

Lions upset Frostburg for AMCC soccer title

by Matt Wiertel
sports editor

For the second time in the three-year history of the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference, the Penn State Behrend men's soccer team captured the conference championship. The Lions prevailed over AMCC rival Frostburg State on the road by a score of 2-1.

Frostburg was looking to defend their 1998 championship and they scored early at the ten minute mark. The Frostburg State Bobcats' Greg Patti netted the goal and propelled FSU to the early lead. Behrend's leading scorer Chris Lightner tied the game at one in the twenty-fifth minute of the game. Chris Kennelly scored the AMCC game winning goal with five minutes left in regulation to lift the Lions to victory. Goalkeeper and co-captain, Tommy Seig, anchored the Lions' defense and made several key saves from between the pipes.

For their outstanding plays this season several players from the Penn State Behrend team were named to the AMCC All-Conference squad. Behrend defender Rob Paredes, forward and leading scorer Chris Lightner, and midfielder James Mar-



Behrend's Anthony Pollack fires a shot during the season, on the way to the AMCC Championship.

PHOTO BY KEVIN BRUNER

tin all were selected to be on the All-Conference team. In addition, Martin and Behrend's Matt Saunders were tabbed as the AMCC's Co-Most Valuable Players.

With the win of the AMCC championship, Penn State Behrend improves to 2-1 in the AMCC finals. Last season, the Lions set a school record for wins by completing the season with an impressive 13-9 mark. The Lions then opened the AMCC tournament with a 2-1 victory over Pitt-Bradford in the semi-finals. Frostburg then cut down the Lions' hopes of winning the AMCC title in two consecutive years by defeating Behrend, 4-0. Two years ago, Behrend claimed the inaugural championship by defeating the Bobcats 1-0, after completing a solid 12-8 season.

Men's soccer head coach Dan Perritano has experienced a multitude of success this past week. The women's soccer team, which he also coaches, advanced to the ECAC semifinals after capturing the AMCC championship for the third consecutive year. Perritano has led the men's team to 48 wins during the past four seasons and has 191 career coaching wins between both programs overall.

Women's soccer falls short in ECAC playoffs

by Matt Wiertel
sports editor

The Penn State Behrend women's soccer team closed out their bid for an ECAC bid on Saturday. The Behrend Lions faced number one seeded Johns Hopkins in the semi-final matchup.

The Lions advanced to the semi-finals by defeating Villa Julie by a score of 2-1. Amidst tumultuous weather conditions, the Lions held off the Mustangs. Villa Julie's second leading scorer, Kerri Harman, scored the first goal of the game and her thirteenth of the year in the thirty-ninth minute. Bethany Cummings answered for the Lions in the second half by scoring in the sixty-ninth minute.

The first overtime dealt no scoring opportunities to either side and the game moved on to another overtime period. The game winning goal came off the foot of Behrend's Amy LaRocca with 38 seconds remaining, propelling the Behrend Lions to victory. Keeping the game tied for the Lions was goalkeeper Michelle Malatesta, who made an incredible save just before LaRocca's goal that saved the game.

Following the victory versus Villa Julie, the Lions moved on to play Johns Hopkins in the semi-finals of the ECAC playoffs. The Johns Hopkins Blue Jays, coached by Leo Weil, came into the match-up with a 14-5-1 record. The Centennial Conference champion Blue Jays featured seven seniors, four juniors, six sophomores, and eight freshmen. They were led by Jill Minger, who led the Johns Hopkins squad by scoring eight goals and five assists. Kathleen Hanlon, who tallied seven goals and five assists, and Rachael Abelson, who scored seven goals and compiled two assists. In addition, the Blue Jays' goalkeeper, Kate Cushman, recorded a 0.63 goals allowed average in sixteen games played.

Johns Hopkins and Penn State Behrend matched up well against each other. The Behrend squad was led by AMCC Newcomer of the Year Michelle Gutting, who had amassed eighteen goals and seven assists going into the game. Lauren Arrigo, who scored nine goals and assisted on four more, helped the Lions' cause in conjunction with ECAC game one heroine Amy LaRocca, who had seven goals and as many assists. Behrend goalkeeper Michelle Malatesta, who has anchored the Lions team from between the pipes, came into Saturday's game with a 0.90 goals allowed average through twenty games.

Even though the Lions matched up well with Johns Hopkins on paper, the Lions couldn't match the Blue Jays' effort on the field. The Lions were consequently shut out by the Blue Jays by a score of 3-0. Nevertheless, the Lions closed another exciting season and look forward to defending their AMCC title next season.

Powerhouse Bobcats sweep Lions

Craig Hazelwood
assistant sports editor

The Penn State Behrend women's volleyball team ended their season with a 3-0 loss to Frostburg State in the semi-finals of the AMCC tournament on Saturday. The Lady Spikers finished the season with an overall record of 12-16 and a mark of 6-7 in their conference. Regionally ranked Frostburg coasted to their shutout victory with scores of 15-5, 15-4, and 15-9. They continued solid play throughout the tournament to win the AMCC title for the third year in a row. Behrend played well as a team, but couldn't match the power of Frostburg. Junior Mary Good, the team's most consistent player, led the

Lions with 10 kills and 20 digs. Freshman Karen Walters and sophomore Brienne Engelbert also had good matches. Walters had 31 assists and 7 digs, while Engelbert contributed 6 kills and 14 digs.

The women ended the season with a disappointing loss, but the team has a lot of promise for next fall. Only one senior, Tanya Deats, will be leaving the team. The hole that Deats' absence creates will be tough to fill, but the team is lucky to be losing only one star player. The rest of the team has had time to get to know each other's playing styles as the season progressed. Behrend showed great improve-

ment throughout the year. This was evidenced in Behrend's 10th match of the season. In this match the women easily defeated Penn State-Altoona in three games on the road. Seven



matches into the season, Behrend beat Altoona at home, but it was a tough 3-2 battle. This definitely showed growth and improvement of the team.

Statistics show that the team matured with each match they played.

During the first half the Lions posted a .137 hitting percentage, 365 assists and an average of 11 digs a game. The second half totals were greatly increased. The Lady Spikers second half stats showed a .258 hitting percentage, 475 assists and an average of 20 digs a game. "We showed a lot of maturity from the first to second half. We've grown throughout the year and it will show next season. Our recruiting class looks very promising, we are setting our sights high for next year," stated third year coach, Cindy Jacobelli.

The team's individual statistics this season were very impressive. Junior Mary Good led the team with 264 kills

and 342 digs. Good finished the season with a career mark of 1,083 digs, only 5 shy of the Behrend record held by her sister, Amy. Senior Tanya Deats finished her final year with 205 kills and 47 blocks. Freshman Karen Walters had 808 assists this season, averaging over 8 assists a game. Walters ranked fourth on Behrend's all-time list for assists in a season. Sophomores Brienne Engelbert, Jessie Long and Sarah Peterson all averaged over three digs a match.

Two players from the team received honors from the league. Co-captains Deats and Good were named to the all-conference team. Both are repeat recipients of the honor.

HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE

Athlete of the WEEK

Name: Mark Szcwzykowski
Sport: Men's Soccer
Class: Sophomore
Date: November 12, 1999

Mark Szcwzykowski has been named this week's Housing and Food Service Athlete of the Week. Szcwzykowski was a major contributing factor in Penn State Behrend's win over Frostburg. With the win, the Behrend Lions captured the 1999 Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference Championship for the second time in three years.

Szcwzykowski is a graduate of Cathedral Prep High School.



The women's basketball team hopes to repeat as AMCC Champions in 2000.

PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

NEXT WEEK

Men's and Women's Basketball Previews

