

# Fall Sports Wrap-Up: We are the champions

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sports editors

The Penn State Behrend athletic program experienced enormous success during the fall season. Behrend had three teams capture their respective AMCC championships and several players were named to the All-AMCC teams.

Behrend's women's soccer team continued their regimen of success this season by capturing their third consecutive AMCC title. By doing so, the women moved into the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference playoffs. They opened the playoffs versus Villa Julie in the opening round of the championships and advanced to the semifinal match on the foot of Amy La Rocca. La Rocca scored the game winning goal with 38 seconds remaining to lift the Lions to victory. The Lions then moved onto the semifinal of the playoffs where they fell to number one seeded Johns Hopkins by a score of 3-0. Nevertheless the Lions closed another exciting season and are looking forward to repeating this year's performance next fall.

The men's soccer team matched the performance of their female counterparts by capturing an AMCC title of their own. For the second time in three years, the Behrend men's soccer team was crowned the AMCC champions. The Lions prevailed over AMCC rival Frostburg by a score of 2-1 and thwarted the Bobcat's chances of repeating as champions.

For their outstanding play this season, players from the men's squad were selected to the All-AMCC team. Behrend defender Rob Paredes, forward Chris Lightner, and midfielder James Martin, all were selected to the All-Conference team. In addition, Martin and Behrend's Matt Saunders were tabbed as the AMCC's Co-Most Valuable players. Next season the Lions are looking to build on this year's performance and defend their AMCC title.

The women's tennis team continued the fall successes by going undefeated in the AMCC and consequently winning an AMCC title in the process. This was the third AMCC title for the women's tennis team in as many years. The women were 10-0 in conference play which helped them to secure the top seed in the conference play-

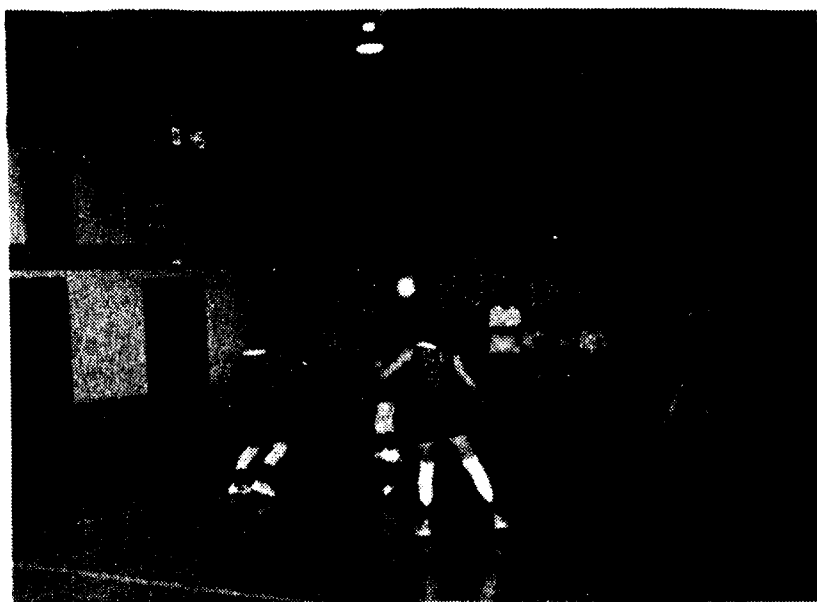


PHOTO BY KEVIN BRUNER

The Behrend volleyball team hopes to build on this year's accomplishments next fall. In addition the tennis team set a school record for wins by winning 17 matches.

Like the soccer teams, the tennis team dominated the all-conference teams. Six players were named to the team and they included Behrend's Julie Leininger, Jamie Brubaker, Angela Albertson, Jen Morton, Christine Chan, and Emily Rubin. Tennis coach Jeff Barger also was recognized for the performance of the team. Barger was named AMCC All-Conference coach of the year for his

statistics during the season were very impressive. Junior Mary Good led the team with 264 kills and 342 digs. She 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 past season, and averaged over 8 assists a game. Walters ranked fourth in Behrend's all-time list for assists in a season. Sophomores Brienne Engelbert, Jessie Long



ATHLETIC DEPT. PHOTO

The women's tennis team will look to win their fourth straight AMCC title next fall.

involvement with the team. The Lions hope to go for a fourth consecutive championship next fall when they start the 2000 season.

