

Behrend men prepare for AMCC title defense

by Matt Buser
staff writer

The Penn State Behrend men's basketball team is poised to defend their Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) title. The men host the AMCC Conference Tournament this weekend at Erie Hall.

Behrend will face the winner of the Frostburg/LaRoche first-round game that takes place tonight at LaRoche. The Lions play at 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. The game will be preceded by tonight's Lake Erie/Pitt-Bradford winner against Pitt-Greensburg at 1:00 p.m. in Erie Hall. The tournament final is set for Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

The Lions are hoping to rebound

from a tough week in which the team lost both games they played. The men have lost three in a row, matching their season total for losses before the skid. They lost at home to Allegheny, 62-57, on Wednesday, February 17, and lost in their conference finale at LaRoche this past Saturday 64-55.

"We played three very good teams, two of them on the road and then lost a real close one here at home," Behrend head coach Dave Niland commented. "Those games could have went either way, and they didn't go our way. A week prior to that we had won all our close games. We just didn't play well at the end of those games, and that was the difference. If we do that this weekend, we should be all right. We are looking forward to defending our title."

In the loss to Allegheny, center Chris Hughes led the Lions with nineteen points and two blocked shots. Guard Brock Bovaird scored eleven and had a team-high ten assists. Forward Andy Lawrence scored ten and grabbed four rebounds. Forward Brian Emick led the Lions with eight boards.

In Saturday's game at LaRoche, Hughes again paced the Lions in scoring with sixteen, and also grabbed a team-high seven rebounds. Lawrence and Bovaird each scored twelve, and Bovaird also tallied five assists and two steals. Center Nate Willson contributed seven points and six rebounds.

The men finished the regular season 18-6 overall and 8-2 in the conference. They currently rank sixth in the NCAA East Regional Poll. They have been ranked as high as second in

the region and 17th in the nation, their first-ever national ranking. They finished the regular season with the ninth best scoring defense in the nation, giving up only 59 points per contest.

Four seniors will be playing the final home games of their collegiate careers this weekend. Senior guards Brock Bovaird, Jason Paloskey, and Matt Plizga, along with forward Brian Emick all will be playing their final games on the Erie Hall hardwood.

Free tickets for the AMCC tournament are available in the Athletics Dept. courtesy of the Student Government. Students must pick up the tickets by Friday, February 26 at 5:00 p.m.

Lady Lions ready to avenge 1998 disappointment

by Jason Snyder
sports editor

The Behrend Lady Lions will enter the 1999 Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference Championships with last season's disappointments weighing heavily on their minds. In last season's championship game, the Behrend women fell short in their bid for AMCC supremacy to Pitt-Bradford, 55-53. But this year's team will host the tournament in Erie Hall, coming off a regular season record of 15-9, and an AMCC record of 8-2, to place them atop of the conference standings.

The Lady Lions enter the post season coming off two upsetting losses to Allegheny College on February 18, and to LaRoche College on February 21.

In the week's first game, the Behrend women fell to Allegheny College, 64-45, in front of 300 blue and white Behrend fans. The Lions couldn't stop the scoring of Kim Burke and Alyssa Hinkle, who combined for 35 of Allegheny's 64 points. The Lions were led by Jen O'Lare with 11 points and Carrie Nestor with seven points, ten rebounds, four assists and two steals.

The Behrend women then travelled to LaRoche College to conclude their regular season schedule. The strong play of Kate Costanzo, coming off the bench, enabled the Lions to take

the game into overtime. Costanzo finished with 16 points on 6/14 shooting, including 3/7 from three-point land. However, the balanced offensive attack of LaRoche was too much for Behrend, as the Lions fell, 67-63 in overtime. Behrend's Erin Phillips was the game's high scorer with 22 points.

The two losses moved Behrend to 15-9 on the year entering the AMCC Tournament this weekend.

The Lady Lions have earned a bye in the first round of the tournament, due to their first place ranking. The opening round match-ups will be on February 25, consisting of Lake Erie (#6 seed, 0-10) visiting Pitt-Bradford (#3 seed, 7-3), and Pitt-Greensburg (#5 seed, 2-8) travelling to LaRoche (#4 seed, 5-5).

