

Softball team dominates AMCC Tourney

Lions take conference championship with convincing wins

by Jessica Tucci
associate editor

The Behrend women's softball team hosted the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) Championships this past weekend. The women outscored their conference opponents, 18-4, as they rolled to the AMCC championship.

The first game of the tournament was against the Pitt-Bradford Panthers. The Lions gave up only one run in the first inning to the Panthers, then relied on their hitting to carry them to the championship round. Behrend scored seven runs in the game for the 7-1 win. Bodnor pitched all seven innings to record the win and move to 19-6 on the year. Emily Heidt had two hits and two stolen bases to lead the Lions. In addition, Bodnor and Miller both had two hits.

LaRoche beat Frostburg State in their first round game, 7-3. The win put them in position to play Behrend

in the next round. Behrend showed no signs of slowing down as they dominated, 11-3. Once again, Bodnor pitched and struck out six. Miller had three hits, and Fry and Blass added two. Bodnor smashed her tenth homerun of the season, adding to her new Behrend record.

The win made the Behrend softball team the fourth Lions' team to win their conference this school year.

As for the All-Conference team, the Lions had five players that received the honor of being named to the first team. Mandy Bodnor, Kelly Woods, Emily Heidt, Lisa Fox, and Lesley Miller received such recognition. Bodnor was also named AMCC Player of the Year and Lesley Miller was accredited Newcomer of the Year. In addition, head coach Cindy Jacobelli received the Coach of the Year award.

In conclusion, Coach Jacobelli said, "I am so proud of this team. We have worked so hard this year and this certainly proves it!" She added, "our team is full of heart and it definitely showed on Saturday."



NO BUNTS FOR YOU : The Behrend opposition can't seem to figure out the Lions' pitching.

photo by Mike Frawley

Lions' baseball takes Frostburg to the brink in AMCC Championship

Boyle's heroics not enough as Lions fall short of conference supremacy

by Jason Snyder
sports editor

The Behrend Lions' baseball team fell short in their quest to capture the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference Championship this past weekend in Frostburg, Maryland. The Lions battled to the end, taking the host team to a seven inning thriller for the championship.

The Behrend men opened the tournament with a game against the third-ranked Pitt-Greensburg Bobcats. The Bobcats challenged the Lions in the early innings, taking a 3-1 lead after the second inning. After a scoreless third, Behrend drove home three runs in the fourth to take a 4-3 lead. Pitcher Charlie Sevin gave up only one hit in the final 3 2/3 innings and struck out five to help advance the Lions to the second round. Sevin moved to 3-2 on the year with the win.

Frostburg (22-5, #1 seed) also advanced to the second round to face the Lions. The game matched the AMCC's top two teams in a high-scoring thriller. Frostburg scored two quick runs in the first inning and led 2-0 entering the second inning. Behrend then set the pace for the high-scoring contest with a six-run second inning. The fourth inning saw the Lions match runs with their opponent and take a 10-4 lead into the sixth inning. Frostburg then scored six total runs in the next three innings to tie the game and eventually win with a ninth inning run.

Jake Boyle led the Lions with two home runs and four RBIs. Jeremy



The Lions watch on as Behrend plays their last home game of the season.

photo by Jason Snyder

Brubaker had three triples and four RBIs and Todd Burchanowski drove in two runs.

The loss didn't eliminate the Lions as they would have to win a game in the loser's bracket to advance to the championship game against Frostburg.

The Lions had a re-match against Pitt-Greensburg where Behrend dominated. The men scored a 18-6 victory that featured a balanced offensive attack with nine Lions recording hits. Matt Slavonic went 5-6 for Behrend with two RBIs and one triple. Jake Boyle added four RBIs, and one triple on 4-6 hitting. Brian Pifer moved to 5-1 on the year with three strikeouts and two walks.

The win put the Lions in the championship game against Frostburg. Behrend would have to win two games against the host to take the AMCC crown due to the loss earlier in the tournament.

Behrend found trouble early as Frostburg jumped to a 4-0 lead in the second inning off the pitching of senior Ryan Smith. Matt Heinrich entered the game for the Lions and pitched nine innings, giving up only one run. The men scored five runs in the sixth inning and kept the game tied through seven. The pitchers then dueled through five more innings when Slavonic drove in Boyle for the game winner. The win put both teams in a do or die final and

also gave Behrend their winningest season in school history (23 wins).

Frostburg came out swinging in the final game, taking a 4-0 lead into the seventh and final inning. Behrend's Boyle played clutch in the seventh with a grand slam homer to tie the game at 4-4. Frostburg, however, had some heroics of their own as Pat Sweeney drove in the final run to take the 5-4 win and the AMCC Championship.

Following the hard loss, the Lions traveled to LaRoche and trounced the Redhawks 15-0. Behrend returned home and hosted Allegheny on April 28. The final game of the season will be on April 30 at Grove City.

'HIGHS AND LOWS'

Different tracksters hit high marks and low times

by Jason Snyder
sports editor

The Behrend men's and women's track and field teams traveled to Balwin-Wallace this past weekend where they saw some strong individual performances from many of their competitors. Overall, the Lions set many personal bests and established school records in this inaugural season.

Coach Rich Hoffman said, "this is in many ways the most competitive meet we run. It definitely has the most depth, and attracts a high level of talent from across the region; from DI, DII, DIII and NAI schools."

