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<u>Page 18</u> <u>Sports</u> Thursday, February 16, 19 Six in a row and counting

by Julie Stocker Collegian Staff

Riding atop a six-game winning streak, the Lions (12-10) have a shot at the Eastern College Athletic Conference playoffs.

"At this point, there's a chance, we just need to keep winning," said an optimistic Coach Niland.

Assistant Coach Karl Jelinek agreed with Niland,

"It's a little early, but if we take it one game at a time and do the things we've done that have worked for us, we'll have a good chance,"he said.

This past Saturday the Lions entertained the Keuka Warriors. Behind the 25-point effort by Brandon George, the Lions prevailed by a final score of 70-56.

"We played terrific defense in the second half and held (Keuka) to 31 percent shooting," said Niland.

Ron Derian followed George with 16 points, three assists, and five rebounds, and Steve Berger finished the evening with 11 markers and 8 boards.

Desmond Hannon continued his domination of the glass by grabbing 13 rebounds, along with six points.

Behrend took advantage of some hot shooting 47 percent from the floor, 53 percent from three-point range, and 73 percent from the free throw line.

Monday evening, the Bethany Bison made their four-hour tour to Erie, only to find Behrend to be rude hosts. The Lions handed Bethany a 79-72 loss.

Once again, George led the charge with 20 points. Todd Sturgin and Berger each finished with 16 points, while Berger grabbed a team-high seven rebounds, and Derian notched 14 points.

Freshman guard Jamie Okonak, who was earlier named ECAC Rookie of the Week, had four points and seven assists in 36

Playing as a team: The scoring of Brandon George (25) and the interior play of Todd Sturgin (below) have been the key ingredients to the Lion's six game winning streak.

minutes of play at the guard position.

"It's a game we were fortunate to win," said Niland. "There is good chemistry between the and are becoming comfortable Niland. with their accepted roles."

entered the scoring column with double figures, there were only like most, won't be easy. two double figure scorers for Bethany.

sensation Kevin Kozup, scored an All-American. He will be 39 points, shooting 9 of 14 from extremely tough," said Niland. downtown.

the one man shooting show.

Several of Niland's Netters played defense on Kozup, but all who tried had similar results.

"We needed to always have someone on him, and to have players. They know their roles someone in his face," said

Next on the agenda for the While four of the nine Lions Lions are the Hilbert Hawks. Coach Niland knows this game,

"Hilbert has a good program. They have the best Division III One of them, sophomore player in Kareem Allen, possibly

The Lions will put their six-Defensively, I'm not happy. game winning streak on the line But give (Kozup) credit, he took Saturday, with a 7:30 p.m. terrific shots," said Niland about tipoff. The game can also be heard on WPSE Radio.

Photo by Jennifer Colvin/Co-editor



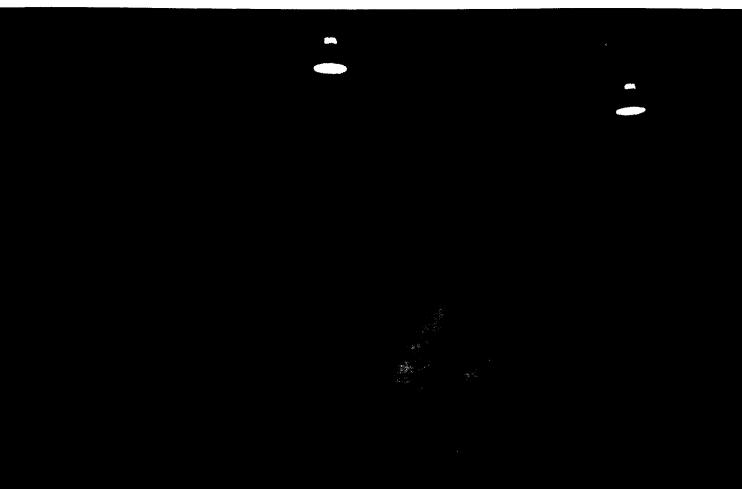


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