

To The Edge

Housing and Food Service Athlete of the Week



Lindsay Schulte



Schulte, a freshman from Jefferson Hills, PA, led the Behrend Lions at the Mount Union Invitational this past weekend. Schulte finished second in the 300m dash with a time of 44.7. Schulte also ran the 55m dash in 7.8 seconds and placed fifth in the 4x160m relay along with Michelle Gutting, Pilly Gonzalez, and Kathy Perry.

Intramural Calendar

DEADLINES

February 23 - 4 vs. 4 Volleyball (Coed)
Play begins around March 13

March 2 - Volleyball (Men's, Women's, and Coed Divisions)
Play begins March 19

March 23 - Whitewater Rafting at Ohiopyle

March 30 - Swimming Individual (Men's and Women's Divisions) Swimming Team (Men's, Women's, and Coed Divisions)

Behrend Sporting Events

February 9
Swimming at Bloomsburg 3:00 PM

February 10
Men's and Women's Indoor Track & Field at Fredonia Invitational 10:00 AM

Women's Basketball vs. Frostburg 2:00 PM

Men's Basketball vs. Frostburg 4:00 PM

Swimming at Penn State Altoona 1:00 PM

February 14
Women's Basketball at Pitt-Greensburg 6:00 PM

Men's Basketball at Pitt-Greensburg 8:00 PM

February 15-17
Swimming at Grove City Invitational 7:00/1:00 PM

**PENN STATE
BEHREND
LIONS**

Lions regroup after loss of O'Lare

by Bob Palivoda
staff writer

Both tragedy and triumph struck the Penn State Behrend women's basketball team over this past week of play. Over their three-game road trip, the women faced their first conference loss against Penn State Altoona last Wednesday, while they defeated both Pitt-Bradford and Waynesburg later in the week.

Drama started within the first half of the Lions' game against Altoona. Just nine minutes into the game, senior Jen O'Lare went down with a dislocated ankle. Behrend's head coach Rosalyn Fornari commented, "absolutely beyond any shadow of a doubt, this was the worst injury I have ever seen a player have." The injury caused the senior to end her career as a Penn State Behrend Lion just after surpassing the 1000-point plateau last week.

The game did not improve for the Lions after the injury. After the first half, the Lions entered the locker room trailing Altoona 37-31. This six-point lead would be too much as Altoona handed the Lions their first AMCC loss of the season, 71-62. The Lions dropped to 7-1 in the conference and moved their overall record to 13-6.

The game was not a total loss for Behrend as Erin Phillips and Kate Costanzo picked up the

loss of O'Lare and led the Lions with 15 points each. Jessica Tanner trailed close behind with 10 and Danielle Bemis with 8. Phillips also led the team in rebounds with a total of 8. Altoona's record is now improved to 7-2 record in the conference, making the race for home court advantage in the playoffs even closer.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

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Ashley Orris and Chris Banner look for the rebound in Monday's game versus St. John Fisher.

PHOTO BY BECKY WEINDORF

Lions strive for playoff action

by Mike Bello
staff writer

After running their winning streak to a season high 6 games that gave Behrend the chance to host a first round playoff game, a goal that has been within grasp the whole year, the Behrend men's basketball team has dropped their last two games to drop their record back below the .500 mark. Despite a mediocre 10-11 record, the men's basketball team has gone 6-3 in AMCC (Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference) conference play and could quite possibly secure the #2 seed in the conference with a win over rival, Frostburg State on Saturday, February 10 (game time 4:00 p.m.). Frostburg, at 7-2 in conference play, is in second place right now behind Pitt-Bradford (7-1), with three AMCC games left. If Behrend

is able to defeat Frostburg, and if both teams are able to win their other two AMCC games this year, then both teams would have a 9-3 record. Behrend would then get the #2 seed because they defeated Frostburg twice. If Behrend loses to Frostburg, then no matter what happens Behrend will do no better than third place, even if the two teams have identical AMCC records, because Frostburg (13-7 overall) will end the season with a better record than Behrend. Behrend dropping to the #4 seed, behind La Roche (5-3 conference record), is also a possibility, but would require La Roche to defeat Pitt-Bradford and Frostburg. Also, Behrend would have to lose to Pitt-Greensburg and Lake Erie, two teams Behrend has already defeated this year.

Head coach Dave Niland knows that the Frostburg game is perhaps the most important game of the year.

Behrend, with a #2 seed, could potentially host all their post-season games if someone else other than Behrend knocks off Pitt-Bradford during the playoffs. "We have only three days to get ready for Frostburg State, which will be the battle over second place. We're trying to keep our post-season hopes alive. We have little room for errors and will have to play well to win, playing the absolute hardest that we can."

Behrend's winning streak reached its apex against Penn State Altoona on January 31. The Lions, who were held to one of their lowest point totals all year, overcame their under performing offense by shutting down Altoona and winning 49-39. Behrend's greatest defensive performance this season allowed the Altoona Lions to make only 28% of their shots while Behrend was able to convert 38% of theirs.

James Curren led the way with a 12-point effort for the Lions, followed by Dave Hairston who sunk 11 points on the night. Senior Ashley Orris had a team high 8 rebounds to go with his 10 points, while Steve Merrill, not starting but still producing, had 10 points as well. Eugene Ahmad had a game high 15 points in a losing effort for the Altoona Lions (7-11).

