

SPORTS

Baseball kicks off fall tryouts

By Mike Tomko
staff writer

Even though the spring season is still six months away, it's never too early to talk about our nation's pastime. With the start of school, Behrend Baseball kicked off fall with its first tryouts for the upcoming spring.

Coach Paul Benim, who is entering his tenth season as head coach, is coming off a winning season, but not comparable to the 2003 season when the team went 33-10. He is assisted by Tyler Wiand, who is entering his first season on the Behrend staff. Mike Thompson, and Butch Kemling. Both are

entering their second season on the coaching staff.

The team hopes to improve on last season's record of 20-15. The team has 19 players returning to the line up and looks to have a leg up in veteran leadership on and off the field. With seventeen new players trying out for the team, competition will be stiff to make a spot on the roster.

"Returning players have the edge, but first-year players can always earn starting roles," said Coach Benim.

For many freshmen these words give hope that if they work hard and come to practice everyday, anything is possible.

As many freshmen got cut during the week, competition to make the team seemed to be very high. When Stephen Lumpp, a freshman hopeful was questioned about the competition level during the first three practices he responded,

"Oh yeah, it was definitely highly competitive."

Tryouts for the spring season began September 10 and continued through the 13th. Practices ran from nine in the morning until approximately four in the afternoon and consisted of players splitting up into groups based on their positions and working on individual skills.

This was followed by scrimmages in the afternoon where players got to compete against each other in a live game.

"I wouldn't call them hard, but I'm not used to it so everybody was sore," said Lumpp.

After Sunday practices, the first cuts were made and the team was down to a total of thirty-six players for fall practices.

"We will most likely release some players at the conclusion of fall. They earned the opportunity to play the rest of the fall with us and we can get a better look," said Coach Benim. "Right now 36 are in the program, some league

teams carry that many. We will get the number down".

Whether Coach Benim goes with a roster of all returning players, or some of the freshman step up and show that they belong on the field, we can look forward to seeing the AMCC's 2003 coach of the year improve on last season's win total.

This time of year is the least glorious for a baseball athlete. They get no praise for a homerun, no media attention for a no-hitter, all they do is train. While nobody may be watching now, come time for the regular season, this time of year will make all the difference.

Butler visits Behrend

Sports Information Release

On September 20, 2004, at 8:00 p.m., internationally recognized speaker Rebecca Butler will present her RESPECT program to student leaders at during the CHAMPS programs at Penn State Behrend. She will return the next morning to speak to the Behrend Lions coaching staff at 8:00 a.m.

For over five years, Rebecca Butler has been on the cutting edge of the movement to stop gender violence. She has given nearly 200 presentations in 14 states to clients including the Cleveland Browns, the Cleveland Indians, the Coast Guard Academy, the American College Health Association and dozens of colleges around the country.

Rebecca goes beyond telling people what not to do. She teaches concrete, positive skills that empower women and men alike to enjoy great relationships and dating experiences and dramatically reduce the risk of violence in their lives. Her goal is to help students prevent sexual assault and relationship violence by teaching healthy relationships and sexual respect. For more information please contact the athletics office at Behrend (814) 898-6180 or visit equalconnections.com.

Women's soccer working overtime

By Andrew McLachlan
staff writer

Do not look now, but the girl's soccer team is on fire! With their steady play and great teachings of Head Coach Patrick O'Driscoll, the girls are showing signs of a possible championship season.

Since their disappointing loss to Baldwin-Wallace, the girls have turned up the heat with a big win at Westminster and a tie at Grove City. Freshman Julie Quail scored the only goal in the exciting 1-0 overtime victory over the Lady Titans of Westminster, giving them their first loss of the season.

"It was a very tough game, but we earned it and came out victorious," said Quail.

The Lady Titans outshot Behrend and also had an advantage in corner kicks, but Quail's goal in the 91st minute gave Behrend the win and scored the first goal on Westminster all season (15-0 in their previous contests).

The Lady Lions played hard-nosed through the whole game and had outstanding goaltending from Junior Colleen Applebaugh, picking up her first shutout of the early season. Applebaugh received AMCC goalkeeper of the week honors for her play.

Coming off their big win, the lady lions continued their road trip and tied a tight game 2-2 against the Lady Wolverines of Grove City College. Junior Holly Greiner and Quail tallied goals for the Behrend Lions and the girls played fantastic defense in front of Applebaugh.

Coach O'Driscoll has been doing a great job conditioning our ladies and is very excited about how his team is progressing. They are giving the whole campus of Penn St. Behrend high hopes of making a run at the AMCC title. The women's soccer team currently has a 2-1-1 record and host Thiel on Friday at the soccer field. They then travel to Allegheny College to play a tough Lady Gator squad on September 21.

