

## Men's basketball captures AMCC title

### Lions headed to ECAC tournament to face #1 seed Lebanon Valley College

by Dylan Stewart  
sports editor

The Penn State - Behrend men's basketball team closed out their season last Sunday with accomplishing the number one goal they had set out to attain at the beginning of the year: take home the first ever AMCC title.

The Lions did just that, with a convincing win over AMCC foe Frostburg State by a score of 76 - 63 in the championship game.

Frostburg State had reached the championship with a surprising upset over host school Pitt - Bradford in the semi - finals.

"It was nice to go out and accomplish a goal that we had set at the beginning of the season," said senior center Steve Hout.

The men's basketball team closed out their 97 - 98 campaign as one of the hottest teams in Division III basketball. They won twelve of their last fifteen games to finish the regular season with an 18 - 8 overall record and a 7 - 3 record in the first year of AMCC conference play.

Under head coach Dave Niland, who has led the Lions to a solid 59 - 43 record in the past four years, the Behrend Lions captured the AMCC title while also receiving their second straight ECAC tournament bid.

The Lions only seem to be getting better each and every year, as this year's win total of 18 is the most wins

in a season since Behrend became a NCAA Division III institution.

"This is an exciting opportunity for our College and our basketball program," said Niland. "We are looking forward to returning to the ECAC tournament. This is a very competitive environment and we are pleased that we are one of four teams to be selected within the region," added Niland.

In the championship game against Frostburg, the Lions used suffocating defense, while also employing a steady offensive attack to control the contest the whole way through.

The Lions shot an impressive 51% (26-51) from the field for the game, while also performing consistently from the free - throw line by netting a solid 84% (16 - 19) for the contest.

"We played well defensively, which in turn created a lot of opportunities for our offense," said junior guard Jason Paloskey.

Brock Bovaird once again provided a steady offensive performance as he led the offense with 22 points, going 6 - 6 from the free - throw line, while also nailing 2 - 5 from three - point land.

"Brock (Ballgame) Bovaird is the wind beneath our team's wings. He handled the full court pressure all weekend that LaRoche and Frostburg threw our way," said senior Steve Hout.

Brian Emick also had a very big game as he once again came up big on the boards with 8 rebounds, while also chipping in 15 points.

Nate Willson came up with a team - high 11 rebounds, while also netting in 9 points.

Ashley Orris and Jason Paloskey were able to bang in 15 and 8 points apiece, while John Park and Matt Plizga came off the bench to provide 5 and 2 points respectively.

For the Lions to even get to the championship game, they first had to fight through a hard fought battle against LaRoche. The Lions came away with the victory by a score of 59 - 58.

The Lions went into the half with a nine point lead at 29 - 22, and then held on for the victory despite being outscored by LaRoche by a count of 36 - 30 in the second half.

Although the Lions were outshot from the field by a count of 49% (24 - 49), to 47% (21 - 44), they came away winners at the free - throw line by banging in 72% (13 - 18), compared to only 40% (4 - 10) for the losers.

Brock Bovaird led the offensive attack, as he poured in 16 points with 3 - 4 shooting from behind the arc. Bovaird also came up huge defensively as he came through with a team - high 4 steals.

Jason Paloskey came through big

as he knocked in 13 points and pulled down 5 rebounds.

Brian Emick pulled in another one of his steady all - around performances as he pulled down a team - high 8 rebounds, threw in 10 points, and dished out 3 assists.

Last but not least, Nate Willson came through in the clutch with 11 points, 6 rebounds, 2 steals, and one blocked shot.

The Lions will open up ECAC play this weekend as the number four seed, when they travel down to compete in the first round against host school Lebanon Valley. The Flying Dutchmen (18 - 8) are the number one seed in the tournament and boast one of the top Division III forwards in the country.

"We have to contain their best player, who is one of the best forwards in the nation," said junior Jason Paloskey.

Pitt - Bradford (20 - 5), the AMCC regular season champions, are seeded third and will challenge the Yellow Jackets of Waynesburg College (20 - 5) at 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, March 7th.

The Behrend Lions will play Lebanon Valley at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday.

The championship game will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 8th.



photo by Jason Blake

Lion's leading rebounder Brian Emick (#22) muscled his way in for a rebound as Behrend leading scorer Brock Bovaird (#34) looks on.

