

## Tennis, Cross country prepare for big day

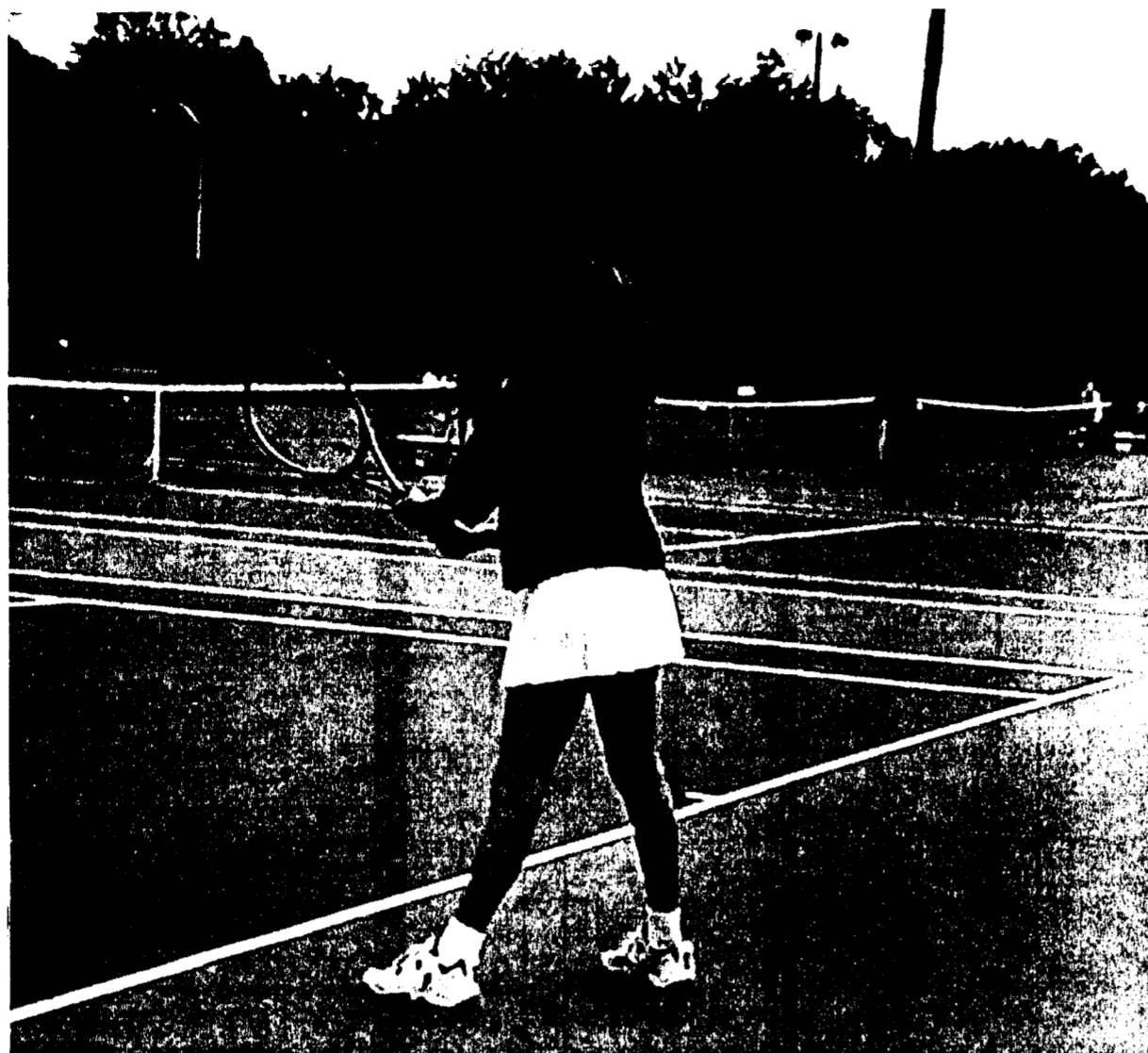
*Tennis team welcomes tough competition to Behrend Tournament*

by Matt Wiertel  
sports editor

This Saturday, Penn State Behrend will host the 1999 Behrend Lions Women's Tennis Invitational. Behrend will welcome Alfred, Allegheny, Bethany, Edinboro, Fredonia State, Frostburg, and John Carroll to this year's tournament.

The Lions currently have a 2-1 record and are focused on having a good showing this weekend. Last week in a dual match versus Allegheny and Fredonia State, the Lions came away with a 1-1 record. Behrend handily defeated Fredonia State with a score of 8-1 but they were defeated in the second match by Allegheny 9-0.

Penn State is focused on having a good showing in this weekend's tournament and also on seizing their third straight Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference title. The team has six experienced players returning and they have six talented recruits joining the squad. "Our outlook is very promising," said second year head coach Jeff Barger. "We should be strong at every position and we have great depth," added Barger.



Freshman Julie Leininger prepares to return the serve against Buffalo State.

