SPORTS

The Behrend Beacon

Friday, September 20, 2002

Calendar of Events

Behrend Athletic Events

Friday women's Soccer vs. Carnegie Mellon, 3:00 p.m.

Saturday Men's Water Polo vs. Grove City, 10:00 a.m. TV game

vs. W&J, 1:00 p.m.

@Gannon, 9:00 p.m.

Men's & Women's X-Country @ Allegheny Invitational 11/11:45 a.m.

Women's Tennis vs. Penn State Altoona, 12:00

vs. John Carroll, 4:00 p.m.

Men's Soccer @ Elizabethtown, 1:00 p.m.

Golf @ Pitt-Bradford, 1:00 p.m.

Sunday Men's Soccer @Susquehanna, 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Women's Soccer vs. Pitt-Bradford, 4:30 p.m.

Men's Soccer vs. Pitt-Breckford 2:00 p.m.

Women's Volleyball @ La Roche, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday Golf ECAC Southern Championships @ University Park

Lions rally but Grove City proves too strong



Senior Ben Atkins looks to pass to a teammate and went on to score four goals against Grove City.

by Lauren Packer assistant sports editor

The men's water polo team traveled to Gannon University Tuesday night to play Grove City College. Confused? Behrend is a participating school in the Doc Hunkler Series, which is a series of home games on Tuesday nights highlight various water polo teams in an effort to promote the sport. Before the Lions arrived at Gannon, sophomore Nick McGrady made a stop at the local hardware store for a wheelbarrow, shovel, bricks, and cement. Then he built a wall, fearlessly using his body to reject Grove City's goal attempts.

Even with the Lions strong

defense, Grove City took the win, 16-10.

"Nick played the best he has up to date this year," said coach Heynes. Being 6-3" in the shallow end gives us an advantage in the goal. Nick was very vital last night with 12 important saves in between the pipes.

McGrady made several key stops in the deep-end goal, but Grove City managed to capitalize on Behrend turnovers and take an early lead 4-2. With the clock winding down, Grove City grabbed a last -second goal to go ahead 5-2 heading into the second quarter.

Still, Behrend rebounded in the second. Freshman utility player J.R Delorenzo (State College/State College) won a hard -fought battle with his defender inside four meters and pounded the ball into the goal, bringing the score to 6-3.

With momentum building, the Lions relied heavily upon senior Ben Atkins. His goal, one of his four on the night, brought the Lions within two of Grove City.

"Ben Atkins offensively last night made most of the key plays," Heynes said. Ben had patience and took the best shot, scoring four out of seven shots on the cage."

After another Behrend goal, McGrady connected with freshman Carl Ward (Washington, D.C./McDonogh) for a fast-break goal to tie the game. McGrady allowed only one more Grove City goal and at the end of the first half, Behrend had scraped together four goals to come within one of Grove City, 7-6.

However, things did not fare well for the Lions in the third quarter. Grove City defense shut down the Lions offense, allowing Behrend only one goal, while they pushedtheir lead to 10-7.

The fourth quarter did not hold promise for a Behrend victory as Grove City tore down McGrady's wall and scored six goals en route to a 16-10 victory.

"We played very well against GCC for the first three quarters then we just gave in on the last one," said Heynes. "We just made too many minor mistakes throughout the game that cost us big on the scoreboard."

The loss dropped the Lions record to 2-3 and they have now lost three consecutive games. Heynes saidthat the past losses have helped his team to refocus for the games this weekend. With a full schedule of games this weekend, the Lions have little time to brood over these losses.

The Lions host two games at home, meeting Grove City at 10 am in a rematch of Tuesday night's game and then Washington & Jefferson at 1 pm, which will be a locally televised game. The Lions last action of the day is against Gannon, at Gannon University at 9 p.m.

Weather, injuries hamper cross country team

by Ed Mesaros staff writer

Dark clouds and rain loomed over the campus this past Saturday, as Behrend prepared to hold its cross country invitational.

Thirteen colleges and a few high school teams showed up early on Saturday, only to huddle in the rain together, and have the races pushed back nearly two hours into the afternoon.

This delay in the schedule caused five teams to pull out of the races and head home early. The high school race was also cancelled due to the setback. At 1:30, with the rain still falling, the men's race finally got underway. Despite the weather conditions, a few injuries, and an increased challenge due in part to the slick course, the Lions still faired quite well. Tim Schultheis, once again, led the way for the Lions, finishing fourth overall with a time of 28:15:19, just 20 seconds behind the winner.

