

# Sluggers on three game roll Showcasing base stealing abilities

by Bruce Decker  
The Collegian

On Thursday, March 28 the Lions hosted Thiel at home for a little springtime ball. The Lions pulled out the broom and started their spring cleaning by sweeping Thiel 10-5 and 6-5 in a doubleheader.

This was the first time in five years Behrend had swept a double-header. The Lions have won the three out of four matches with Thiel and have stolen 20 bases in 20 attempts in their four meetings.

Before that the Behrend Twelve made up two rained-out matches originally scheduled

on the 23 and the 24 of March.

On March 27 the Lions squared off against Mount Union. Behrend dropped a hard fought first game in the opener, 6-4. Some missed opportunities and a controversial call on an apparent home run cost the Lions the victory. In the second game, the Lions started off strong and jumped out to an early 3-0 lead. However, Mount Union fought back and managed to tie the game and pushed it into extra innings. Paul Benim scored the winning run in the ninth inning and the Lions pulled out a tough 4-3 win.

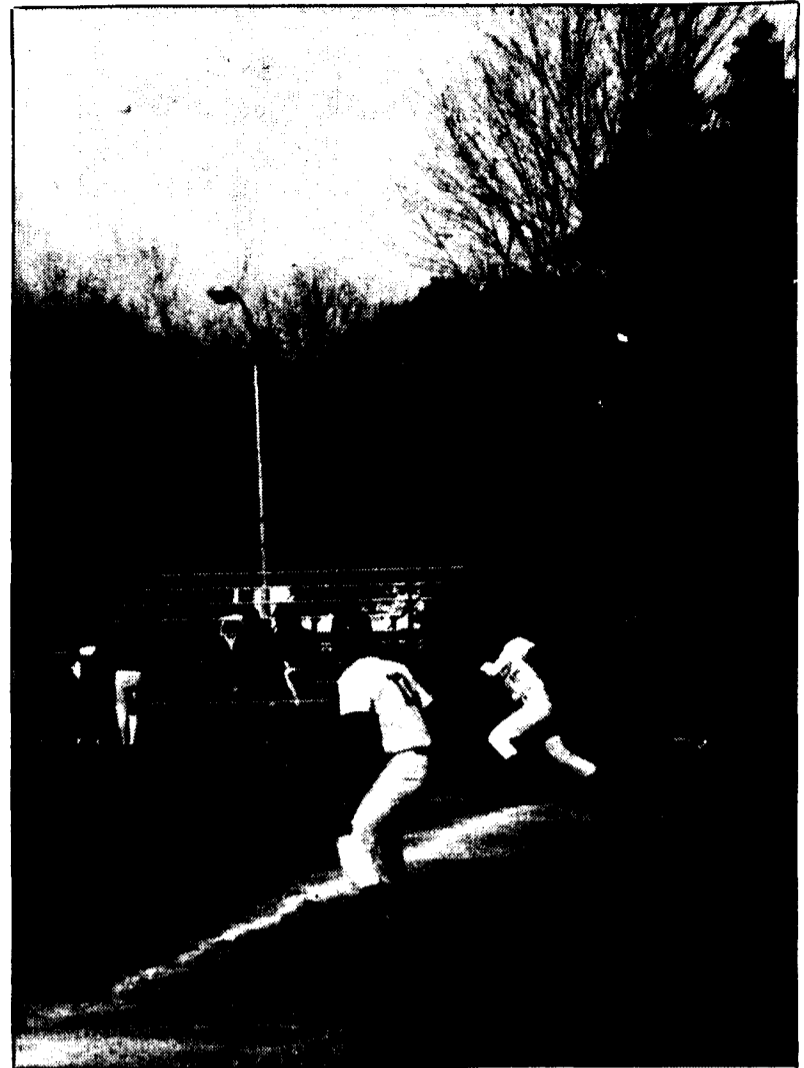
The 21 of March saw the Lions starting off the regular season with a split against Thiel. They dropped the first game 2-1 but managed to pull a reversal in the second game and won 2-1.

The team has now won 3 in a row and the record stands at 4-5 on the young campaign.

Coach Guilliams is not satisfied with the 4-5 record, but he feels his squad has improved every game. He expects the improvement to continue both offensively and defensively and would like to see the club reach the .500 mark. Guilliams expects the momentum to continue as the Lions hit the road this week. They travel to Grove City April 2, and to Allegheny on April 4.

As a team, the Lions sport a respectable .270 average. Behrend has also been very aggressive on the base paths, as they've swiped 37 bases in 43 attempts.

Don Alpern has been swinging a hot bat as of late -- he leads the team with a .393 average, as well as being at or near the top in the other offensive categories.



Mike Schell/The Collegian

Up, up and away: A Behrend slugger cracks a long ball in a winning effort against Thiel.



Mike Schell/The Collegian

He missed the Tag! : A Behrend ball player slides in underneath the tag of a Thiel infielder.

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