PHOTO BY MATT WIERTEL

## Cross country teams to host Invitational

by Matt Wiertel  
sports editor

The Penn State Behrend cross country teams are preparing for a busy weekend. Behrend will host a high school cross country meet today beginning at 4:00 p.m. Tomorrow the Lions will compete in the collegiate meet which begins at 11:00 a.m. and the weekend will end with an open 5K community race.

Several area high schools are entered to compete on Friday. These schools include Central, Corry, Greenville, Harborcreek, Mercyhurst Prep, McDowell, Northwestern and Seneca. Second-year coach Rich Hoffman is enthu-

siastic about this weekend's events. "This is going to be a great weekend. We are looking forward to hosting several schools, competing in the collegiate meet, and having community members join us for the open race."

Colleges lined up to compete in Saturday's meet include Capital, Clarion, La Roche, Gannon, Medaille, Pitt-Bradford, Mercyhurst, Thiel, and Westminster, and Penn State Behrend. This meet will be the second of the season for the Lions who opened this year at the Buffalo State Invitational on September 4. The men finished 10th place overall and the women placed 12th.

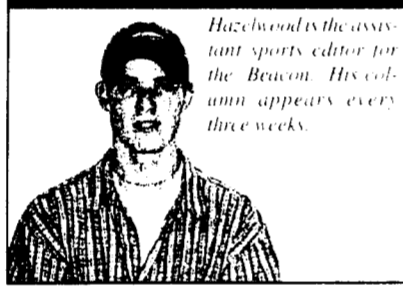
## The View From Here

### Baseball: Americas' Favorite Pastime?

What were you doing this Sunday afternoon? Well if you weren't watching one of the many opening games of the NFL season I'm going to have to ask to see your green card. Football has slowly become America's favorite pastime. With the return of the football season, baseball is now taking a back seat to the NFL. Whether you are a fan of the front runner or a loyal fan of a basement dweller you can find enjoyment in any game that is on television. Games are fun to watch even when your favorite teams aren't playing. When was the last time you ordered pizza and invited your buddies over to watch a game between the Marlins and Brewers? It just doesn't happen. I have watched football games between two teams I personally hate, but entertainment is entertainment.

Baseball, on the other hand, is quite boring to view on television. Even when my favorite baseball team is on TV I still find it very difficult to sit through an entire game. Nine innings of a baseball game drag on and on. To have to sit and

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watch for an hour before anything exciting happens is just not entertainment. Unless of course you are watching the St. Louis Cardinals or Chicago Cubs play, for two good reasons.

Last season baseball was somewhat "redeemed" with the emergence of Sammy Sosa and Mark McGwire. Fans began to get excited as both of them became closer to shattering Roger Maris' thirty-six year old homerun record. Every news telecast would cover their progress for the day. America just fell in love with these guys. They turned into American heroes and brought some life back to baseball. This year they have kept up

their record breaking homerun hitting pace, but far less fans are interested. It's very hard to stay so enthused when everyone is hitting homeruns. They are no longer rare and exciting. However, a touchdown of any kind is sure to bring any football fan to his feet. Touchdowns aren't exactly rare, but there are so many different ways to score.

Perhaps the element of injury and physical contact bring in more fans. Baseball appears slow and about injury free as a game of checkers with your kid sister. Violence is such an attractive thing in our society. Anything that is on television that looks dangerous or what we think will cause bodily harm to a person we will watch. It sounds sick and twisted, but we just want to be entertained. Throw in some figure-four leg locks, piledrivers and gorgeous women to escort the players onto the field and that'll attract the fans. Well at least all the teenage boys will start watching.

Another problem is that baseball airs every night. After a hundred or so games day in and day out I've al-

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## From the Athletic Office

### YOU ARE A WINNER!!!!...MAYBE...

Do you want to WIN CASH this semester? Well, your name along with the entire Behrend student body has already been entered into a random cash drawing. The drawing will be held at every fall home athletic contest (men and women's soccer, volleyball, tennis, and cross country). The cash pot will never go under \$25.

Even though your name has already been entered into the drawing you can increase your chances of winning at each athletic event. During the first half of every home game, students will be able to enter their name in the drawing again by signing up at the Random Cash Drawing station located by the PEPSI BIN. The drawing station will only take entries before halftime.

The actual Cash Drawing will take place during the second half. The time of the drawing is not set, it will vary. You must be PRESENT to win the cash. If the winner is not present at the time of the drawing the cash will roll over into the next athletic contest with an additional \$5 added into the drawing. Hope to see you at our athletic contests!!!

### SPECTATOR CASH MANIA

You should have been there!! Kate Knepper and Michael Balco could have won \$25-\$30 this week at the soccer games. Don't miss out on your chance to win! Sign up at any of the upcoming athletic events.

### CRAZY, FUN, and FREE!!!

All students can participate in halftime contests during soccer and volleyball athletic events this fall. There will be a halftime contest at every event and students will be able to sign up for the event during the first half of the game. COME TO CHEER ON YOUR BEHREND LIONS, WIN PRIZES, AND HAVE A GOOD TIME!!!

This week's halftime winners won a free pizza from Bruno's. Winning the halftime contest was Stacy Blass. Be sure to attend upcoming athletic events for your chance to win prizes.

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