

SPORTS

Baseball players were too selfish in calling a strike

Commentary by
John Roberts

Baseball makes me sick.

Well, the owners and the players should be proud. They have done something that two World Wars, the Korean War, Vietnam, the Gulf War, and the Great Depression could not do: **THEY KILLED BASEBALL!!**

Because of both sides' stubbornness and a total lack of sympathy and respect for the fans and everyone who loves baseball, the 1994 post-season has been canceled. That's right: for the first time in 90 years there will be no post-season. No playoffs, no World Series, nothing. This shows that the players and the owners are money-hungry jerks who care about nothing other than making money for themselves and screwing those who are not fortunate enough to be an owner or a player.

Oh yes, we should feel sorry for the players: it must be hell living on an

average salary of ONLY \$1.2 million dollars a year. The poor guys must be starving in the streets on such a paltry salary. Imagine that, getting that kind of money for a GAME, something that should be played for fun! And then having the audacity to ask for more, just because another player gets a little more than they do. It is this kind of childish one-upmanship that helped kill baseball. Their attitude is, "well if I don't get paid as much money as he does, I'm just not going to play." How childish.

Do not think for one second that I am going to let the owners get away free. Their greed and lack of sympathy has also helped kill baseball. Instead of putting their foot down against the players long ago, they went along with the players' immature game and gave them more money every time the players started winning. Maybe if the owners had not given the players so much money to placate their little temper-tantrums, we would still have

baseball. The owners are also to blame for not having a commissioner. Do you think it was accidental that there was no commissioner to help negotiate talks? I do not. The owners knew exactly what they were doing when they voted the last commissioner out of office. They didn't want anyone challenging them on any issues, especially those concerning players. It would be like the students at BC voting President Bertrand out of office and taking over themselves and then trying to control the teachers. Without a leader working for both sides, it just would not work.

So where does that leave us, the baseball fans? That leaves us in the dark, missing the most important time in baseball for the first time in our lives.

Imagine all the excitement we will have missed and how many questions will be left unanswered. Could Griffey, Thomas or Williams have broken the home run record? Would Tony Gwynn

have batted .400? Would Greg Maddux have broken the ERA record? Could Griffey, Thomas, Belle or Williams have contended for the Triple Crown?

Could the Cleveland Indians have gone to the World Series for the first time in fifty-four years? Could the Montreal Expos or the Texas Rangers have gone to the World Series for the first time ever? Could Don Mattingly have played in the first World Series of his career? Could the Atlanta Braves have made their third trip to the World Series in the past four years?

We'll never know the answers to these questions because the owners and the players have killed baseball, and even when, or if, it comes back, I do not think it will ever be the same.

The only thing left for sports fans to say is, "How long 'til the Super Bowl?"

Cross Country team begins year with two solid victories

by Ben Voegele
Sports Editor

Here at Brevard College some traditions will never change. One of them includes the BC men's and women's cross country teams. Year after year, Brevard produces teams capable of a national championship and the 1994-95 fall season will be no different.

It's been a perfect season so far for the men's team this year. They have won both the Greensboro Invitational (Sept. 24, '94 Greensboro, N.C.) and the Alfred State Invitational (Oct. 1, '94 Alfred, N.Y.). Leading the men's team this year has been sophomore phenom Jeremy Rodgers. Rodgers took first place and set new course records in both Greensboro with a time of 25:11 and in

Alfred with a time of 28:19.

Freshman Tommy Lancaster also gave a strong showing in both races, finishing tenth and fifteenth respectively. The rest of the men's team consist of sophomores Jason Yuknus, James Clayton, Rick Simolari, Walter Kuhn, and Ross Gillespie. New to the team this year are freshmen Chris Pluchos, John Johnson, John McMillian, Roger Clark, Mathew Repass, and Bill Baldwin.

The women's team so far has also had early success, taking the Alfred State Invitational title and capturing sixth place at the Greensboro Invitational. Sophomore Lynn Price took first place at Alfred State with a

time of 21:04. Freshmen Cori Rhodes also finished strong in second place with a time of 21:36. Sophomores Christina Olson, Marla Getford, Helen Grindstaff, Hillary Fenner and freshmen Erika Morrow are also running well.

Aside from having such gifted runners, Brevard College's success has a lot to do with coach Dave Rinker. In the time Coach Rinker has been here, he has taken the team from being a force among junior college level to defeating nationally-ranked division one universities like UNC-Chapel Hill, Furman University, and UNC-Asheville.

Brevard Cross country is alive and well, and looking tough to beat.

Women's Basketball has high hopes for the future

by Keeta Robinson
Clarion Staff Writer

The Lady Tornadoes basketball team is off to the race for the title. The Lady Tornadoes have come out to play this year, and conditioning is the key to preseason training. Head Coach Carmen Nelon's expectations for this coming season are to win the region and go to the Nationals. She says she wants the team to start strong, keep developing and end strong. She also says that

"consistency and desire makes up the TEAM."

The Lady Tornadoes are preparing for the season by weight training and conditioning, which determines the best position for each player. When asked what plan is going to be used in keeping the team healthy, Coach Nelon responded, "Weight training should make them stronger." Rehab on old injuries and conditioning and getting in shape should prevent injuries.



The men's cross country team has raged through the first part of its schedule, taking two major meets so far.