

Calendar of Events

Behrend Athletic Events

Friday

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

Women's Basketball Behrend Tournament Junker Center Susquehanna vs. Albion 6 p.m. Behrend vs. RIT 8 p.m.

Saturday

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

Men's Basketball @ Fredonia 4 p.m.

Sunday

Men's Basketball Carnegie Mellon Junker Center 2 p.m.

Wednesday

Women's Basketball @ Pitt-Bradford 6 p.m.

Men's Basketball @ Pitt-Bradford 8 p.m.

Saturday Dec. 8 Women's Basketball Penn State Altoona Junker Center 2 p.m.

Men's Basketball Penn State Altoona Junker Center 4 p.m.

JV Basketball Pitt-Titusville Junker Center 6 p.m.

Intramurals Schedule

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

Swim teams fall to Gannon; prepare for ECAC Championships

by Kate Levdansky Petrikis assistant sports editor

The Penn State swim teams competed against Gannon on Nov. 20. Both the men and women lost, 121-94 and 163-47, respectively.

Behrend's men won first place in the 200 medley relay, setting a new pool and team record of 1:43.32. Lucas Dushac took first place in the 100-meter breaststroke and also set a new pool and team record of 1:02.62. Robb Christensen took home a first-place victory by winning the 50-meter freestyle with a new pool record of 24.6.

Samantha Cibula led the way for the women. She won first place in the 500-meter freestyle with a time of 5:52.78, setting new pool and team records.

"For the most part we fared well against Gannon," said coach Josh Heynes. "On the men's side, Gannon had to re-do their lineup because at the halfway point of the meet Behrend was winning. On the women's side Gannon just out-numbered us- they have 26 women and we only have



PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RODGERS

Brian Vallor, left, swims a lap on Wednesday during the Lions' afternoon practice. Captain Hollie Stash, top, takes a rest after finishing a few laps.

eight. Even though we placed well, they just beat us on depth."

The ECAC Division III Championships will take place today through Sunday. Those who qualified are resting and getting mentally ready to race well.

"This is not a complete taper or rest for them," said Heynes. "This is just a Mid-season meet to determine what type of training needs to be done in the second semester to prepare for

conference in February. Our swimmers need to have a fast meet to help set goals for the future meets."

Almost every Division III school on the East Coast will be competing in the ECACs, which includes at least 16 different colleges.

"However, it is (anybody's) meet," said Heynes. "There are a lot of top notch Division III schools attending. This is a different type of championship. Normally, you have a three day

meet with preliminaries in the morning, and finals at night. This meet however is two days with timed finals in the morning and evening. Which means, everyone only gets to race once in their event, and then you move onto a different event.

"I am not expecting a team win on either side for us. However, I am looking for fast individual and relay swims. We are looking for placing in the top eight in each event for the men,

and at least top 10 in each event for the women. It is a lofty goal, but I believe we can reach it."

Look for the Lions' Casey Doody and Lucas Dushac, who placed in the top five in most of their events, to lead the men. For the women, watch out for Christine Williams and Samantha Cibula, who are seeded well in their events.

Behrend uses second-half burst to down Grove City

by Zoë Rose staff writer

After winning two of their first three games in the sparkling new \$10.2 million Junker Center, the Penn State Behrend Lions traveled to Washington & Jefferson on Wednesday.

"W&J is always tough at home, we need to play a complete game to win," said head coach Dave Niland a few days before the game.

The Lions came out strong in the first half, limiting W & J to less than 33 percent shooting as they built a 34-26 halftime lead.

Fortunes turned for the worse, though. W & J used 13 of 23 shooting to erase Behrend's eight point halftime lead en route to a 57-50 win. The Lions only shot seven of 24 from the field in the second half, while W & J shot better than 50 percent.

James Curren led the way for the Lions, scoring 12 points and grabbing nine rebounds. Casey Ponsoll had 10 points and sophomore center Randy Conley added nine points for the Lions, who shot a horrendous three of 20 from 3-point land.

Last week, the Blue and White entertained and pounced on the Grove City Wolverines, pulling out a 56-

53 win. The Lions bolted out to a 35-31 halftime lead and expanded that to 43-35 early in the second half before losing momentum.

