

Out of Bounds

JASON SNYDER

Baseball season one for the ages

The 1998 Major League Baseball regular season couldn't have had a more dramatic ending if it were written by William Shakespeare. In a season that already witnessed Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa catch Roger Maris' home run record, the baseball world had no idea of the excitement that was to follow.

While McGwire was in pursuit of 70 home runs, Sosa pursued a playoff berth for his Cubs as the National League wild card race got even closer. The New York Yankees put 114 wins in the American League record book, and the AL batting title would come down to a single at bat. All this drama and the playoffs hadn't even begun.

With the baseball season approaching its final weekend, the question of who would be the home run king was still in doubt. Sosa had tied McGwire at 65 with only three games remaining and even took the home run lead for the second time this season the following night. But only 45 minutes later, Big Mac responded. They were tied at 66, and only two games remained. From that point on, it was all McGwire. He hit two more home runs the following day, putting him in position to possibly hit number 70 on the final game of the season in St. Louis. Leading Sosa then by two and the sports world's eyes focused on the bat of the Cardinal slugger, McGwire would attempt the "impossible": 70 home runs in one season! He moved one step closer to that with a home run in the third with a 1 ball 1 strike count. The fans in attendance, already on their feet, cheered the slugger as if it were his last. Two cur-

tain calls followed and one could only ask how much louder St. Louis could get. As if McGwire hadn't already answered enough questions in his post game press conferences, he answered that one too. When the new home run king took Expos' pitcher Carl Pavano deep to left, the St. Louis fans erupted. No curtain call or strike out by Brian Jordan would quiet the 46,110 scream-



ing fans. When number 70 was announced at the St. Louis Rams' game, the fans there also erupted. The cheers were so loud that the Rams couldn't even hear their quarterback, which resulted in a 5-yard illegal motion penalty. I could venture to say that the cheers were the loudest that the lowly St. Louis Rams ever experienced.

In a season that was centered on the home run chase, McGwire didn't disappoint anyone. His accomplishments are far beyond the expectations of any fan, baseball analyst, or baseball player. And now, if people said 61 wasn't supposed to be broken, then who could ever reach 70?

With the home run race over, fans and Sammy Sosa could turn their full attention to the National League wild card race. The Chicago Cubs and San Francisco Giants were tied with 89 wins going into their final regular season game. The New York Mets trailed by one game entering their finale. The Cubs would have a tough challenge against the 102-60 Houston Astros. The Giants, who trailed the Cubs by five

games with only ten days remaining, would face the sub .500 Colorado Rockies. And the Mets would have to face the NL's best, Atlanta Braves. A 7-2 loss took the Mets out of the play-off picture and brought even more importance to the outcome of the Cubs' and Giants' games.

Both teams took early leads as the Cubs jumped out to a 3-1 lead over the Astros. The Giants were stomping on the Rockies as they took a 7-0 lead. The Astros would tie the game up at 3, sending the game and possibly the Cubs' season into extra innings. A sacrifice fly by Houston's Richard Hidalgo drove in Carl Everett for an 11th inning, 4-3 Astros' win. Disappointment overtook the Cubs until they heard news that the Giants blew their seven run lead less than one minute earlier. The Rockies' Neifi Perez homered in the bottom of the ninth to hand the Giants their most discouraging loss of the 1998 season.

The Cubs and Giants would now play the first NL playoff in 18 years. It would match Cubs' pitcher, Steve Trachsel, against the Giants' Mark Gardner. Both pitchers started the game strong keeping the game scoreless into the fifth inning. Gardner then gave up a single to Henry Rodriguez, which was followed by a homer by 40-year old Gary Gaetti. A two run sixth inning for the Cubs gave them a 4-0 lead until the Giants responded with three runs of their own. However, that was not enough as the Cubs went on to win 5-3, giving them their first playoff appearance since 1989. The Cubs now have the privilege of facing the Atlanta Braves in the first round.

The New York Yankees ended their regular season on a high note, adding another win to their already historic season. The Yanks won their 114th game, setting a new mark for most wins in an American League season. They broke

INTRAMURAL BOUNDUP

Intramurals

Cross Country

M, W, COED Registration Deadline: October 2
- Individual and team competition
- Race begins at 6:00 pm, Monday, October 5

Flag Football

M, W, COED Registration Deadline: October 9
- Games begin October 14

Recreation

Commuter Euchre Tournament
Registration Deadline: October 9

Scoreboard

| Date | Opponent | Result |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Women's Soccer | | |
| September 26 | @ LaRoche | W 3-2 (OT) |
| September 30 | Pitt-Bradford | W 3-0 |
| Men's Soccer | | |
| Sept 26 | @ LaRoche | W 2-1 (OT) |
| Sept 30 | Pitt-Bradford | W 3-0 |
| Cross Country | | |
| Sept 26 | @ Alfred Invitational | Men- 3rd Place Brian Gaines- 9th place 28:13 Womens- 9th place Keri Lowman- 24:27 |
| Volleyball | | |
| Sept 24 | @ LaRoche | L 4-15, 15-9, 10-15, 6-15 |
| Sept 29 | Lake Erie | W 15-7, 15-4, 15-5 |
| Tennis | | |
| Sept 25 | @LaRoche | W 7-0 |
| Sept 26 | @ Frostburg | L 5-2 |
| Sept 29 | Grove City | L 9-0 |

AMCC Athlete of the Week Mens Soccer Kevin Rinehardt

Senior Kevin Rinehardt was recently named the AMCC Athlete of the Week during the week of September 21-28, for his contributions to the Behrend mens' soccer team.

