

Guilliams replaces Bari as baseball coach

Guilliams brings minor league playing experience, discipline to young team

by Susan Cepicka
Collegian Staff Writers

If new coach Greg Guilliams has his way, Behrend Baseball players will look like they should be on the cover of GQ as much as on Sports Illustrated.

This year's team, with required haircuts and daily shaves, will hopefully take on a new attitude along with a new look.

Ex-Atlanta Brave catcher Guilliams came to Behrend late this summer and has experience coaching and playing the national pastime.

Guilliams played baseball in college, batting just under .450 at Ohio Dominican, a small school in Ohio.

At Ohio Dominican, he was recruited for baseball and played first base and outfield.

While at Ohio Dominican, Guilliams had extremely successful seasons including one which went 42-15. That team also produced four players who signed professional contracts.

His graduate work was done at Eastern Kentucky University where he received a Master's degree in Physical Education. He then returned to Eastern, where he ended up as an assistant coach in 1985.

He also played two seasons for the Atlanta Braves and one year for the Baseball City Royals, an independent team.

So how did he end up in Erie? Well, the Behrend job opened up late in the summer, and because of the academic standards here at Penn State and the fact that it is a



photo by Mike Schell

Do this: New Baseball Coach Greg Guilliams instructs his players

small school convinced him to come up north and become the coach for Behrend.

Guilliams stated that he likes Behrend a lot due to the size. Because he went to school at which there were only around 1000 students, he feels very comfortable here.

Guilliams said that his first priority is to get a first rate staff to help him. "Having good people around you helps you to organize and therefore helps you to give everyone individual attention."

His staff includes pitching coach Doug Duplin and batting/fielding coach Jay Wollburg. Wollburg is a long time friend and past teammate of Guilliams.

These two vital pieces of the baseball puzzle will contribute to the overall design of the program this year. Guilliams has plans for the coming season to enforce academics and aggression with confidence on the field. The goal this year is, "To get the guys to play with confidence."

The primary confidence builder will be stealing bases, with an emphasis put on physical enhancement to make it easier.

"Confidence comes from success," says Guilliams.

Developing the speed and timing that is necessary to successfully run will develop the confidence that Guilliams believes to be the deciding factor in last season's disappointing record of 4-28.

Principles will also be a major policy in this year's program.

"I would consider myself a disciplinarian," says Guilliams.

In addition to monitored haircuts and required shavings, athletes will also be required to attend all classes.

Guilliams says, "I believe all players should go to all their classes, simply because school is what comes first."

Classes, exercises, attitudes, and confidence builders are part of a new program designed by Guilliams to change the entire mental aspect of the team, combined with talented returning players and recruits this year.

Bari heads south to coach women's basketball

by John Musser
Collegian Sports Editor

After four years as Behrend's baseball coach, Michael Bari has moved on.

Not only has he changed jobs, he has also changed sports.

Bari will coach the women's basketball program at Alderson-Broadus College in Philippi, West Virginia.

While it was difficult for Bari to leave, the decision was best for his career.

"As far as my career, I wanted to pursue basketball," says the former Behrend baseball skipper. "I love baseball and I love basketball, but I think basketball is a little more exciting."

Love of the sport was not the only factor in Bari's decision.

"I am familiar with the area, plus it's a scholarship program. It's something that I wanted to do."

Job security was also a factor in his leaving. Bari had a temporary contract, so he had to sign a new one each year.

"The position wasn't funded full-time. After four years, I felt that it was time for them to make a commitment.

"I didn't think they were making a strong enough commitment to athletics. There's nothing wrong with that, but I was left wondering whether it was going to be a full- or part-time position.

"Someone needs to step up and say, 'We have to pump some money into this program.' Athletics is a good p.r. for a school."

While this lack of support made it frustrating, leaving was not easy.

"The school and the people are great, and Erie's my hometown. You don't want to leave, you hate to do it, but sometimes you have to leave."

It was also tough to leave behind his baseball players.

