

Lions end with win despite loss of Derian

Lions rebound with win over Oberlin

by Brian Gregory
Sports Editor

The Behrend Lions can now identify with the anguish NBA



Dave Boulos/Asst. Photo Editor

teams go through without some of their biggest stars.

On the night of the big win over Allegheny last Tuesday, the Lions lost a huge part of their team. Ron Derian (10.9 ppg, 6.6 rpg), the only four year member of the team, was sidelined after that game with a severe back bruise.

Although he is officially listed as day-to-day, Head Coach Niland knows Derian is experiencing extreme pain.

"If there was anyway he could play, he would play," said Coach Niland. "You don't really appreciate him until he's gone."

The Lions lose depth with Derian sidelined; the second most experienced player on the team has 50 fewer games.

Coach Niland said he hopes Derian will recover before the end of the year.

After a loss to a revenge-bent Fredonia State team on Thursday 63-46, the Lions rebounded to crush Oberlin on Saturday 76-60.

They opened up against Fredonia State with a solid first half of basketball trailing by only three at the break. But in the second half,

the Blue Devils pulled away as they out-shot Behrend from the floor 60 percent to 37 percent to get the seventeen point win.

"We played well for a half," said Niland. "We didn't shoot well. We had good looks, but we didn't shoot well...They (also) made some very tough shots, but we guarded well."

Andy Lawrence (15.6, 3.0) led

without Derian and Niland said they really missed his experience and abilities.

On Saturday, the Lions clawed a 2-16 Oberlin in front of a sparse crowd at Oberlin. The Lions had a 30-20 lead at intermission and pushed the advantage to sixteen in the 76-60 final.

"We shot well and played more

We tried to control the tempo and get good shots.

- Dave Niland
Head Coach Men's Basketball

the Lions in shooting with fifteen, and Steve Hout (6.2, 3.5) knocked down thirteen and grabbed eight boards. They finished the game shooting just under 35 percent.

"They played well and we didn't," Niland answered.

The game was also the first

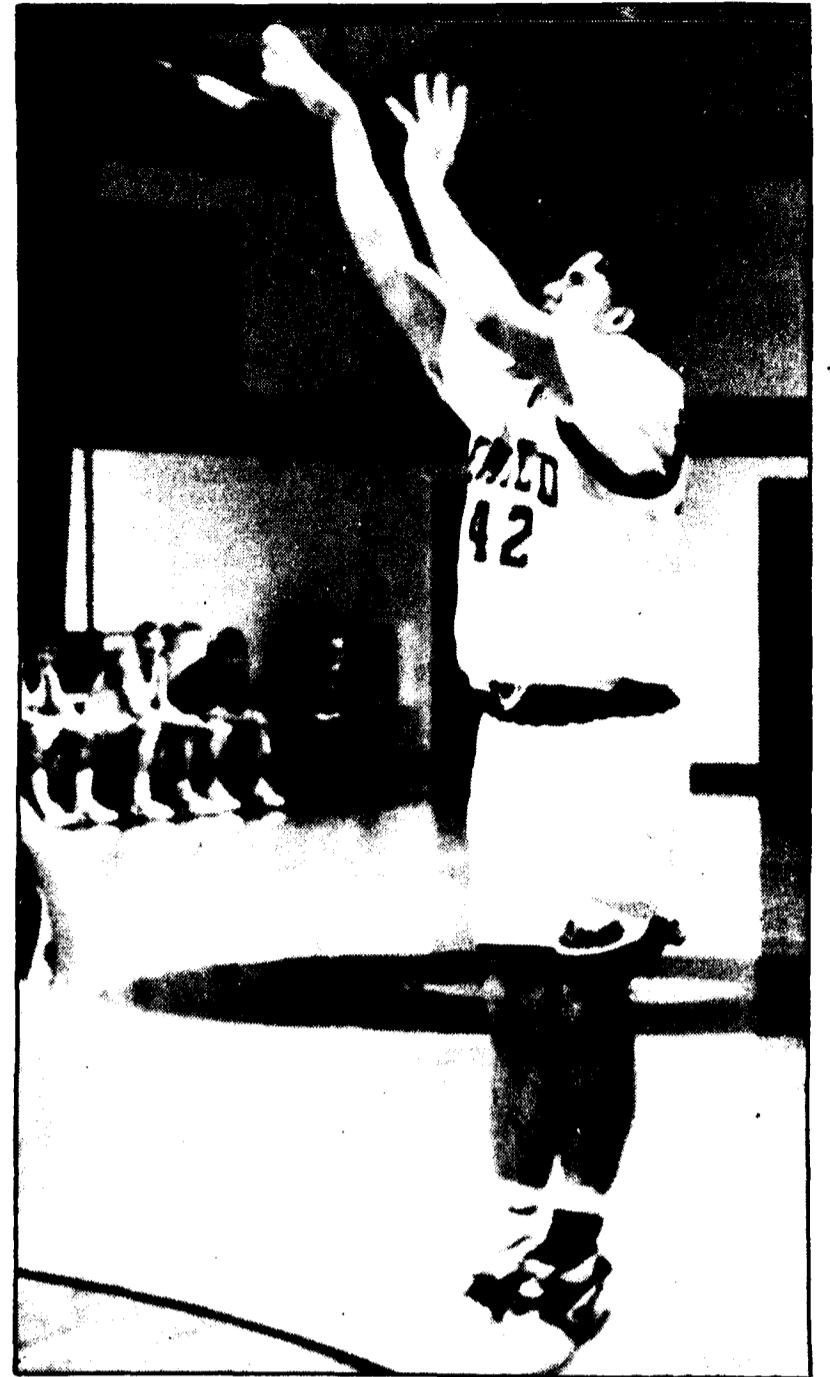
intelligent," replied Niland on the victory.