Clayton Kirschner crossed the line second for Behrend with a time of 28:51:90, giving him15th place. Brian Wheeler (29:43:72), Dan Alvis (30:03:28), and Steve Werner (30:12:84) finished close behind with 34th, 36th, and 38 place finishes, respectively. As if Mother Nature was mocking the men's teams, the skies bestrong fourth place overall finish.

Jessica Knapp followed Sarver to take 10th with her time of 20:35:14. Claire Manelick and Susie Szafran were the next Lions to cross the finish line to place 22nd and 23rd with their times of 21:34:29 and 21:46:39. Jessie Coe rounded out the Lions top five with a time of 22:04:49, and a 26th place finish.

Lyndsey Boor, Nina Zinger, and Marlena McNutt also had strong finishes.

When asked about the race, Susie

teams."

The men's and women's teams finished sixth out of eight teams and fourth out of seven, respectively. The team looks to bounce back from its lower than usual placing. According to coach Dave Cooper, the team is anxious to get back into action this weekend.

On Saturday, the team will head south to Allegheny College for the Allegheny Invitational. Allegheny is a regionally ranked team this year, and looks to provide the Lions with great competition.

Intramurals Schedule

Cross Country

Men's, Women's, & COED Entries due Friday, Sept. 27 Includes Individual and Team Competition Races begin at 6 p.m. on Monday, September 30

Flag Football

Men's, Women's, & COED Entries due Friday, Oct. 4 Games begin Oct. 8

Billiards

Men's, Women's, & COED Entries due Friday, Oct. 25 Includes singles and doubles Schedules posted Sunday, OCt. 27 Play begins Mon. Oct. 28

Bowling

Men's, Women's, & COED Entries due Nov.1 Includes Individual and Team Competition At Eastway Lanes Sat. Nov. 9 gan to clear as soon as the men began crossing the finish line.

With the rain finished, it was the women's turn to tackle the soggy course that encompassed the campus. Jessica Sarver was the first Behrend finisher with a time of 20:02:21, and a

Szafran said, "I feel even though the weather was uncooperative and both teams ran their races a lot later than expected, Behrend still had an outstanding showing. We once again proved how strong our teams really are as we made an impressive showing against the D-II Congratulations go out to sophmores Tim Schultheis and Jessica Sarver, who were chosen as AMCC athletes of the week.

Men's soccer team keeps struggling

by Dan Vidal staff writer

The Behrend men's soccer team has gotten off to a tremendously shaky start. Tuesday night marked the fourth loss for the team in seven games. The Lions have only one win against Washington and Jefferson in overtime.

The Lions (1-4-2) were on the short end of a 3-0 shutout against a tough, talented Carnegie Mellon soccer team. This marked the fourth time they were blanked this season.

"We are simply not putting away opportunities and playing a full game," said coach Dan Perritano. Perritano, who still believes his team ranks highly among other conference foes, said when they start doing these two things they will be okay.

Behrend has scored just five goals in seven games. However, a bright spot to their season so far is the play of freshmen M/D Mark Cipriani. In six games, he leads the team with two goals and four points.

Many other freshmen have made an impact for the Lions, including midfielder Andy Lesser and defenseman Bryan Blaszcyk, to name a few.

"Andy and Bryan have really good speed and Mark anchors the middle very well for our team," said Perritano. "They all have greatlooking futures ahead of them."

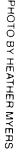
Coach Perritano realizes this is a young soccer team. At the same time, Perritano recognizes that it is talented and he believes that he can succeed with this group. It might just be a matter of time for the Lions until they pick it up a notch. However, right now they have not yet seemed to mesh like they must in order to be at the top of their game and ultimately at the top of AMCC by November.

Behrend will not play again until Sat. so will have the rest of the week to practice and try to get back on track. Their next two games, will both be road games. Saturday they will play at Elizabethtown and Sunday at Susquehanna.

These are the final two games until conference play begins on Tuesday against Pitt-Bradford at home. This game will mark the first of six conference games on the 2002 schedule that will lead up to the AMCC Tournament on Nov. 6.

"We are very optimistic about turning the season around and being the last man standing in the end," said Perritano.





Sophomore Jeff Morris throws in the ball in the Lion's 3-0 defeat to Carnegie Mellon University. CMU was ranked ninth in the National Soccer Coaches Association of America/Adidas Regional Rankings. This was the second straight week that CMU held the ninth position in the Mid-Atlantic region. Behrend played a hrd fought game against a very formidable opponent.