

Calendar of Events

Behrend Athletic Events

Saturday
Indoor Track and Field
@ Slippery Rock University 9 a.m.

Men's and Women's Swimming
Penn State Altoona
Junker Center
1 p.m.

Women's Basketball
Alumni Game
Junker Center
2:30 p.m.

Men's Basketball
Alumni Game
Junker Center
4 p.m.

Women's Basketball
La Roche
Junker Center
6 p.m.

Men's Basketball
La Roche
Junker Center
8 p.m.

Monday
Women's Basketball
@ Grove City
7 p.m.

Wednesday
Men's Basketball
@ Medaille
7:30 p.m.

Saturday Feb. 16
Men's Tennis
vs. Allegheny/Mercyhurst
@ Westwood
1 and 5 p.m.

Women's Basketball
Pitt-Greensburg
Junker Center
6 p.m.

Men's Basketball
Pitt-Greensburg
Junker Center
8 p.m.

Intramurals Schedule

Friday Feb. 15
Intramural Swimming:
Men's and Women's, and
Coed Individual and Team;
\$1/event - \$3 minimum,
\$5 maximum

Friday Feb. 22
Intramural 4 vs. 4 Coed
Volleyball; \$3

Pick-up Volleyball
Erie Hall every Tuesday
and Thursday from 6:30-
8:30 p.m.

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

Phillips, Behrend surpass Demski, Altoona

Lions must win out and hope for one more Altoona loss to host AMCC

by Mike Bello
sports editor

Senior Erin Phillips established another career highlight last Saturday against Frostburg, while the Lions moved closer to establishing themselves as the team to beat in the AMCC. Phillips scored 29 points against the Bobcats to surpass Rick Demski's all-time points record. Behrend, on the other hand, moved to 8-2 in the AMCC - one-half game ahead of Penn State Altoona - with two conference games remaining.

With 4:21 left to play, Frostburg's Kim Faust sent Phillips to the free throw line for two. After sinking the first shot, Phillips sank her second to tie Demski at 1,466 points. After Faust made a layup, Phillips, with an assist from sophomore Erica Mozdy, made a layup with 3:55 left to become No. 1 on the scoring list - men and women.

"I didn't think I would break the record in Frostburg," said Phillips, who has never met Demski. "It was a surprise to me when they announced it during the game. I was happy, I guess, but kind of relieved that it was over."

"The entire team has been very supportive throughout the whole time. Their support means a lot to me and to have them cheering for me was great. I think it is something we can all celebrate together because each of them had a part in it."

The other players were more excited than Phillips.

"The team is extremely proud of Erin being the all-time scoring

leader," said senior Christine Charnock. "We are all 'Phillips fans.'"

"Erin's record is a great accomplishment for her and her teammates," said senior Kate Costanzo. "She broke the all-time record on an 'and one' basket at Frostburg and finished with 29 points. I'd say that is an awesome way to break a record."

Phillips had one of the best games by a Lion all season Saturday, hitting 10-of-15 field goals and 9-of-10 free throws in an 80-61 win. Not to be outdone, Costanzo hit 9-of-12 from the field for 22 points, giving her 949 in her career.

Charnock added 14 points and Mozdy dished out a season-high nine assists. The Lions built up a 36-24 lead at the half after shooting 50 percent from the floor. Behrend shot 49.2 percent overall and made 17-of-23 foul shots (73.9 percent).

"We have had some good wins and are having a lot of fun playing," said Costanzo. "We're playing some good team basketball now and that will help us out down the final stretch."

On Wednesday, Behrend traveled west to Cleveland to battle Lake Erie, a team it beat by 32 a month ago. The Lions' post play once again was dominant in an 81-65 win. Phillips shot 8-of-13 from the floor and 10-of-11 from the foul line for 26 points. Phillips, who now has 1,498 points, has scored 20 or more points in six of the last eight games.

Charnock and Costanzo, Behrend's other two post players, added 18 and 14 points, respectively. With three games left, not counting playoffs,

Costanzo needs only 37 points, or 13 per game, to break the 1,000-point plateau. Charnock also added a team-high seven rebounds and six assists. Mozdy contributed nine points on the night.

