

Sports Bits

Engine Trouble

by Joe Mottillo
Collegian Staff

Nothing but net: Former Boston Celtic great, Larry Bird, will have his jersey number retired tonight at the Boston Garden. Magic Johnson, David Stern, NBA commissioner, and former Celtic players who were teammates of Bird on the three championship teams he played on all attended the ceremonies. Bird was an eleven time all-star, rookie of the year, three time MVP and a member of the gold medal winning, Dream Team.

Heading South: Toronto Maple Leafs traded goalie, Grant Fuhr, to the Buffalo Sabres for goalie Daren Puppa and left winger Dave Andrechuk. Fuhr is reunited with Buffalo coach, John Muckler, who coached Fuhr when he played on the Edmonton Oilers in their glory years. Andrechuk is second on the Sabres' all-time scoring list.

Women in sports: The second annual Women in Sports banquet was held last night at Rainbow Gardens. The banquet honored the outstanding achievements of both high school and college athletics. It also honors adults who have been instrumental in Erie athletics. Behrend women's volleyball coach, Jan Wilson, was honored for her outstanding contributions to Behrend athletics. Also honored from Behrend were Wendy Ebinger, women's basketball; Darcie Bradley, women's softball; Pam Allshouse, women's volleyball; and Ann Marie Faso, women's tennis. Bradley was Behrend's nominee for the Flo Hyman award. The candidates of this award were from Behrend, Edinboro, Gannon and Mercyhurst.

Hat trick recorded: Keith E. McFall, Matthew D. Cisano and I all picked the Cowboys to win the Super Bowl. It was the first time that the Three Amigos all picked the correct team. Entertainment editor, Rick Kastan, still thinks that Buffalo will come back and win the Big One. Poor guy.

Play ball: Major League baseball's 1993 season will begin in less than a month when many teams start spring training.

Lions stall at finish

by Joe Mottillo
Collegian Staff

On Monday night, the faithful at Erie Hall saw one of the best finishes in Behrend basketball. Unfortunately, the Behrend Lions were on the short end of a 55-54 decision to the Thiel Tomcats.

With a little under a minute left, point guard Johnny Hawthorne brought the ball up the court and launched a three point attempt. Unfortunately, the shot didn't go in, but he was fouled and awarded three free-throws.

Hawthorne came into the game shooting only 48% from the charity stripe. All three shots, as they say in the Bird-Jordan commercial, were nothing but net. The Lions were now only down by one, 53-52.

When Thiel tried to inbound the ball, sophomore forward Steve Berger stole the ball and gave Behrend a 54-53 lead. The crowd in Erie Hall was probably the loudest it has been all year.

With two seconds left, Thiel guard Sean McWhorter hit a jumper in the lane to give Thiel a 55-54 victory.

When asked to comment on the loss, Assistant Coach Chris



Sibling rivalry: Sophomore Steve Berger goes up strong against his brother Eric in a game earlier this week with Thiel College in Erie Hall.

Viscuso said, "We can't let this bother us. We have to take it one game at a time."

After the loss, the Lions fell to 9-11 on the season, yet still feel that they have a shot at the ECAC Tournament.

The Lion's last outing before the Thiel game was against an 0-14 Oberlin team. The Lions snatched up their ninth victory

of the season as they won 70-59. Hawthorne and Rob Hunt each had 16 points for the victorious Lions as they held Oberlin to only 41% shooting on the day.

Lion Notes: How much closer can you get? After last night's loss, the Lions have

only been out-scored 1260 to 1259.

In the last two games, Johnny Hawthorne has been averaging 15.5 points per game.

The Lions final home game is February 10 against Keuka College.

Lady Lions last chance to dance

by Hal Coffey
Collegian Staff

As the Lady Lions NCAA bid hopes fall further and further out of their reach, Coach Jenepher Banker is looking forward to "one game at a time".

How did Behrend fall from their lofty pre-season goals?

Banker believes that the extra pressure due to last year's success (23-4) and the team's recent inability to run the court efficiently have been major factors.

You need to look no further than the stats from the January 27 game vs. Washington and Jefferson at Erie Hall. The Lady Lions shot 6 points below their season average even with an extra five minutes of overtime.

In overtime, Behrend scored only 2 points. Anne Bonner helped keep the home team in the game finishing with 21 points.

Unfortunately, Banker believes that the ladies "lack of inside shots and lay-ups" were their downfall.

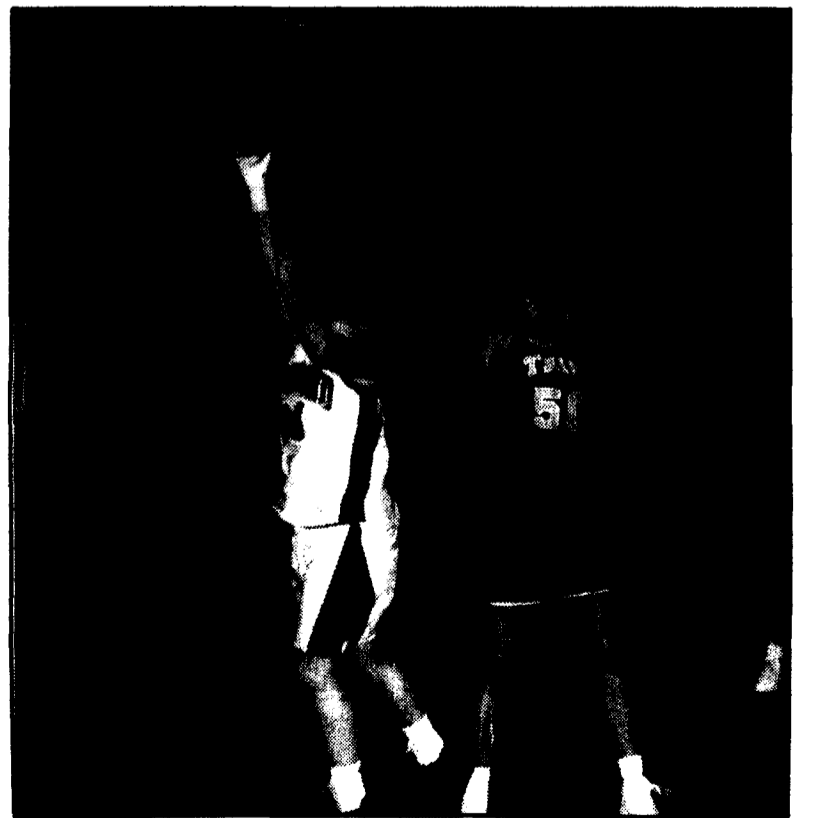
The 67-63 overtime loss forced Banker into having a multitude of running drills at practice. It evidently paid off in a 101-36 thrashing of winless Oberlin and a 71-50 home victory over Thiel College.

In those two games, Becky Swartz scored 16 and 10 points, respectively, to lead the Lady Lions.

With the season winding down, Banker believes that the girls can beat the two teams that have beaten them a total of three times, Vaynesburg and Washington and Jefferson.

"We're better than both teams, but we haven't proven it yet. It's time to start proving," said Banker.

By defeating those two ranked teams, and a few in between, perhaps the ladies can eek out an



One on one: Junior Krista Hershner beats a Thiel College player to the hole in the Lady Lion's victory on Monday night.

NCAA bid or just get a higher ECAC bid.

As to whether this is Banker's last season at Behrend, she just wants to "wait and see once the

season is over."

The Lady Lions must run the court and work inside if this is to be a season to remember.

Kristie Guldner/Photographer

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