The women's volleyball team had an exciting season, but didn't play to their potential. They finished the season 12-17 overall and 5-6 in their conference. The women qualified as the fourth seed in the AMCC championship. They entered the tournament with high hopes, but lost to regionally ranked Frostburg in the first round. The Lady Spikers' individual

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.

The Lady Spikers have a lot of promise for next fall. Only one senior is leaving the team, meaning the remaining members will build on the chemistry they have already established together. Behrend plans on having a talented freshman class com-

ing in again next year. The women look to improve on this season and go all the way in the AMCC championship.

The Penn State Behrend Cross country teams finished strong this season by placing second at the AMCC conference championships. Both the men's and women's teams finished behind perennial conference champion Frostburg. On the men's side, Mark Suroviev and Tyler Travis were named to the all-conference team after finishing in the top ten at the championships. On the women's side Jen Smialek, Jessie Coe, Kathy Perry, and Betsy Voigt were named to the all-conference squad. Cross country coach Rich Hoffman is optimistic for the future of the team. Hoffman commented on the team status going into next fall by saying, "we made significant improvements from past seasons and we will be in a really strong position to challenge in the future."

Overall the outlook for the entire



PHOTO BY KEVIN BRUNER

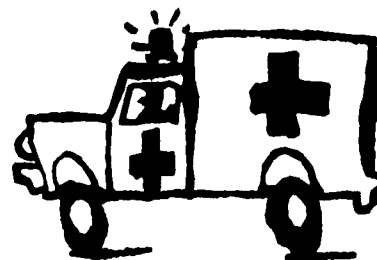
The men's soccer team is looking to win consecutive AMCC titles next year after winning the AMCC title this season

athletic program is very optimistic considering the recent success of the sports teams. The majority of the players who excelled on this year's squads will be returning next year, therefore making the teams equally competitive to this season's teams.

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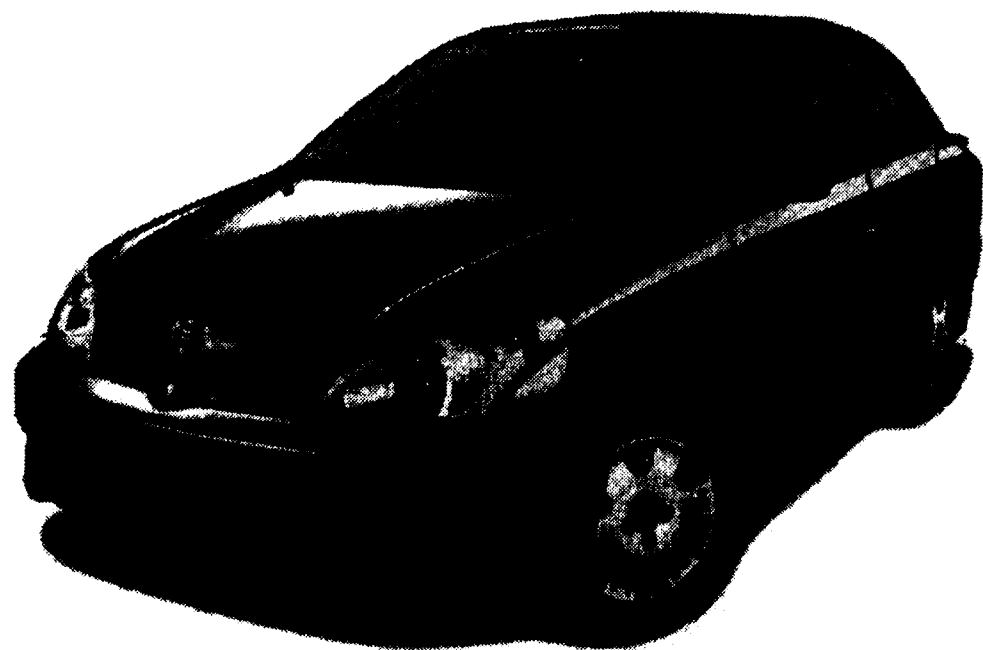
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