

Men's basketball will depend on last year's experience

by Matt Plizga
sports editor

The Penn State-Behrend men's basketball team will be starting its trek towards a return trip to the ECAC regional tournament with several familiar faces.

The Lions return seven players (including four starters) from last year's team that won fifteen games and qualified for the ECAC tournament. Junior transfer Brock Bovaird will step into the starting lineup joining senior Steve Hout and juniors Jason Paloskey, Andy Lawrence and Brian Emick.

The team's experience should prove to be an important factor in this year's success.

"We have experience and solid perimeter people. We should be able to do some things in the full court defensively that we haven't in the past because of personnel," said coach Dave Niland.

Andy Lawrence and Jason Paloskey, Behrend's leading scorers last year, are returning to provide an outside threat for the opposition.

"I think our strength will be that we have some people that can really shoot the ball," said Niland.

Hot shooting, aggressive defensive play and rebounding are especially important for the team because of its lack of size.

"If we are able to adapt to our lack of size and play a style that counteracts that lack of size we will be OK," Niland said.

Junior Matt Plizga, sophomores John Park and Nate Willson will combine with freshmen Ashley Or-

ris, Marc Peterson, Sam Whitting and Travis Gatesman to give the Lions depth off the bench.

Coming off of last season's success the Lions would surely like to return to the postseason, but that remains in the distance.

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of development we will not have success," said Niland.

One of the first steps for Behrend will be a difficult schedule outside of the league that features Waynesburg, Alfred, Allegheny and Fredonia. The Lions will also be hosting two tournaments this season with the Hamot Classic taking place this weekend.

The prospect of returning to postseason play coupled with the addition of an AMCC league schedule will make for an exciting year inside the confines of Erie Hall.

The AMCC could prove to be one of the tougher conferences despite that it is in just its first year.

"Five of the six teams won 15 or more games last year, not many conferences can say that, it is going to be a terrific men's basketball league," said Niland.

"Team-wise it will be a new challenge for us, a new focus because we haven't had that conference play in January and February in the past," he added.

The Lions will open their year inside the friendly confines of Erie Hall this Saturday.

Behrend will play Oberlin College at 8:00.

Penn State-Behrend men's basketball schedule

Date	Opponent	Time
Nov 22	Hamot Classic	
	Hiram vs Waynesburg	6:00
	Behrend vs Oberlin	8:00
Nov 23	Consolation/Championship	1/3
Dec 2	at Thiel	7:30
Dec 6	Elmira	2:00
Dec 9	Alfred	8:00
Dec 13	Thiel	3:00
Jan 3	at Grove City	7:30
Jan 7	at SUNY-Fredonia	8:00
Jan 10	Taco Bell Classic	
	Cazenovia vs Binghamton	6:00
	Behrend vs Hilbert	8:00
	Consolation/Championship	1/3
Jan 11	Pitt-Bradford*	8:00
Jan 14	at Waynesburg	8:00
Jan 17	Frostburg State*	7:30
Jan 19	SUNY-Fredonia	7:30
Jan 22	at Pitt-Greensburg*	4:00
Jan 24	at Frostburg State*	4:00
Jan 25	LaRoche*	8:00
Jan 28	at Lake Erie*	8:00
Jan 31	at LaRoche*	8:00
Feb 4	Grove City	7:30
Feb 11	at Allegheny	3:00
Feb 14	Lake Erie*	8:00
Feb 18	Pitt-Greensburg*	8:00
Feb 21	at Pitt-Bradford*	8:00
Feb 23		

*denotes AMCC league games
All home games in BOLD

Penn State-Behrend Men's Basketball Roster

No	Name	Yr	Pos	Ht	High School
3	Jason Paloskey	Jr	G	5'10	Bucktail
4	Matt Plizga	Jr	G	5'11	Bloomfield, Oh
5	Marc Peterson	Fr	F	6'4	Wilmington Area
10	Andy Lawrence	Jr	G	6'3	Saegertown
11	Sam Whitting	Fr	G	5'10	Brookville
15	Travis Gatesman	Fr	C	6'5	North Clarion
22	Brian Emick	Jr	F/G	6'3	Mercyhurst Prep
23	Ashley Orris	Fr	G	5'11	Union City
32	Nate Willson	So	F/C	6'3	Bradford
34	Brock Bovaird	Jr	G	5'10	Brockway
35	Steve Hout	Sr	C	6'5	Westfield, NY
42	John Park	So	F	6'2	McDowell

Head Coach: Dave Niland
Assistant Coach: John Gorman

Cross Country teams finish strong at regional championships

by Cynthia Rabbers
collegian.staff

The men's and women's cross country teams finished up their seasons this weekend at the NCAA Mideast Region Championships.

Behrend runners met some of the top teams in the region for the first time this season but that didn't stop them from running good races.

"Both teams ran really well. The freshmen dealt with the pressure of their first championship very well also," said coach John Drew.

Mark Huether placed fifty-first with a time of 27:51 to lead the men's team to a nineteenth place finish out of forty-one teams.

Other scorers for the Lions included Greg Cooper (116th, 28:59), Dennis Halaszynski (125th, 29:10), Mark Suroviev (128th, 29:12) and Matt Scholl (145th, 29:38).

Chris Reed and Tyler Travis also ran for the Lions. Two hundred and forty-two men finished the five-mile course.

Huether's fifty-first place finish was a considerable improvement upon last year's 102nd place finish.

Greg Cooper, Behrend's second finisher was the twentieth freshman to complete this year's race.

Sandy Mishic who placed twentieth with a time of 19:55 led the women's team to a thirty-sixth place finish out of forty-three teams.

Mishic's twentieth place finish earned her the honor of being named to the All-Region team. She missed qualifying for Nationals by five places.

"It was disappointing for Mishic to miss Nationals, but everyone that finished ahead of her ran at least twenty seconds better than her best time and making All-Region is a great accomplishment," Drew added.

Both teams have finished up their seasons and their second year as a varsity program.

Some of the runners will begin their off-season training as others prepare for the upcoming track season.

Behrend Classified

behrcoll4@aol.com

SH,
I got a pocket full of snow and my homeboys do too. Be ware
-Dylan

Juan,
Que flojo eres. Thanks for that big test in Español.
-Clubber

Becky,
Have a good Thanksgiving and bring me back some pumkin pie and turkey.
-Matty

Troy,
You the man with the ladies. Keep bringin' her to Bruno's.
-VBP

bean dippie,
I'm glad you're my best friend. I don't know what I would have done without you! Things are finally looking up for us. It's about time. Love, in that nonsexual way of course, chic

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photo by John Hoderny

Ron Derian wins a thirteen-inch color TV in the Fan Jam half court shoot-off. Derian was named the Behrend male Athlete of the year last year for his outstanding play on the men's basketball team. Currently, Derian serves as an assistant Junior Varsity basketball coach. In order to win the TV, he had to sink a half court shot.