The Wolverines went on a dominating 18-4 run to take a 53-47 margin with 3:25 remaining. Taking advantage of three Grove City turnovers, the Lions rallied to score seven unanswered points to grab the lead for good, 54-53, with 2:33 left.

With the crowd roaring from the sidelines, the Lions handed the Grove City Wolverines their first loss of the season. The win boosted Behrend's record to 2-1 heading into Wednesday's game at Washington & Jefferson.

The Lions were led by junior Steve Merrill and Curren, who were once again both solid at point guard and center, respectively. Merrill had 11 points on two of four shooting, three assists and one rebound. Curren had 14 points on three of nine shooting, one assist and an impressive 10 rebounds. Conley added 10 points, while sophomore David Hairston added seven.

"I thought we played very well against Grove City. We are a young group with a lot of talent but we have to do a better job on the boards," said

freshman forward Cam Mascara.

The Wolverines shot a season-high 57.1% from the field (20-35) and held the Lions to 42.1% shooting (16-38), including five of 10 three-pointers (.500). Behrend won the game at the line, hitting 19 of 24 free throws (79.2 percent) compared to Grove City's 11 of 17 (64.7 percent) mark from the stripe.

Curren leads the Lions with 11.0 points per game and 8.7 rebound per game so far this season. Merrill follows with 10.0 ppg, 1.3 rpg, and a solid .467 field goal percentage (7-15). Conley is hitting 9.7 ppg and grabbing 6.0 rpg as well. The one major area the Lions need to improve on is rebounding.

"The only thing that's maybe hurting us right now is our rebounding," said Mascara.

