

Take Me To The Ball Game

by Dave Lojewski
Sports Editor

Every year at this time baseball managers take on the task of trying to agree with their players and come to some type of terms to get their contracts signed. Since the business world has taken over the sports world, the task is always long and tiresome and headaches are numerous. This type of negotiating is not limited to the pro circuit. One kind of negotiating was not covered by the press and did not get world wide attention but to those involved it was very, very important.

At the end of a long dark hallway we see a light coming out of a room. As we slowly make our way down the hall we hear voices coming out of the dimly lit room. Inside the room posters of Willie Mays, Hank Aaron, Roberto Clemente, and Snoopy cover the walls. Sitting at a desk located in the corner of the room is the Coach and the Captain of the "32nd Street Furburgers." The Captain is 9 year old "Birchie" Bump otherwise known as the Birch. The reason he got this name was he always rode his bike into trees, but it seemed like they were only Birch Trees. The Manager is 10 year old Binky McLoje who has the knack of finding, rising young superstars and turning them into complete nothings. The two are busily discussing the upcoming baseball season and the trouble they are facing with contract talk.

Birch: "Well Binky, have you talked to most of the players about signing their contracts?"

Binky: "Ya, most of the boys are willing to sign, but we got a couple of holdouts."

Birch: "Oh ya who's holding out?"

Binky: "Well, since raising his average from .029 to .133, Timmy Trippup thinks he's entitled to a raise."

Birch: "Are you going to give it to him?"

Binky: "I'll have to, I don't want to lose our second leading hitter, he's too valuable."

Birch: "Ya, I know what you mean. Who else is holding out?"

Binky: "Our first baseman, Duane Detub, say's he'll sign for a season supply of bubble gum and my poster of Willie Mays.

And if I don't give it to him he'll jump teams and play with the "49th Street Quifs." He says their manager promises him his poster of Willie Mays."

Birch: "That sounds like a difficult situation. Are you going to give in?"

Binky: "I sure am, he's the only one on the team with a bat. If we lose him we're through."

Birch: "Say, have you talked to Harry Hose yet?"

Binky: "No. What do you say we go over to his house and talk to him. I know he'll sign for sure, he's the best guy on the team. He led the team last year in every department. He batted .214, hit 2 homeruns, and only made 52 errors in 20 games. He's one guy we got to get back."

The two boys leave the house and start on their way to mee, Harry. As they walk down the street they see another one of their players coming the other way. It's Moe Orless, their star shortstop with a golden glove but a rubber arm. Anything that hit near him, no matter how difficult the play is he'll make it, but trying to throw the ball to first is another problem.

Binky: "Say Moe what's up?"

Moe: "The sky, what do think." (Moe isn't too bright)

Binky: "I mean what have you been doing lately?"

Moe: "Oh, nutt'n much. What's you been up too?"

Binky: "Me and Birch are going over to Harry's house to sign his contract."

Moe: "Ha! That's what you think."

Birch: "What do you mean?"

Moe: "I mean Harry is no longer playing for our team. He was drafted by the Pro's. He's in the big leagues now."

Binky: "You mean..."

Moe: "Yep, he joined the Little League."

Binky: "Oh no! Now what am I going to do. We're through without Harry."

Birch: "Hey I got an idea, why not replace Harry with his sister. She's bigger, stronger, and has a better arm."

Binky: "Good idea, Birch. You know, it may not be too long before you get a promotion."

Moe: "Ya, I think Anita Hose is better than anyone I know."

Birch: "Hey, maybe I might become coach."

Binky: "Let's not get too carried away with it."

Moe: "Well I gotta go now. I'll see you guys later."

Birch: "O.K. See ya later."

Binky: "Ya take it easy."

Moe: "Take what easy?" (I told you he wasn't too bright)

Birch: "Well it seems like everything is going to be all right after all."

Binky: "Ya, now all we gotta do is get ready for the upcoming season."

