

# And they're off



Jon Colvin/assistant photo coordinator

**Wide open:** Senior guard Wendy Ebinger hits an easy two during the first round of the Arby's/Creative Imprints Invitational as two defenders look on helplessly.

by Paul D. Young  
Collegian Staff

The Behrend Lady Lions basketball team travelled to Baldwin-Wallace on Tuesday and returned home with a 75-65 win.

The Lady Lions were led by Heather Shearer and Anne Bonner. Shearer scored 18 points and collected 8 rebounds, while Bonner scored 18 points and pulled down 11 boards. The win increased the Lions record to 4-2.

The Lady Lions finished second at the Muskingum Tournament held in New Concord, Ohio this past weekend.

The tournament featured three teams which were ranked regionally at the beginning of the season.

To reach the tournament finals the Lions had to contend with the host team, Muskingum, in the first round on Saturday afternoon.

Led by Bonner's 26 points and Wendy Ebinger's eight steals, Behrend squeaked by with a 77-73 victory.

The Lady Lions owned a halftime advantage in this game as well, only to see the Muskies mount a second half charge and close the gap.

Fortunately, the Lions were able to stifle the rally. "We made our foul shots," said Junior forward Karen Strait.

In the finals on Sunday the Lady Lions were defeated 64-55, in overtime by Wittenberg.

Despite holding a two point lead at the half, the Lions were unable to prevail in regulation as point guard Ebinger fouled out with six minutes remaining.

Behrend managed but a single point in the extra period.

The game was not without controversy, however, as a questionable offensive charge was called against the Lions in

the final seconds.

"On the road you get those calls, you have to play through it," remarked Assistant Coach Rob Wittman.

Senior Bonner led the way for Behrend, finishing with 16 points and 17 rebounds at the center position.

Behrend's third game of the year was a match-up with Marietta College. Senior forward Heather Shearer scored a dozen points and pulled down eight rebounds to lead the Lady Lions to a 60-51 triumph.

The Lions opened their season at home, hosting the Arby's/Creative Imprint Systems Women's Basketball Invitational on November 19 and 20.

Behrend gained the finals by easily disposing of Centenary College 98-52 in the opening round of action on .

The Lady Lions featured a balanced offensive attack with five players scoring in double figures.

The Purple Raiders of Mount Union College defeated the lady Lion's in the championship game 65-60.

Behrend shot well from the line but suffered poor shooting from the field, making less than 40 percent of their attempts. They did not sink a three-point shot and were out-rebounded 43-39.

Despite the tough loss, first year Head Coach Roz Fornari had only words of encouragement for her disappointed charges. "She told us to 'keep your heads up'," said sophomore guard Emmy Arnett.

"We haven't reached our potential yet," remarked Coach Fornari. "We need to work on our execution."

Bonner added, "We have set high goals for ourselves."

The Lady Lions play at Hiram College tonight at 7:30.

## Coming home

by Joe Mottillo  
Collegian Staff

"We might not match up talent wise with every team, but our intensity level brings us up," said first year men's basketball coach Joe Shapiro.

The Lions most recently travelled to Nazareth last weekend to play in the Nazareth Tournament.

Their first opponent was the host team, Nazareth College. The Lions got their first victory of the season as they won 90-85.

Byron Thorne led the Lions with 21 points. He was followed by Rob Hunt who added 16 points and 9 rebounds, and Ron Derian who had 13 points and led the team with 10 rebounds.

"We played very well. We made some physical mistakes, but made up for them with hard play," said the victorious Shapiro.

The Lions played Hilbert College in the championship on Sunday but they ended up on the short end of an 81-66 score.

Thorne led Behrend with 21 points and added 10 rebounds. Don Plyler contributed 17 points and Rob Hunt had another strong game as he had

14 points and 8 rebounds. Shapiro was ejected when he picked up his second technical foul.

"We came out a little flat. The Nazareth game took a lot out of us. We picked it up in the second half, but it was too little, too late," said Shapiro whose team fell to 1-3.

On November 23, the Lions travelled to Meadville to take on Allegheny. The Lions lost 103-69. Hunt led the Lions with 18 points and 6 rebounds. Todd Sturgen and Derian both added 12 points and 6 and 7 rebounds respectively.

"We didn't play well from the start. We didn't come out mentally prepared to play," said Shapiro.

The Lions opened their season on November 20 against Keuka at Keuka Park, N.Y. The Lions led at the end of the first half 50-46, but couldn't hold on as they fell 88-85. Hunt netted 20 and Thorne added 18 to lead Behrend.

The Lions open their home season tomorrow against Castleton State at 8:00 p.m. in the Hamot Classic here at Behrend. Olivet and Thiel will tip off the tournament at 6:00 p.m.

"We're really excited.

Castleton is a really disciplined team. Their first seven play really well. Olivet and Thiel are both good, so it should really be exciting."

Fans can expect high scoring games as the Lions come in averaging 77.5 ppg.

## Bonners away

by Alice Lingo  
Collegian Staff

This week's Athlete of the Week is an outstanding member of the women's basketball team.

Anne Bonner, a senior center, is a communications major from Pittsburgh, PA. She attended Avonworth High School, and played four years on her high school team. She is also an intern in the Sports Information Office, and enjoys basketball and reading.

This past weekend, the Lady Lions hosted the Arby's/Creative Imprint Systems, Inc. Invitational. Overall, Anne was 15 for 27 from the floor, 8 for 9 from the line, had 14 rebounds, 7 steals, 2 assists, and 2 blocks.

In the game against Centenary College, she put up 7 for 13 from the floor, was 1 for 1 from the free throw line, had 5 rebounds, and 4 steals.

Against Mt. Union, her play was just as impressive. She was 8 for 14 from the floor, made 7 of 8 foul shots, had 9 rebounds, 3 steals, 2 blocks, and 2 assists. Her average for these two games was 19 points, 7 rebounds, 3.5 steals, 1 block, and 1 assist.

This year the Lady Lions have six seniors returning to their line-up.

"We are very optimistic about how far we can go; we just take it one game at a time," commented Anne. They have a competitive schedule this

season, "and are excited for what the season holds for us."

The team is now 4-2, with their two losses coming from Mt. Union and Wittenburg, in which they lost in overtime.

Anne expressed that "We're disappointed about losing those two games, but we're not going to dwell on it; we have a very positive outlook."

Her coach, Roz Fornari, also pointed out that Anne is a great player, and is much improved. She feels that Anne's consistent game has helped them and will continue to do so throughout the season.

Anne expressed that she's "grateful to be Athlete of the Week", and she hopes that she can continue to help the team.