



Men's Intramural volleyball finals were held last Monday with the Beaver Shooters defeating the Faculty to win the championship.

B-Ball Team Sees Snow Fall Marrucci and Johns Elected

by Bud Ore Staff Writer

Ah, the joys of spring and in the time that a young man's fancy should turn to the affairs of the heart, it is instead turning to grumbles about the weather and the fact that a total of four games have been rained—I mean snowed-out. However the baseball team has not been idle. They have been hitting in the cage and they even got around to voting for their co-captains. This

year the two are Myles "Shrimp" Johns and John Marrucci.

I talked with the two of them this week and got a few comments from them on the team and themselves.

Myles or "Shrimp" as he prefers to be known is looking forward to a very good season. He feels that the team is improved over last year and has progressed a lot further.

"The team is working as a team and not as individuals; this is a problem that we had last year," he said.

As for himself, he feels that he has improved over last season. He had a good season this past summer in legion ball and he feels that he still has the momentum going into this spring.

This is Johns' second season for Behrend squad and he is also active in Boys Baseball in Erie where he serves as a coach.

The other co-captain for Behrend is senior John Marrucci. John has spent the last three of his college years playing baseball and basketball for Alliance College in Cambridge Springs. He feels that Behrend has a real good chance of having a winning season.

"As a senior, I would like to go out with a winning record. I feel that we have the group of guys that can do it," he said.

This past summer he played in the Glenwood League for Ferraro Ford. He posted a 12 and 1 slate and batted around .340.

As a final baseball note, Behrend has rescheduled its game with Mercyhurst for Saturday April 13. They will be on the road April 12 as they travel to West Virginia Wesleyan.

To the new co-captains-congratulations; and to the team-good luck this season.

'Count' Comments

by Jim Concelman Sports Editor

Last Monday I traveled to Behrend College in sunny Erie, Pa., to interview the sports editor of the Behrend Collegian, Jim "Count" Concelman. During his brief writing career, Jim has been noted for his ostentatious humor, verbose vocabulary and a self-esteemed modesty. Because of his overt importance in campus activities and his jurisprudence in the realm of journalistic impudence, I felt this interview would be enlightening if not down right inconsequential in world importance.

Q—Why are you interviewing yourself?

A—Well to tell you the truth Jim, there is this terribly strange phenomenon in Erie called "snow in the middle of April". Because of this dreaded climatical condition, the spring sports schedule has been hung in the closet to dry until Mom Nature gets it together. This means that my sports page will be missing such intimate details as articles, pictures and other assorted information that might be relevant. Actually I could just have easily started this article "Nobody asked me but..." but as you can see this took up a lot more room.

Q—Very clever, yes, very clever. I wish I had that kind of imagination.

A—You do, remember?

Q—Oh yes, quite. Getting back to the interview Count, you don't mind if I call you Count do you?

A—Please do Jim. All my friends call me Count so you might as well also. They call me a lot of other things of which Count is the most complimentary.

Q—Good. OK Count, Hammerin Hank just broke Babe Ruth's home run record and I thought you might like to comment on it.

A—Good question Jim. Now I've got nothing against Hank Aaron, he is truly a superstar, but Babe Ruth is still by far the greatest home run hitter of all times.

If you look just at statistics, you see that sure, Aaron has more home runs, but he also has 2998 more at bats. Given the Babe's lifetime slugging average, he still holds the record with .854, and another 3000 at bats, one can see that he could conceivably have hit another 70 or so home runs. Of

course this is pure speculation.

The real reason I feel that Babe Ruth is still the best home run hitter of all times is because of the impact he had on the game of baseball. Before Babe, a two run lead was a big lead in a game. Teams played for the single, then the hit and run, maybe a steal. Runs were earned one at a time.

But Ruth changed all that. He was the first player to hit 30, 40, 50 and 60 home runs in a season. Before Ruth, the single season record was 27 four baggers. In 1920 which Ruth hit an unbelievable 54 home runs, the closest person to him that year hit 17.

Although no one would admit that the new jackrabbit ball was introduced in 1918 specifically for Ruth, he was a small factor in its consideration over the old style dead ball.

Pitching rules were altered during Ruth's era. The spitball was limited and the emory ball and others were banned altogether.

