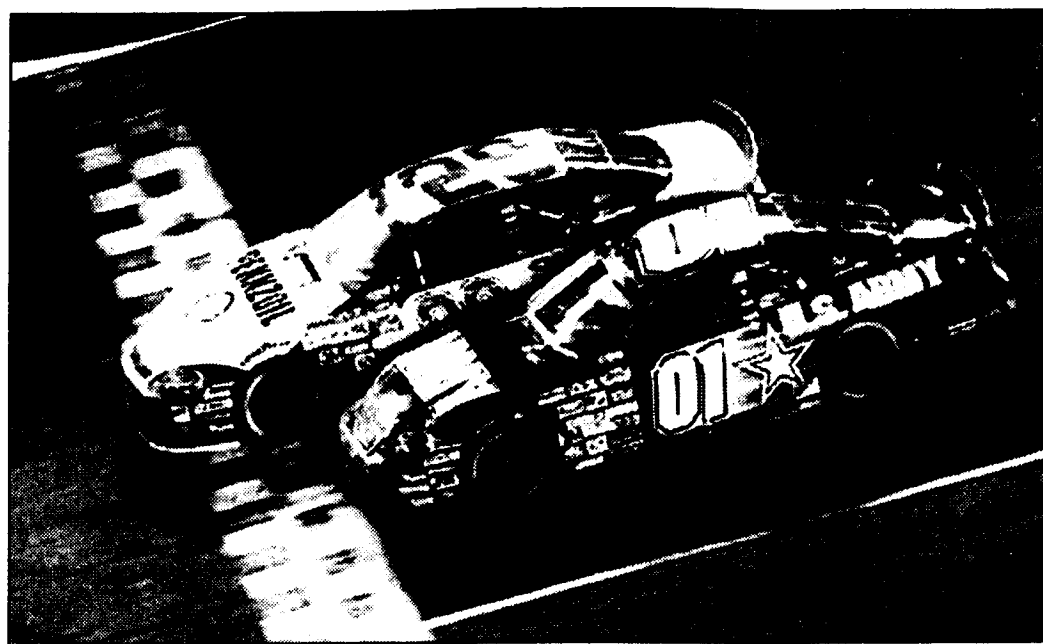


SPORTS

Toyota scandal and Daytona 500 bring publicity for NASCAR

By Danielle Brown
sports editor



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Daytona 500 is the Super Bowl of NASCAR, but unlike the Super Bowl, it starts off the season for the drivers. This race brings a lot of publicity to the sport, but other NASCAR news took over the headlines before the big event.

During the pre-qualifying inspection for the Daytona 500, several Toyota cars were accused of having a foreign substance in their engines that was supposed to help enhance their performance at the Daytona 500.

NASCAR suspended the crew chiefs for Matt Kenseth, Kasey Kahne, Scott Riggs and Elliott Sadler. The most severe punishment, however, went to Michael Waltrip's crew chief David Hyder, who was suspended indefinitely.

Along with the many crew chiefs being suspended, there were also penalties given to both the owners and drivers of the vehicles. Waltrip's Toyota Camry is still being looked at and may face additional penalties.

Penn State Behrend senior Brian Kundrod said he believes this incident should not have happened in NASCAR. "I don't think these Toyota drivers should be able to continue racing," said Kundrod. "NASCAR is an American sport, and American cars

should be the only ones allowed to drive."

Even though this news might have made some NASCAR fans feel uneasy, the race last weekend turned out to be suspenseful, but mostly toward the very end.

The beginning of the Daytona 500 started out a little slow. There were no "big" crashes until lap 153 out of the 200. On lap

153, Tony Stewart, who was in the lead, and Kurt Busch, who rode close behind in second place, collided, knocking themselves both out of the race.

Then on lap 175, defending Daytona 500 champion Jimmie Johnson was involved in a five-car pileup, and was also knocked out of the race.

On lap 196, Matt Kenseth bumped into the back end of Jamie McMurray, knocking themselves, Ricky Rudd and Dale Earnhardt, Jr. out of the top 10. This wreck caused an 11-minute stop in the race, with Mark Martin in the lead.

Since it took so long to clean up the debris, the drivers had two extra laps to complete before a winner could be determined. With the last two laps to go, Kevin Harvick moved up into second place and was going after Martin for the win. In the final turn of the race, cars began spinning out behind the two leaders. Martin and Harvick just missed the wreck, but when they crossed the finish line, less than five feet apart, Harvick had pushed forward, winning the Daytona 500.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Daytona 500 winner Kevin Harvick.

Tennis team's devotion leads to victory

By Tommy Phillips
staff writer

The Behrend men's tennis team got their first win of the season in an impressive fashion, defeating Waynesburg 9-0. Behrend won all six singles matches and all three doubles matches. The victory improved the team's record to 1-1.

Seniors Jim Palmer and Garrett Grenek, junior Miles Boyea, and freshmen Scott Shaw, Shane Mosier and Brad Nagel all won their singles matches. Sophomore James Getty teamed up with Mosier in one of the doubles matches, which they won. The doubles teams winners included Shaw and Boyea, and Palmer and Grenek.

