

## Women's soccer rebounds with dominating win over Pitt-Bradford



PHOTO BY MIKE BELLO

Freshman Natasha Edrington (#10) keeps her eye on the ball as she prepares to attack a Grove City player who momentarily has control. The Lions' next home game is Friday at 3:30 p.m. against Alfred at the Behrend Fields.

by Bob Pallvoda  
staff writer

After winning its first two AMCC games, the women's soccer team took a break from conference play and traveled to Pittsburgh to play Carnegie Mellon University. Although it was a sunny day in the 'Burgh, the sun shined on the other team.

From the beginning of the game until the end, both teams worked furiously to try to sneak a ball into the net. A score did not occur for either team until overtime. Off a corner shot, Carnegie Mellon's Meredith McConochie put one past senior goalkeeper Michelle Malatesta.

Both teams played with intensity. Aubrey Nicksich, Maria Gahagen, Niki Clouse, Diane Holtsford, and Laura Furko were all able to get off shots for Behrend, but CMU's defense was impenetrable.

Malatesta took a beating in the net for Behrend. She came up with a total of 15 saves on the day for the Lions. This loss broke Behrend's two-game winning streak and dropped the women's record to 3-6.

After this tough loss, the women were hungry for a win. On Monday, they hosted a non-conference game against Grove City. The day was

gloomy, rainy and cold. This array of bad weather was not enough to stop the women from giving a golden performance.

After both halves of play, neither team had scored a single goal. Behrend faced its second overtime in a row. The Lions clawed at their opponents, but were just not able to break skin in a scoreless tie.

Malatesta picked up where she left off from the last game. She walked away in high spirits by shutting out Grove City on five saves. However, Grove City also walked away without giving up a goal.

Coming through with some shots on goal for Behrend were Nicksich, Gahagen, Clouse, Holtsford, Furko, Natasha Edrington, Briana Shively, and Lisa Danwalder. After the tie with Grove City, the women's record moved to 3-6-1 (2-0 in conference play).

The women then traveled to Pitt-Bradford Wednesday for their third conference game of the season. This time, the women didn't need overtime.

Furko blazed one into the net at the 65-minute mark with an assist by Edrington. Nine minutes later, Clouse put the game out of reach with a goal, as the Lions rolled to a 2-0 win.

The score didn't accurately show how overwhelmingly the Lions



PHOTO BY MIKE BELLO

Freshman Maria Gahagen (#7) uses fancy footwork to keep the ball away from her Grove City opponent during a rainy Monday afternoon game. Both teams played their hardest, but in the end the damp conditions prevented anybody from scoring during a 0-0 tie.

dominated. Behrend put 15 shots on goal against Bradford goalie Jessica Coene, while Malatesta only had to contend with one shot. Bradford also committed more than twice as many fouls as the Lions.

Behrend will host a non-conference game against Alfred on Friday at 3:30 p.m. On Wednesday, the women will play host to Allegheny, a non-conference opponent, at 2 p.m.

## Tennis team gears up for major schedule crunch

by Mike Bello  
sports editor

The Lions headed into their weekend match with Penn State Altoona in high spirits. They had narrowly defeated Frostburg in their previous game, and still had home field advantage on their side. None of that mattered though to Altoona, as those undefeated Lions beat the Behrend women's tennis team by a 6-3 score.

Behrend's top two players, seniors Angela Albertson and Lennys Redondo, started the game with back-to-back wins. Albertson destroyed her opponent 6-0 and 6-3 and Redondo followed that up with 7-5 and 6-4 wins. Freshman Kimmy Asada lost the number three match of the day by scores of 6-4 and 6-1 right before senior Michelle Brendel lost to her Altoona opponent by identical 6-1 scores.

Behrend's fifth and sixth singles players were able to keep the scores close, but they too came up short on this overcast Saturday afternoon. Freshman Christie Leininger dropped her first set 6-4 and made Altoona's number five player work for her 7-5 second set win. Senior Carrie Reedy also started her match with a 6-4 loss, but was able to rebound in winning

6-3. However, Reedy wasn't able to capitalize on the win and subsequently dropped the decisive third set 6-1.

Albertson and Redondo began doubles play against Altoona's number two and three players, and for most of the match were able to keep pace. In the end, Altoona was just too much for Behrend, as the Lions lost 8-6 and guaranteed Altoona would win the overall matches and thus the game.

Asada and junior Becky Snyder teamed up for the second doubles match, but they too couldn't overcome Altoona (5-0) in losing 8-4. The Lions were able to rebound in the last match of the day, as Leininger and Brendel combined to defeat Altoona 8-4, but it was too little too late for Behrend.

The Lions' next scheduled match was at Fredonia on Wednesday. Inclement weather postponed that match until Thursday, but the extra rest the team got from that cancellation will be needed when they begin a stretch of six games in seven days, including all four of their AMCC opponents.