A further indicator of Ruth's impact was his salary. In 1925 Ruth signed a \$70,000 contract and was being paid more than the president of the United States. MORE THAN THE PRESIDENT! That was unheard of in 1925 when a man could be considered middle class on \$100 a week. The second highest salary on the Yankees that year was \$17,500 and that belonged to star pitcher Herb Pennock.

I could go on and on about Ruth's revolution but that would be wasting space.

Q—Well isn't that the reason for this interview?

A—Yeah, but did you have to be so blunt?

Paterno Cites Penn State's Spring Practice Important

University Park—"We really have to have a good spring practice. As a matter of fact, this spring practice is as important as any we have had in a long time. We have to get a lot of things done and done well."

That's Penn State football coach Joe Paterno's evaluation of the situation as he prepares to greet approximately 75 candidates at the start of the Nittany Lions' spring drills this Saturday.

Paterno, whose record of 75 wins, 13 losses and one tie is the nation's best among major college coaches, faces a major rebuilding job. The Lions lost 13 starters, including 10 National Football League draft picks, from last year's 12-0 Orange Bowl Champions.

"Every position needs a lot of work," Paterno says. "We need depth at running back and quarterback, we have to develop some wide receivers and rebuild the offensive line. Defensively we need to strengthen every area. Nothing is really solid except the kicking; and even there, we lose the man who snapped the ball for kicks for two years and our best return man."

Topping the list of graduating seniors is Heisman Trophy-

winning tailback John Cappelletti, who rushed for over 1,000 yards two consecutive seasons. Also missing from the offense are five other NFL draft picks—tackles Charlie Getty and Phil LaPorta, wide receivers Gary Hayman and Chuck Herd and guard Mark Markovich. Hayman also led the nation in punt returns.

Defensively, the Lions lose two All-Americans in tackles Tandy Crowder and linebacker Ed O'Neil plus two more NFL draft picks in linebackers Doug Allen and Tom Hull. Also graduating are solid defensive backs Scott Mitchell and Buddy Ellis.

"There will definitely be some position experimenting," Paterno says, "but how many switches will be made or how long they will last we won't know until we get into practice."

One experiment this spring has second unit quarterback Dick Barvinchak trying his hand at wide receiver. He also will continue to practice at quarterback.

Paterno will put the team through 20 days of spring drills between Saturday and the final

scrimmage, the annual Blue-White game on May 11.

State Abandons ECAC To Hold Standards

University Park, Pa., March—Penn State has reaffirmed its intention to discontinue membership in the Eastern College Athletic Conference as of June 30, 1974.

Athletic officials at the University first notified the ECAC in June, 1973, of its intention to withdraw from the conference. That decision was made final with a recent statement by Penn State athletic director Edward M. Czekaj.

"Emphasizing and strengthening our present position as a major independent while maintaining our high athletic-academic standards will enable us to be more effective in our continuing goal of providing national leadership in intercollegiate athletics," Czekaj said in making the announcement.

Penn State had been a charter member of the ECAC.

TENNIS	
Coach-Herbert Lauffer	
Saturday, April 6	
Youngstown State	2:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 11	
Grove City	A 1:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 13	
Cleveland State	H 2:00 p.m.
Wednesday, April 17	
Thiel	A 2:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 20	
Mercyhurst	H 1:00 p.m.
Monday, April 22	
Edinboro	H 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, April 25	
Alliance	A 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 27	
Malone	A 1:00 p.m.
Friday, May 3	
Gannon	A 2:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 4	
Geneva	A 2:00 p.m.
Monday, May 6	
Westminster	H 1:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 9 and	
Friday, May 10	
NAIA District 18 Tourney	
Frostburg, MD.	
Wednesday, May 15	
Allegheny	H 1:30 p.m.

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Tickets Go on Sale

University Park, Pa., March—Applications are now being accepted for season tickets to Penn State's 1974 home football games.

Applications for single game tickets will not be accepted until after May 15.

Season tickets are \$42 each for the Nittany Lions' six home games—Sept. 14, Stanford; Sept. 21, Navy; Oct. 12, Wake Forest; Oct. 19, Syracuse; Nov. 2,

Maryland; Nov. 16, Ohio University. Add 50 cents to each order for mailing and handling.

The Oct. 12 game with Wake Forest will serve as the feature attraction of Penn State's Alumni Homecoming Weekend.

Ticket applications are available from the Penn State Athletic Ticket Office, 237 Recreation Building, U.P. 16802

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