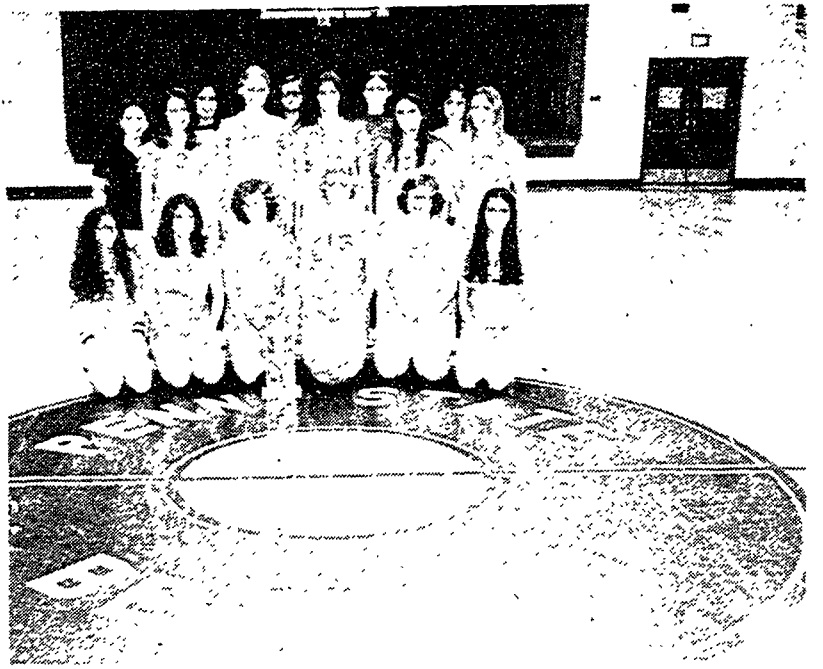
As the boys continue walking along, a voice is faintly heard. It's the voice of Birch's mother calling him home for supper.

Birch: "Well I gotta go now Binky, my mother's calling me."

Binky: "O.K. Birch I'll see you later."

The two boys depart and Binky returns home and goes into his room. He flops down on the bed and reaches for a small folder at the head of the bed. He opens it and begins to write. "Dear Diary, Today has been quite a day."

(Coming soon "Diary of an Insane Manager")



The above girls are members of Behrend's Girls Varsity Basketball team. They are as follows: left to right: Bonnie Angevine, Chris Straub, Rhonda Carlson, Sue Cary, Sue Denniston, and Carole Hostettler. The second row left to right are: Nancy Edgreen, Mary Ann Roscoe, Barb Drelick, Donna Nelson, JoAnne Przybyszewski, Elda Depto, Leslie Gall, Eileen Miller, Michelle Beebe, and Pam Brigham.

The Outdoor Information Center

By Vic Koptnitsky

This is the dull period for outdoor activity. Most trips into the outdoors this time of year are made by people in cars. There are very few hikers because of the muddy ground in the woods. Few fishermen will brave the icy rains and cold winds once the ice becomes weak on lakes and ponds. For the most part the hunting season has long been over. The bird watchers are eagerly waiting for better weather and the return of the migrating birds. The campers have put their equipment away at the advent of bad weather in the fall. A few people do get out to trap for beaver this time of year but their numbers are very small.

It is odd that hiking, camping, fishing, hunting, bird watching, and beaver trapping can be extremely enjoyable now because there are very few people in the woods. Hiking can be very rewarding this time of year because the hibernating animals are beginning to move around in the woods and are occasionally

out during the daytime. The few campers that go out during the winter and early spring months enjoy it more than during the summer. The only necessities for winter camping are a good warm sleeping bag and a tent to keep the snow or rain outside. There are few people camping now so that those who are have complete use of the facilities. Fishermen who will tolerate the bad weather can enjoy some terrific fishing. The walleye and muskie are beginning to work toward their spawning beds. That makes the tailwaters of the Tionesta, Kinzua, and Union City Dams potential hotspots for these fish. The trout in Lake Erie are beginning to school up at the mouths of the tributary streams in preparation for their spawning run. The season is open year-round in the lake with a daily limit of three trout or salmon. Some diehard hunters can still get out to hunt for fox or raccoons

with dogs or by calling. Since the advance flocks of birds are returning from their migration a bird watcher can enjoy an outing. Additionally, there are many species of birds that migrate to his area for winter. The beaver trapper must always wait until this time of year because the season does not start until February. The season limit is three and a maximum of ten traps may be set. The season lasts until March 4th. There are many beaver in Erie County, especially along French Creek. I would advise people to trap in pairs because it is difficult, heavy work carrying the equipment into the woods and the beaver out of the woods.

There are many opportunities for some type of enjoyable outdoor activities this time of year. The best part about the woods now is that there are very few people in the woods to spoil the activity.



Having a Snowball

Behrend students have loads of winter fun on the ski slope behind the Otto Behrend Building, seldding, tobogganing skiing, and throwing snowballs.

"Butterflies"
to come to the
Little Theatre

The Mercyhurst Little Theatre is performing, for the first time on the amateur stage anywhere in the United States, the play "Butterflies Are Free." Performances will be on March 1, 2, and 3, at 8:15 p.m. and a Sunday matinee on March 4 at 2:30 p.m. Admission is \$1.50 for students and \$2.50 for adults. Please phone Mercyhurst College for reservations at 864-0681 and ask for the Theatre.

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ATTENTION GRADUATES!!!
Members of the Senior Class and Associate degree students who will graduate in June are invited to the annual P.S.U. Alumni Clubs Dinner Dance. The event will take place Saturday, March 17, at the Holiday Inn South.

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