

## Calendar of Events

### Behrend Athletic Events

#### Friday

Women's Basketball  
Creative Imprint Systems  
Basketball Tournament  
Junker Center  
John Carroll vs. Alvernia  
6 p.m.  
Behrend vs. Bluffon  
8 p.m.

#### Saturday

Women's Basketball  
Behrend Tournament  
Junker Center  
Consolation Game  
1 p.m.  
Championship Game  
3 p.m.

Men's Basketball  
Tip-Off Basketball Tournament  
Junker Center

Medaille vs. Mount Aloysius  
6 p.m.  
Behrend vs. Geneseo  
8 p.m.

#### Sunday

Men's Basketball  
Behrend Tournament  
Junker Center  
Consolation Game  
1 p.m.  
Championship Game  
3 p.m.

#### Tuesday

Men's and Women's  
Swimming  
Gannon  
Junker Center  
6 p.m.

Women's Basketball  
@ Bethany  
7 p.m.

Men's Basketball  
Grove City  
Junker Center  
8 p.m.

#### Saturday Nov. 24

Women's Basketball  
Case Western Reserve  
Junker Center  
2 p.m.

#### Wednesday Nov. 28

Women's Basketball  
@ Washington & Jefferson  
5:30 p.m.

#### Men's Basketball

@ Washington & Jefferson  
7:30 p.m.

#### Friday Nov. 30

Men's and Women's Swimming  
@ ECAC Division III  
Championships TBA

#### Women's Basketball

Behrend Tournament  
Junker Center  
Behrend vs. RIT  
6 p.m.  
Susquehanna vs. Albion  
8 p.m.

## Intramurals Schedule

#### Friday

Team Triathlon - Swimming,  
Biking, and Jogging  
Men's, Women's, and Coed (3  
Players each team)

#### Friday Dec. 7

Intramural 5 vs. 5 Basketball:  
Men's and Women's Teams

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

# Women's basketball has hard act to follow

by Nick Nesbitt  
staff writer

The Penn State Behrend women's basketball team returns to the court coming off an 18-9 record from last season. Eighth-year head coach Roz Fornari returns with a solid group of seniors and returning players, along with a good-looking crop of freshmen talent to fill the holes of last year's graduated players. The Lady Lions will look to make the postseason for the sixth time in nine years.

The team has a variety of players at the guard position. Senior Kate Costanzo, who averaged 11 points and 3.5 assists per game last year, and junior Danielle Bemis, who averaged 4.8 points off the bench last season, will compete for playing time at the guard positions, along with junior Amanda Mauser and sophomore Carly Cochran. Bambi Lewis, Brandy Polinick, and Allison Skiff also join the team at the guard positions as freshmen.

Senior Katie Weigold and sophomore Erica Mozdy will fiercely compete for the starting point guard position. Freshman Norine Scida will also get some experience at point guard this year.

The Behrend Lions remain strong in their low post game with the return of senior Erin Phillips. Phillips, from McDowell High School, averaged 14.1 points per game and led the team with 6.1 rebounds per game last year. She is only the sixth Behrend player to surpass the 1,000-point mark in her career.

Senior Christine Charnock and sophomore Crystal McGarvey will compete for playing time as the substitute for Phillips. Charnock averaged 4.2 points per game and 3 re-



Seniors Christine Charnock and Erin Phillips, center, practice at the Junker Center to get ready for this weekend's Behrend tournament. In the background from left to right are freshman Brandy Polinick, senior Kate Costanzo, sophomore Carly Cochran, junior Amanda Mauser, senior Katie Weigold, and junior Danielle Bemis.

PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RODGERS

Head coach Roz Fornari gives some words of advice to Danielle Bemis during one of the Lions' recent practices. Behrend, which went 18-9 a year ago, must replace the offensive output of Jen O'Lare, one of only six players to score more than 1,000 points.

bounds per game last year. McGarvey earned the most improved player of the year last year as a freshman.

Costanzo knows what the team needs to do to mirror the success of last year.

"To be successful we need to play good team defense, execute our offenses, and out hustle our opponents," said Costanzo. "Confidence, communication, and desire will be keys to our success."

The Behrend basketball team has

never been better under the leadership of Fornari. She is Behrend's all-time leader in career wins with 147, and has led the team to two postseason NCAA appearances. Since Fornari started her tenure as head coach, the team has been to the ECAC playoffs three times and won the AMCC Tournament Championship in the 1998-1999 season. She has also won the AMCC Coach of the Year award twice. She led the team to a 10-2 conference record last year.

The team has made it to the league

championship for the past four years. This will be another tough year for the Lions. They will go to Las Vegas for a Christmas Tournament from Dec. 16-20, where they will play some of the elite teams in the country, including Bethany College, Thomas More, and Cal-Lutheran. They also will be playing Washington & Jefferson and Delaware Valley during the regular season, teams that were the PAC and ECAC champions, respectively.