Rinehardt has been instrumental in the mens' 6-4 start to the 1998 season. In Behrend's upset win over John Carroll, he scored the game's only goal, handing John Carroll only their fifth home loss in the 1990s.

In a trip to LaRoche, Rinehardt scored another game winning goal (his second of the week) in overtime, to lift the team to a 2-1 victory.

7. Their conference record was 3-1. Jamie Brubaker, 03 Biology, said about the two matches over the weekend, "We played very well against North Park." About the matches against Frostburg she said, "We fought them hard and hopefully we will get them next time." Tuesday, the 29th, they were

shut down by a tough Grove City team 9 matches to none making their overall season record 5-8. Christine Chan, 03 DUS said, "They were a tough team. We played very hard and we gave it all we had but we came up a little short."

Lady Lions volleyball sweeps Lake Erie

Jamie Salapek
staff writer

As the national anthem echoed through the gym on Tuesday night, the Behrend volleyball team had their minds set on a victory. The Lions convincingly prevailed over Lake Erie College in three solid matches.

In game one, Behrend commenced their solid defense against their opponent's serves. Lake Erie appeared to be having problems with their offense, yet the Lions wasted no time taking advantage of the situation. Behrend came on strong with their

powerful serves to take the game 15-7.

The second and third games were conquered in much the same fashion. Behrend worked the court with their fast attacks and impressive skills that made the game look easy. The Lions triumphed 15-4 and 15-5 merely adding a victory to their record.

Coach Cindy Jacobelli stated, "we needed a match like this where we took control of it. Our season has been up and down but we had solid defense. We have to also get through the growing pains and can't go anywhere but up."

Junior Tanya Deats and sopho-

more Mary Good led the Lion offense with seven kills. Good also had thirteen digs and freshmen Sarah Peterson added three aces. Deats commented, "I thought we worked well together. It was definitely an exciting home match and the crowd was great. We'll look forward to stepping up and moving on together."

The Behrend volleyball team will have its next bout on Saturday at 1 p.m. in the Erie Hall Gym against Frostburg State. The match is also part of spirit week, so the first 25 fans through the doors get a free spirit t-shirt. The team urges the Behrend community to show Penn State pride by cheering women's volleyball on to another victory.

Women's Tennis goes 1 for 3

By Will Jordan
news editor

The women's tennis team split two competitions this past weekend. On Friday, the 25th, the team swept every match against La Roche College at North Park, 7 matches to none. The following day, Saturday the 26th, the women's team took a bus to play Frostburg. They lost 5 matches to 2. Jamie Brubaker and Angela Albertson were the only two to win their matches against the strong team from Frostburg. After Saturday, the overall season record of the women's tennis team was 5-

Euro trip preps Lions for '98

By Jason Snyder
sports editor

Penn State Behrend's men's soccer and basketball teams got an early start on their 1998 seasons as they traveled to Europe to compete against foreign clubs. The Behrend student-athletes were able to train and compete against these teams and learn a little about other countries as well.

The men's soccer team departed from Toronto on August 8 and landed in London, England, where they would stay for three and a half of their 11 day trip. The team then traveled to Manchester for the remainder of their trip. Overall, the team finished 1-2-1 in their four matches against the high level of European play. Head Coach Dan Perritano commented on the trip, saying "We played tremendous opponents. It was a

good experience off the field."

During their stay, the team found time to attend an English Premiere Soccer League game. This league represents England's highest level of soccer. The men's team saw Manchester United play Leicester City on the league's opening day.

It appears as though the men have been able to use this unique experience to their advantage, as they are off to a 6-4 start. The high point for the team this season came in a 1-0 win over John Carroll last week. This upset ended John Carroll's seven year unbeaten streak during the regular season. Perritano said "it was a good win." He added, "it was a rewarding victory because we beat a quality team." This shocker was preceded by a 5-0 win over Lake Erie and followed by a 2-1 overtime victory at LaRoche. The win over LaRoche

gave the men's team a winning record and a three game winning streak.

The men's basketball team also was well traveled this past summer as they took their skills to Germany. Head coach Dave Niland and assistant coach Adam Stockwell led the 11 student-athletes on a ten day expedition around Germany. The team left from Toronto on August 17, and arrived in Frankfurt, Germany. The men also traveled to Rothenburg and Munich and saw the Olympic Museum and Dachau.

The team posted wins over German teams such as TSU 1865 Dachau, ULG Wustenrot, and the Munich Kickz twice. The men's 4-0 record and knowledge of the German culture made the trip a success.

The basketball team will be able to put their skills to the test as their season tips off on November 21 at the Hamot Classic.



In the distance, the men's soccer team plays to win yesterday

Photo by Andrea Zaffino