Behrend then took on the only team that they have not defeated in the AMCC, top ranked Pitt-Bradford. The Lions were looking for redemption after losing at home to Bradford by 4 points earlier this year. Nevertheless, Pitt-Bradford proved too hot to handle for Behrend, downing them 70-54. The win allowed the Panthers (12-7) to extend their winning streak to 10 games,

MEN'S BASKETBALL

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Indoor Track & Field team shaking off early season rust

by Jamie Salapek
staff writer

Last Friday, the Behrend Indoor Track and Field team competed in the Mount Union Invitational. They faced stiff competition with Mount Union, Malone, Walsh, Edinboro, Allegheny, Cuyahoga, West Liberty, California University of Pennsylvania, Bethany, Hiram and Thiel.

The indoor track and field team participates in un-scored meets, which means only the individual members walk away with ranking and not the team as a whole. The Behrend indoor track and field team has been competing well and Lindsay Schulte walked away as the lone place-taker. Schulte placed second in the women's 300-meter dash, with a time of 44.7 seconds. She also placed second in the 55m dash with a hand time of 7.8.

Several of Behrend's athletes, who also competed at Baldwin-Wallace two weeks ago, demonstrated solid improvement in last week's invitational. "Garrett Arndt, Greg Cooper, Lindsey Schulte and Pilly Gonzalez all ran better in the sprints, cutting as much as a second from their respective performances from the last meet. That is substantial," stated Coach Hoffman. Garrett Arndt was the fastest runner, having a time of 40.2 seconds in the 300m dash and 56.2 seconds in the 400m dash. Leading Behrend in the 500m dash was Greg Cooper with a time of 1:12.2. In the 800m dash the leader for Behrend was Mark Surovic with a time of 2:13. And in the 1000m dash, Carl Alberico led the team with a time of 3:00.1. The men's and women's relay teams also finished well. Arndt, Jay Davids, Seth Miller and Cooper finished with a time of 3:55.0 in the 4x400m relay. Michelle Gutting, Gonzalez, Kathy Perry and Schulte finished fifth with a time of 1:32.9 in the 4x160m relay.

Some of the distance runners improved on their old scores in this meet. Kevin Ritzert, in the 1500m, led his heat most of the way and nearly set a personal best. Ritzert had

TRACK & FIELD

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A questionable first impression

Caught in the Grasp

Douglas Smith

columnist



The World Wrestling Federation's football league debuted this past week. On the west coast it was received with open arms and packed houses. In the east, the seats were not all filled. Many new aspects that have never been performed in professional football were toyed with. Some were winners and some were losers. Still the XFL has a long way to go to compete with the other professional leagues.

Shall we start with the obvious comparison? How is the level of play compared to that in the National Football League? It was

quite fitting that on the opening weekend of Vince McMahon's new million-dollar industry, that the best stars of the NFL were showcasing their talent in the Pro Bowl in Hawaii. The Pro Bowl saw a resurrected quarterback show that he was back for real after being a back-up for the majority of his playing career. In the game, Rich Gannon threw two touchdowns on impressive drives to Tony Gonzalez and Marvin Harrison. It was quite a display of offensive expertise.

Well, all of the players in the XFL are trying to resurrect a career that may have looked pretty helpless a year ago. There are kickers in the league that were drafted while teaching high school. How about the following names? Scott Milankovich, Jim Drunkenmiller and John Avery. They are all former NFL players who thought the XFL was an opportunity to rejuvenate an apparent lost course of a career. Avery showed those that watched

the XFL that he may still have what it takes, racking up more than 140 yards rushing. Former Heisman Trophy winner Rashaan Salamm had two touchdowns and 93 yards rushing. Is this a case of a hard workout or a lower level of play?

This is a question that everyone watching may ask themselves. No one in the league has had any real NFL experience except for Alvin Harper. Also, the quarterbacks range from back-ups for the San Francisco 49ers to a graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania. With this in mind, the viewers have to give the league the benefit of the doubt, especially since it is only one week into the season. Still, avid viewers of the NFL most likely noticed a little slower pace in most of the games.

Speaking of slower pace, the games feel like marathons to watch. There are in-game interviews and other distractions that make the games lengthier than need be. Almost three hours into the opening game of the season there was still a

quarter and a half to be played. This is plenty of time to go chat on the phone, throw down a cold one, or play a video game and then come back to see the ending. NBC is not complaining, however. The ratings and shares for the opening weekend were two to three times the value that McMahon would have been happy with. The rating was 10 and the share came in around 17. This is after McMahon announced a rating of 6 would have sufficed.

Now what about those in-game distractions? I cannot say I agree with all of them, but some distractions are alright. The cameramen on the field are a very good idea, but I pray for their safety. It is nice to get in the huddle and see what is going on. Other good points are being able to hear the play call coming in from the sideline, or hearing the quarterback call the play in the huddle. If anyone follows a certain team, they will pick up on what play is coming next. Interviewing the coach during the game is also a rather interesting

ploy. However, I hope that the right decisions are being made because I would not want to interview Dick Butkus if the Chicago Enforcers are losing in the middle of a game.

With any new idea come aspects that need to be thrown away. First, the quarterback's signal calling is broadcast over the entire stadium. At some points during the games this weekend the loud speakers were turned on in time to hear the quarterback yell the snap count. That cuts away drastically at drawing the defense offside. Also, the fight for the ball that substitutes for the coin toss is way too dangerous. Some poor sap is seriously going to be injured running for a stationary ball and will never play football again because you can bet that the XFL was the last chance. Also, one of the biggest things that slows down the game is actually having the players introduce themselves.

XFL IMPRESSION

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