

Calendar of Events

Behrend Athletic Events

Saturday Women's Tennis Penn State Altoona Behrend Tennis Courts 10 a.m.

Men's and Women's Golf @ Pitt-Bradford 12 p.m.

Men's Water Polo Slippery Rock Junker Center 5:30 p.m.

Water Polo Washington & Jefferson Junker Center 8:30 p.m.

Men's and Women's Cross Country @ Slippery Rock Invitational TBA

Sunday Men's Water Polo Gannon Junker Center 9 a.m.

Men's Soccer Elizabethtown Behrend Fields 1 p.m.

Monday Women's Soccer Grove City Behrend Fields 4 p.m.

Wednesday Men's Soccer @ Pitt Bradford 2:30 p.m.

Women's Tennis @ Fredonia 3 p.m.

Women's Soccer @ Pitt-Bradford 5 p.m.

Women's Volleyball La Roche Junker Center 7 p.m.

Sept. 28 Women's Soccer Alfred Behrend Fields 3:30 p.m.

Women's Volleyball Penn State Altoona Junker Center 7 p.m.

Men's Water Polo @ Grove City Invitational TBA

Intramurals Schedule

Friday Sept. 28 Cross Country Invitational Men's and Women's Cross Country Team Men's, Women's, and Coed

Fantasy Hockey League

Friday Oct. 5 Flag Football Men's, Women's, and Coed

All entries must be at the intramural office by 4 p.m. on the scheduled date

Men's water polo team begins season with first win in team history

by Jason Snyder staff writer

The Behrend men's water polo team won its first ever game this past weekend, knocking off Mercyhurst College, 23-9. The only problem is, you would never know it given the Lions' attitude entering another tough weekend of competition Saturday.

"It was an expected win, because they (the Lakers) are in the same boat that we were in last year," said Behrend head coach Josh Heynes. Mercyhurst is in its first year of competition, as the Lions were last season.

"Our play against Mercyhurst was a little off. My guys knew they would win and were a little too excited in the first quarter," said Heynes.

The Lakers jumped to an early 4-0 lead, before the Lions rallied for the 23-9 win. "I wanted the margin to be a little bigger, but I'll take what I can get," said Heynes.

Behrend also had games this past weekend against Grove City and Washington & Jefferson. The Lions lost to Grove City, 20-9 and to Washington & Jefferson 17-4.

