

Calendar of Events

Behrend Athletic Events

Friday
Men's Basketball
AMCC Tournament
vs. Frostburg
@ Pitt-Bradford
6 p.m.

Women's Basketball
AMCC Tournament
vs. Pitt-Greensburg
@ Penn State Altoona
8 p.m.

Men's and Women's
Swimming @ Grove City
Invitational TBA

Saturday
Men's Basketball
AMCC Tournament
Championship Game
@ Pitt-Bradford
3 p.m.

Women's Basketball
AMCC Tournament
Championship Game
@ Penn State Altoona
3 p.m.

Men's Tennis
@ Baldwin-Wallace
7 p.m.

Men's and Women's
Swimming @ Grove City
Invitational 10 a.m.

Men's and Women's Track
and Field @ Mount Union
Invitational TBA

Friday, March 1
Men's and Women's
Swimming @ ECAC
Championships TBA

Saturday, March 2
Men's and Women's
Swimming @ ECAC
Championships TBA

Intramurals Schedule

Friday
Intramural 4 on 4 Coed
Volleyball - \$3

Friday, March 1
Intramural 6 on 6 Volleyball: Men's, Women's, and Coed - \$3

Friday March 22
Intramural Soccer: Men's, Women's, and Coed

Whitewater Rafting @ Ohiopyle

Water Basketball
Mondays and Thursdays
7:15 p.m. - Junker Center pool

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

Swim teams show early promise at Grove City

by Mike Bello
sports editor

The men's 200 freestyle team finished in fifth place Thursday to highlight the first day of the Grove City Invitational for the Behrend swim teams. After 12 events, the men were in seventh place out of 10 teams with 85 points. The women's team was in sixth place with 60 points.

The competition continues today and tomorrow with preliminaries at 10 a.m. both days and finals at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, and 5:30 p.m. on Saturday. John Hopkins leads in both divisions after the first round, as the men accumulated 217 points and the women 238. The other teams competing are Westminster, Grove City, Washington & Jefferson, Frostburg State, Washington & Lee, Penn State Altoona, Misericordia, and Bethany.

Freshmen Casey Doody, Justin Lucas, Lucas Dushac, and junior Ben Atkins finished in 1:30.66, four seconds behind first place Westminster College, to capture fifth place for the men in the 200 free. The women's 200 free did almost as well, capturing sixth place with a time of 1:48.73. Freshmen Samantha Cibula, Jana Bahnak, Christine Williams, and sophomore Hollie Stash finished nine seconds behind first place John Hopkins.

The men's 400 medley relay finished sixth with a time of 3:46.27. Doody, Dushac, Lucas, and freshman Alex Fertelmes finished a little over 15 seconds after first place John Hopkins.

The women's 400 relay fared well too, capturing eighth place with a time of 4:57.43. The team, made up of freshmen Kristin Campbell, Tara Bahnak, Amanda Brown, and sophomore Amy Jaskolski took the second-highest placement of the women's team's all day.



PHOTO BY KEVIN FALLON/BEHREND BEACON

Behrend's Samantha Cibula (bottom) dives off a starting block at a recent swim meet against Altoona in the Junker Center.

Dushac was the only other Lion to take a tenth place or better, coming in seventh place in the 200 IM with a time of 2:02.56.

At the same time the Lions are

playing against other difficult opponents, several of whom they played earlier in the season, the Lions are competing for the AMCC Classic championship with Frostburg and

Altoona. Last year the men finished second and the women finished third. After Thursday's events, the men were 15 points behind Frostburg (100-85) and 42 points ahead of Altoona (43). The women were 18 points behind Frostburg (78-60) but had a five-point lead over Altoona (55). The men lost to Frostburg 148-76 on Jan. 26, but the women defeated the Bobcats 106-94. Both teams defeated Altoona on Feb. 9, as the men won 121-43 and the women defeated the Cougars 99-64.

