

Lady Lions win two in a row Host Thiel tonight

by Brian Gregory
Collegian Staff

The Penn State Behrend Lady Lions finished off a perfect week on Tuesday when they surprised archrival Buffalo State College 68-61. This win avenges two last second losses in the past two years by the Lady Lions to the Lady Bengals.

It was a game that the Lady Lions were not supposed to win, but don't tell them that. Early in the game they jumped out to a 10-8 lead in light of some early turnovers by Buffalo State.

However, Buff State slowly reclaimed the lead, and with about five minutes remaining in the first half the Lady Lions were down three. And then they went on a run, a huge run.

After missed layups by Buffalo State guards, the Lady Lions went into quick transition and scored at will. Point Guard Melanie Banas had a three-pointer, and Marlesse Schlott had a couple of buckets, and when the dust had settled, the Lady Lions were on top 30-21 with just two minutes left in the half.

But the Lady Bengals came right back turning Lady Lion mistakes into Buffalo State points. And when the buzzer sounded at the half, Buffalo State had completed a 10-2 run to pull within one.

The halftime speech must have made a big difference because the Lady Lions came out and fire and played neck-to-neck with the Lady Bengals staying within three points either way for most of the second half.

But the Lady Lions dominated down the stretch and finally put the game away after a technical foul was assessed to BSU's Amy Danner in the closing moments.

"We're starting to do things right as a team," commented Head Coach Fornari. "Last night's win proves that we can do it when we want to."

Lady Lions now 9-7

Banas led the Lady Lions with 20 points, Schlott had 15, and Emily Marini added 14. Becky Reed was also in double figures with 11.

Schlott led the way in rebounding with an astonishing 18 boards, Marini had seven and Banas six.

Last Saturday, the Lady Lions battled a tough W&J team who had been promising all week to avenge an earlier loss to Behrend. They couldn't put their money where their mouth was, though, as the Lady Lions crushed them 83-71.

"We played very well as a team," commented Fornari. "We executed things on offense and defense that we really needed to execute. We really didn't need any more motivation to beat them, but the fact that they gave it to us really sparked us even more."

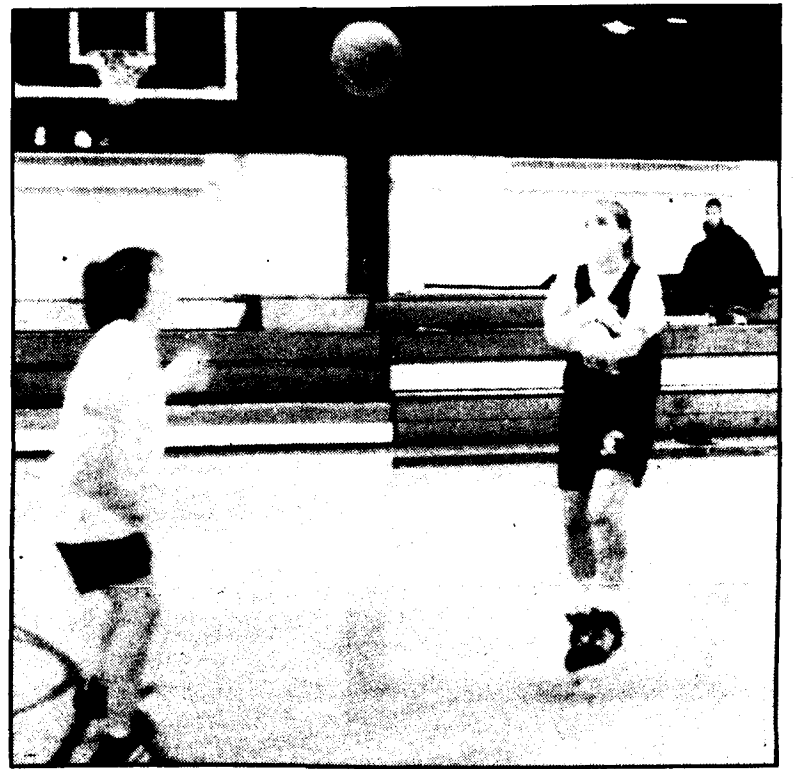
The Lady Lions dominated the whole first half as Banas and Reed were on target from the floor as they built a 10 point halftime lead 41-31.

