

One step forward, one back

by Julie Stocker
Assistant Sports Editor

Growing pains can be a tough thing. Its a time of good days and bad. The Behrend Men's basketball team is going through some growing pains of their own. The reason why: four freshmen in the starting line-up.

Saturday, the Lions entertained a tough Grove City squad at Erie Hall. The Lions, despite a strong second half comeback, fell 74-60.

"We did not defend well, and we had a lot of defensive breakdowns. Grove City played very well on top of that; in fact, that was the best I'd ever seen them play," remarked Niland.

This game might have featured one of the best first half team performances in Erie Hall.

Grove City (12-8) missed only nine shots in the first 20 minutes, finishing by shooting 69 percent in the first half. Grove City missed just one free throw in the first half. This enabled the Wolverines to enter the locker room with a 47-28 lead.

Looking at the roster, Behrend seemed to be outmatched inside, as the Wolverines averaged an inch and a half height advantage over the Lions.

Grove City's front court did overpower Behrend, as the Wolverines out rebounded the

Lions by a 35-19 margin for the game.

Prior to the game, the height difference was not a concern, according to Niland, as the game plan stayed the same.

"We have to work around those kind of things and concentrate on what we have to do."

Another advantage Grove City had over Behrend was experience. For the Wolverines, there were usually three or four seniors on the floor, and Behrend countered with three or four freshmen.

"We never use [our youth] as an excuse around here," stated Niland. "We play hard all the time, and that allows us to stay in games. We never quit."

Behrend- 83 Thiel- 60

Behrend
Paloskey 4-9, 2-2, 10 Rife 1-5, 3-4, 5
Perkins 0-4, 0-0, 0 Derian 2-8, 0-0, 4
Lawrence 8-11, 2-2, 21 Costantini
6-8, 1-2, 18 Myers 6-13, 4-5, 17
Pilzga 0-0, 2-2, 0 Adams 2-3, 0-0, 4
Emick 0-3, 0-0, 0 Heh 1-1, 0-0, 2
Totals: 30-64, 14-17, 80
3pts: 9-19 (Costantini 5-8, Lawrence
3-5, Myers 1-1, Paloskey 0-2, Derian
0-2, Rife 0-2, Adams 0-1)
Rebounds: 41 (Myers 6, Costantini 6,
Derian 6)
Thiel
Gissentaner 1-3, 0-0, 3 Brown 4-11,
3-4, 14 Francis 4-11, 0-0, 12 Jackson
0-5, 0-0, 0 Daley 1-4, 2-2, 4 Robbins
0-3, 0-0, 0 Schaeffer 2-4, 2-2, 5
Newman 2-6, 2-2, 7 Shafer 0-2, 1-2, 1
Mulchak 5-9, 0-0, 14 Cunningham
0-3, 0-0, 0
Totals: 19-61, 9-12, 80
3pts: 13-33 (Francis 4-10, Mulchak
4-8, Brown 3-5, Gissentaner 1-1,
Newman 1-3, Robbins 0-3, Daley 0-1,
Jackson 0-1)

Youth led the way for Beehrend, as Andy Lawrence and Anthony Costantini each finished with 18 points.

Jason Paloskey added eight points, while Andy Rife had a solid game running the offense at the point guard position with four points and five assists before fouling out of the contest.

Last Thursday, the Lions were involved in a cat fight with the Tomcats of Thiel College. Behrend came out a winner as the Lions won the nightcap of the double header, 83-60.

"I thought we played very well," said Coach Niland. "[Thiel] had their struggles shooting the ball, and I thought

Grove City- 74 Behrend- 60

Behrend
Paloskey 3-12, 0-0, 8 Rife 1-5, 2-2, 4
Perkins 0-1, 0-0, 0 Derian 1-2, 0-1, 2
Lawrence 5-8, 4-5, 18 Myers 3-9, 0-0, 7
Costantini 5-8, 3-6 18 Adams 0-2, 0-0, 0
Sutton 0-1, 0-0, 0 Pilzga 0-0, 0-0, 0 Emick
1-1, 1-2, 3
Totals: 19-49, 10-16, 60
3pts: 12-27 (Costantini 5-8, Lawrence 4-5,
Paloskey 2-7, Myers 1-2, Sutton 0-1,
Adams 0-1, Rife 0-3)
Rebounds: 19 (Costantini 5)
Grove City
Wherley 4-8, 5-7, 13 Letley 3-3, 2-3, 8
Hamsher 5-9, 2-3, 14 Gilbert 1-5, 2-2, 4
Coddington 1-3, 0-0, 2 Cope 1-2, 0-0, 2
VonHandorf 9-10, 5-8, 23 Grover 3-5, 0-0,
6 Wiens 0-0, 0-0, 0 Avon 0-0, 0-0, 0
Steheman 0-0, 0-0, 0 Crately 0-0, 0-0, 0
Totals: 27-48, 18-23 74
3pts: 2-9 (Hamsher 2-5, Gilbert 0-2,
Wherley 0-2)
Rebounds: 35 (Gilbert 11, Hamsher 6,
Grover 6)

we played well defensively."

Four Lions were in double digits with scoring, as Lawrence led the way with 21 points, shooting 3-for-5 from three-point range.

Costantini followed with 18 points (5-of-6 behind the arc), six rebounds, and four assists. Jeff Myers was close behind with 17 points and six rebounds.

Paloskey finished with 10 points and four rebounds.

Despite the 23-point victory, Niland was quick to say a win is a win.

"We're happy with any win, and I don't really look at the margin by which we win by," commented Niland. "If we play well, we will win games."

