

# Behrend Nine Highly Rated For '72 Season; Suffer Disappointing Defeat In Home Opener

by Tony Alo  
Asst. Sports Editor

"Most outstanding ever," "A wealth of talent" "Great," "Versatile." These are some of the terms that Coach Clarence "Shorty" Stoner used to describe his 1972 edition of the Behrend baseball team. And accurate terms they are, for it's safe to say that never before have so many great ball players appeared on the roster of the Behrend baseball team.

However, in the game of baseball or any other sport for that matter, no matter how many great players you may have, any team can beat you on any given day - that's what makes athletics so interesting and exciting. This is exactly what happened to the potent but clumsy Cubs last Thursday afternoon when a combination of poor hitting, bad breaks and sloppy fielding resulted in a shocking 2-1 loss at the hands of Ashtabula-Kent. One of the weakest teams on the season schedule. A terrible way to start the season for the promising Behrend nine. The upset ruined BC's chances for a berth in the NJCAA Region XIX tourney which the team had high hopes of entering this year. Behrend will not even be considered without an undefeated slate. However, a brief look at the personnel of the '72 Cubs leads one to believe that they won't lose too many more contests this season.

Let's start with the pitching staff - and it's a good place to start, for returning are Behrend's "dynamic duo" of last year - Mark Lytle and Tom Wright.

Lytle led the Cub staff last year with a 7-1 record and a remarkable 1.43 ERA both school records. The lanky right-hander from Iroquois was last year's white letter award winner in baseball - a well deserved honor. Coach Stoner says of Mark, "Lytle is the kind of pitcher that you can stick out on the mound and expect to get a victory from. He's a great asset to the club." Lytle will be relied on heavily this year and should come through with an even greater season than he had last year.

Tom Wright is another hurler who will see a lot of action on the mound this year. The tall fireballer from Randolph compiled a deceiving 4-3 record and a 2.24 ERA which resulted from some bad luck toward the end of the season. Most impressive was his streak of 32 innings when he

did not yield a single earned run.

The rest of the mighty mound staff looks as impressive as its two leaders with the likes of Chris Gross (all-county from Watsburg), Pete Houghton (Linesville), Steve Hoelzle (Souderton), Gary Ohrn (McDowell), Gary Sult (Fort LeBoeuf), and Bob Blazek (Cathedral Prep). All are eligible for starting or relief duty. Houghton, Wright, and Ohrn will double as outfielders. Says Coach Stoner: "We have too many pitchers and not enough games. They're all tough."

In the catching department, Jim Grieshaber, who hit .314 and had 15 RBI's last season and Ed Kush, a promising freshman from Highlands, have the job sewed up. Grieshaber and Kush will alternate at first base. Denny Raybell from Northwestern is also a tough first seeker but lacks the hitting of the other two.

At second there is a real battle going on between Duane Zimmerman (East-2nd team-All-City), and Mark Merrifield (Kishacoquilles). All have their special talents and all will see heavy action.

At shortstop, Coach Stoner has a real problem. He has 4 great ball players who are able to fill the position or any infield post for that matter. Denny Pattyn, back from last year when he hit .242, has the inside track right now. However, his fielding has been erratic and he faces a stiff challenge from freshman Chris Blood (all-county shortstop-Northwestern.) Blood has had knee problems but should be healthy soon. Denny Grace, Bill Simons and Al Bauman also have shots at infield berths.

Bobby Marx, who had a lofty .413 average and led the team with 17 RBI's last season is set at 3rd base. Bobby combines a great glove with a hot bat to make one heck of a ballplayer.

The talent in the outfield is almost ridiculously abundant. Tom Harvey of Fairview returns in left field. Last year he hit .289 with 14 RBI's. However, this season he faces a tough challenge from freshman Roger Nolan (Pittsburgh North Hills). Nolan possesses blazing speed and a good arm but has had his problems hitting the ball. But when he starts connecting you might find a few baseballs in downtown Erie. Coach Stoner says he has to play somewhere.

Centerfield finds Gary Ohrn with the starring berth. When Ohrn



## Cub Ace Cuts Loose

is on the mound it is easy to place one of the other versatile outfielders in center. Tom Wright and Mike McCall (McDowell) will also see action in the outfield.

The right fielder is Don Raydo - last season's "mister everything" for the Cubs. Last season Dandy Don set no less than four school records including highest average (.422) and most hits in a season. He also pitched a few games and performed admirably. It's hard to improve on a season like that, but Don just might do it.

Well, with a team like that you might find it hard to believe that opening day loss. Coach Stoner

commented about the game: "We committed too many mental errors in the game - you can't do that and expect to win. I was pleased with the way the pitching staff handled the game; they did a good job. We couldn't hit the ball. We're definitely out of the (Region 19) tournament, but I think we'll settle down and have a good season."

In last Thursday's fiasco Behrend jumped out to a quick 1-0 lead in the first inning on Jim Grieshaber's single but this was nullified in the 6th when Kent tied it on Pawlowski's runscore single.

Three errors in the bottom of

the ninth spelled doom for the Cubs. Joe Johnson scored the winning run after reaching base on a passed ball and advancing on an intentional walk. This set up the force out at home but the DP attempt to first was wild and Johnson breezed them home for the victory.

## Fencing Meeting

The Fencing Club will meet on Monday at 4 p.m. and on Thursday at 7 p.m. Faculty, staff, and students are welcome. Equipment and instruction will be provided.

Sponsors of the club are Michel Small and Phil Iobst. Anyone wanting more information should contact Small for further information.

## Editors' Picks For '72 Season

by Dave Ruef  
Sports Editor  
and  
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Asst. Sports Editor

Dave Ruef  
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Kansas City  
California  
Milwaukee  
NL West  
Los Angeles  
Houston  
Cincinnati  
San Francisco  
Atlanta  
San Diego

ASHTABULA-KENT-2		BEHREND-1	
AB	R H	AB	R H
4	0 1	Pawlowski, 3b	Marks, 3b 4 0 1
4	0 0	Savel, ss	Ohrn, cf 5 0 0
4	0 0	Ornah, cf	Raydo, rf 5 1 0
4	0 0	Castrilla, p	Kush, 1b 5 1 1
4	0 0	Johnson, c	Grieshaber, c 2 0 1
3	0 1	Ross, lf	Harvey, lf 4 0 0
3	0 1	D. Mear, 2b	Zimmerman, 2b 4 0 0
3	1 1	T. Mear, rf	Houghton, p 1 0 0
2	0 0	Takach, 1b	Pattyn, ss 4 0 1
			Hoelzle, p 1 0 1
31	2 5	TOTALS	34 1 5
Ashtabula	0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 - 2		
Behrend	1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 1		

RBI—Grieshaber, Pawlowski; 2b—Marks Hoelzle  
BB—Castrilla - 2; Houghton - 0; Hoelzle - 4  
SO—Castrilla - 4; Houghton - 4; Hoelzle - 4  
Winner—Castrilla Loser - Hoelzle

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