

Out of Bounds

JASON SNYDER

The Cy Young is more than just an award

Every year, with the conclusion of the Major League Baseball season comes the talk of what pitcher will receive the Cy Young award. For many fans today, the talk about this award brings with it one thought; who are the best pitchers in baseball? But the Cy Young award has much more meaning than that. Cy Young is more than just a prestigious award. He, not it, is one of the best pitchers baseball has ever seen.

Moving away from the idea that the Cy Young is a piece of hardware that baseball's elite pitcher gets to set on his mantle, the man behind the award adds to the prestige and significance of the title. There has to be some reason that the award was named after Cy Young. But why did baseball choose this man above the countless others that took the mound in baseball's first 50 years?

Denton True "Cy" Young was the first big name pitcher in the majors. He began his career in 1890, playing for Cleveland in the National League until 1898. His career started off with very successful seasons for Cleveland, posting 25 wins or more in each of those eight seasons. After a short tenure in St. Louis, Young moved his game to the place that he will forever be remembered. From 1901-1908, Young quickly established himself as Boston's number one man.

To this day, Young ranks at the top of Boston's most recognized pitching records. His 192 career wins has him tied with today's Roger Clemens. Of those 192 wins, 65 of them are accounted for in just two seasons, 1901 and 1902. His 1,341 career strikeouts has him ranked second on Boston's list with Clemens once again holding the top spot. But Young's spots in the Boston record books aren't filled yet. His 1.26 ERA in 1908 has him ranked second among the Boston greats, right behind Dutch Leonard who finished with an amazing 1.00 ERA in 1914. Young's career ERA of 2.00 also puts him second, only .01 behind the Red Sox Joe Wood. But it can't be argued that Young is, to this day, the most consistent pitcher in Boston when taking into account career wins, strikeouts, and ERA. He is the only Red Sox pitcher to be ranked in the top three in franchise history in each of those categories. His 192-112 record in a Red Sox uniform is one that has never been reached by any pitcher that has taken the mound in a Boston uniform.

Cy Young's overall career really brings to the forefront the standard and expectations that pitchers were

to follow and are to continue to follow. But some of Young's accomplishments are feats that will never be reached. I can say with 100% certainty that there will never be another pitcher that will be as durable and consistently good as Cy Young was.

No one will ever again throw 751 complete games in their career. And no



one will ever pitch 7,356 innings of baseball like Young did. When was the last time you heard of a pitcher throwing over 300 innings of baseball in one season for 15 seasons? These numbers are numbers that are just considered unreachable. There has to be even more of a chance of someone breaking Mark McGwire's homerun record than anyone putting up numbers like Cy Young did. The most durable pitcher today would probably be Kevin Brown with his heroics in the post season for the San Diego Padres. We talk about Brown's two pitching performances with only two day's rest in this past entire post season, but imagine Young doing that probably twice a week, every week of the season. And while you're at it, why don't you pitch in a couple of showings with only one day's rest? Durability like that just doesn't happen anymore.

Aside from Young's durability comes some major accomplishments that still stand today. His 511 career wins are the most of any pitcher for a career. He has also started more games than anyone else has with 815, beating Nolan Ryan by 42 games despite Ryan playing for five more seasons than Young. His name is scattered throughout the record books as his consistency is proven with a top ten rating in shutouts (76), appearances (906), and wins in a season in 1901-02 with 33 and 32, respectively. In his career, he threw three no-hitters including a perfect game on May 5, 1904 against the Philadelphia Athletics.

With the death of Cy Young in 1955 at the age of 88, MLB named the award that would be given to baseball's best pitcher after him. Don Newcombe was the first man to be recognized with this honor in 1956. After 10 years, the award was given to both the American League and National League's best pitcher. Only ten men in the award's 42-year history have been honored with such recognition multiple times. Steve Carlton and Greg Maddux (4), Sandy Koufax, Tom Seaver and Jim Palmer (3), Bob Gibson, Denny McLain and

Gaylord Perry (2) make up part of this elite group. And with the 1998 Cy Young award winners announced earlier this week, Tom Glavine joins this company with his second award and Roger Clemens leads the all-time greats with five of his own.

Tom Glavine was a surprise winner this year, beating out baseball's best closer in Trevor Hoffman. In fact, Hoffman received more first place votes than Glavine, which marks the first time since 1987 that the pitcher with the most first place votes didn't win. Glavine edged out Hoffman, 99-88 in voting. He was the only NL pitcher to win 20 games as he finished the season

with a 2.47 ERA. Hoffman finished with a 1.48 ERA.

The American League, however, awarded the Cy Young award to the man that some would say most resembles baseball's first great pitcher. Roger Clemens won his fifth Cy Young this year, which comes to no surprise to anyone who watched him play. Clemens received all 28 first place votes in a unanimous decision. The 28 votes put Clemens in the company of Denny McLain (1968) and Ron Guidry (1978) as the only AL pitchers to win the award unanimously.