"Other than leaving my mom,

that was probably the toughest. It took me four years to get a good freshman class, both on and off the field in the classroom. I'm going to miss those kids."

A reason Bari will miss his team is because of some of the sacrifices they make to play baseball.

"I think they are the most used and abused athletes there. They miss a lot of classes in March and April. And some of the faculty penalizes them for that.

"I appreciated everything they (the players) did. They go through a lot, and they learn a lot."

As for his 20-105 coaching record in four years, Bari believes that his program shouldn't be measured on that alone.

"Most people look at wins and losses, but when I took over, we started going to Florida (during spring break), we started the fundraisers, and we got the schedule up to a competitive 40 games.

"We did the best we could. I have no regrets."

Bari is excited about his opportunities at Alderson-Broadus, an NAIA school.

His team has some talent, and he has better recruiting opportunities there.

"We'll probably be in the top three or four (out of 12 teams) in our conference in the preseason polls. We may have a shot at the NAIA nationals," said Bari.

As for recruiting, Bari has athletic and academic financial help for his athletes, something Behrend cannot provide.

As for his successor, Greg Guilliams, Bari leaves this advice: "Have a lot of patience, because things administrative-wise will get better, things recruiting-wise will get better, things on field-wise will get better. If you don't have patience and you don't love it, you'll struggle."

Soccer team prepares young players for tough season

by Brad Kane
Collegian Staff Writer

Youth is almost always synonymous with excitement, and this season's version of the Behrend soccer team should provide plenty of it.

Under the guidance of Head Coach Herb Lauffer, now beginning his 23rd campaign of coaching at the collegiate level, the Lions will have a mix of youth and experience.

"Right now, I see one of our strengths is that we can return 10 players who at one time or another played in a starting role," said Lauffer.

Of those 10, none are seniors, a fact that does not dampen Lauffer's enthusiasm.

"I'm excited," says Lauffer about the upcoming season. "There's a great deal of anticipation among the players. They've worked hard in practice. They're anxious to do more. I feel that they can be successful this season."

Their success could lie in the fortunes of the midfielding core, which will be lead by ECAC All-Conference junior Eric Filoon.

Joining him on the inside will be sophomore Jeff Hockenberger, with junior Sam Condeluci and freshman Mike Dalzell manning the outside spots.

Other top returnees include strikers Vince Pedraza and Yasser Daudi, both juniors, and sophomore Ron Peterman. Midfielder Anthony Perdue also

returns, as do backs Kevin Hess, a junior, and Tony Viola, a sophomore. Sophomore Tom Bajus also returns to take over the goalkeeping duties this season.

Lauffer points to these returnees as forming a "strong nucleus of experience," a nucleus that will occasionally sport a newcomer.

One such new arrival is Dalzell, but Lauffer points to two other players, junior Chris Filoon and freshman Mike Whiteman as possibly cracking the starting lineup at back and midfield or striker, respectively.

Depth for the Lions could be a problem. Currently, the team roster boasts 22 members, only 10 of whom are experienced.

While the starting lineup may be solid, the reserves are young and inexperienced. This could lead to trouble if a starter goes down.

If nothing else, a commitment toward improvement is present on the Behrend squad.

Lauffer points to three areas that can help the Lions to overcome these problems:

"One: We've emphasized conditioning. Two: We've become more intelligent, meaning in making judgements and decisions as well as exercising patience both on offense and defense.

"And three: We've made sure to make a commitment. There has to be a lot of self-motivation on the team. Each person has to

help a little bit. The coaches can only help so much. The attitude (of the team) must always be up."

The schedule this year will provide rocky waters for the Lions.

"I know our competition can be tough," says Lauffer. "We were 3-11-4 last year. But, personally, I don't see any weak spots in our schedule. We'll be challenged by all 16 teams."

On attitude alone, this year could be a good one for Behrend soccer.

"We could predict the numbers, but what we really want to do is to be prepared," says Lauffer. "We need to display a determined attitude. I think we can do that."