

# Women's softball team finishing up turnaround season

Lions heading in the right direction for the future

by Dylan Stewart  
sports editor

The 1998 Penn State-Behrend women's softball team had their AMCC title hopes come to a halt last weekend, as they bowed out to rival Frostburg State in the semi-finals of the AMCC championship tournament by a score of 2-5.

Although not winning the AMCC title was no doubt a tough pill to swallow for the Lions, the team would have to consider the 1998 season a success and a big turnaround from the dismal showing of last year, where the Lions won only a handful of games all season long.

First year head coach Cindy Jacobelli was very upbeat about the future of Behrend softball as she stated, "Behrend softball is back on track. We have drastically improved our program from the last few years. With our returning players and great group of recruits coming in, our program is looking to be very competi-

tive in the years to come," finished Jacobelli.

Jacobelli took home the clean sweep of coaching awards this year, as she won AMCC Coach of the Year in both women's volleyball, and most recently in women's softball.

Other softball players receiving AMCC awards include Beth Calhoun-AMCC MVP and pitcher of the year, Mandy Bodnor-AMCC newcomer of the year and third baseman of the year, and last but not least Lisa Fox-AMCC centerfielder of the year.

The team currently is posting a record of 15-17, with four games remaining in their schedule to improve upon.

"Our team had a lot of heart this year," said Jacobelli. "We came back from a tough start at the beginning of the year, not to mention having many of our players play through tough injuries all year long," added Jacobelli.

One player ending her softball ca-

reer on an extreme high note was senior captain Beth Calhoun. Calhoun ended her Behrend career winning her second consecutive Behrend Female Athlete of the Year Award, while also setting career records for batting average, hits, and doubles.

The Lions most recently played Frostburg State in the AMCC semi-finals, where they suffered a four run seventh to fall by a score of 2-5.

Beth Calhoun was strong on the hill, as she pitched seven innings, giving up five earned runs on seven hits, while also striking out seven.

Leading the offense was Mandy Bodnor, as she went 2-4, with a triple and one run scored. Chipping in was Becky Rishel, Beth Calhoun, and Tanya Deats, with all three contributing a base hit in the losing effort.

The Lions will finish up their 1998 campaign with two doubleheaders on the road at the end of this week.



photo by Jason Blake

The women's softball team in action, looking to pick up their next win at home.

## Track and field to become a varsity sport in Spring of 1999

by Dylan Stewart  
sports editor

Track and Field has just recently finished going through its first trial run as a club sport in the spring of 1998.

Track is the latest addition to the Penn State Behrend athletic program, and will be looking to spread its wings next year, as it takes off as a full time varsity sport in the spring of 1999.

The club team went through a suc-

cessful experimental season this past spring, as they competed in different meets with various other division III and division II teams from around the region.

The team managed to be competitive despite being only a club sport and first year team, and will look to be a force to be reckoned with in the next years to come, as the sport will no doubt become more competitive each and every year as it gains mo-

mentum and starts recruiting.

Anybody interested in competing in track and field should contact cross-country and track coach John Drew at the beginning of next fall.

The track season starts with some conditioning in the fall before the competitive season begins at the beginning of the spring semester.

Cross country will also be offered once again as a varsity sport, competing in the fall semester.

### ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

## Slavonic slugs his way to ATW

by Dylan Stewart  
sports editor

Freshman second baseman Matt Slavonic of the Penn State-Behrend baseball team used a hot bat this past week to land himself Athlete of the Week honors.

Slavonic currently has the second highest batting average on the team at a clip of .373 (31-83), while also being third on the team in base hits.

Besides that, Slavonic currently leads the team in RBI's with thirty, while also having the second most extra-base hits with seven.

Finding the ball with his body also happens to be a Slavonic specialty, as he leads the team in HBP(hit by pitch) with four.

"Matt has been swinging a great bat all year," said senior captain Marc Burchanowski. "Besides contributing

on offense, he has provided us with solid defense at second base game in and game out," added Burchanowski.

Slavonic hails from Pittsburgh, PA, where he has modeled his game after his Pirate idol Jose Lind.

The Lions of 21-10 will finish up their regular season with two doubleheaders, before maybe having a chance to continue in the ECAC play-offs in a few weeks.



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Cheryl Ramsdell-Anderson Female Athlete of the Year Award  
Beth Calhoun

The four year letter winner and captain of the softball team is currently hitting over .500 and owns several school records. Calhoun also played two seasons of volleyball.

James Frye Male Athlete of the Year Award  
Marc Burchanowski

The captain and catcher for the 21-10 Lions is a four year letterman from Franklin.

John Zahniser Male Scholar Athlete of the Year Award  
Ryan Ruta

Ruta was a midfielder for the men's soccer team.

John Zahniser Female Scholar Athlete of the Year Award  
Sandy Mishic

Mishic earned all-conference honors in women's cross country.

Binge drinking (drinking five drinks for a man or four drinks for a woman in one sitting) is the most serious drug problem on college campuses.

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Garin, Mike, Shawn, and Lisa, GOOD LUCK WITH FINALS!  
-Nate

Grandin, Have a great summer; make lots of money!  
-NM

Jason, I have a lovely surprise for you this weekend!  
-Dolores

A, Say hi to your friend from the bus.  
-R

Mike, Prom night revisited no more.  
-the other juggler

To everyone on SGA, Great work this year!  
-RWS

Joder, Did you write your paper yet?  
-Trouble

D, I'll miss you.  
-A

To all the editors this year, Great job this year!  
-RWS

Gina Bina, Your a great friend; don't ever change. I hope you have a wonderful summer--can't wait to see you.  
-Nate

Steve, Get better soon. Have a wonderful time in State College and make sure to stop by some time. (I'm sure our dogs have a lot in common). PS: Don't do anything I wouldn't do.  
-NM

Andrea, Remember, cool people don't take finals!  
-Nathaniel

Jenna, Smitty, Matt, Amy, Missy, See ya at UP!

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