

To The Edge

Housing and Food Service
Athlete of the Week



Ramon Enriquez

Enriquez, a senior from Philadelphia, PA, led the Behrend Lions to a 1-2 week. Enriquez was undefeated for the week with two singles wins and two doubles wins. The blue and white will host the AMCC Tournament on Saturday, April 21 at 9:00 a.m. on the tennis courts.

Intramural Calendar

DEADLINES

April 12
Swimming Individual (M and W)
Swimming Team (M, W, and Coed)

Behrend Sporting Events

April 24
Women's Softball vs. Bethany 4:00 p.m.

April 25
Men's Baseball vs. Allegheny 3:00 p.m.
at Ainsworth Field

April 26
Women's Softball vs. Grove City 3:00 p.m.

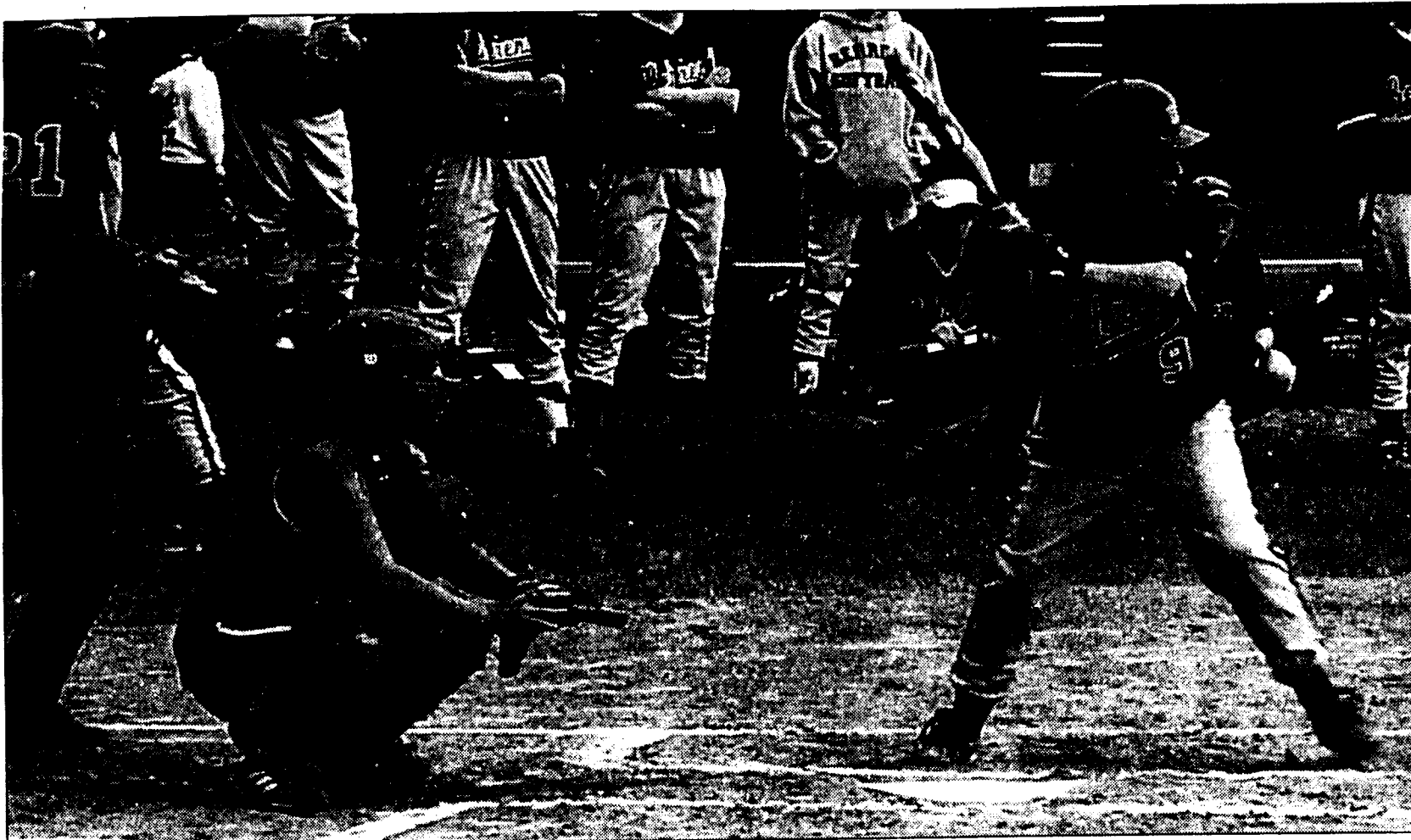
April 28
Men's Baseball Alumni Game 9:00 a.m.
at Ainsworth Field