The winner of the Lake Erie/Pitt-Bradford game will face Frostburg in Erie Hall on February 27 at 6:00 p.m. In the final game of the night, the Behrend women will host the winner of the Pitt-Greensburg/LaRoche game at 8:00 p.m. The AMCC Championship game will be on Sunday, February 28 at 4:00 p.m.

The Student Government has purchased free tickets for all Behrend student to attend the tourney. Tickets must be picked up in the athletic office by Friday, February 26 in the Athletic Office. Fan participation is strongly encouraged as both the Behrend men and women attempt to capture the AMCC crown.

Know Your Lions...

#33 Chris Hughes

Men's Basketball

by Jessica Tucci
associate editor

Not only is Chris Hughes intelligent, but he's got game. That's what many conclude when talking about 6'7" forward Chris Hughes.

At 6'7", Hughes is the big man

for the Behrend men's basketball team. Not only that, "he handles the ball very well," says head coach Dave Niland. Hughes is a transfer student, which makes this season his first in a Behrend uniform. Niland believes that Hughes has been a great player for the team this year.

As far as Hughes' stats, they will sup-

port all of Niland's comments and beliefs. Hughes averages 13 points per game and 4.9 rebounds. He has 12 steals on the season and 1.4 assists.

As far as Hughes, himself, he is very appreciative to be on a team with such skill. "This is my first year and I am just lucky to be on the team," says Hughes.



Scoreboard

MEN'S BASKETBALL (18-6)

AMCC Standings

	AMCC	Overall Record
Behrend	8-2	18-6
Pitt-Greensburg	7-3	15-9
Pitt-Bradford	6-4	15-9
LaRoche	5-5	11-13
Frostburg	2-8	11-13
Lake Erie	1-9	3-20
Penn State Altoona	0-0	3-20

Behrend 57 Allegheny 62

Allegheny	25	37	62
Behrend	23	34	57
Behrend			
Player	FG	3-point	FT
Paloskey	1-9	1-6	0-0
Lawrence	4-9	2-5	0-0
Emick	1-4	0-0	0-0
Hughes	8-10	0-0	3-3
Bovaird	4-9	3-6	0-0
Willson	1-2	0-0	1-1
Plizga	3-4	0-0	0-0
Park	0-2	0-1	0-0
Keith	1-1	1-1	0-0
Totals	23-50	7-19	4-4
Assists: 18, Rebounds: 27, Blocks: 2, TO: 14			

Allegheny			
Delsandro	4-8	2-4	4-6
Gozur	2-3	0-1	6-6
Felton	4-7	0-0	0-0
McGarrath	3-6	0-2	2-2
Creahan	1-7	0-0	4-4
Barron	3-5	0-0	0-0
McLaughlin	2-5	0-0	0-0
Good	1-3	1-3	0-0
Clayton	0-1	0-0	2-2
Colbert	0-0	0-0	1-2
Sites	0-1	0-0	0-0
Totals	20-46	3-10	19-22
Assists: 11, Rebounds: 25, Blocks: 1, TO: 8			

Behrend 55 LaRoche 64

Behrend	28	27	55
LaRoche	29	35	64
Behrend			
Player	FG	3-point	FT
Paloskey	0-6	0-4	0-0
Lawrence	5-12	2-5	0-0
Emick	0-0	0-0	0-0
Hughes	7-11	0-0	2-3
Bovaird	5-14	1-6	1-2
Willson	3-5	0-0	1-2
Park	1-3	0-1	0-0
Stritzinger	0-0	0-0	0-0
Plizga	0-0	0-0	0-0
Orris	1-4	1-3	0-0
Keith	1-2	1-2	0-0
Totals	23-54	5-21	4-7
Assists: 11, Rebounds: 23, Blocks: 0, Steals: 5, TO: 10			

LaRoche			
Lodovico	5-7	3-5	3-4
Carmichael	6-14	2-5	2-2
Hall	8-19	0-3	0-0
Gallagher	2-10	0-2	7-11
Williams	1-4	0-0	3-4
Casto	0-3	0-2	0-0
Givens	0-1	0-0	0-0
Totals	22-58	5-17	15-21
Assists: 9, Rebounds: 37, Blocks: 0, Steals: 8, TO: 10			