## Intramural Roundup

### SOCCKER

#### MEN'S - WOMEN'S - COED

Teams are allowed ANY COMBINATION OF TWO - VARSITY OR EX-VARSITY

**ENTRIES:** Deadline is **Friday, Mar 6 at 4:00 pm**  
Entries will be taken in the IM office before the deadline  
Entry forms available in the IM office or from the IM board

**ENTRY FEE:** \$2.00 will be charged to your student account  
Faculty and staff must submit \$2.00 at the time of entry

**DIVISIONS:** MEN'S, WOMEN'S, and COED  
Coed teams must have 3 female and 3 male field players and 1 goalie. There are no restrictions on the number of players allowed on a team

#### POINT SYSTEM TEAMS:

**Fraternities may enter 2 teams**  
**Residence Hall and Independent may enter 1 team to earn points**

**TOURNAMENT:** Round robin. Top two teams from each league will advance to a single elimination championship bracket

**TIME & PLACE:** Games will be played Mondays through Thursdays at various times. Sundays will be used if the number of entries demands it

**RULES:** Collegiate and Intramural rules will be used

**NOTES:** League play will begin around Tuesday, Mar 17

There will be a MANDATORY CAPTAINS MEETING Monday, March 16 at 8:00 pm in Erie Hall classroom

### 6 VS 6 VOLLEYBALL

#### MEN'S - WOMEN'S - COED

Teams are allowed ANY COMBINATION OF TWO - VARSITY, EX-VARSITY OR CLUB PLAYERS

**ENTRIES:** Deadline is **Friday, March 6 at 4:00 pm**  
Entries will be taken in the IM office before the deadline  
Entry forms available in the IM office or from the IM board

**ENTRY FEE:** \$2.00 will be charged to your student account  
Faculty and staff must submit \$2.00 at the time of entry

**DIVISIONS:** MEN'S, WOMEN'S, and COED  
Coed teams must have at least 2 females or 2 males on the court at all times. There are no restrictions on the number of players allowed on a team

#### POINT SYSTEM TEAMS may enter up to two teams

**TOURNAMENT:** Round robin. Single elimination championship brackets for all teams to follow league play

**TIME & PLACE:** Matches will be played Monday through Thursday evenings at various times. Sundays will be used if the number of entries demands it

**RULES:** USVBA, Collegiate and IM rules will be used

**NOTES:** League play will begin around Tuesday, Mar 17

There is a MANDATORY CAPTAINS MEETING Monday, March 16 - 8:00 pm in Erie Hall classroom

## SCOREBOARD

### AMCC Playoffs

#### Women's Basketball (19-8)

2/26 PSB 78 - Lake Erie 35,  
high scorers Sanders, 14;  
Buck, 14;  
Marini, 10

3/28 PSB 73 - Frostburg 53,  
high scorers Schultz, 22;  
O'Lare, 13;  
Nestor, 12;  
Lorenzo, 11

#### Men's Basketball (18-8)

2/28 PSB 59 - LaRoche 58,  
high scorers Bovaird, 16;  
Paloskey, 13;  
Willson, 11;  
Emick, 10

3/1 PSB 76 - Frostburg 63,  
high scorers Bovaird, 22;  
Emick, 15;  
Orris, 15

### ECAC Playoffs

Women's basketball (March 7 and 8):

Pitt-Bradford #2 vs. Grove City #3  
PSB #4 vs. Kings #1 (host)

Men's basketball (March 7 and 8):

Pitt-Bradford #3 vs. Waynesburg #2  
PSB #4 vs. Lebanon Valley #1 (host)

### 1997-98 AMCC ALL CONFERENCE BASKETBALL TEAMS

#### Men

AMCC MOST VALUABLE PLAYER - PAT CULLINAN - Pitt-Bradford

#### First Team

BROCK BOVAIRD - Penn St. Behrend  
JASON TROUT - Pitt-Greensburg  
DAMIAN HALL - LaRoche  
SHAUN REDMAN - Pitt-Bradford  
ROD GALLAGHER - LaRoche

#### Second Team

BRIAN EMICK - Penn St. Behrend  
MYRON JONES - Pitt-Greensburg  
RYAN MYERS - Lake Erie  
ALAN MOORE - Frostburg State  
NATALIE NUZZO - Pitt-Bradford  
JASON PALOSKEY - Penn St. Behrend

AMCC NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR - BROCK BOVAIRD - Penn St. Behrend  
AMCC COACH OF THE YEAR - DAVE NILAND - Penn St. Behrend

#### Women

AMCC MOST VALUABLE PLAYER - LORA FIGLEY - Pitt-Bradford

#### First Team

EMILY MARINI - Penn St. Behrend  
SHANNON REXRODE - Frostburg State  
SHELLY RIDGEWAY - Frostburg State  
MANDY LINDSAY - Pitt-Bradford  
KARA REED - Frostburg State

#### Second Team

CRISTIN COUSINS - La Roche  
AMY SCHMUCK - Pitt-Greensburg  
ANGEL FRAME - Lake Erie  
NIKKI SCHULTZ - Penn St. Behrend  
NATALIE NUZZO - Pitt-Bradford  
CARRIE NESTOR - Penn St. Behrend

AMCC NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR - MANDY LINDSAY - Pitt-Bradford  
AMCC COACH OF THE YEAR - KATY GRENEWALT - Pitt-Bradford