Coach Jeff Barger said he was encouraged by his team's success in these matches. "Considering it is early in the season, everybody looked pretty good," he said. "I was happy with the bottom of the lineup. They all played very well." Barger says he especially liked to see how many players are getting involved. "With the depth we have this year, the bottom [of the

lineup] is our strength," he said. "It's good to see it held true." Barger also says he was impressed by the performance of the freshmen. "We do have a number of young guys playing; three freshmen," he said. "They all played well."

When it comes to the season as a whole, Barger says his team needs to avoid injuries in order to be successful. "[We need to] pretty much all stay healthy," he said. "It's a long season. Last year, we had a couple of injuries that hurt us." Barger also says he thinks the team's training will really help them. "We need to continue to work hard and practice," he said. "Our conditioning program is very good."

Behrend's next match is at home against Franciscan University of Steubenville on Mar. 3. Barger says that while he does not know the opponent well, his team is looking forward to playing them. "This is a new team. We've never played them before, so I don't know a lot about their team," he said. "We are looking forward to that match. Hopefully we will continue that good play."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Behrend's Men Rec team TOE takes a group photo after being crowned Intramural Champions.

Intramural Update

DEADLINES:

Swimming Friday, Feb. 23

4v4 Coed Volleyball Friday, Feb. 23

AEROBICS CLASSES:

Monday-Thursday

6 p.m. - 7 p.m. and 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

call Rob Wittman @ 898-6280 for details

BASKETBALL CHAMPS:

Men's Competitive League- Purple Cobras

Men's Rec- TOE (5 years running)

Women's- Ciccarelli



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Men's Competitive Team the Purple Cobras pose for a picture after winning the Championship.

MY TOP 10 WORKOUT SONGS

By: Danielle Brown
sports editor

These are a few of my favorite songs to listen to when I run on the treadmill or lift weights. Most of them pump me up and help me push myself to work-out harder. I have most of these songs on my MP3 player and on CD so I can listen to them if I am working out at home or at the gym. Give them a try. I know you won't be disappointed.



THE BEHREND BEACON

Brown on her new treadmill running to one of her favorite workout songs.

- Yellowcard- "Way Away"
- Billy Talent- "Devil in a Midnight Mass"
- Fall Out Boy- "Of All the Gin Joints in all the World"
- The Game- "This is How we do"
- Papa Roach- "Last Resort"
- AC/DC- "You Shook Me All Night Long"
- Taking Back Sunday- "Cute Without the 'E' (Cut From the Team)"
- The White Stripes- "Seven Nation Army"
- Justin Timberlake- "Summer Love"
- Christina Aguilera- "Dirty"

Penguin fever still in Pittsburgh

By Andrew McLachlan
contributing writer

Penguin fever has hit the city of Pittsburgh and most of western Pennsylvania. Even though the Pittsburgh Penguins point streak had just ended on Feb. 19 against the New York Islanders, the point production from those games have fans filling up the seats at Mellon Arena, and have them sitting in fourth place in the Eastern Conference, jumping nine spots when their point streak began.

Though Sidney Crosby has been explosive, keeping a 14-point lead over Vincent Lecavalier of the Tampa Bay Lightning for the scoring title, it has been other players that have been coming up big for the Pens. Rookies Evgeni Malkin and Jordan Staal have been playing their best hockey during the past month, combining for 53 of the 203 goals scored this year by the Penguins.

Also, some of the role players have been producing when needed. Second year center Maxime Talbot currently has nine goals on the season. Four of the goals were short-handed goals and another three goals were game-winning goals. Right winger Jarkko Ruutu, scored two goals in a recent clash with the first place New Jersey Devils on Feb. 16. Left winger Ryan Malone, who started off slow this season, got his second hat trick in the past few months against New York Islanders on Feb. 19.

Penn State Behrend junior Dan Thiessen, a forward for the Behrend Ice Hockey Team and long-time Pens fan, said that he is not surprised that players other than Crosby, Malkin, and Staal are putting the puck in the net. "This year's Penguin team has a lot more balance than they have had in years past. They got a great mix of goal scorers,

play-makers, and grinders. Plus, it doesn't hurt having Sidney Crosby on your team." Thiessen, a leading goal scorer for the Behrend squad, also went on to say that he sees the Pens making the playoffs this year.

With the Penguins about to embark on their toughest part of the schedule, playing 17 games in the month of March, it might be in the best interest for General Manager Ray Shero to acquire some help before the trade deadline, which is Feb. 27. Over the past five years, the Penguin organization has had the role of being sellers at the trade deadline. Now with the team looking to make their first playoff appearance since 2001, the Pens will look to pick up players that will give them the extra push towards their goal of the Stanley Cup.

Bill Guerin, a right winger for the St. Louis Blues, has been mentioned as a target for the Penguins. Guerin is having another solid year, with 27 goals and 19 assists. Guerin will not come cheap. The Penguins could land Guerin for the price of Malone and a prospect for a high-end draft pick.

Another player that the Pens have mentioned is St. Louis Blues defenseman Eric Brewer. The one-time all star has been circling through the trade rumors for months now and will be a costly player at the deadline. Brewer is on many deadline wish lists, so getting him may be difficult. Parting ways with either highly touted defensive prospects Kristopher Letang or Alex Goligoski could land Brewer. Other names to watch for at the deadline will be Colorado defenseman Ken Klee, Los Angeles defenseman Brett Sopel, Philadelphia forward Geoff Sanderson, or Columbus forwards Fredrick Modin or Anson Carter.