Clemens won his first three Cy Young's while playing for the Red Sox in 1986, '87, and '91. This year's award is his second straight in the AL playing for the Toronto Blue Jays. What clinched the award for Clemens was his 15 consecutive wins to end the season with a 20-6 record. He led the AL with a 2.65 ERA and 271 strikeouts. It is this consistency that makes Clemens the modern day Cy Young.

The careers, however, of Young and Clemens seem to have gone in opposite directions. Clemens began his career in Boston, then moved east to Toronto. On the other hand, Young began his career in Cleveland, then moved west to Boston where he concluded his career. But there can be no arguing the fact that where they started and where they finished had no bearing on where they are now. Clearly, Young and Clemens continued to move up the ladder of success and can both be considered the Kings of the Mound in their day and age.

Snyder is the sports editor for the Beacon. Out of Bounds appears weekly on this page.

INTRAMURAL ROUNDUP

Intramurals

3 vs. 3 Basketball

In Conjunction with Schick SuperHoops
M, W
- Games began Monday, November 1

5 vs. 5 Basketball

M, W
- Sign ups are in fall semester
- play begins spring semester

Registration Deadline:
December 11

Lion runners conclude season at regionals

By Jason Snyder
sports editor

The Behrend men's and women's cross-country teams traveled to Allentown this past Saturday, November 14, to compete in the regional meet. The men place 15th of the 37-team field as the women were unable to place due to the team only having four runners.

Coach Rich Hoffman commented on the atmosphere of the race saying, "the regional meet is one of the great spectacles in cross-country because of the size of the field and intensity." The meet featured nearly 300 of the region's top runners with a common goal of qualifying for nationals. The teams from College of New Jersey, Carnegie Mellon and Haverford realized that goal in the men's race finishing with 57.76 and 92 points, respectively. The women's race saw Carnegie Mellon, College of New Jersey and Moravian reaching the national meet with 71, 84 and 109

points, respectively.

The Behrend men entered the race with hopes of possibly qualifying for the national meet at the end of this month. The men's 15th place finish, however, didn't set well with the program. Hoffman said, "we were pretty far off where we could have been, and we are exploring reasons for that. It was disappointing, but what we'll do now is learn from this experience and use it to our advantage in the future." He added, "we got caught up a little too much in the excitement of the meet and went out way too hard."

Brian Gaines paced the Lions once again with an 82nd place finish in a time of 28:14. Jason Saeger finished in 88th at 28:19 as Dennis Halaszynski (104) 28:32, Mark Suroviev (122) 28:44, Adam Dzuricky (148) 29:10, Tyler Travis (174) 29:37 and Matt Heidecker (187) 29:52 rounded out the Lions' roster. Just to give a sense of the competitiveness of the meet, in the 102 seconds that separated Gaines and

Heidecker, 105 runners crossed the finish line.

Despite the Behrend women's team being unable to place in the meet, Hoffman is very pleased with their effort. "The women ran real well. They ended on a real positive note and that should encourage them to train and improve even more." He added, "I was very happy with the way the women took on this challenge and learned to not be intimidated by anyone, and race hard regardless of the circumstances."

Three of the women Lions ran their best times of the season. Abby Crilley led the Lions with a time of 22:10 and a place of 155 of the 278 participants. Keri Lowman followed with a time of 23:34 as Tina Rubay and Amy Bednar finished with times of 24:05 and 24:37, respectively.

With the conclusion of the 1998 season both the Behrend men and the women hope to continue to improve in the future. Hoffman sees the future as being "very promising."

Housing and Food Service Athlete of the Week

Name: Abby Crilley
Sport: Women's Cross-country
Class: Sophomore
Date: November 9 - November 16

Abby Crilley, a sophomore from Linesville High School, competed in the NCAA Mid-east Regional Cross-country Championships and finished 155th out of 300 plus runners.

"Abby did a solid job on Saturday," said head coach Rich Hoffman. "She has improved each week and gained valuable experience from the regional."

The NCAA Mid-east Regionals are very competitive, and to finish in the top half is a good start to a promising career.

The Behrend Classifieds

SPRINGBREAK Florida, Texas, Cancun, Mexico, Jamaica, etc. Browse www.icpt.com and call 800-327-6013. Best hotels, prices and parties. Reps, organizations, and promoters wanted. Inter-Campus Programs.

Students and employees of Penn State Behrend are invited to submit a free classified ad in *The Beacon*. Types of ads may include personal messages and items for sale. Maximum classified length is 25 words. Persons who submit ads must state their affiliation with Behrend. Classifieds are meant for individual use. Official notices and group events should be submitted to the Calendar editor. Businesses must pay regular advertising rates. *The Beacon* can not guarantee the publication of all classified submitted for space purposes. Classifieds should be sent to the Classified editor at *The Beacon*, Reed Building or dropped off at *The Beacon* offices, or sent to behrroll4@aol.com. Deadline for submission for publication in that week's paper is Monday at 5:00PM.

Penn State Behrend Basketball Tournament

Women

Behrend vs. Mount Saint Josephs Friday Night at 8:00

Championship game on Saturday at 3:00

Men

Behrend vs. D'Youville Saturday Night at 8:00

Championship game on Sunday at 3:00