The Lions' season opens with

a tip-off tournament here at Behrend. The schedule includes a total of 12 league games in the wide-open AMCC. Look for the Lions to make another strong run for their fifth postseason berth.

"The team has worked very hard in the off-season and the pre-season," said Costanzo. "We are well prepared and ready to play some basketball. We are very excited to begin the season this weekend at Behrend in front of our fans."

## Continued growth on horizon for men's basketball

by Zoë Rose  
staff writer

What sports fanatics will watch for the next four to five months can be summed up in two words: College basketball. The leaves are bright red, orange, and yellow and the sports calendar has drifted into the men's basketball season. Penn State Behrend's basketball team has taken over the courts.

With 28 games in the season, not including last weekend's exhibition game against the University of Toronto-Erindale, the Blue and White have a long season to look forward to. The Lions came out of the exhibition game with a strong and cushioning 83-39 win, giving playing time to each player.

This year's squad returns four starters and 11 lettermen under the leadership of senior guard Matt Keith and junior top Steve Merrill. With several top freshmen joining the

team, the skills and experience that the upperclassmen will provide will be vital. Keith already owns the school record of 92 three-pointers in a season and will be expected to score often. Merrill is in top form for the season after scoring 6.1 points-per-game in 23 contests last year.

Earning a spot on the starting lineup is last year's AMCC Newcomer of the Year, 6-6 center James Curran. Curran sank an impressive 13.8 ppg his freshman year. Filling in the two forward starting positions are 6-3 sophomore David Hairston, who scored 9.8 ppg, and 6-3 sophomore Casey Ponsoll, who contributed 9.2 ppg. Competing for time against these three returning starters will be talented sophomores 6-5 Jeff Lane and 6-7 Randy Conley, as well as contributions from 6-3 Marty Timm and 6-3 Mike Schodt.

Skilled freshmen include guards Joe Lucas (5-10) and Tim Lulich (6-1), 6-3 forwards Rylan Marx and Josh Mascara, as well as 6-7 center Jam

Richards. Adding depth to the roster will be freshmen Ryan Dillion (6-3), Nick Paris (5-9), Patrick Spence (5-11), and sophomore Joe Greer (5-10).

Head coach Dave Niland sees good things for this year's recruits.

"The freshmen have all looked good. I think this is one of the most talented groups we have had. Making the transition from high school to college is very hard."

Most freshmen warm the benches in college. Freshmen are more likely to see playing time, thus enabling them to gain valuable experience.

Just as the Penn State Behrend Lions had to play for years at Rec Hall and then advanced to the new Bryce Jordan Center, the Behrend Lions have migrated from Erie Hall to the sparkling new Junker Center. The opportunity to begin a successful new

era in this facility excites the Lions as they seek a fresh start under Niland's leadership.

"We would like to improve on the 9-3 (AMCC) second-place finish from last season," Niland said.

The season starts on Saturday and Sunday with the Penn State Behrend Tournament at 6 and 8 p.m. Niland is definitely looking forward to this tournament.

"The tourney is going to be very exciting, all the teams are solid. Geneseo State is considered to be one of the top teams in the East region this year," said Niland.

The Lions will entertain 12 league games at home among a few non-conference games. With a fresh season ahead, the Blue and White are full of energy and look forward to the upcoming challenges.



PHOTO BY KRISTIN RODGERS  
Freshman Joe Lucas puts a move on freshman Tom Lulich in one of the Lions' inter-squad scrimmages at the Junker Center. In the background, sophomore Marty Timm, left, guards sophomore Casey Ponsoll.

## FREE PRIZES

For students

At every home athletic event

### THIS WEEK'S HOME EVENTS:

**Friday, November 16**

**Women's Basketball**

Alvernia vs. John Carroll @ 6 p.m.

Penn State Behrend vs. Bluffton @ 8 p.m.

**Saturday, November 17**

**Women's Basketball**

Consolation Game @ 1 p.m.

Championship Game @ 3 p.m.

**Men's Basketball**

Medaille vs. Geneseo at 6 p.m.

Penn State Behrend vs. Mt. Aloysius at 8 p.m.

**Sunday, November 18**

**Men's Basketball**

Consolation Game @ 1 p.m.

Championship Game @ 3 p.m.

**Win Free Prizes**

Stop by the Game(s) and Register to

**Participate in the Halftime Contests**

## Housing and Food Service Athlete of the Week

PENNSSTATE  
Erie

Casey  
Doody



Doody smashed the record's 100-backstroke record with a time of 55.11 and the 200-backstroke record in 2:03.03. Both times were achieved at Buffalo State on Nov. 6. Doody placed first in both events and also led off the winning 400 medley relay that included Eric Phillips, Jon Harding, and Lucas Dushac.

Doody also set the 100-backstroke pool record with a time of 55.96 at the Lions' first meet at the Junker Center on Saturday. He also tied the team's and pool's 100-freestyle record of 51.71. The swim team's next challenge is Gannon on Tuesday at home.