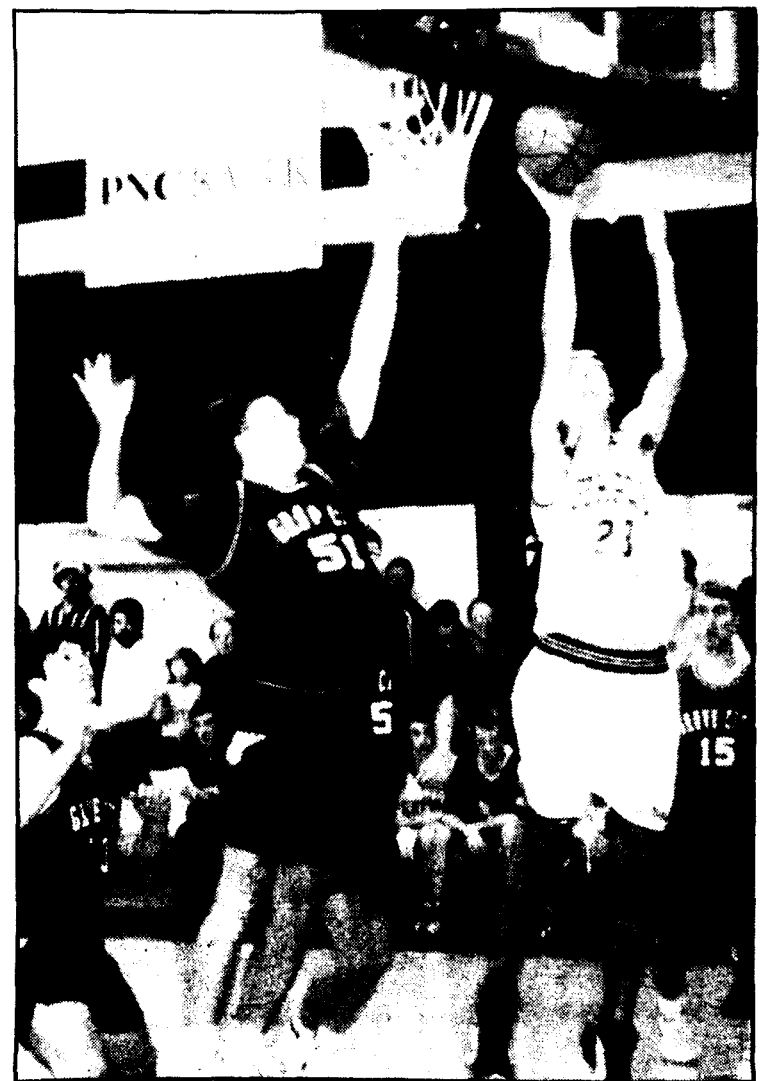


Photo by Brian Chamock/Collegian Photographer
Come to my window: Forward Jeff Myers (23) puts one off the window against Grove City. The Lions lost to the Wolverines 74-60.

Marini scraps way to ATW

by Bryan Gomolchak
Collegian Staff

The Penn State-Behrend Lady Lions are up to it again, winning six in a row. How do they do it you may ask? They do it with a variety of strong hearted players. One such player is Housing and Food Services Athlete of the Week, Emily Marini.

Marini, a sophomore forward, is just another one of those valuable freshmen from last year. Marini is the team's fourth leading scorer and has really come on recently for the Lady Lions. This season, Marini averages 7.5 points per game, snags 5.8 rebounds per game, and comes away with 1.5 steals per game.

Lady Lion coach Roz Fornari commented on how important Marini is to the Lady Lions.

"She is one of our best defenders and is always doing the dirty work. She is also one of our best rebounders and is always trying to find a way to contribute; whether it be offensively or defensively."

This week, the Lady Lions finished a three game homestand where they went 3-0 bringing their season record to 13-7. Marini was a small part in helping the Lady Lions achieve their undefeated homestand. Marini's previous three games proved to show why the Lady Lions continue to win.

On January 30, Behrend faced Buffalo State, and Marini scored 14 points and pulled down seven rebounds in a 68-61 victory.

Marini really came out to play on February 1, as the 5'3" forward scored six points and snatched three steals as the Lady Lions went on to beat Thiel University, 65-48.

On February 3, Marini and the Lady Lions ended their homestand against Grove City. Marini scored 14 points and hit the boards with eight rebounds helping Behrend coast to an easy 73-49 win.

Marini added six points in the Lady Lions 67-49 win at Pitt-Bradford Monday.

When asked about what she gives to the team, Marini had this to say, "My team needs me to rebound and to come up with quick possession changes by getting my hands on loose balls and slapping it away."

Marini also had this to say on the success of the season, "We have played together for two years, and we have grown together, which makes it easier to play as a team."

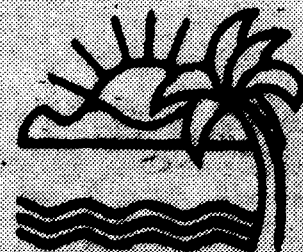
Marlesse Schlott, a fellow post player with Marini, backs up Marini's credentials.

"Being my other post player, I feel she contributes very much on the boards. From last year, she has improved her rebounding and quickness on defense which is a major asset for our team."



The Erie County Department of Health would like to wish everyone a Happy Valentines Day and remind everyone to "Luv Carefully" this year by protecting themselves from STD's / HIV. The American Social Health Association is sponsoring National Condom Day on Valentine's Day, February 14. For more information on HIV/AIDS or other STD's please call the Erie County Department of Health at 451-6727. A phone call could help save your life!

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