

# SPORTS

## Baseball team is on a roll

By Matt Waronker  
assistant sports editor

The Penn State Behrend baseball team tallied five victories in their six match-ups in the past week. More impressively, however, was the team's undefeated record this past week against Mother Nature. For the first time in what seems to have been weeks, the Lions were able to play a stretch of games with no unfavorable interferences from the weather. The stretch, which included a pair of wins against both Fredonia and Allegheny, as well as a split doubleheader with conference leaders La Roche, brought the Lions overall record to 20-9. Behrend is currently 8-6 in conference play.

After kicking off the week with a pair of wins over Fredonia, the Lions traveled to Pittsburgh to face conference-leading La Roche. Both match-ups in the doubleheader saw slow starts by each lineup. In game one, Behrend found themselves down a run after the first inning; however, the Lions raced back into the contest scoring three runs in the third inning. While the Redhawks came close to catching Behrend late in the sixth inning, sophomore pitcher David Koerbel was able to hold off La Roche, capping off a 3-2 victory.

"They had a pretty strong pitcher who did a good job, but fortunately for us David [Koerbel] did a better job and held onto the game for us," said head coach Paul Benim. "It was a good conference game and it proved we can beat them. Really it showed that we'll feel comfortable against them if we meet them in the post-season."

The back end of the doubleheader was another low scoring match-up. After seven scoreless innings La Roche was finally able to put a single run on the scoreboard, shutting out Behrend and stealing the victory. The Lions were unable to carry



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Gabe Stephenson up to bat.

over their offensive intensity from their previous game, only connecting with four pitches, seven less than their 11 in game one.

In their following doubleheader, Behrend faced Allegheny College, sweeping the Gators by scores of 10-2 and 11-8. Offensively, the Lions had little trouble finding rhythm at the plate. As a team, Behrend produced 28 hits over the course of both games.

"We had a different approach at the plate against Allegheny," said senior outfielder Brian Hart. "We were loose and knew we needed to get back on track and build back our confidence."

On the mound, Behrend displayed much of the same confidence. Freshman pitcher Fran Haus made his collegiate debut, pitching an impressive six scoreless innings. Haus only allowed five hits.

With only three twin bills remaining in their regular season, the Lions are hoping their strides of offensive improvement continue to grow. Junior catcher Paul Henry is optimistic about the team's timing in regards to their improvement. "I just hope we're getting hot at the right time of the year," said Henry.

As far as Behrend's conference stance is concerned, the team is focused on the importance of their last stretch of regular season match-ups. Currently the Lions are sixth in AMCC play. However, with a successful weekend against conference foes Penn State Altoona, Behrend could climb significantly in the standings.

"We're in great shape to climb the standings," said Benim. "We have to take care of this weekend's games but right now we're in good shape. The best time to start playing hot is post-season time. We need to play best when it really counts and if we can then we have guys that can really do some damage."

## Who's hot and who's not

By Andy McLachlan  
contributing writer

It is the end of April and that means it is time for the marathon that is known as the NFL Draft. Fans from all over the U.S. will travel to Radio City Music Hall in New York City to see who their favorite team will take in the seven round draft that starts Saturday, April 28 and end on Sunday, April 29. The Oakland Raiders hold the first pick in the draft this year and are projected to take either LSU quarterback JaMarcus Russell, Notre Dame quarterback Brady Quinn, or Georgia Tech wide receiver Calvin Johnson.

The favorite to go first is Russell, due to his athletic ability and his strong arm. However, even

though Quinn lost to Russell in the Sugar Bowl, some scouts believe that he should go first, due to his experience in college and the fact that he played a pro-style, west-coast offense at Notre Dame under coach Charlie Weis. Johnson, who is ranked as the top prospect overall in this draft, will be tempting to take for the first pick, but Oakland's dire need for a new, young quarterback will keep Johnson on the board after the top pick.

Some experts say to watch the trade rumors that are swirling around about Kansas City quarterback Trent Green. They say that if Green is dealt to the Miami Dolphins, it could turn into a ripple effect, which would eventually shake the draft. Ignoring all trades, here is my mock draft for the 2007 NFL Draft:

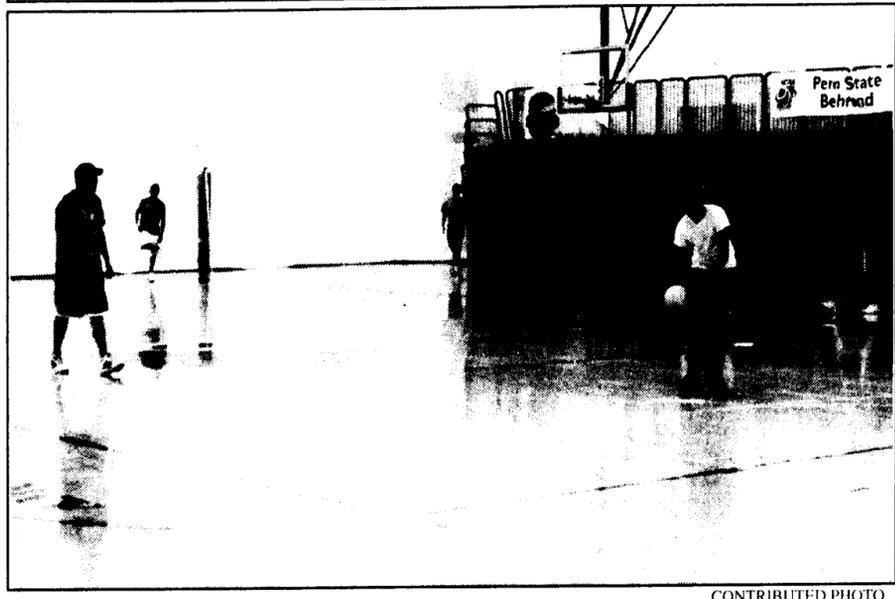
1.) Oakland	JaMarcus Russell	QB	LSU
2.) Detroit	Gaines Adams	DE	Clemson
3.) Cleveland	Brady Quinn	QB	Notre Dame
4.) Tampa Bay	Calvin Johnson	WR	Georgia Tech
5.) Arizona	Joe Thomas	OT	Wisconsin
6.) Washington	LaRon Landry	S	LSU
7.) Minnesota	Amobi Okoye	DT	Louisville
8.) Atlanta	Jamaal Anderson	DE	Arkansas
9.) Miami	Levi Brown	OT	Penn State
10.) Houston	Adrian Peterson	RB	Oklahoma
11.) San Francisco	Dwayne Bowe	WR	LSU
12.) Buffalo	Patrick Willis	LB	Ole Miss
13.) St. Louis	Alan Branch	DT	Michigan
14.) Carolina	Jon Beason	LB	Miami (FL)
15.) Pittsburgh	Darrelle Revis	CB	Pittsburgh
16.) Green Bay	Marshawn Lynch	RB	California
17.) Jacksonville	Adam Carriker	DE	Jacksonville
18.) Cincinnati	Leon Hall	CB	Michigan
19.) Tennessee	Ted Ginn Jr.	WR	Ohio State
20.) NY Giants	Reggie Nelson	S	Florida
21.) Denver	Joe Staley	OT	C Michigan
22.) Dallas	Robert Meachem	WR	Tennessee
23.) Kansas City	Aaron Ross	CB	Texas
24.) New England	Paul Posluszny	LB	Penn State
25.) NY Jets	Greg Olsen	TE	Miami (FL)
26.) Philadelphia	Brian Leonard	RB	Rutgers
27.) New Orleans	Chris Houston	CB	Arkansas
28.) New England	Michael Griffin	S	Texas
29.) Baltimore	Aaron Sears	OT	Tennessee
30.) San Diego	Dwayne Jarrett	WR	USC
31.) Chicago	Ben Grubbs	OG	Auburn
32.) Indianapolis	Justin Harrell	DT	Tennessee

## INTRAMURAL UPDATE

### HAPPENINGS:

Outdoor Soccer, Tennis and Kickball are in the middle of their seasons

Badminton begins Monday, April 30



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The kickball team "Squattin Dawgz" taking the court in the Junker.

## April's ups and downs in MLB

By Danielle Brown  
sports editor

April turned out to be an exciting month for Major League Baseball. First of all, the Boston Red Sox came from behind in their series with the New York Yankees and ended up winning every game. In the third game of the series, the Yankees gave up four straight home runs to lose the game 7-6. With these four home runs, the Red Sox tied the major league home run streak record.

Despite the Yankees' poor performance against the Red Sox, third baseman Alex Rodriguez (A-Rod) is having what many might call the best month of his career. A-Rod has hit 14 home runs so far this month to tie the record for most home runs in April. He is currently ranked third in the MLB for his batting average at .385. A-Rod was also on an impressive 23-game hitting streak until he went 0-for-3 against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays on Tuesday, April 24. This game also extended the Yankees' losing streak to five games.

During the middle of the month, the Yankees swept the Cleveland Indians; however, the Indians have turned their April around by winning their last four of five games. Cleveland's turnaround has a lot to do with their desig-

nated hitter Travis Hafner, who has impressed many with his hitting this season. In the past five games, Hafner has driven in eight of the team's 21 runs. He also is currently ranked fourth in the league in batting average at .381 and has five home runs on the season.

April has also brought bad news to teams in the MLB. The Chicago Cubs' pitcher Mark Prior will be out for the rest of the 2007 season due to a shoulder injury. Prior had surgery on his right shoulder on Tuesday, April 24. He started his rehabilitation program on Wednesday and hopes to be back next season.

Toronto Blue Jay catcher Gregg Zaun has been placed on the disabled list for 15-days after injuring his hand on Tuesday against the Red Sox. He injured the base of his thumb in the first inning after being hit by a foul ball.

Seattle Mariners' pitcher Felix Hernandez was also put on the 15-day disabled list after being diagnosed with a muscle strain inside his right elbow and forearm. Hernandez is scheduled to start on May 4 against the New York Yankees.

The ups and downs for baseball in April brought a lot of excitement to fans of Major League Baseball. The question is: what side of things will your team be on in the month of May?

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