Men's Baseball vs. Fredonia 1:00 p.m.
at Ainsworth Field

Men's and Women's Track & Field at Baldwin - Wallace Inv. 10:00 a.m.

**PENN STATE
BEHREND
LIONS**

Softball team finishes season at home this week



Senior Meghan Trumbull, is at bat in order to increase Behrend's offensive efforts.

PHOTO BY BECKY WEINDORF

Editor's note: This story was filed before the AMCC tournament.

by Mike Bello
staff writer

The Behrend softball team finished up its flurry of April games leading up to the AMCC tournament with a 6-6 conference record, good enough for fourth place in the league. That allowed the Lions to host the first game of the tournament against Pitt-Bradford, seeded number five, on Wednesday, April 18 at the Behrend softball field. Should the Lions defeat Bradford (6-6, 4-6 AMCC), they would then go on to play La Roche on Saturday, April 21 at La Roche for a chance to qualify for the AMCC championship game. La Roche, the number one seed, and Penn State Altoona, ranked number two, do not have to play until Saturday, with Altoona playing the winner of the Frostburg/Pitt-Greensburg game.

On Wednesday, April 11, the Lions played a doubleheader at Lake Erie College. Lake Erie, which has yet to record a win this season, put up almost no fight as the Lions went on to

pound them 15-2 and 11-3.

In the first game, Cheryl Peterson was 2-3 with two runs scored and four RBIs and Mandy Bodnor pitched five innings, giving up two runs, both unearned, and six hits while striking out five to lead the Lions to victory. Bodnor was also 3-4 at the plate and scored two runs. Alicyn Haney and Chrissy Sorenson each scored three runs and had three hits in game one, while Kelly Woods had three runs batted in for Behrend.

In game two, Bodnor was 2-2 with three runs scored and two RBIs, including a home run, to pace the Lions' attack. Jennifer Pinkhouse, Sorenson, and Woods each had two hits in the nightcap while Woods drove in three runs. Stephanie Covert contributed two RBIs to Behrend's best offensive output in one day since the first two games in Florida. Becky Corbin got the win on the mound, pitching all five innings and giving up three earned runs while striking out four.

On Thursday, April 12, the Lions

came home for a doubleheader against Pitt-Bradford, their first AMCC tournament opponent. In the first game, Bodnor threw a three hitter while giving up only one run and striking out eight to lead the Lions to a 2-1 victory. Nichole Spindler and Meghan Trumbull each had two hits, with Spindler and Amy Hunter driving in the runs for Behrend.

In the second game Behrend was able to put up a few more runs on the board but could not prevent Bradford from doing the same as the Lions lost 11-9. Peterson had two hits and two RBIs and Becky Rishel had two hits and two runs scored to pace the offense. Alicyn Haney and Brandy Polnick both had two RBIs in game two. Pinkhouse took the loss, giving up eight earned runs on four hits in two and one-third innings.

Then, on Saturday, April 14, the Lions went up against arguably the best team in the AMCC the past two years, La Roche (20-6, 10-2 AMCC). The Lions were able to keep both games very close but in the end could not

generate much offense, losing 3-1 in the first game and 3-2 in the second. Bodnor was the starter in both games, pitching 14 total innings while giving up six earned runs on 18 hits and striking out seven. Bodnor hit an RBI double for Behrend's only run in game one and then launched her eighth home run of the season in game two. Woods knocked in the team's other run.

