

SPORTS

Who will make the finals?

By Danielle Brown
sports editor

The Ohio State Buckeyes go up against the Georgetown Hoyas on Saturday at 6:07 p.m. in the first national semi-final game of the NCAA Men's Basketball tournament. The Ohio State newcomers have worked together to get the team this far in the tournament. Freshman point guard Mike Conley, Jr. is a big help to the team, averaging 11 points per game, along with several steals and assists. Freshman center Greg Oden has also been a key factor in the Buckeye's success, averaging 15.4 ppg and 9.5 rebounds per game.

Georgetown's offense has been efficient, shooting just over 50 percent from the field. The Hoyas are fourth in the nation in defense, allowing their opponents to score only an average of 56.8 ppg.

Florida and UCLA play in the second national semi-final game on Saturday at 8:47 p.m. Defending champs, the Florida Gators, have won 20 of their last 21 games played in March over the past three years. They have also won six games in a row at the Georgia Dome, where the Final Four will be played. The Gators are working to become the first team to repeat a championship since Duke in 1991-92 with all five starters from last year still on the team.

Many speculate that UCLA has the best defense left in the tournament. Darren Collison contributes greatly to the Bruins defense and recently moved up to third in UCLA history single-season steals. What UCLA needs to do is to show up with a flawless offensive game to have a chance to pull off the win. Arron Afflalo and Collison are both remarkable in the backcourt. These quick guards are able to score late in the shot clock and stay calm under pressure.

Tune in on Saturday night to find out which two teams will make it to the championship game in Atlanta, GA on April 2, 2007.

Erie SeaWolves...Play ball!

By Kara Struski
sports editor

Students looking for a whole lot of fun without putting a hole in their pocket won't be able to pass up night at Jerry Uht Park. Only one week remains until local minor league baseball team, the Erie SeaWolves, are back on the field. The season opener is set for Thursday, April 5 at 6:35 p.m.

Jerry Uht Park, located on the corner of French and 10th Street in downtown Erie, offers high-quality baseball at affordable prices for college students. The SeaWolves are the Double A Affiliate of the 2006 American League Champions, the Detroit Tigers. Besides great baseball, there are several weekly and daily promotions offered to fans. One popular ongoing promotion is "Buck Night." Every Monday home game, fans can enjoy one dollar draft beer, Smith Hot Dogs, soft drinks and popcorn. Ticket prices these nights are also reduced to only three dollars. A new "Family Buck Night" has been added to the 2007 promotional schedule and includes one dollar cotton candy, hot dogs, soft drinks and popcorn, as well as reduced ticket prices every Tuesday.

Recent upgrades to the stadium should also provide a more fan-friendly environment this season. A new \$3 million picnic area and beer garden looks to be popular with fans. The new area is located in the corner of right field and construction is just finishing up. Radiant heaters attached to the bottom part of the overhang in the area means fans seated in the lower level should be toasty warm -- always a big concern in April and May. The picnic garden also features a great view of the field and downtown Erie from the upper



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The view from right field as the Seawolves battle at Jerry Uht Park.

level, as well as club seating. Since last year, there have been more than \$4.2 million in improvements to Jerry Uht Park, including a \$1 million video scoreboard, added in 2006, and a new auxiliary scoreboard on the south side of Tulio Arena.

The SeaWolves start off the season playing the Altoona Curve, Double A affiliate of the Pittsburgh Pirates, for a three-game home stand from Thursday, April 5 through Saturday, April 7. All games are scheduled to start at 6:35 p.m. Nightly promotions during the first home stand include calendar, poster and magnetic schedule giveaways. For a full listing of the 2007 promotions and game schedule or for information on ticket prices, visit www.seawolves.com or call 814-456-1300.

Who will win the Final Four Tournament? Behrend students make their picks

Craig Davis- Senior Operations Management Major

National Semi-final Winners: Florida
Georgetown

National Champs: Florida

Dan Jaworski- Junior Communication Major

National Semi-final Winners: Florida
Ohio State

National Champs: Ohio State

Mitchell Dwelley- Junior Communication Major

National Semi-final Winners: UCLA
Ohio State

National Champs: UCLA

Answer to last week's trivia question: What golfer coined the term "caddy?"

Mary, Queen of Scots

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ERIE
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Baseball struggles in opener

By Matt Waronker
assistant sports editor

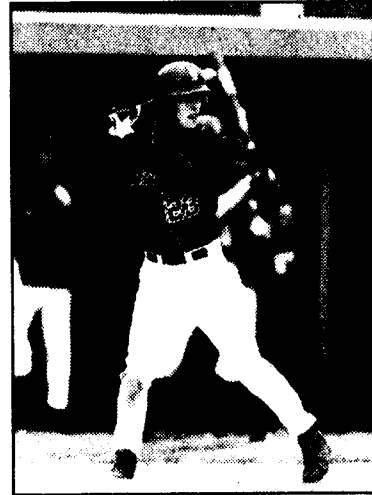
The Penn State Behrend baseball team opened their conference schedule this past week, dropping a disappointing three of their first four match-ups. The Lions fell to top-ranked Frostburg State this past Monday, losing both ends of their double header, 11-4, and 2-1. Behrend followed their trip to Frostburg State with a double header this past Wednesday at home against Medaille College. The Behrend men split the series taking the first game by a score of 4-2; however, the Lions were unable to keep their momentum going into their second game as they fell to the visiting Mavericks 3-1 in extra innings.

In their conference opener against Frostburg State, the Lions found themselves behind by eight going into the fifth inning, and despite a short run to close the game, the Behrend men were unable to catch the Bobcats. Building from their struggles in game one, the Lions were able to slow down Frostburg State offensively in the second half of the double-header, holding the Bobcats to two runs; however, the Lions were unable to spark their own offense and scored only a single run. The most pressing issue against Frostburg State, however, came at the plate. "Our biggest issue is that we need our veteran hitters to produce. [Frostburg State] is very good offensively and if we would have hit,

we felt we could have gotten it done," said head coach Paul Benim.

Unfortunately, the Lions hitting trouble followed them back to Erie and cost them their third conference loss. This time against Medaille College, Behrend was only able to drive in five runs throughout the course of the two games, winning the first game 4-2 and then losing the back end of the double header, 3-1.

Despite their troubles at the plate, the Lions were able to rely once again on their pitching. With solid performances from sophomores David Koerbel, Andrew Chrobak and Ryan Smith, the Lions showed a great deal of confidence on the mound.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Senior outfielder Andrew McNelly is up to bat for the Lions.

"Our pitching has been very competitive so far," said Benim. "I'm very pleased with their performance because our pitching is always going out there and giving us a chance to win and that's just what we need."

The Lions now prepare for their third conference double-header, a home match-up this Saturday against the Mount Aloysius Mounties. A crucial part of the team's preparation for this Saturday, according to Benim, is working on the team's hitting. "Our focus right now is our hitting, which we thought would be one of our strengths but hasn't come through yet," said Benim. "We need to step up our hitting. We need to work on our situational hitting and work to be able to create offensive options. I really feel, though, that our guys will respond. We're not where we want to be, but our guys will bounce back."

INTRAMURAL UPDATE

Deadlines:

Outdoor Soccer deadline extended to Wednesday, April 4

Kickball deadline extended to Wednesday, April 11

Track Meet deadline extended to Friday, March 30

Track Meet events you can register for:

50-yard sprint, 50-yard hurdle sprint, one lap sprint, two-lap sprint, four-lap relay, high jump, long jump, javelin, shot put

Events:

Outdoor Soccer - Friday, March 23
Track Meet - Friday, March 23