

The Behrend Beacon

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Calendar of Events Behrend Athletic

Events

Friday Women's Soccer AMCC Tournament Behrend Fields #1 Behrend vs. #4 Pitt-Bradford 12 p.m. #2 Frostburg vs. #3 La Roche 2:30 p.m.

Saturday Men's and Women's Cross Country @ AMCC Tournament @ La Roche 11 a.m.

Women's Soccer AMCC Championship Behrend Fields Game #1/#4 Winner vs. #2/#3 Winner 2 p.m.

Monday Women's Volleyball Pitt-Greensburg Junker Center 7 p.m.

> Tuesday Men's Soccer @ Buffalo State 3 p.m.

Friday Nov. 2 Men's Soccer @ AMCC Tournament Place TBA Time TBA

Women's Volleyball@ AMCC Tournament Place TBA Time TBA

Volleyball team riding high heading into last week of play

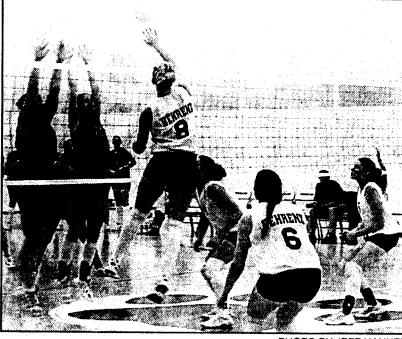


PHOTO BY JEFF HANKEY

Sophomore Jessica Niedermeyer (#8) sends the ball over the net against Pitt-Bradford on Tuesday with freshman Trish Krantz (center), senior Sarah Peterson (#6), and senior Brianne Engelbert (right) closing in.

> by Diane Holtsford staff writer

The Behrend women's volleyball team played four games this past week and came away with three wins.

Last weekend Behrend played two matches on the road with stops at Altoona on Friday and Frostburg on Saturday. Although they lost to Altoona, the Lions rebounded to defeat Frostburg for the second time this season. This past Wednesday, the team defeated Thiel at home after beating Pitt-Bradford the day before with the support of many cheering fans. The Lions' record continues to improve overall at 19-10.

Behrend found a difficult opponent in its non-conference match against Thiel. The Lions won the first two games 30-22 and 30-22, but dropped the next two games 30-26 and 30-28. A determined Behrend team, however, found the groove and took the fifth

game 15-7. Sarah Peterson had 13 kills and 15 digs, and Danielle Bemis added eight

kills and 22 digs. Jessica Niedermeyer added 12 kills and 11 digs, while Brianne Engelbert had 29 digs to go along with her 37 setter assists.

The Behrend Lions had a shaky start in their series of three conference matches. They were unable to break Altoona's play and were defeated in three straight games, 30-27, 30-22, and 30-18. This was the second time Behrend lost to Altoona and now must travel to Altoona next week for the conference tournament.

Niedermeyer accumulated eight kills and 15 digs, and Bemis added eight kills and 22 digs. Engelbert had 27 digs in addition to her 24 setter assists, and Peterson also had 21 digs.

Even though Behrend lost to Altoona, the Lions did not lose to defending AMCC champion Frostburg. Behrend won the first game 30-28 but dropped the second game 32-30. The

Lions, however, played tough and won the next two games, 30-27 and 30-27. The Behrend team had outstanding individual efforts throughout the match. Bemis had an impressive 12 kills and 36 digs. Niedermeyer contributed nine kills and 32 digs alongside teammate Engelbert, who had nine kills and 22 digs with 40 setter assists. Peterson also added nine kills and 11 digs.

Despite the results of last weekend, coach Kellie Diehl is still convinced that her team can come away with AMCC glory. With Altoona struggling to beat conference opponents, coach Diehl sees an opportunity to win the conference tournament.

"It's anybody's conference," said Diehl about next weekend.

Behrend continued its conference play with a win over Pitt-Bradford. In a gym full of loyal, enthusiastic fans,



Senior Brianne Engelbert sets up teammate Lauren Senkevich for a spike against Pitt-Bradford on Tuesday. The Lions ran their conference record to 9-2 with the win.

the Lions took care of Bradford in three straight games, 30-18, 30-28, and 30-26.

"After two weeks of struggling a little, we put it together and played well; we had a great night," said Diehl about her team's win.