Behrend spent most of the second half in foul trouble. They lost both of their centers, Hout and Nate Willson (3.3, 4.2) to fouls and with Derian hurt, they had to finish the game with only one player on the bench.

But, Andy Lawrence (15.6, 3.0) stepped it up hitting on four of eight three pointers en route to 22 points. Jason Paloskey (14.8, 3.0) had 16, Hout had 11, and Brian Emick (8.0, 4.8) and John Park (3.2 ppg) had 10 as five Behrend players scored in double figures.

The Lions were 44 percent from the floor and 16-19 (84.6 percent) from the stripe.

"We tried to control the tempo and get good shots," Niland said.



Dave Boulos/Asst. Photo Editor

It's good: Dave Parks scores in last week's home game against Allegheny College.

Lauffer's dream realized

by Brian Gregory
Sports Editor

Herb Lauffer's dream has come true. He just didn't live quite long enough to make the announcement himself-effective Feb. 10, Penn State-Behrend will be joining a new athletic conference.

"Herb was involved; a lot of people were involved," commented

Interim Athletic Director Rosalyn Fornari. "We just hadn't aligned ourselves together until (recently)."

Behrend will be joining the newly-formed NCAA Allegheny Mountains Athletic Collegiate Conference. The AMACC will still be a Division III program.

Forming the conference along with Behrend will be Frostburg State University, Lake Erie

College, LaRouche College, Pitt-Bradford, and Pitt-Greensburg.

All of the teams are regular foes of Behrend except Pitt-Greensburg.

"There are lots of considerations when you are looking to join a conference," said Fornari. "Academics is number one...recruiting...and who we would like to align with to help us now and in the future."

Fornari added that all of the teams in the conference will be very competitive, and that Frostburg State is historically always good in sports.

The official announcement will be made on Monday, Jan. 10 at 1:00 p.m. at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford. The Collegian will try to have a writer in attendance and will have more reaction for you next week.

NCAA Allegheny Mountains Collegiate Conference

Frostburg State University
Lake Erie College
LaRoche College
Penn State Behrend
Pitt-Bradford
Pitt-Greensburg

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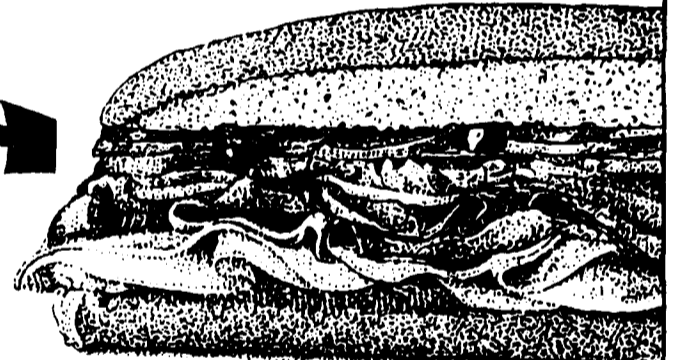


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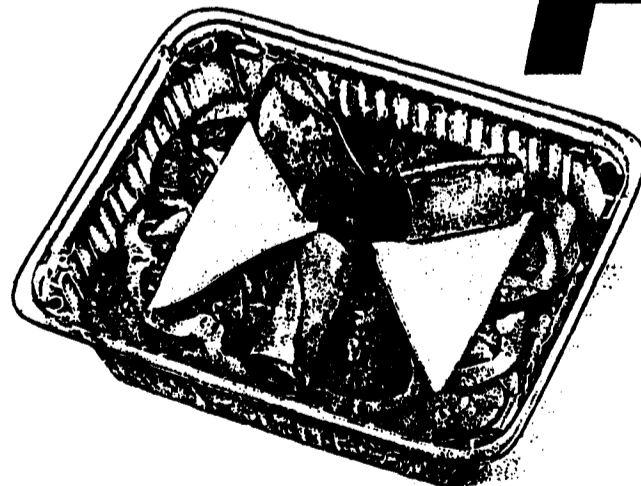
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