Lions skate another season

Fall tryouts bring high expectations

By Brett Pollack
staff writer

September 13th kicked off tryouts for Penn State Behrend's club ice hockey team. The Lions, coached by head coach Derek Gates, was recognized as an intercollegiate team for the first time last season since the program was developed.

Last season the blue and white finished the season with a 2-8 record. Some of the returning senior leadership is hopeful for this upcoming season.

"I guess the best way I can put our record into words is that it did not reflect the quality of players we had on the team," said senior Ryan Lang.

Returning seniors include Lang, Sean Salem, Mike Fritts, and James Wyble. Junior Tim McGill and sophomore DJ Craven will also return to the Lions for this upcoming season. Craven, the teams star forward, hopes to have a break out season. Freshmen hopefuls are Daniel Theisen

and Andy McLachlan. The freshmen will have big skates to fill with the loss of key player Andy Frizell. Frizell was said to be the "heart" of the team last season.

Over 40 people tried out for the team on Monday. Starting their first practice with sprints and shooting drills, the team was exhausted and some were found puking in the corner after their sprints. The team may be broken into two; one team an intercollegiate team, while the other will play in an Erie adult league.

Gates will be leading the Lions for his third year. Goalie coach, Aaron Patterson, and first year defensive coach Mike Cook will join Gates.

The First game will take place at Mercyhurst (JWC) at 8:00 p.m., September 25th. The Lions will be facing off against St. Vincent College's Polar Bear Cats. The Polar Bear Cats ended last season with a record of six wins and five losses.

Women's soccer assistant coach is no stranger to the team
All-star athlete returns as staff

By Kim McCray
Staff Writer

The Behrend women's soccer team started the 2004 season with a fresh staff. Both head coach Patrick O'Driscoll and assistant coach Katie Giles are beginning their first season with the Lions as coaches.

Assistant coach Giles is no stranger to the team. Giles was a standout player for the Lions, leading them to their most successful four-year period in the Behrend women's soccer program.

Giles is highly prepared and qualified to coach the women. As a midfielder, Giles was a four-year starter and team captain who led the Lions to four AMCC conference titles and four postseason bids. While on their AMCC runs, she received three all-conference honors, which include the Newcomer of the Year award.

"There are many times when I miss playing and wish I could be back out there with another couple of years of eligibility," said Giles. "However, it is truly an incredible opportunity to be back and a part of the program again. We have a great team with lots of potential, and I look forward to working with them."

Giles looks back on her years of playing and hopes that the women she is advising this year and in the future can have the truly amazing experience she did while being a part of the Lion's team. Her goals for the season include winning the AMCC conference and

earning an NCAA bid. Giles would also like to help her team establish true team camaraderie.

"Some of my best memories are from times spent with my teammates throughout my four years here at Behrend," said Giles. "I want the women to take away as much as possible from their college experience; hopefully they will gain more than simply playing soccer from being a part of this team."

Giles believes she is very lucky to have experienced what she did during her four years of playing for the Lions. She is optimistic about the 2004 season and is confident that the women this year have the skills and desire needed to make it far.

"I was fortunate to be a part of very successful teams during my four years at Behrend," said Giles. "We were undefeated in the AMCC conference for four years, and received postseason bids each year."

Her record shows that she knows exactly what the team needs to do to achieve their goals. Giles believes training hard at practice will allow the girls to reap the benefits of their hard work. She is confident the women on her team possess the necessary qualities to be top contenders in the conference. Giles hope is to lead the teams she coaches to the same kind of success she has experienced.

While Giles attended Penn State Behrend she studied biology and earned a bachelor's degree. In addition to helping out with coaching of the team, Giles is currently pursuing a master's degree in physical therapy.

**POLLS ARE OPEN
UNTIL 8 P.M.**

**(WE KNOW HOW COLLEGE
STUDENTS FEEL ABOUT
WAKING UP EARLY)**

REGISTER BY
OCT4

YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE.
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Intramural Softball Results

Monday

Juice 12, TKE 2
Juice 16, KDR 6
Project Mayhem 8, Fockers 7
Meals on Wheels 13, Bambinos 11

Tuesday

Crimson Tide 16, Staff Infection 6
Wednesday
KDR 15, TKE 12
Project Mayhem 13, Sig Tau 8
Misfits 18, Corey's Team 8
Last Run 18, Binder 1

For future results and intramural picture of the week check out:
pennstatebehrend.psu.edu/athletics/intramurals/IMsoftball.htm