Engelbert had six kills and six digs to go along with her 32 setter assists, while Niedermeyer amassed 11 kills and 13 digs. Also contributing were Bemis and Peterson, each with five kills and 14 digs.

Behrend's record is now 9-2 in the conference with one more opponent left to play in the regular season. The Lions have the weekend off but will open next week at home against Pitt-Greensburg on Monday. Not only will this conclude the regular season conference play, but Monday night seniors Engelbert and Peterson will be honored.

Browns, Steelers back on winning tracks



Is this a great time to be a Browns and/or Steelers fan or what? After several years of down time, the Brown and White and Yellow and Black are back, and they are kicking major ass! Finally, Browns' fans have something to cheer about, and Steelers fans (myself included) are cheering once more after several years of constant boos. Gee, if only Bills fans had could see a glimmer of hope, then it would be three out of three, but, hey, humans are not perfect. That's why God invented the Bills.

First, let's talk about 'em 'Burgh boys.

Despite having an incompetent oaf playing quarterback for what seems like the umpteenth year in a row, the Steelers find themselves 4-1 so far. The reason? The 'Bus' is running over opponents like Oprah getting to the All You Can Eat buffet. The defense is smothering the opposition with its 'Iron Curtain', the same thing we'd like to see smother the face of Joan Rivers, or Rob "Oh How I Love To" Wynne.

Just when Bettis seemed to be losing that power that he has always brought to the field, he comes out this year better than ever, piling up the yards like Robert Downey, Jr. piles up drug arrests. So far Bettis has rushed for 550 yards, third in the NFL, but more importantly he has become the rock for Pittsburgh's offense. He has come through when the team needed him the most. He even threw a touchdown pass against Tampa Bay. but that's expected from a guy who just became only the 14th player in NFL history to rush for more than 10,000 vards.

Stewart, on the other hand, is once again throwing worse than the Indians' entire pitching staff. He's completed 61% of his passes, not bad, but has thrown only one touchdown pass and four interceptions. He's also fumbled five times on the year, and so his QB rating: 65.3. My rating: I'll give him one finger up, but it's not the thumb. I'm getting more annoyed with Stewart than those commercials for the stupid Shirley Temple video collection, both of which I'd like to throw through a window.

Cooper believes cross country teams can win AMCC

Men's Water Polo @ Southern Championships @ U.S. Naval Academy TBA

Intramurals Schedule

Friday Intramural Bowling Men's and Women's Singles, Teams, and Coed

Intramural Billiards Men's and Women's Singles, Doubles, and Coed

Friday Nov. 9 Intramural 3 vs. 3 Basketball Men's and Women's **Teams-** Competitive and Recreational

2-Ball Competition Men's, Women's, and Coed Teams (2 players)

Friday Nov. 16 Team Triathlon - Swimming, Biking, and Joggina Men's. Women's, and Coed (3 Players each team)

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



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO Freshman Dan Alvis is one of many runners the men's team will count on at the AMCC tournament.

by Jason Snyder Staff writer

Behrend's top runners all recorded season-best times this past Saturday at the Rennselear Poly Invitational held in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. Their personal success couldn't have come at a better time.

The Lions will compete in the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference Championships Saturday at La Roche, a race both the men and women have been preparing for all season.

"Our runners are hitting peak form as we approach the AMCC championships," said head coach Dave Cooper. "That's the time we want to do our best."

Jessica Knapp and Andrea Sanko both recorded their best times of the season at RPI. The two women have pushed each other the past five races, resulting in improved race times.

Knapp finished in 22nd place at RPI with a time of 19:57, breaking 20 minutes for the first time this season. Sanko crossed the line right behind Knapp at 20:02, placing her in 24th.

The women can also gain confidence with runners Lyndsey Boor and Suzie Szafran both finishing within a minute of Behrend's top two this past weekend. The combination of Boor and Szafran give the Lions a three-four punch to balance the "one-two punch" that Cooper had noted earlier in the season.

The women are hitting their stride just in time for the conference championships, which has Cooper confident entering the weekend.

"For the women, we look to be favorites in the race (AMCC)," said Cooper. "We just need to stay healthy and confident.'