The Lions finish up their season with two home games following the AMCC tournament, against Grove City (4-6) on Monday, April 23 and Bethany (19-12) on Wednesday, April 25. Before those two games the Lions will be looking for an AMCC championship trophy to bring home like they did two years ago. The Lions have proven they can beat Pitt-Bradford and can compete with La Roche, the favorite to win it all. With some hard work and favorable luck, the Lions' chances of capturing a title are not as distant as their record would indicate.

Water polo defense makes great effort

by Bob Palivoda
staff writer

Facing their toughest challenge yet of the season, the Penn State Behrend women's water polo team played in the Southern Championships on April 6-7.

This tournament decided who would move on to compete for the national title in the NCAA. During the weekend, Behrend faced steep competition.

The Lions first game was against Princeton. Behrend had a difficult time losing, 18-2. Both senior Mary Good and freshman Sarah McGarvey had a goal for PSU in the game.

Slippery Rock was next on the list for the Behrend women. Facing strong competition again, Behrend lost by a score of 18-4. Both Good and McGarvey made the scoreboard again with Good blazing two into the goal and McGarvey with one. Freshman Hollie Stash also gave Behrend a point in the game.

After going 0-2 in the championship, Behrend wanted to show that it was a team that would not die. The Lions did just that in their third game against Salem International. Losing to Salem by a score of 18-3 with a little more than a minute to go in the fourth quarter, Salem lost two of its players to ejections. Behrend was now at a two-man advantage. Penn State Behrend then made a statement by scoring four goals in less than one minute. The Behrend women managed to close the gap and the final of the game was 18-7.

In the game against Salem, Cassie Harris, a sophomore, had two goals. Lindsay Spiegel, freshman, helped out the Lions throwing in two goals. Freshmen Amanda Brown and Hollie Stash both had a goal along with senior Mary Good.

Behrend's final game in the tournament was against W&J. W&J managed to win the game 9-1 but Behrend was able to make

WATER POLO

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Track & field team sets more records

by Jamie Salapek
staff writer

The Behrend track and field team's competitive edge and constantly improving skills paid off last weekend at the Western Pennsylvania Championship in Beaver Falls, as eight athletes set new school records. The stiff competition included St. Francis, Robert Morris, Allegheny, Duquesne, Geneva, Pitt-Johnstown, Carnegie Mellon and Thiel College.

"We competed well once again," said coach Rich Hoffman. "In almost all the events we entered we finished higher than we were projected to finish, so that was encouraging. I don't think we're intimi-

dated by anyone we go up against. I think we'll have several more people knock down some ECAC qualifiers in the next three weeks. We're very close in some events."

The women's track team placed sixth overall, with four new school records. Tina Rubay placed fourth in the 10,000 meter, setting the new record at 44:32.44 and teammate Heather Efaw placed ninth with a new record time of 1:11.89 in the 400 hurdles.

The 4x400 relay team of Lindsay Schulte, Heather Efaw, Pilly Gonzalez and Kathy Perry placed sixth with a new record time of 4:20.44. Schulte placed sixth in the 400 with a record breaking time of 1:01.67, third in the triple jump with

a mark of 33-9.5 and qualified for ECAC, placing fifth in the 200, clocking in at 27.22.

The men's team placed seventh overall, with three new school records set. Kevin Ritzert placed third in the 10,000, with a new record time of 34:56.29. Jay Davids set a new record in the 800, placing ninth with a time of 2:01.39 and teammate Tyler Travis set a new record in the 5,000, placing 11th with a time of 16:08.90. Dave Masilunas placed fourth in the 110 high hurdles and Jay Davids also took fourth in the high jump for Behrend. The men's 4x400 relay team of Dave Ober, Greg Cooper, Jay Davids and Garrett Arndt ranked fourth at the championship with a

time of 3:26.83.

"Our long distance runners were competitive and put forth a nice effort," said Hoffman. "Our men's 4x400 relay continued the tradition of being in the mix for the top place at each meet. We had several outstanding performances this meet."