"We are all very confident of one another and keep encouraging each other to keep pushing themselves," said senior Katie Weigold. "We all remind each other that these games coming up are very important."

Behrend avoided foul trouble throughout the game, sending the Storm to the line only 10 times. Lake Erie sank only five of those shots, while Behrend converted on 15-of-24 opportunities. The Lions needed every one of those points, as Lake Erie shot 55.8 percent from the floor compared to Behrend's 50 percent. With the win, the Lions improved to 12-10 on the year, and have won eight of their last 10 games.

Behrend still has a chance to host the AMCCs starting Feb. 20, but must rely on Altoona losing one more game. On Wednesday, the Altoona Lions defeated La Roche, a 49-43 winner over Altoona on Jan. 9, 91-70. Even if Behrend gets the No. 1 seed because another team knocked off Altoona, the players will still feel they earned it.

"If we would host the tournament it would be because we were in first place," said Charnock. "It wouldn't matter who beat us or who we beat to get there."

The Lions return home for a 6 p.m. game against La Roche on Saturday and then hit the road one last time for a game at Grove City on Monday.



PHOTOS BY JEFF HANKEY AND MIKE BELLO / BEHREND BEACON

As one milestone is reached, another approaches. Erin Phillips, right, surpassed Rick Demski's record of 1,466 points and currently has 1,498 after scoring 26 on Wednesday. Kate Costanzo, left, is 37 points away from 1,000. Only six players have ever scored 1,000 points.

With only one other game left after Grove City, the Lions are heading into tune-up mode for the playoffs.

"We are always improving [on] cutting down our turnovers and our defense," said Phillips. "We work on defense a lot each day in practice...The other stuff will come if our defense is working."

"I think it's very important to pick up some steam heading into the playoffs," said Weigold. "You want to be playing your best ball at the end of the season, and I think we are coming around nicely."

Lions rebound from worst defeat of season

by Zoe Rose
staff writer

The Penn State Behrend Lions visited Cleveland Wednesday night to face Lake Erie College in what was a crucial Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference game. With a recent loss to Frostburg State University (80-50), the Lions needed a comeback win to keep their conference title hopes alive.

With a 70-56 win against the Storm in a previous meeting already under their belt, the Blue and White defeated the Storm again, 74-54. The first half saw Lake Erie shoot 27.6 percent (8-of-29) while the Lions converted on 10-of-25 from the floor (40.0 percent). Determination filled the Lions as they bolted off the courts at halftime with a cushioning 37-24 lead.

The second-half performance was key for the win as the Lions overcame their 40 percent shooting in the first with a solid 46.2 percent in the second. James Curren made 26 points in the game, followed by Tom Lulich with 12. Steve Merrill and Casey Ponsoll pitched in with eight a piece. The Blue and White remain in third place in the AMCC with a 7-3 record and 14-7 overall.

The Lions took on Frostburg State last Saturday afternoon in a battle against conference rivals. The Bobcats controlled both ends of the court as they quickly pulled out to a 26-6 lead at the 9-minute mark. The home team shot a dominating 59.6 percent (31-of-52) in the game and limited the Lions to 16-of-46 field goals (34.8



PHOTO BY JEFF HANKEY / BEHREND BEACON

Sophomore James Curren shoots over a Pitt-Bradford opponent last week while James Curren awaits the outcome. The Lions suffered a 30-point loss to Frostburg in their next game before defeating Lake Erie on Wednesday. percent). Frostburg stretched its lead to 23 points as the Bobcats ended the half up 39-16.

"The whole team was upset by the way we played,"

said coach Dave Niland. "We have to put it behind us. We have a great deal of basketball to play, we cannot get bogged down with past failures other than learning from them."

Down at the half against a tough conference team away is not the easiest task to accomplish. The Lions found out how true this can be. Several times Frostburg State expanded to a 31-point lead. The Lions never roared back as the Bobcats continued to dominate in all aspects of the game, leading 60-30 with 11:43 to play. The Lions ended the contest down by the same margin, 80-50.

