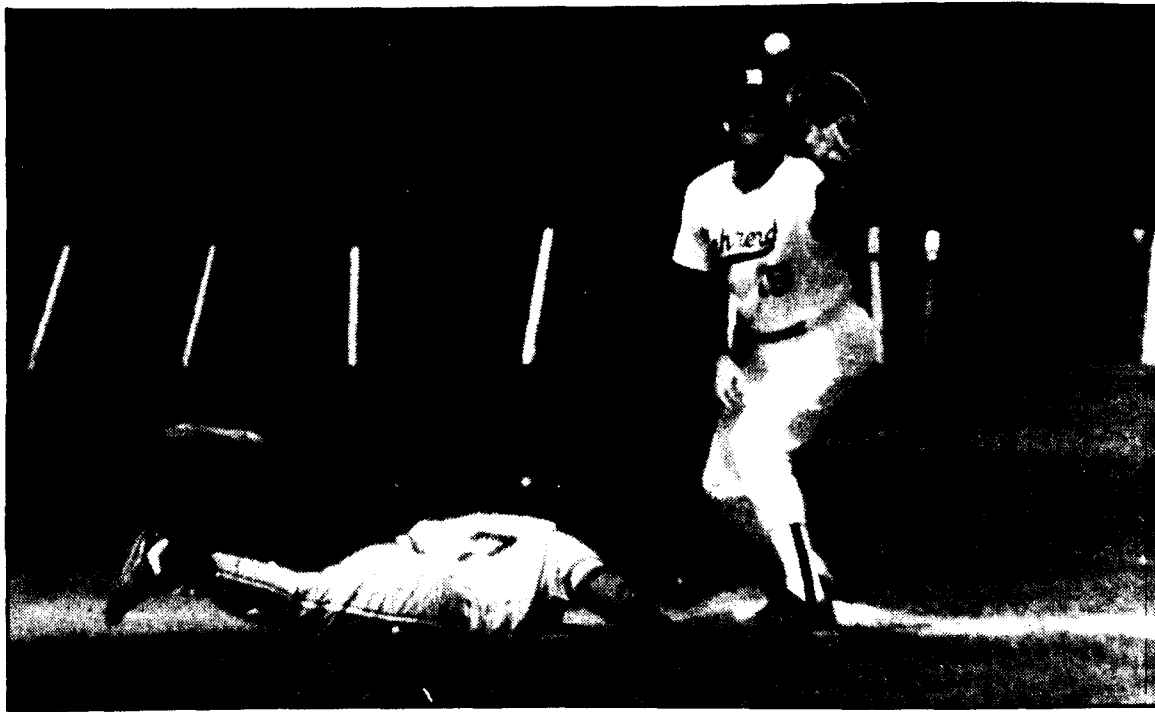


Photo by Dan Nowicki/ Photography Editor

Total concentration: The Behrend firstbaseman looks to tag out the opposing baserunner during a recent game. The Lions look to improve against SUNY-Fredonia.

NHL playoff preview

by Julie Stocker
Collegian Staff

Remember the *good* hockey days when the New York Rangers came to town and fans across the country could chant "1940" (the last time the team won the Stanley Cup)? But they ruined our fun, and now Ranger fans scream "1994" when opposing

teams enter Madison Square Garden, as Mark Messier and his troops brought home the hardware last season.

Nevertheless, the NYR won the cup in a year without a holdout in the National Hockey League. But right now, the Rangers are struggling to hold on to the eighth and final place in the playoff picture. Montreal and

Hartford are breathing right down their necks in what could be one of the best finishes in a regular season hockey schedule in years.

Ever since their 12-0-3 start, the Pittsburgh Penguins are one game over .500. Jaromir "Mario Jr." Jagr is the leader in the absence of #66. He's had some steady support from Ron Francis, ex-King Luc Robitaille, and Joey Mullen. Goaltending, surprisingly, has been solid, as Ken Wregget has a record of 24-7-2 in the absence of Tom Barrasso.

Pittsburgh's cross state rival, the Philadelphia Flyers, look like a definite contender with Captain Eric Lindros at the controls. Look for the Quebec Nordiques to get knocked out of the playoffs the first or second round.

As far as the Western Conference is concerned, the Detroit Red Wings might be the next Stanley Cup Champions. With a league best record of 31-8-4 as of Monday, the Wings are just starting to hit their peak. Head Coach Scotty Bowman knows how to win.

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