Steve Duda placed seventh in the javelin with a toss of 168'8". The throw marked his personal best and set a new school record. Also setting a new school mark was Jay Davids who jumped 6' in the high jump. Dennis Halaszynski continues to improve on his 3000 meter steeplechase time with a school record and personal best time of 10:18.32. Brian Musick ran the 10,000 meter in 36:46.2 to round out the Lions improving on school records.

In the field events, Chad Smith led the Lions in three events. He cleared 18'75" in the long jump and triple jumped 40'6.25". He also competed in the discus throw, where he threw the disc 106'6". Jerrod Hart continued to excel at the pole vault, clearing 13'3".

On the track, Alan Cordray had a successful day, competing well in three different events. He ran the 100 meter dash in 11.65 seconds and crossed the line in the 200 meter dash at 23.66 seconds, just ahead

of Chris Schlosser and Dan Ober. Cordray then teamed with Schlosser, Ober and Steve Omecinski to run the 400 meter relay in 47.02 seconds.

Omecinski topped the Lions in the 400 meter dash with a time of 51.97 seconds, just ahead of teammate Shawn Furman (53.66 seconds). Omecinski and Furman teamed with Schlosser and Greg Cooper to run the 4 x 400 meter relay in 3:32.09.

Cooper also competed in the 800 meter run, where he ran a time of 2:05.19. Jason Pfadt ran his personal best with a time of 2:09.24 in the same event.

Adam Shroud balanced the Behrend attack with a time of 1:03.31 in the 400 meter Intermediate hurdles.

In the distance events, Mark Surovec paced the Lions with a 4:15.93 in the 1500 meter run. Teammate Matt Heidecker ran "a very smart race," said Hoffman, with a time of 4:21.36. Tyler Travis then ran the 5000 meter run in 16:31.0.

The Behrend women continued to excel mostly in the distance events. Keri Lowman and Tina Rubay both improved on their personal bests with times of 22:01.9 and 22:44.27, respectively, in the 5000 meter run.

Kathryn Tate set a personal best in the 1500 meter run with a time of 5:40.82. She also led the Lions in the 800 meter run at 2:49.47.

Hoffman commented on the meet saying, "we had some up and downs, but that's not unusual. Every team goes through it, and not everyone is 'on' at the same time."

The Lions' next meet will be on May 1 at Grove City. "[We] will look to end the season on a high note," concluded Hoffman.

Behrend Athletics excel in 1998-99 seasons

by Jason Snyder
sports editor

Behrend Athletics had a year to remember in its 1998-99 campaign. Many Lions' teams set new school records with four teams capturing the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) Championship. Some teams earned regional rankings while the college added another Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference to its trophy case.

The spring season saw both the men's and women's soccer teams excel under the direction of head coach Dan Perritano.

THE MEN'S SOCCER TEAM won a school record 13 wins in a year that saw them earn an NCAA Division III, North East Regional Poll ranking for the third consecutive season. The men's

season was also highlighted with a 2-1 win over the Gators of Allegheny College. The Lions advanced to the AMCC Championship game after a 2-1 win over Pitt-Bradford. Frostburg then defeated the Lions in the finale, 4-0.

THE WOMEN REPEATED AS AMCC Champions for the second straight season. The Behrend women then qualified for the ECAC

Tournament after a season that saw them record a new school mark of 15 wins, 2 losses and 3 ties. Katie Giles, Michelle Finch, Jill Yamma, and Jen Bargiband were named to the All-AMCC team. Michelle Malatesta won Co-Newcomer of the Year and Laura Ferko received Co-Most Valuable Player.

WOMEN'S TENNIS NETTED AN AMCC Championship behind first-

year head coach Jeff Barger. The Lions hosted the tournament and outplayed Frostburg for a 14-13 final score win. Swinging in the All-AMCC team were JoAnn Fabrizio and Angela Albertson (first-team singles), Jamie Brubaker, Emily Rubin, Jen Morton and Christine Chan (second-team singles). Albertson, Brubaker and Morton, Chan were also named to the second

team doubles.

RICH HOFFMAN JOINED the Behrend community this fall as he led the Lions' cross country teams to a successful season. The men placed second at the AMCC Championships with many individuals receiving All-Conference recognition. Adam Dzuricky, Mark Surovec, Tyler Travis and Brian Gaines were named first team with Gaines also being named Newcomer of the Year. The women also placed second with Abby Crilley receiving All-Conference recognition. Coach Hoffman was named the men's Coach of the Year in his first season.

THE LADY'S VOLLEYBALL team faced tough competition throughout the season but continued to show improvement. Mary Good, Tanya Deats, and Heather Lerch all played well

through the season and give the Lions a bright future.

The winter season proved to be the most successful for the Behrend Athletics' program. Both basketball teams brought excitement to Erie Hall due to the great promotions planned by Brian Streeter.

THE ECAC CHAMPION LIONS had a record breaking season behind the coaching of Dave Niland. The Behrend men won the regular season AMCC Championship, but fell short in the AMCC Tournament to LaRoche in the first round. The men won a school record 21 games, with their 21st coming in the ECAC Championship against host Gettysburg. Being named to the All-Conference team were Brock Bovaird and Andy Lawrence (first team). Jason Paloskey and Chris