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL (15-9)

AMCC Standings

	AMCC	Overall Record
Behrend	8-2	15-9
Frostburg	8-2	16-6
Pitt-Bradford	7-3	10-14
LaRoche	5-5	6-16
Pitt-Greensburg	2-8	3-19
Lake Erie	0-10	8-16
Penn State Altoona	0-0	5-15

Behrend 45 Allegheny 64

Allegheny	37	27	64
Behrend	26	19	45
Behrend			
Player	FG	3-point	FT
Buck	2-6	2-5	0-0
Nestor	3-7	0-0	1-1
Sanders	1-6	0-4	0-0
O'Lare	5-12	0-0	1-1
Phillips	3-5	0-0	3-4
McDivitt	1-2	1-2	0-0
Jackson	0-0	0-0	0-0
Costanzo	2-5	1-3	2-2
Weigold	0-4	0-3	0-0
Charnock	0-1	0-0	0-0
Totals	17-48	4-17	7-8
Assists: 11, Rebounds: 28, Steals: 5, Blocks: 6, TO: 22			

Allegheny			
Burke	7-10	1-2	5-6
Hinkle	7-12	0-0	1-2
Pollock	4-7	0-0	1-2
Weinal	2-3	2-2	2-2
Keller	2-6	0-0	0-0
Pasquinelli	2-5	0-0	0-2
Shanter	1-3	0-0	0-0
Popovec	1-4	0-0	0-0
Totals	26-57	3-6	9-14
Assists: 12, Rebounds: 38, Steals: 13, Blocks: 3, TO: 13			

Behrend 63 LaRoche 67 OT

Behrend	20	37	6	63
LaRoche	18	39	10	67
Behrend				
Player	FG	3-point	FT	Points
Buck	1-6	1-5	0-0	3
Nestor	0-4	0-0	4-6	4
Sanders	0-3	0-3	0-0	0
O'Lare	3-7	0-0	0-0	6
Phillips	8-13	0-0	6-8	22
Jackson	2-7	0-0	1-2	5
Costanzo	6-14	3-7	1-2	16
Weigold	1-5	1-3	2-2	5
Charnock	1-1	0-0	0-0	2
Totals	22-60	5-18	14-20	63
Assists: 14, Rebounds: 32, Steals: 8, Blocks: 1, TO: 16				

LaRoche				
Eannace	5-16	1-3	5-8	16
Hiben	5-13	2-4	2-3	14
Cousins	6-12	2-4	0-0	14
Havrilla	4-11	1-4	2-2	11
Pencak	4-8	0-1	0-0	8
Quader	0-0	0-0	0-0	0
Naberezny	0-0	0-0	0-0	0
Swiatek	0-0	0-0	0-0	0
Totals	25-67	7-18	10-15	67
Assists: 17, Rebounds: 29, Steals: 9, Blocks: 2, TO: 13				

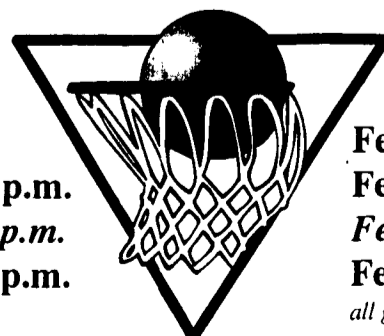
UPCOMING

BEHREND

GAMES

Men's Basketball

February 27&28 AMCC Tourney in Erie Hall
 February 27 Lake Erie/Pitt-Bradford vs. Pitt-Greensburg 1:00 p.m.
 February 27 Frostburg/LaRoche vs. Behrend 3:00 p.m.
 February 28 AMCC Championship 2:00 p.m.



Women's Basketball

February 27&28 AMCC Tourney in Erie Hall
 February 27 Lake Erie/Pitt-Bradford vs. Frostburg 6:00 p.m.
 February 27 Pitt-Greensburg/LaRoche vs. Behrend 8:00 p.m.
 February 28 AMCC Championship 4:00 p.m.

all games in Erie Hall

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