Curren was the only Lion to score in double digits, finishing with 19 points and six rebounds. Next up was Merrill with seven points and three assists.

"Frostburg shot the ball very well early and we struggled," said Niland. "You can't do that on the road against good teams."

The Bobcats (7-2 AMCC) fended off Pitt-Greensburg Wednesday and have a decisive AMCC clash against the No. 1 team in the league, Pitt-Bradford, on Saturday.

"The team works very hard everyday and really that is [our] only goal: get better with each day," said Niland. "If we do that the rest takes care of itself."

The Lions will host an alumni game this Saturday at 4 p.m. followed by another tough league game against La Roche at 8 p.m. The Lions play their last non-conference game on Wednesday at Medaille at 7:30 p.m.

Men's swim team dominates Nazareth at home

by Kate Levdansky Petrikis
assistant sports editor

The men's swimming team earned its second win of the season Wednesday. The Lions beat Nazareth 139-60 in a meet full of record-breaking times.

Tom Vignolini set a new team and pool record in the three-meter diving, and Casey Doody set a new team record in the 50 back.

"It was the first time this year that we beat a team easily, not the other way around," said coach Josh Heynes. "The rest of the team continued to have fast swims which means we should taper well next week in preparation for conference."

The women's swim team lost 124-75. However, Christine Williams was a highlight for the Lions, setting new team records in the 100 back and the 200 IM.

"Again, good swims all around for the team," said Heynes. "We trained hard last night and swam well the next day. We should be on track for taper

time next week."

Behrend's next meet is Saturday against rival Penn State Altoona. Heynes expects an easy victory for both squads.

"Penn State Altoona should be a walk through for both of our teams," said Heynes. "They are not very deep in any events. They have a few fast people but nothing spectacular after that."

Heynes said the Lions are going to try to play around with the line up and let people swim some off or swim other events they usually don't. This will be the last time Behrend will race before conferences, and it is the last home meet of the season. Normally, this would be senior night, but since the team does not have any seniors, it will just be another meet for the Lions.

"All we have to do to win this meet is show up," said Heynes.

With the Grove City Invitational and AMCC championships coming around the corner, the conferences are in the Lions' minds all the time now. "We need to focus on what each

person is going to swim and where we can get points," said Heynes. "They not only have to swim fast in the morning, but they have to swim fast to get back and do it again at finals at night."

Swimming the same events more than once a day can be tiring for the swimmers, and Heynes knows this will severely test the Lions' capabilities.

"It is tough when you have to swim all out once, but to do it twice takes a lot out of you," he said. "Then on top of that, add two more days of events, it can take even the best swimmers out of their game. We just have to hit our taper and be mentally tough, then show up and let the races happen."

Heynes has seen some drastic improvement from the beginning of the year, which is expected from a team that is still stepping through the door into college swimming circles.

"For the most part, I am proud of the team we have going, and we are far and above better than we were last year," said Heynes. "Sure we had our

issues, hating morning practice, weekend training, petty fights, etc., but that is what every team goes through and it will continue to happen. As long as we can look beyond it and have one main focus and that is to get people to conference and to get to NCAA, we can be successful."



PHOTO BY JEFF HANKEY / BEHREND BEACON

Sophomore Tara Braden swims the freestyle on Wednesday against Nazareth at the Junker Center. The women lost their meet, 124-75, but the men won their second of the year, 139-60.

Housing and Food Service Athlete of the Week

PENNSTATE Erie

Jessica Sarver



Sarver led the Behrend Lions in the Fredonia State Invitational last Saturday while breaking two records. She placed first in the 1500-meter run with a time of 5:17.40 and contributed to a first place finish in the 4 x 800 relay with a time of 10:48.49. Sarver, a freshman from Freeport, also took second place in the 800 run.

The Blue and White's next meet will be on Saturday at 9 a.m. when they compete in the Slippery Rock Invitational.