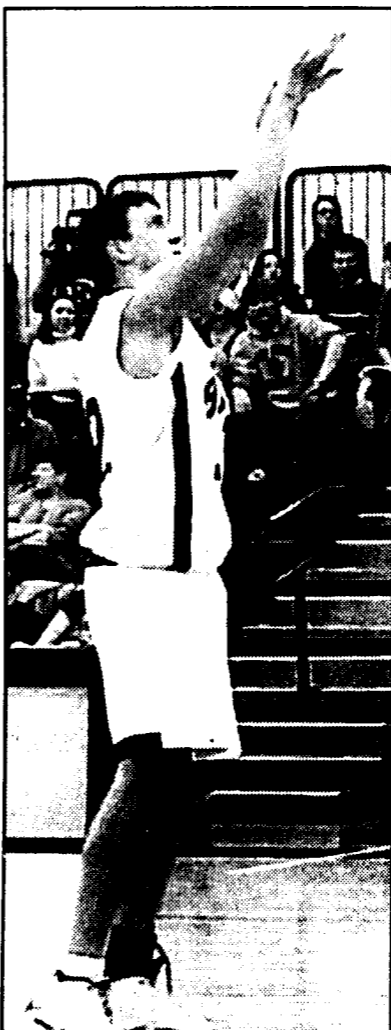
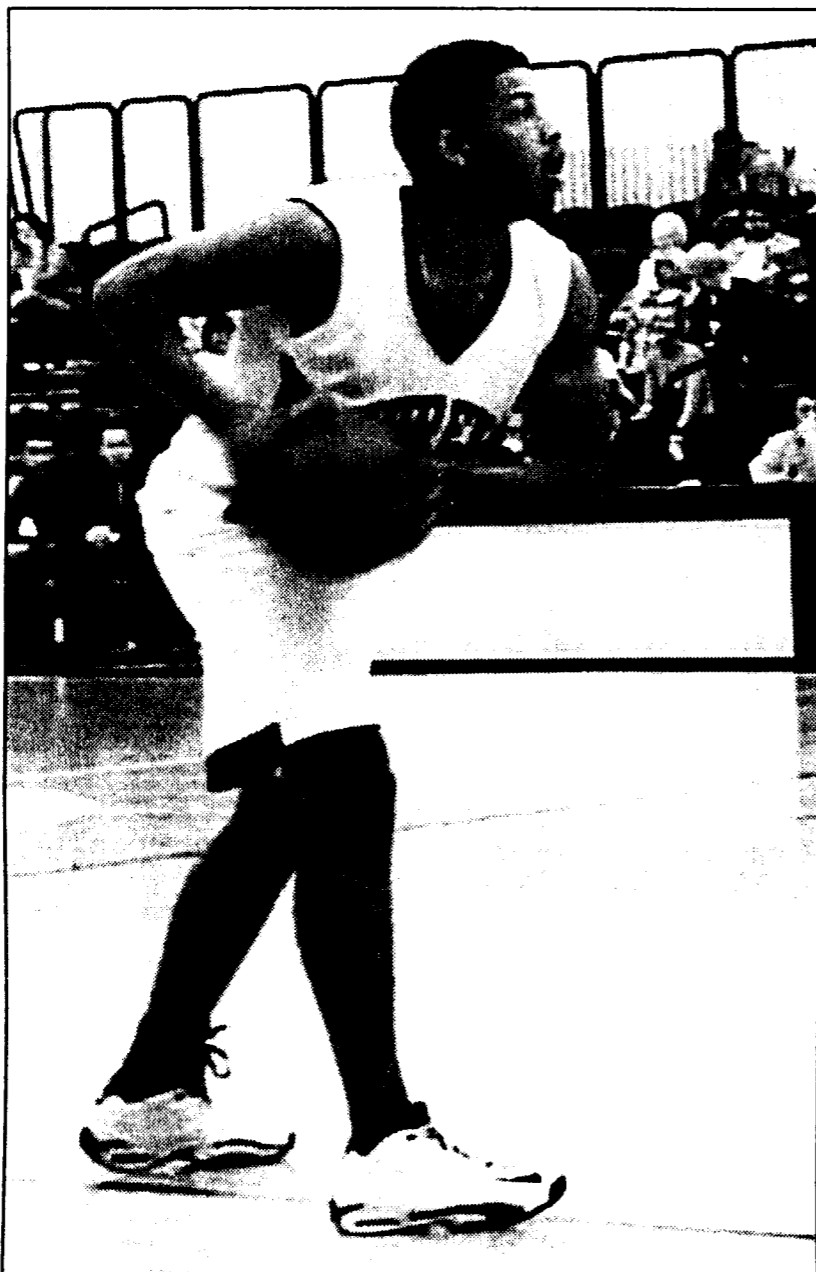
On Nov. 17 and 18, Behrend hosted Mt. Aloysius and Geneseo for their 2001 Tip-Off Tournament. The Lions defeated Mt. Aloysius 68-54 in their first game. The Lions took second place to Geneseo, as the Knights captured the championship with a 61-54 victory.

"A win is always nice, but it was also a great learning experience for us and we all know we need to get better," said Conley.



PHOTO BY KRISTIN RODGERS

Senior Matt Keith waits for a pass in front of his Grove City defender on Nov. 20. The Lions downed the Wolverines 56-53 to run their record to 2-1. The Lions lost their first road game a week later to W & J, 57-50.



PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RODGERS

Sophomore James Curren, top, attempts a free throw while sophomore Dave Hairston, left, looks to pass during the Lions' game against Grove City on Nov. 20.

FREE PRIZES

For students

At every home athletic event

THIS WEEK'S HOME EVENTS:

Friday, November 30, 2001

Women's Basketball

Albion College vs. Susquehanna University @ 6 p.m. Rochester Institute of Technology vs. PSB @ 8 p.m.

The winner of the 3 - Point Shoot-Out Contest Receives Free Pepsi Products

Saturday, December 1, 2001

Women's Basketball

Consolation Game @ 1 p.m. Championship Game @ 3 p.m.

The winner of the 3 - Point Shoot-Out Contest Receives Free Pepsi Products

Intramural 2-Ball Shooting Competition

Sunday, December 2, 2001

Men's Basketball

Carnegie Mellon vs. PSB @ 2 p.m.

The winner of the 3 - Point Shoot-Out Contest Receives Free Movies from Reel Entertainment

The first 200 individuals to enter the game receives a coupon to Reel Entertainment

Win Free Prizes

Stop by the Game(s) and Register to

Participate in the Halftime Contests