

**BASEBALL**

**Seniors step-up in opening**

ALEC ITALIANO  
sports editor

Spring training wrapped up for the Behrend baseball team in Fort Pierce, Fla. as the team went 7-1 in an all-around offensive explosion.

Senior leadership was tremendous for the squad in the pre-season after losing five seniors who graduated last year.

"We had an exceptional week. Our senior presence was strong. Our 1-2-3 starters on the mound are seniors, and they gave us a chance to win in all six of their starts. Gray, Fyffe, Dubensky, and Liddle were tremendous throughout the week offensively," said head coach Paul Benim.

"We expected certain things out of the senior class, leadership, execution, guidance, performance and they each provided it."

Benim is in his 18th year with the Behrend baseball program and has had phenomenal success so far with the flourishing team.

Last season the team posted a 16-2 regular season record and won its second straight

AMCC title. This earned the team a national ranking and a spot in the NCAA tournament and was recognized by the NCAA as one of the winningest programs of the decade.

The team faced an impressive schedule going into Fort Pierce facing teams like Susquehanna and Ursinus who both had over 25 wins last season. But the Behrend squad prevailed only dropping one game to Manhattenville in the second game of a double header their last day down there.

Second basemen senior Ryan Liddle, one of the leaders of this year's squad, posted a .308 batting average throughout the eight games and has some high expectations for this season.

"You can't think to be anywhere else but to be No. 1," Liddle said. "We definitely have a target on our back and teams are coming after us. If we play to our potential we are going to be hard to stop."

Depth is one of Behrend's key aspects going into the season; highlighted by 14 prospective freshmen and a trio of junior pitchers including Ryan Zamiskie who earned the

AMCC pitcher of the week award after striking out ten in his one win, two save effort in Florida.

"The freshman really surprised us, Coach Benim threw them right into the fire and they responded with great pitching and clutch hits," said senior outfielder Jonathan Gray. "Also, the pitching staff came into this year as a question and they really stepped up and threw really well."

Another senior to look toward for leadership is the hot-corner man, Dustin Dubensky. He led the team with six doubles in spring training and racked up a .345 batting average on the week.

"A big question mark heading into this year was the number of young guys we have on the mound," Dubensky said. "As for any questions anyone had of those guys, they answered them all and through extremely well in Florida."

"We need to get better and make progress," head coach Benim said. "We are still defining who we will become in April and May, but we started really strong in spring training."

**NFL**

**Local teams make moves**

NICK BLAKE  
sports editor

Months away from the 2010 opening kickoff, the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Cleveland Browns have made some major moves with the hopes of improving their teams.

The Steelers managed to resign all-pro nose tackle Casey Hampton, who was set to become an unrestricted free agent earlier this month.

Hampton, who signed a 3-year contract extension, has been with the Steelers for his entire career, since 2001, and is happy to stay in Pittsburgh.

"It is really important to me," Hampton said. "I think that any player's goal when they get to an organization is to stay with one team throughout their whole career."

Also, safety Ryan Clark agreed to a 4-year contract extension, while Pittsburgh put a franchise tag on kicker Jeff Reed.

Wide receiver Antwaan Randle El was drafted by the Steelers in 2002 and played with the team until 2005, then returned from the Washington Redskins. Randle El signed a 3-year contract with the Steelers.

Also returning to Pittsburgh is linebacker Larry Foote. Foote spent the 2004-2008 seasons with the Steelers, winning two Super Bowls. In

May of 2009, Foote signed with the Detroit Lions, where he played one season. Foote returns to the Steelers under a 3-year contract.

One noticeable move made by the Browns, was the resigning of kick return specialist Josh Cribbs. The all-pro kick returner is the team's most electrifying player, and Team President Mike Holmgren is pleased that Cribbs will remain on the team.

The Browns also made very big moves at the quarterback position. First, Cleveland terminated Derek Anderson's contract, after spending five seasons with the Browns. The Browns then went on to trade first-round draft pick Brady Quinn. Quinn was traded to the Denver Broncos after spending just three years in Cleveland.

Quinn was traded for fullback Peyton Willis and two undisclosed draft picks.

After shipping off two quarterbacks, Holmgren and the Browns signed 12-year veteran Jake Delhomme, who was released by the Carolina Panthers earlier this year.

Delhomme led the Panthers to the Super Bowl in 2004, but had his worst statistical season last year. Delhomme threw 18 interceptions and had a passer rating of 59.4.



Wide Receiver Antwaan Randle El returns to the Steelers after four years with the Redskins

**TRACK AND FIELD**

**Squad success**

SEAN NEELY  
staff writer

The men's and women's track and field teams have had quite the results recently.

They have come off a successful event on March 6th at Salisbury University in place of the ECAC Championships.

Both teams continue their trend of ECAC qualifiers. Coming off of the Salisbury Invitational, the track teams look forward to their next competition at the Coastal Carolina University.

For the men's team, they would be without one of their jumpers, Ronson Mazany, who would compete at the indoor ECAC Championships in Boston. Mazany has previously garnered Athlete-of-the-week honors.

The Coastal Carolina Invitational would take place on the weekend of March 12-13. The trip, much like their previous Salisbury Invitational, would turn out a success.

Five Behrend records were broken. Sophomore runner, Steve Gibbens said, "it was nice to compete outside, the weather was nice, and we were all poised to have a successful trip. Many personal records were set."

John Bowman broke his own

record during the week, throwing the hammer 37.07 meters.

The women's team, also had a new record holder for the hammer throw. Katie Monoskey threw her 8 kilogram hammer 39.14 meters.

The men's and women's 4x200m relay teams broke records as well.

Greg Bencotter, Jordan Telin, Craig Webb, and Shane Cyphert ran a total time of one minute 34.07 seconds. On the other side, Dana Turley, Mandy Wehrle, Jenna Fatica, and Victoria Harwood ran the event in a total time of 1:48.95.

Finally, Junior Justin Dipenti clocked a 3000m time of nine minutes 2.89 seconds. Also, Mike Stark and Denny Kang qualified for the outdoor ECAC Championships by posting a 14' 7.25" in the men's pole vault.

Sophomore Meghan Kronenwetter also viewed the trip as a success, saying "our team works very hard at practice to correct any mistakes they made in past performances and work towards newer and bigger goals." For the men and women's Track teams, they are getting positive results, and they plan to continue to work towards their next event, which will be at the Wheeling Jesuit Invitational on March 26-27.

**Interested in sports writing?**



if so please contact Alec Italiano at sports@psu.edu

**Look & Feel Great in Affordable Luxury!**

**Unlimited Tanning Only \$18.80**

**Join now & receive:**

- FREE LOTION
- FREE UPDATES

**EXPIRES 3-31-10**

**Newest & Most Beds in Town, No Waiting!**

**Sun your Buns**  
Luxury Tanning

Located only minutes away from Behrend  
**K-Mart Plaza Buffalo Rd. 899-9826**

Peach & Kuntz Rd. 864-9969  
W.38th & Pittsburgh 314-0286  
3431 W. 26th St. 835-8018

6335 W. Ridge Rd. 835-1799  
1101 Peninsula Dr. 833-9888

**Little Caesars**

4490 Buffalo Rd., Harborcreek  
Giant Eagle Plaza - 814.899.6660  
1332 East Grandview, Erie 814.825.9434

**Penn State Behrend Student Appreciation Tuesday!**

**Each & Every Tuesday WE ACCEPT LIONCASH**

**STOP IN 1 Large Pizza \$3.99**

Must present Penn State College I.D. & LionCash