Behrend was led by some all-around play from Andy Hanhauser,

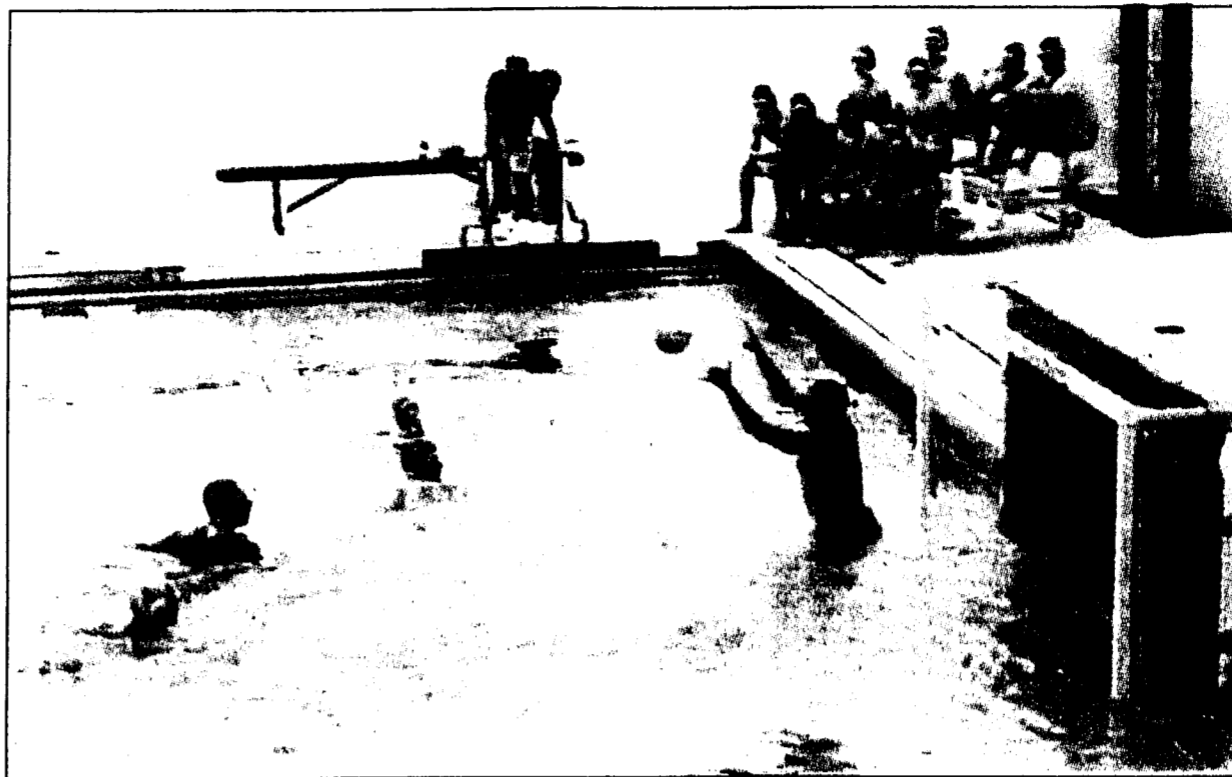


PHOTO BY KRISTIN RODGERS

The men's water polo team gets off a shot against Grove City on Saturday. Although they lost that game, the Lions defeated Mercyhurst later that day for their first win in team history.

who combined for 17 goals, seven assists and 26 steals in the three games.

Heynes realizes that the Lions need to continue to improve to win more games in the future. "We have to work

on the small things -- better passing and opening our eyes up to the entire pool, not just the goal. The guys know what to do. They just need to calm down and use the clock to their

advantage," said Heynes. The Lions will need to do a lot of "small things" this weekend, as they welcome three tough opponents in Slippery Rock, Washington &

Jefferson and local rival Gannon. Slippery Rock and Gannon are both Division I schools, and "very physical" according to Heynes. Slippery Rock is one of the only schools on the East Coast to have competed in the NCAA Championships in years past. "They will be extremely tough to hang with," said Heynes.

Gannon will offer another tough challenge for the Lions. "We know this team very well. We practice with them and scrimmage with them. We know each other's tendencies," said Heynes.

Washington & Jefferson will return to Behrend Saturday after defeating the Lions handily last weekend. "I would like to have a better showing against them this time, than last weekend," said Heynes.

This weekend's action will begin on Saturday as the Lions will play Slippery Rock at 5:30 p.m., followed by Washington & Jefferson at 8:30 p.m. Behrend will host Gannon at 9 a.m. on Sunday.

Heynes hopes the Lions can pick up another win this weekend by playing "hard nosed water polo, good offense and great defense."

The weekly senior athletic profile



PHOTO BY MIKE BELLO

Dan Falk has played a major part in Behrend's impressive 6-1 start. Falk not only leads the team with nine points, but plays the demanding position of midfielder, who covers more ground than any other player.

Dan Falk : 'White Chocolate' wants nothing less than an NCAA postseason berth for men's soccer team

by Kate Levdansky Petrikis assistant sports editor

Dan Falk, a senior soccer player at Penn State Behrend, is nicknamed "white chocolate" due to his rare white soccer shoes.

Falk began to play soccer at age 3, continued to play at Baldwin High School, and still plays. As a midfielder, his job is to attack the ball and shuffle it to his forward teammates.

"Of course," said Falk, "midfielders also try to score goals."

Falk credits ninth-year head coach Dan Perritano and assistants Nathan Wiley and Travis Lang for encouraging them to think on their own.

"Our coaches have always taught us they have nothing to do with the game. It is the team who has to perform. They have to make decisions to help the team. The coaches have always come across with a positive attitude and (encouraged) the team to present ourselves well at other locations and around campus."

The Lions are 6-1. Falk leads the team with nine points, but you wouldn't know it by his attitude.

"I am one of the mellow players on the team," said Falk. "I do not really get pumped up. I just go out and play.

So far the team is looking pretty good. We are coming up to our mid season, and it is a hard stretch of games. If we come out on top of those games, then we are going to do real good this year.

"Last year we made it to ECAC's, but this year we want Behrend to take the next step and make ourselves known in the region. We are probably looking at making the NCAA tournament for the first time."