With two more days of competition left, the Lions are looking to improve upon last year's results. The men finished in ninth place and the women captured eighth during the Invitational held Feb. 15-17, 2001. If the first day's results are any indication, the Lions have a good chance of improving vastly in just their second season.

Should some individuals qualify, the Lions will send swimmers to ECAC Championship this Thursday and Friday. Although it may be a long shot for a team in its sophomore season, the NCAA Championships take place in the middle of March. However the Lions finish this season, they know the strides they've made since last year will be valuable for a team that has no seniors and only one junior on its roster.

Let's all cheat



Personal foul
Mike Bello
sports editor

Tonya Harding must be relaxing in her oversized easy chair with the biggest grin in the world right now. She now knows she's not the only one who is capable of tarnishing the figure-skating image. But, was the scandal really as bad as everyone thought, or was it just one of the few times when cheating was actually exposed?

Let's face it; cheating is everywhere. If someone is willing to pass a 14-year-old off as 12 just to get him into Little League play, think of what happens behind the scenes in adult sports. No matter what sport you play, from the most physically brutal to the most physically finesse, somewhere along the lines someone is attempting to cheat. It's just a part of sports.

I wouldn't be surprised if many athletes who played Division I sports were highly proficient at cheating. There's bound to be a few players on active rosters cheating right now. They may not be cheating in the actual game; taking banned substances is another form of cheating, so is having other students write papers for you. Who really knows how many players in Division I have cheated- five percent? Ten percent? How else can some players win?

When competing, athletes are always looking for even the slightest advantage. They need to in order to claim victory. For the most part everyone is on the same playing field, but after awhile talent allows some people to stand out above the rest. The underdog is willing to do whatever it takes to overcome those with more talent, while even the best players are constantly looking for a way to keep their top-notch status alive. Enter cheating.

Cheating is the easiest way to gain an advantage because it requires the least amount of effort. Think about it. Would someone rather spend countless hours training to win the race, or would it be easier to cut a few corners here and there? Show someone the easy way out and he'll take it. In sports it's no different. Show athletes where they can outperform everyone else without much effort and they might take it. That is, if they don't have ethics or morals.

Most athletes refrain from cheating because they want to win in an honest manner. If they cheat and win, there's that feeling inside them that says they really didn't earn the win. The glory of victory isn't so special when it's not based on talent alone. For some athletes, though, the ends justify the means.

The Olympic scandal showed that stealing signs from second base is no longer sufficient enough to guarantee a win. Cheating has become much more sophisticated now, which makes it even more difficult to stop. The Olympic cheating was caught only because the Canadian pairs skaters were obviously that much better than the Russian skaters.

So am I getting at something here? Of course, or I would be taking a nice, long nap right now. Competition is based on more than just physical strength, stamina, and talent. It's built around the mental aspect, as well. Players and coaches devise ways to out strategize, outthink the other team, to gain the edge from an intellectual standpoint. They believe cheating is another form of mental strategy. Doesn't it take brains (sometimes) to come up with devious ways to cheat?

Some players try to cheat on the field and opponents are constantly trying to figure out the methods the other team uses. Cheating keeps everyone on their toes, because they have to be prepared for the opponent to do anything. Although, this can take away from what coaches and athletes spend all their time doing - preparing for an honest game.

More importantly, it makes the game less exciting for the fans. No one wants to go to a game in which the outcome is not determined by talent or strategy. People want to see the unexpected, not the mundane, but they want to see fairness as well.

Oh well, I guess we'll always be stuck with cheating in sports. There will always be those few athletes who think it's the best way to win. It's the job of everyone else to figure out just how they do cheat.

This week's senior athletic profile

Lynn Herrmann: Javelin thrower pursues field of dreams

by Kate Levdansky Petrikis
assistant sports editor

Lynn Herrmann, a javelin thrower for Penn State Behrend's track and field team, said she has never had a throwing coach.

"My coach in high school just stuck me with another girl who threw. All I did was watch her, and then went out and started throwing on my own," said Herrmann. "I do not even throw it the right way. Right now, I just get it out there far enough using my arm strength. I should have been able to throw it a lot farther if I was taught the right technique from the beginning. I taught myself by watching teammates and other competitors. Supposedly we are to have a javelin coach this season, but he has yet to be seen."