The stretch of games starts on Saturday at Frostburg, which the Lions defeated on Sept. 16 by a 4-3 score. Behrend will then go from Frostburg, Maryland up to Altoona,

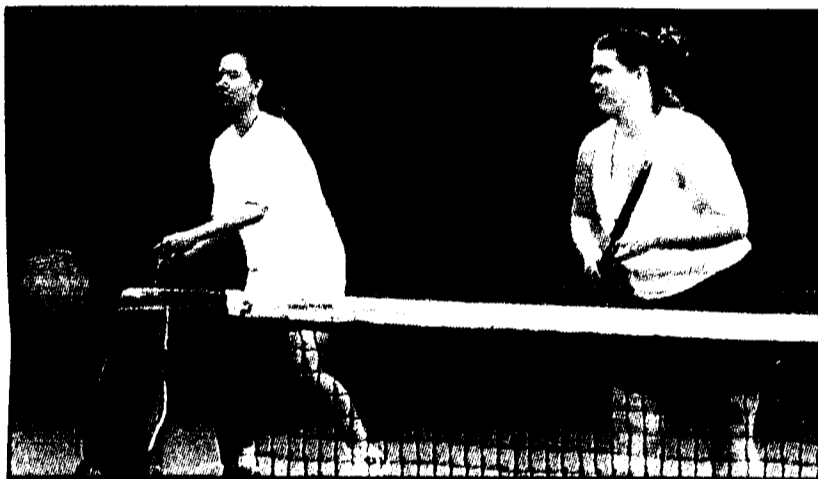


PHOTO BY KRISTIN RODGERS

Freshman Kimmy Asada and junior Becky Snyder compete in their doubles match against Altoona on Saturday. The Lions dropped that match 6-3 but return for a stretch of six games in seven days starting Saturday.

PA in a day as they are scheduled for a rematch with the Altoona Lions. Behrend will be hoping they can repeat the success they had against Frostburg and use that as a confidence builder when they take on Altoona on Sunday.

Behrend then returns home for an afternoon game with Edinboro, their closest geographical rival of the year, on Monday at 3:30 p.m. The women will get a chance to rest on Tuesday, but will be back on the road the next two days. They play AMCC foe La Roche on Wednesday and then engage in an independent matchup against

Thiel on Thursday. The Lions finish their week-long stretch of games on Oct. 5 against Pitt-Greensburg at the Behrend Tennis Courts starting at 4 p.m.

These games could either make or break Behrend's season, since there will be only three other games scheduled before the AMCC Tournament. By the time their game with Greensburg is through, the Lions will either be in contention for the AMCC crown, or will be looking to finish up their season as quickly as possible.

## Men's soccer comes up short in bid for national ranking

by Mike Francis  
staff writer

Finally, the men's soccer team has come back to Behrend. After a long haul on the road, the team had high hopes of playing its toughest game of the season last Sunday at home against Elizabethtown. A win likely would have put Behrend in the nation's Top 25.

Elizabethtown had just finished crushing a nationally ranked team 5-2. The Lions knew this was going to be a very physical game, considering the smallest player on Elizabethtown was 5 foot 8 inches. Mark Szczykowski, a midfielder for Behrend, said they knew it would be a hard game to win, but they were ready and excited to play.

The men's hopes of becoming nationally ranked were crushed that afternoon. Elizabethtown proved to be too much for Behrend's defense to handle, and defeated the Lions 3-0. The loss brought an end to Behrend's six-game winning streak.

The first indication that their opponents were much more physical came five minutes into the first half.

Elizabethtown's first goal came from a throw-in. With Behrend's goal totally surrounded, Elizabethtown capitalized on their superior height. T.J. Andrisano scored on the Lions with a leaping headshot, as the big throw-in came from Brad Kleinert. Elizabethtown scored again in the second period on another throw-in, this time by J.T. Liss, with an assist from Steven Custer.

With all the offense Elizabethtown put up -- 15 shots on goal, as well as the three goals -- Behrend's defense worked overtime. Jacob Hordych, Behrend's goalie, prevented 10 of those 15 shots from becoming goals.

While the defense was busy trying to stop goals, Behrend's offense had problems of its own. After running through Elizabethtown's huge roster the Lions managed to put some pressure on goalie Edwin Tichenor with six shots on goal, three of which were saved. Elizabethtown put the icing on the cake late in the game with a score from Steven Custer, assisted by Daniel Harris.

The game's physical play came with a price. The Lions were battered and bruised and, as a result,

the team showed its frustrations by pulling four penalty cards.

Behrend then played at Pitt-Bradford on a damp, cold Wednesday afternoon. Both teams battled it out throughout most of the game, but it wasn't until the 69th minute when a goal was finally scored, by Bradford's Jerome Lewis.

The Lions fought back. Six minutes later, senior Chris Lightner, with an assist from sophomore Andy Laver, put one past the Bradford goalie to tie the game. Neither team scored again in regulation play, but then in the 100th minute, senior Dan Falk put the game-winner into the net

to give Behrend a 2-1 win. Laver assisted on Falk's goal, as well.

Behrend dominated in statistics, taking 17 shots on goal compared to Bradford's four. Lightner led the team with five shots on the day, while goalie Hordych made three saves.

On Saturday, the team heads up to New York to take on Bethany before returning home next Wednesday. The Lions play host to Grove City at 4 p.m. and then will take on Westminster on Oct. 5 at 5 p.m. Both games will be played at the Behrend Fields.



PHOTO BY KRISTIN RODGERS

Senior Chad Droz fakes out his opponent during the Lions' 3-0 loss to Elizabethtown on a sunny Sunday afternoon at the Behrend Fields.

FREE PRIZES

For students

At every home athletic event

THIS WEEK'S HOME EVENTS:

**Friday, September 28, 2001**  
Soccer vs. Alfred @ 3:30 p.m.  
Volleyball vs. Penn State Altoona @ 7 p.m.

**Saturday, September 29, 2001**  
Volleyball vs. Frostburg @ 1 p.m.

**Monday, October 1, 2001**  
Tennis vs. Edinboro @ 3:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, October 3, 2001**  
Soccer vs. Grove City @ 4 p.m.

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