On the men's side, Cooper anticipates a challenge from Frostburg State. "We look for a struggle against Frostburg in the men's race." The Lions were scheduled to get a preview of Frostburg at the Frostburg Invitational three weeks ago, but the meet

Kevin Ritzert will lead the charge

for the Lions. Ritzert, a sophomore, has led the Lions all season, including this past weekend at RPI where he recorded his season-best time of 27:12. The constant improvement of Ritzert throughout the season hasn't enabled Behrend's number two and three runners to close in like the women have. Mike Barlett and Dan Croft held down the second and third spots for the Lions at RPI, crossing the line with times of 28:39 and 28:50, respectively.

Cooper knows in order to challenge Frostburg that the men behind Ritzert have to have strong performances.

"We need to get several solid performances from our three through seven men," said Cooper. "They have to challenge Frostburg's three, four and five men."

If the Lions can do that, Behrend could be looking at a sweep in the AMCC Championships this weekend, a feat never accomplished in the program's five-year history.

The defense, too, once again has its opponents on the ropes, only this time it's not with the Pro-Bowl players who have been standard for so long. They are second in the NFL in least points and yards allowed per game. The secondary, which has been the defense's downfall ever since Rod Woodson and Carnell Lake left, is solid once more. In fact, it's allowed the second fewest passing yards per game and has now become the strongest link on defense. There will be no "goodbyes" to them, that's for sure.

Yes, excitement is in the air in the Steel City, and in brand new Heinz Field despite those awful looking bright yellow seats. The only thing opponents are seeing is red, from all the bruises the Steelers have been giving. Hmmm, maybe they should have called it Coca-Cola Field. One thing's for sure, Visa picked the wrong team for its "Loving You" commercial. The Bills are playing like it's their theme song.

The Browns are winning? Just who let these dawgs out?

It's hard to imagine an expansion team winning two games its first year. followed by three the next, and then start its third season 4-2. I'm no Miss Cleo, thankfully, but I predicted the Browns would win four games in 2001. I also assumed they would lose the other 12, but, hey, all Cleveland has to do is lose the next 10. The way they are playing, not likely.

Trying to figure out how the Browns are winning is like trying to figure out the mystery behind "The X-Files". You can watch it over and over, but in the end you are still left

BROWNS

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Albertson wins singles championship at AMCC tourney

was cancelled.

by Nick Nesbitt staff writer

The women's tennis team placed third in the AMCC Tournament in Frostburg on Saturday, finishing up a solid year with an overall record of 8-9 and a 4-3 conference record. This was the first time in the history of the tournament that the team did not place in first.

Coming off recent wins against Thiel and twice beating La Roche, the team had high hopes to repeat as champions. Although Lennys Redondo, the normal number two player, was out due to an injury, the team made a strong run in the singles bracket in the number one and two spots.

Senior Angela Albertson, named AMCC MVP, lost the first set of the finals and was down 5-1 in the second when she caught fire and rallied to win the next 12 games. Angela finished the year winning all of her

singles matches with a record of 10-0.

In the number two spot, Kimmy Asada, who moved up to take the place of Redondo, won a match. Coach Jeff Barger has high hopes for Asada in the future.

"She is improving, and being just a freshman I can see her doing great things here at Behrend," said Barger.

The freshmen this year got a lot of in the next several years.

"Our goal is to get back on top of the conference. With the addition of a few new players and our returning group we should make a strong statement next season," said Barger of the team's status for the 2002 season.

Brendel, Redondo, Carrie Reedy, and Lauren Ulrich will be missed from the team but were very strong contributors in their final seasons.

playing time, which will help the team

Seniors Albertson, Michelle

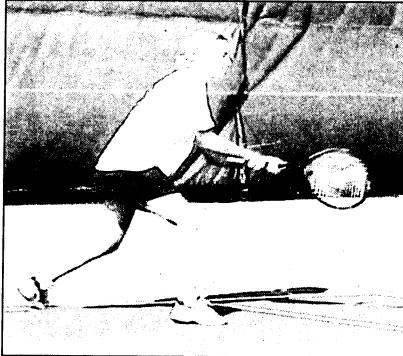


PHOTO BY ROB WYNNE Senior Carrie Reedy is one of five seniors the tennis team will lose to graduation. The Lions finshed out the season in third place in the AMCC.