

# Baseball keeps hopes high

by Nick Zulovich  
Sports Editor

Once you hit rock bottom there is no place to go but up. Hopefully the Penn State-Behrend baseball team has reached their bottom point and are ready to start going up.

With two losses yesterday afternoon to Fredonia State, the Lions have now lost nine in a row. The Lions started the season 6-1, but now they have fallen to 8-12.

The first game yesterday saw the Lions fall behind 5-2 after four innings.

Fredonia State catcher Jason Zanni hit a home run off Behrend

disappointed with his club's performance.

"We're really struggling. In the first game we did a lot of good things, but defensively we really let down. We made three big mistakes at bad times," Benim said.

The Lions' luck was not much better as both the temperature and the sun dropped quickly.

FSU's Brad John scored the first run of the game on a bases loaded walk to Clarke. FSU would then score an unearned run in the second.

Behrend starter John Ronan walked five in just one and two thirds innings. Benim pulled the freshman for Bob Vadala. Vadala



Photo by Colleen Gritzer/Collegian Photographer

And the throw to second: Behrend catcher Marc Burchanowski [21] looks to throw out a base runner against Bethany. Coach Paul Benim and his Lions have fallen on hard times recently. After starting the season 6-1, their record has tumbled to 8-12. The Lions travel to Allegheny on Saturday.

"The sun will come up tomorrow, and we're going to come out and play hard baseball."

- Coach Paul Benim

starter Matt Holian. But the Lions would chip away at the lead the next two innings.

In the bottom of the fifth inning the Lions mounted their best offensive showing of the day.

Quinn McGuire lead off the inning by reaching on an error, then stole second. Bill Vitrom walked and both runners advanced on a pass ball. John Matson then doubled to left, scoring McGuire and Vitrom. Matson then scored on a FSU error off a Ben Hager ground ball. This cut the lead to 8-5.

But that would be as far as the Lions would come. FSU would tack on three more runs off Behrend reliever Jim Weaver. FSU shortstop Matt Clark hit a two run single through a drawn-in Behrend infield to post the final score of the game 11-5.

Head Coach Paul Benim was

came up big in this first inning of work, striking out FSU first baseman Bryan Dean with the bases loaded.

Benim is very concerned with the status of his young pitcher, Ronan.

"Unfortunately I think we need to get him to a doctor. John has pitched very well for us all season. He was courageous and gave it the best he could and he struggled. That's not typical John Ronan," explained Benim.

The Lions scored their lone run of the second game in the bottom of the second inning. Matson and Hager hit back to back singles. Jeff Hortsmand sacrificed, putting runners at second and third. Catcher Marc Burchanowski hit a sacrifice fly to score Matson from third.

The turning point of the ball game came in the bottom of the third. Tom Revak lead off with a

walk and McGuire worked the count to 3-0. The home plate umpire called what should have been ball four a strike, much to the disgust of McGuire and the Behrend bench. McGuire would eventually strike out and the next batter John Green grounded into a double play, ending the inning.

Benim was appalled as anyone about the call.

"He got hosed. It was a bad decision on his [the umpire's] part. But as bad as that call was, you have got to create your own breaks, but we needed more than that to win the game," stated Benim.

The Lions would then run out of at bats because the umpires

called the game after five innings. Darkness fell over the horizon and the Lions finished the day with a 5-1 loss.

Last Sunday, the Behrend Lions had a twinbill with Bethany College. The Lions fell in both games to the Bisons, 3-1 and 12-3.

In the first game, Behrend starter Daryl Schmidt allowed just seven hits, but did not have much run support. Vitrom drove in the only Behrend run in the seventh inning, scoring Green.

The second game saw Bethany score seven runs in the first three innings. McGuire scored two runs for the Lions and Burchanowski and Hager had two

hits apiece.

The Lions hit the road this Saturday against Division III powerhouse Allegheny.

Benim looks forward to the challenge of taking on a program that the Gators have.

"[They are] usually ranked in the top 25 in the country. We need to go out there and play good baseball. It should be a good challenge for us, and as a team we're still fighting," Benim said.

Benim used a little philosophy to describe his club's future.

"The sun will come up tomorrow, and we're going to come out and play hard baseball. That's what I expect."

# Fielder steals second

by Nick Zulovich  
Sports Editor

Feet, don't fail him now

Baseball season is just beginning but Detroit first baseman Cecil Fielder did something that he had never done in his career up to that point. Fielder stole a base.

Fielder stole second base in the ninth inning of the Tigers' 10-6 victory over the Minnesota Twins. Fielder, known much more for his home run production, had played 1,096 games since getting his last stolen base. Fielder himself had to think when his last stolen base was.

"It's been a long time, probably since A-ball since I stole a base. It's been about 13 years I guess. I think the plus side to all of this is that we won the game. The stolen base is nice. I got that out of the way and we won the game," Fielder said.

Centerfielder, and current Tiger leadoff hitter, Chad Curtis joked

that maybe rookie manager Buddy Bell will change the line-up.

"Buddy says that he's going to switch us in the order tomorrow. Cecil is going to lead off and I'm going to hit fourth," Curtis said.

Indians' DH could have another big summer

## SGA Elections

10:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
in the Science Building

"Write Ins" will be accepted for senator seats if they get more than 15 votes

**Help Wanted**  
Looking for a responsible person with transportation to watch 2 children, ages 11 and 8-years-old in my home for 9 weeks beginning June 5. Wages, food, transportation and entertainment costs will be provided. Interview and personal references will be required. If interested, call Stacey McCoy at 898-6212 or 476-1783.

With the start of a new baseball season, more and more records and all time standings continue to be set. This summers should be no exception.

Cleveland designated hitter Eddie Murray has the chance to gain the most ground in the record books. If he plays 133 games this season, Murray will pass Dodger great Rusfy Staub into eighth place on the all-time games played list.

Murray needs 370 at bats to cruise into seventh place all-time, passing Stan "The Man" Musial.

But the records Murray aims at don't stop there. Murray got his

3000th hit last summer in Minnesota, but with 84 hits this season, he could pass former Kansas City stalwart George Brett into eleventh place.

500 home runs is also a milestone only dreamt about by some major leaguers, but Murray is in striking distance of that mark as well. Murray need 21 to reach that plateau.

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