

Lions nationally ranked in Division III

Winning streak at five as Perritano wins #100.

by Brian Gregory
Sports Co-editor

The Penn State Lions are off to their best start in years. They finished off an exceptional week by defeating Buffalo State 5-0. The victory improved their overall record to 7-2. On Saturday they defeated Keuka 3-2.

The Lions led 1-0 at the half against the Bengals on a goal by Ryan Schank. They exploded for four goals in the second half as Ryan Ruta and Matt Kapral scored early to extend the lead to 3-0 en route to the 5-0 shutout.

Saturday, the 3-2 victory over Keuka was especially special for the Lions because with the victory the Lions were ranked in the latest NCAA Division III Regional poll. The Behrend Lions were ranked tenth in the northeast region.

"Being regionally ranked is a step in the right direction for the program," said Perritano. "We are receiving strong leadership and play from our upperclassman."

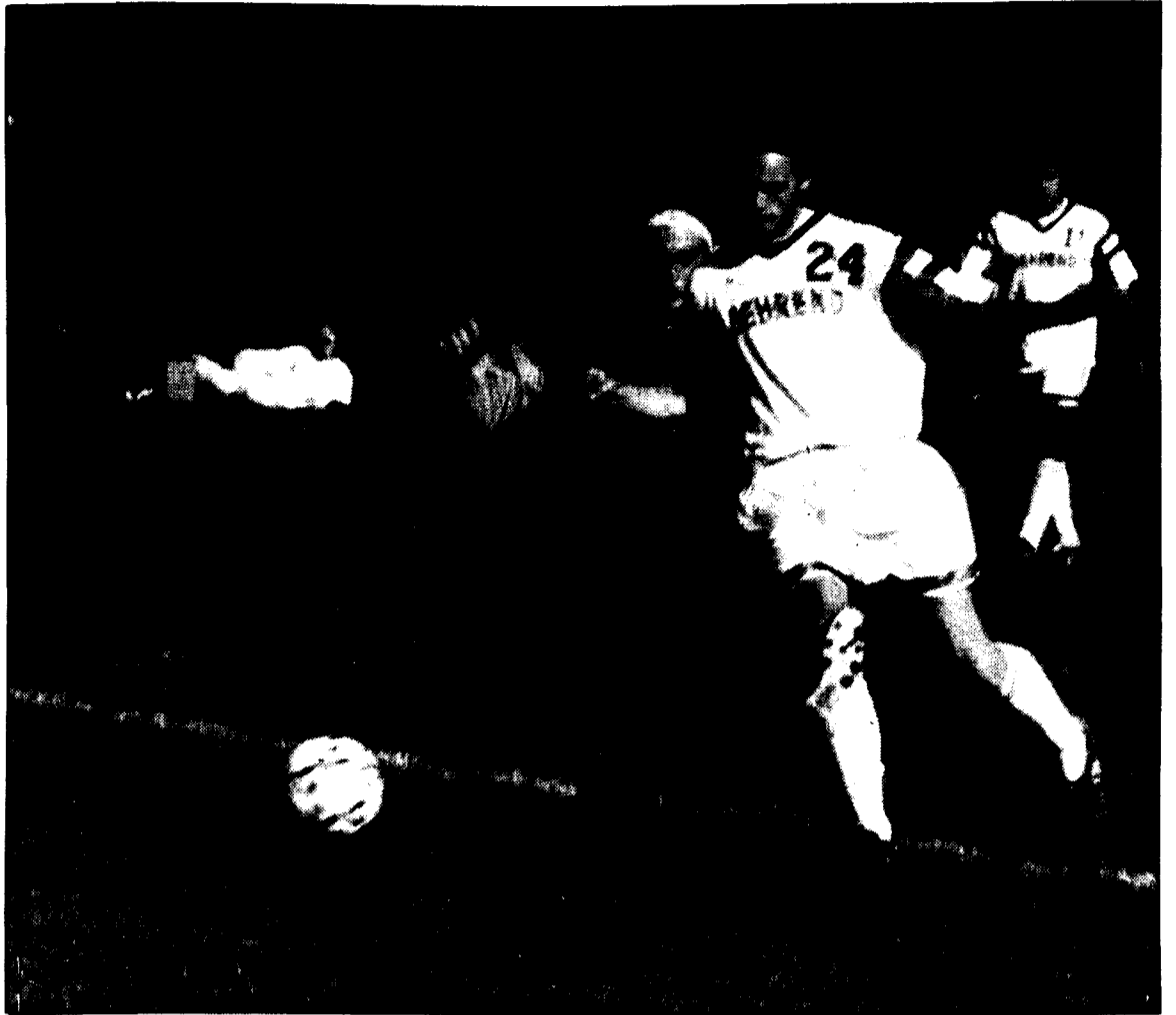
The win over Keuka was also special because Dan Perritano, the fourth-year head coach at Penn State-Behrend, picked up coaching win number one-hundred.

Perritano began his coaching career at the University of the Redlands in California where he was 7-10-1. Then he earned 1992 Region II Coach of the Year honors at the Monroe County Community College. Perritano's women's teams went 50-10-3 under Perritano.

In his four years of Behrend Lions soccer, and two years as head coach of the Lady Lions, Perritano has compiled a 43-31-3.

The Lions offense this year offense has been strong. Matt Kapral leads the team with seven goals. Kevin Reinhardt has four goals, and Ruta has four goals and three assists.

The defense has also been great all year. Goalkeeper Phil Gouker has been outstanding allowing only fifteen goals for a solid 1.88 goals against average.



Keep Rollin' On: Matt Charnock prepares to hurdle over a Buffalo State player in the 5-0 Behrend win Wednesday. Charnock and the Lions improved to 7-2 with the victory.

Ashley Newhouse/Collegian Photographer

Behrend hammers way to victory



Take this ball and shove it: Erin McCormick blocks a swept the match

by Matt Plizga
Co-Sports Editor

After a long, difficult road stretch the Lady Lions volleyball team returned to Erie Hall Tuesday night for some homecooking and an easy win over Pitt-Bradford.

"The crowd really got into the game, we fed off of the crowd and played very intense" said Coach Sharon Gregory.

Powered by freshman Heather Lerch the Behrend front line dominated the young Bradford squad. Lerch recorded 12 kills while both Jen Leone and Erin McCormick contributed 8 of the teams 44 kills.

"The second match was our best hitting game of the season, giving us a high kill percentage" Gregory said.

The Lady Lions had a season high 42 percent hitting percentage while averaging 14.7 kills per game.

Another aspect of the match that Behrend dominated was service aces, where senior Jen Leone recorded 6 of the teams 16.

"We played very well. Our serves improved tremendously and we hit the ball with authority" said outside hitter Amy Beckner.


"Last year Pitt-Bradford only had six players, but this year they had a new coach. We didn't know what to expect" said sophomore Jessica Brody.

"We knew we had to execute, so we went out and took care of business" stated co-captain Angie Georg.

"We changed our receiving pattern to four back. This helps us start our offense quicker" said Coach Gregory.

Since implementing this new strategy in the Case Western match the Lady Lions have really become more efficient offensively.

Your next chance to see Behrend in action will be next Wednesday versus rival Allegheny, in a crucial match for both teams. The Lady Lions also kick-off homecoming festivities next Friday against Hiedelberg.



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