As the track and field team continues to show strength and endurance in the events, several Behrend athletes have earned the honors of competing in the ECAC championship. The team competed at the Slippery Rock Open on Saturday.

As the school year draws to a close, the end of track and field season is rapidly approaching. This was an outstanding year for the track season, with a new facility

and many shining athletes setting new school records, leaving their mark on Behrend sports.

"The team is all my friends," said Heather Efaw. "If we didn't have the chemistry we have, I don't think we would have been able to do as well as we did. I think we had a good season considering we don't have a track, but the other teams were understanding and very helpful."

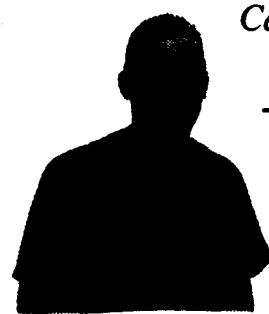
"Behrend's track team is slightly coming around and we are sending more people into the extended season," said Greg Cooper. "We still have more... meets and then we head into the ECAC competition. This was probably the most successful season for Behrend so far, because now it's turning into a real sport."

Will it ever end?

Caught in the Grasp

Douglas Smith

columnist



The National Hockey League playoffs have started and it's about time. The season seemed to drag on until Mario Lemieux came back and then everyone had something to talk about for the last three and a half months. However, the season and playoffs just seem so excruciatingly long. Is there anything that can be done to take the pain out of such a long season?

The season was coming to a close,

but it seemed like it took forever to actually shut the door on the regular season. The sportscasters talked about seeding for the playoffs and that four teams in the East could end up at the fourth seed, when, in actuality the brackets were pretty much set.

Everyone knows that the New Jersey Devils will be the number one seed and play someone not worthy of the playoffs. In this case, it is the Carolina Hurricanes and they are proving to be no match. Everyone also knows that the Pittsburgh Penguins will be playing the Washington Capitals in a very competitive series. The Philadelphia Flyers play a very bad series, but will

still make it competitive. They always seem to play Buffalo, so sportscasters can use the Czech versus Czech in goal comparison. The Ottawa Senators play well in the regular season but fail when the playoffs begin.

Out in the West the situation remains the same. Whoever the Edmonton Oilers play is in for quite a treat as they usually play spoiler in the first round. This year the Dallas Stars are feeling a bit of this wrath. The Stars, along with the Colorado Avalanche and Detroit Red Wings, always make the playoffs, despite injuries galore in the regular season.

The Avalanche obliterates their first round opponent also. The St. Louis Blues and San Jose Sharks make pretty impacting statements in the regular season, but both teams seem to fade away in the playoffs. Luckily, they are playing each other this year, so one team has the luxury of moving on.

When the series begins to wind down and there are only four teams left most likely the names of Forsberg, Brodeur and Shanahan are being discussed. One team always sneaks into contention with the likes of Brett Hull or Mats Sundin. Some people think the Penguins will be that team since the return of Lemieux. This becomes the only suspenseful item in the division series. Luckily, the Stanley Cup Final is always fun to watch. Still, by that time the playoffs are well over a month old and the feeling is that of just getting it over with already.

The NBA playoffs start a week or more after the NHL and yet the two seasons end around the same time in the beginning of June or late May. Boredom strikes when watching the NHL playoffs because of travel days and having to start every round of the playoffs on a certain day. It is hard to follow your favorite team because of breaks in the series.

The NHL can learn a few things if it looks toward the other sports leagues. First, allow fewer teams into the playoffs. At least two fewer teams would be nice because very seldom do the two lowest seeds beat the two highest seeds. The Carolina Hurricanes are not even giving the New Jersey Devils a run for their money. The Vancouver Canucks are just a joke. They were the best of the worst in the Western Conference.

Another alternative is to make the series best of five games up to a certain point. The first two rounds would go so much smoother if they were best of five. Plus, this format would eliminate the weak teams early.

Maybe I'm just not a fan of watching so much hockey when it's supposed to be spring time; then again it is Erie. Oh well, it will probably never change.

By the way, go Maple Leafs.