

Behrend's baseball team holds fall practices, prepares for spring

by Mike Leshner
Collegian Staff Writer

The Behrend baseball team has started its annual fall practices and games, tuning up for what could be a promising spring season.

The fall tune-up will help Coach Michael Bari to get a good look at each of his players and find out what to do with his personnel. Forty-five people have tried out for the Behrend squad, but has been trimmed to 30. Coach Bari mentioned that there are usually 23 or 24 people on the final roster.

The Behrend nine played in the Erie County Baseball Classic on September 18 and 19. In their first game of the tournament, the Behrend team lost to Edinboro 4-2.

Ray Cerqua pitched five innings of the game and also belted a two run double to keep Behrend in the game. Roger Link was 2 for 2 batting before he was hit by a pitch, breaking his hand.

After losing to Edinboro, the Lions entered the consolation round against Gannon. Behrend won the game, 3-2, finishing third overall in the tournament. Chris Kolvoski stood out in the Behrend win, pitching a complete game and driving in two runs while collecting 2 hits.

The Behrend baseball team was at home this past Sunday, taking on the Allegheny Gators in a double-header. The Gators swept the Lions, 7-4 in the opener, and 4-3 in the nightcap.

Behrend's Chris Myers, a freshman, went 4 for 6 and drove in a pair of runs. Scott Frantz pitched 6 2/3 innings in the second game, allowing only one earned run.

When asked how he feels about his team heading into the spring baseball season, Coach Bari stated, "We're a young team with a lot of freshmen, and we have a mix of older players who are showing signs of good leadership qualities, which we haven't had in three years." Coach Bari also said he was looking forward to the spring season and that the Behrend squad is young and promising.

Behrend's final fall game pits the Behrend team against Mercyhurst College in a double-header on October 7.

Intramurals sports program starts to heat up Eighteen-team playoff to decide softball champion starts this week

by Ken Kurtz
Collegian Staff Writer

The intramural sports program at Behrend attracted 2,268 participants last year. The Intramural Director, Brett Banker, was very pleased with those numbers. He feels the program has peaked, and is doing as much as it can with the facilities available.

Softball, the only sport underway so far, has slightly increased participation over last year. 350 athletes make up the eighteen teams battling to reach the playoffs, which begin this week. The championship game will be played Tuesday, October 3 at 3:00 pm on the field next to the tennis courts.

Two other sports begin just as softball ends. Rosters for mens, womens, and co-ed soccer and flag football are due on September 29. Play for both sports starts next week.

Flag Football is the most popular intramural sport here at Behrend. Unlike other sports, it usually gets enough participants for all three divisions. Last fall 42 teams and 585 athletes played the sport.

The intramural program also sponsors tournaments throughout the year. The tournaments scheduled for this fall are: Beach Volleyball-September 30 on campus, Provost Golf Tourney-October 14 at Gospel Hill Golf Club, and Five-on-five Basketball-October 22-24 in Eric

Hall. These activities are open to students and faculty.

The officials for each sport are students who undergo a training session. They are paid \$4.00 an hour. Mr. Banker has no problem

"I think its a great release and opportunity to exercise"

**-Brett Banker
Intramural Director**

finding umpires for softball, but football is a different story. Due to the large amount of teams, five games are played at one time. This means that fifteen referees are needed. That many

volunteers are hard to come by.

If you are interested in entering yourself or a team in an intramural sport, or would like to become an official, pick up roster forms and applications in the Intramural office. The office is located in the Student Activities Suite in the Reed Building. Information on upcoming sports and tournaments are posted on bulletin boards in the Reed building and Erie Hall.

Mr. Banker feels that a good intramural program contributes to school spirit and student well-being. "I think it is a great release and opportunity to exercise. It's important to develop healthy habits early so you can play (the sport) for the rest of your life."

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