Herrmann was attracted to the event because, well, it looked interesting to her.

"I wanted to learn to throw because I just thought that it looked like fun," said Herrmann. "I guess I was just one of the lucky and coordinated ones to pick it up easily without hitting myself in the head."

Herrmann started track and field her sophomore year of high school at Villa Maria Academy. Herrmann's funniest memory occurred at Villa when she threw the javelin into the side of a building.

"The hole is actually still there," said Herrmann.

"I am not that good compared to my competitors. They get it out there much farther than I do," said Herrmann. "The only reason I look good around here is because we only have two women throwers. We need more women throwers."

Herrmann said if she manages her time well, then she can participate in more activities. It allows her to set a certain amount of time for school, work, and fun, she said.

"Without any activities, I tend to waste a lot of time," said Herrmann.

In her spare time, Herrmann enjoys skiing, golfing, playing soccer, hanging out, and relaxing on the couch. The track and field practices are held 4-6 p.m. Monday through Friday, and meets are on Saturdays.

Herrmann prepares herself for each meet by listening to music and eating donuts.

"My best memory of Lynn is the meet at Grove City last year," said teammate Missy Mong. "All we did was walk around with a bag of donuts until we had to throw."

Herrmann loves the outdoors, so



PHOTO BY MIKE BELLO / BEHREND BEACON

Lynn Herrmann loves throwing the javelin so much she once left her mark in the side of a building in high school.

track and field suits her best. Plus, she gets to enjoy her summer job.

"I am up mowing greens at 6 a.m. every morning in the summer at Lake Shore Country Club," said Herrmann. "It is a great place to work, and have fun as well."

Herrmann wants to start a landscaping business after graduation. Her dream began when she started mowing her neighbor's lawn when she was 8-years-old. "I have been mowing ever since," said Herrmann.

Herrmann is majoring in finance because it gives her a better understanding of the world of finance.

"I want to become more familiar with how financing works, where to invest my money, how to invest my money, and when how I can finally make enough money," she said.

Herrmann's role model is her father. Herrmann would like to become a firefighter just like he is. He is a paid professional firefighter who has worked for the City of Erie for 32 years. Firefighting is something she would like to pursue after graduation, as well.

Herrmann's mother is the biggest influence in her life.

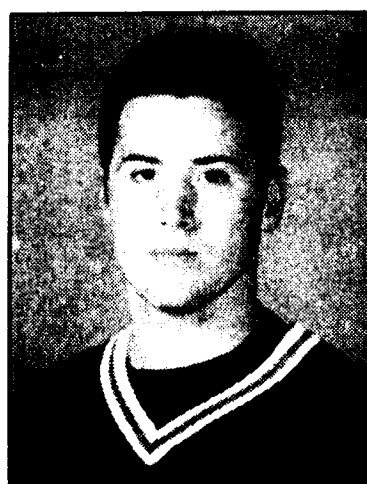
"She thinks I am the greatest kid in the world," said Herrmann.

Herrmann's best track and field memory is from a meet last year at Case Western, when she took first place. Herrmann threw far enough to qualify for the ECAC championships. She went to the ECAC championships

Housing and Food Service Athlete of the Week

PENNSTATE
Erie

Casey Ponsoll



Ponsoll, a sophomore from General McLane High School, led the Behrend Lions to a 3-0 week with wins over Medaille, Pitt Greensburg, and Lake Erie. He scored 10 points against Lake Erie Wednesday at the Junker Center in the Lions' 65-57 opening round win.

Ponsoll scored a game-high 21 points in a 69-39 win against Medaille Feb. 13. He also scored a game-high 19 points and had seven rebounds in a 76-62 win over Greensburg Saturday.

The Lions are the second seed in the AMCC Tournament and play Frostburg (#3) Friday at 6 p.m. in Bradford.