Practices are held 3:15 to 5:30 p.m. daily, unless it is a game day or when the team gets a day off following a game.

"Time is not a problem," said Falk. "There is time to accomplish work on bus trips and three hours a day does not really affect studying. The only problem is we sometimes miss classes for games." Falk usually hangs out with the team on their off nights.

Falk's biggest influence is his father.

"My father always pushed me, but was willing to let me choose what I wanted to play or pursue." Falk, a mathematics major, plans on teaching. "After graduation I will hopefully get a job at an area high school in Pittsburgh and take up a coaching position in soccer."

The Behrend Lions next game is Sunday at home against Elizabethtown at 1 p.m.

Free Prizes For students At every home athletic event THIS WEEK'S HOME EVENTS: Saturday, September 22 Men's Water Polo vs. Slippery Rock @ 5:30 pm Men's Water Polo vs. W & J @ 8:30 pm Sunday, September 23 Men's Water Polo vs. Gannon @ 9 am Men's Soccer vs. Elizabethtown @ 1 pm Monday, September 24 Women's Soccer vs. Grove City @ 4 pm Wednesday, September 26 Women's Volleyball vs. La Roche @ 7 pm Stop by the Game(s) and Register to Win This Years Spirit T-shirt

Volleyball team completes 1st Behrend Tournament with 3-2 record

by Jamie Salapek staff writer

This past weekend the Behrend women's volleyball team hosted the first Behrend Volleyball Tournament, which was held in the new Junker Center. The tournament was made up of seven opponents: Nazareth, D'Youville, Fredonia, Hiram, Pitt-Bradford, Capital and the hometown Behrend Lions. Wooster had been scheduled to play but decided not to participate in the tournament due to last week's terrorist attacks in New York and Washington D.C.

Behrend kicked off the tournament with a three-game rally over D'Youville, putting the Lions' record at 4-6. The scores reflected the closeness of the matches: 30-26, 30-20, and finally 30-26.

Behrend's second match, against Fredonia, proved to be a little more work, resulting in four games. With tight matches, there was little room for mistakes. Behrend's teamwork and raw skill pulled off another victory, as the Lions improved to 5-6.

Hiram shut down Behrend's offense in game three, preventing the Lions from creeping ahead in the tight matches. Hiram prevailed by close scores of 30-24, 30-24, and 30-27.

The Behrend women bounced back in game four against Pitt-Bradford. After Behrend won 30-25 and 30-27,

they dropped a 30-25 set before rallying with a 30-20 win.

The final showdown of the tournament was between Behrend and Capital. Behrend's relentless efforts to finish out the competition with a win failed as Capital pulled ahead in three matches for the win. Behrend ended the tournament with a 6-8 record.

Behrend's Jessica Niedermeyer received all-tournament honors, as she was voted one of the top eight players of the tournament. Teammate Danielle Bemis was named the AMCC player of the week for her outstanding performance last weekend.

After an action-packed weekend on the volleyball courts, coach Kelly Diehl was pleased with her team's performance.

"We played 100% better this weekend than last weekend at the Carnegie Mellon Tournament. The difference between the two weekends was how we reacted when we were down in a match," said Diehl. "This weekend we never gave up. We believed in ourselves that we are good enough to beat anyone."

The Lions then played at Buffalo State on Tuesday. The teams were evenly matched for the first two sets, as Behrend won both by 30-25 scores. They also won the third set 30-23, improving their record to 7-8, a far cry from the 2-6 record they had after the Carnegie Mellon Tourney. With much cheer and support from



PHOTO BY KRISTIN RODGERS

Sophomore Lauren Senkevich, left, junior Danielle Bemis, second from left, and junior Rose Boni (#12) watch as senior Sarah Peterson (#6) completes a dig. Senior Brienne Engelbert, right, gets ready to set. The Lions improved their overall record to 6-8 after finishing the Behrend Invitational on Saturday. On Tuesday, they defeated Buffalo State to climb to 7-8.

the crowds, the Lady Lions hoped to generate another two wins when they play La Roche on Wednesday and

Penn State Altoona on Sept. 28. After hosting Frosburg on Sept. 29, the Lions will play seven straight road

matches before they return home on Oct. 23.