

Busy Week For Baseball

by Michael A. Ciffeli
Collegian Staff Writer

Fatigue has obviously become a factor in the Lions' frustrating baseball season. The weather hasn't helped much either.

The Lions have had to put in extra innings the past week, going 1-7. Poor weather has forced Mike Bari's squad to practically live out of their gym bags, playing eight games in five days.

"We've been playing tired," co-captain Tom Partridge pointed out.

The Lions picked up two wins by splitting doubleheaders with Case Western and Rochester.

Against Case Western,

Craig Frisina was busy with the bat, collecting four hits. Paul Banner was the winning pitcher in the RIT victory.

Behrend suffered three twinbill sweeps as well, losing to Merchurst (8-3,8-4), Fredonia (7-6,9-0) and yesterday to California, 13-8 and 7-2.

The Lions now stand at 3-24 on the season. Despite a disappointing spring, the squad has often played better than their record indicates, dropping a number of one-run games.

"We've lost some close games on our schedule," Partridge added. "We're better than our record shows."

photo by Jeff Majcher



Lions' catcher Craig Frisina loses ball during collision at plate against California.

Tennis Team Slumps

by John Musser
Asst. Sports Editor

The Behrend Men's tennis team fell into a slump last week as they were defeated in three straight matches, breaking a two match winning streak and evening their season record to 6-6.

The latest defeat was a home court loss to St. John Fisher College, with the visitors prevailing by a 6-3 score. Winners for the Lions were Bill Schmitt and Steve Smith and the team of Schmitt-Shawn Crago in doubles play.

Earlier last week Behrend dropped decisions to RIT (8-1) and local rival Edinboro University (9-0). Schmitt was the lone winner for the Lions against RIT, while the loss at Edinboro was a total shutout as the hosts won each contest in straight sets.

Despite the recent string of losses, the netters have compiled a successful season when you consider how they did last year and after recovering from a slow start this year. What is the main reason for the improvement over last year's one-win season?

"I think the big difference between this year and last is we have more experience", said Chris Benton. "And Bill Schmitt."

It's hard to measure just how much of an impact more overall team experience has helped this years Lions, but Schmitt's contribution is easily evaluated.

Schmitt, who takes on the number one player from each team, is undefeated against Division III singles opponents and is 9-2 overall. Schmitt has been so dominating against Division III competition that he hadn't lost a set to a Division III player until last week.

"The reason I win is because I have more competitive training than my opponents", said Schmitt before practice on Monday. "I've been playing for 12 and a half years and I know

what it takes to win under pressure."

Before the start of the season, Schmitt did not have much confidence. "I thought I'd be lucky to break .500 overall," said the freshman ace. Schmitt's thinking was according to how some former high school foes were performing in collegiate tennis, and seeing them struggle to maintain a winning record shook his confidence somewhat. After getting a few wins under his belt, Schmitt has never taken a look back and now has an outside shot at the Division III National tournament.

by Missy Mace
Collegian Staff Writer

The Behrend softball team has a record of 12-6 with eight games left in the season. Hopefully they will play go on to the ECAC post-season tournament. Their standings look good as they prepare to travel and play their last eight games hoping to end the season on a high note.

The team got a little taste of their own medicine as they dropped games to Allegheny College, ranked second in the nation, last Tuesday and to Westminster (15-1) on Thursday.

Westminster won 1-0 in the first game by scoring in the first inning. Erika Renwick took the loss for Behrend. The Lady Lions

loaded the bases in the seventh inning with two outs, but were unable to capitalize on the opportunity.

They needed last week's competition to show them two things, "The fine line between how solid we can be and how far we have to go to be ranked nationally", says coach Banker. Their record dropped from 8-2 to 8-6 in one week.

Approaching the weekend competition, pitcher Erika Renwick said, "We need these four wins."

St. John Fischer (2-10) didn't show much interest in their record when they forfeited on Saturday. As a result, Behrend racked up two easy wins. The

Lady Lions then faced Niagara University (Division I) and swept them 8-5 and 8-7.

In the opener, Behrend scored seven runs in the second inning. Erica Scribner drove in one run and Tammy Altzman drove in two runs. Behrend scored the winning run in the bottom of the seventh with bases loaded when Theresa Sumner was walked in. Freshman Cindi Patton pitched seven innings for her first collegiate win and Jen Mowers had three hits.

Everyone is anxious to see the outcome of the softball season, especially coach Brett Banker who says, "We are way ahead of what I pictured we would be concerning success."

NEED EXTRA CASH
 "SPECIAL FOR NEW DONORS"
 FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Learn how to earn an additional \$5.00 on top of our already high donor fees

Please call for further information and appointment

PLASMA-TEC, LTD.
 111 WEST 9th ST.
 ERIE, PA 16501
 814-454-0070

Bring this coupon in for an additional \$2.00 bonus on first donation

MPV

Introducing a brand-new concept in vehicles: the MPV, from Mazda.

THE MPV FULFILLS YOUR FAMILY'S TRANSPORTATION AND HAULING NEEDS WHILE SATISFYING YOUR DRIVING NEEDS.

Mazda proudly introduces the MPV, a brand-new concept in transportation that combines the versatility of a van with the seven-passenger room of a station wagon - plus sporty handling and performance. The roomy MPV can carry lots of people and/or cargo, yet it's fun to drive, thanks to its sophisticated suspension and choice of two powerful engines: A standard 121-hp powerplant, or an optional 150-hp V6. There's nothing else like it, so try the MPV today.

shades mazda

(814) 452-6441 2315 West 12th St Erie, PA 16505