Then in the second half, the Lady Lions kept it even, and were in danger of falling behind when the Lady Presidents lost their composure and let the game get away. With about seven minutes to go, W&J point guard Marie Dixon argued a call and received a technical. From that point on, Behrend cruised and won easily.

Banas had 20 points and five rebounds, Reed led the way with 25 points, and Marini had another strong effort with eight points and 12 boards.

"We've got four very big games coming up for us," said Fornari. "And we're hitting them on a winning streak [3 games] just like last year."

Next up for the Lady Lions are two home games, one on Thursday against Thiel, and another on Saturday against Grove City.



Practice, practice, practice: Erin Mack (left) and Melanie Banas are hard at work during a recent Lady Lion practice. Roz Fornari's club hosts Thiel tonight at 6 p.m.

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YOUR MONEY STATION

Tonight

Nittany Lion Hotline 605pm

Penn St. Behrend v. Thiel

Double Header - following Hotline

Friday Night

PSU Lady Lions v. Indiana - 715pm

Saturday

Penn St. v. Iowa - 240pm

Penn St. Behrend v. Grove City

Double Header - beginning at 6pm.

Sunday

NFL Pro Bowl - 545pm

Behrend- 83
Wash. & Jeff.- 71

Behrend

Banas 6-16, 4-5, 20 Delaney 1-5, 0-0, 2 Schlott 5-11, 4-6, 14 Marini 1-6, 6-9, 8 Reed 7-15, 6-8, 25 Mack 0-0, 0-0, 0 Bohn 2-4, 3-4, 7 McCormick 1-2, 0-0, 2 Schultz 1-4, 2-3, 4 Mangus 0-0, 0-0, 0 Bideaux 0-0, 1-2, 0 Totals: 24-63, 26-37, 83
3pts: 9-20 (Reed 5-8, Banas 4-10, Delaney 0-2)
Rebounds: Marini 12, Schlott 8

Wash. & Jeff.

M. Dixon 2-6, 0-0, 6 R. Dixon 5-12, 1-2, 13 Lander 5-19, 5-6, 18 O'Shea 0-1, 0-0, 0 Bishop 0-0, 0-0, 0 Buckley 0-2, 2-2, 2 David 5-11, 2-2, 12 Beaver 3-5, 0-0, 6 Burchett 1-9, 0-0, 2 Zichzfoose 6-12, 0-2, 12 Leviers 0-1, 0-0, 0 Totals: 27-78, 10-14, 71
3pts: 7-16 (Lander 3-7, M. Dixon 2-4, R. Dixon 2-4, O'Shea 0-1)
Rebounds: Zichzfoose 11, David 8

Behrend- 68
Buff. St.- 61

Behrend

Banas 5-8, 8-9, 20 Delaney 1-8, 1-2, 3 Schlott 3-10, 9-11, 15 Reed 3-13, 4-5, 11 Marini 4-7, 6-12, 14 Schultz 0-3, 1-2, 1 Bohn 2-8, 0-0, 4 McCormick 0-3, 0-0, 0 Totals: 18-60, 30-41, 68
3pts: 3-12 (Banas 2-3, Reed 1-6, Delaney 0-3)
Rebounds: Schlott 18, Marini 7

Buff. St.

Torres 6-16, 3-6, 15 Abraham 1-6, 0-0, 2 Zimmerman 1-1, 0-0, 2 Danner 4-12, 1-2, 9 Walsh 1-8, 2-4, 4 Mensel 3-13, 3-4, 9 Holms 1-2, 0-0, 2 Gold 4-8, 0-1, 8 Witt 5-6, 0-0, 10 Cook 0-0, 0-0, 0 Totals: 26-70, 9-17, 61
3pts: None
Rebounds: Danner 8, Gold 7

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