

SPORTS

The Behrend Beacon

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Scott Soltis and Zoe Rose, sports editors

Lions golf team sees its ups and downs



Sophomore Anthony Pagliari blasts the ball out of a sand trap.

by Justin Jennings
staff writer

With the 2002 fall golf season progressing, the Behrend Lions have seen their ups and downs already. For the team's first invitational, held on Sept. 12, the Lions traveled to Pitt-Greensburg to participate in a 16 team invitational and placed 6th with an overall team score of 339.

The Lions got an excellent performance from one of last year's top golfers Jeff Black. Black shot a team best 79 and placed 6th in individual competition.

"We expect great things out of Jeff this year," said first year head coach Mark Murphy. "He's one of our returning leaders and we will be counting on him a lot this year."

For the team's second invitational Behrend traveled to Penn State-Altoona on Monday. The Lions couldn't seem to find their swing. The team placed last out of the nine participating teams.

"We didn't shoot as well as I would have liked, but I think it's just a temporary thing and I believe we will come out of it at our next invitational," said Murphy.

This year's squad is loaded with newcomers. The young Lions team consists of four returning golf-

ers and five new guys.

"We are very young but do have high expectations," said Murphy. "I know our upper classmen will be great leaders and help bring the young guys along."

Murphy went on to say that he has been impressed with the work of returnees Jeff Black, Anthony Pagliari, and Kirk Seth. Murphy expects those guys to have solid seasons and hopes the young guys will feed off them.

The Lions hosted the Behrend Invitational on Thursday at Peak n' Peak. The Lions took two teams named Blue (the top four players on the team) and White (the next four best).

Behrend competed with 13 other teams, including Edinboro, Mt. Aloysius, D'Youville, Lake Erie, Pitt-Bradford, Case Western Reserve, Pitt-Greensburg, Daemen, Penn State Altoona, Alfred, Roberts Wesleyan,

Hilbert, and Mercyhurst. The Lions finished sixth with their Blue team composed of Black (72), Pagliari (71), Seth (79), and Angelo Sistilli (84). Their total team score was 306, 31 strokes behind Mercyhurst, which won the event with impressive scores of 67, 71, 73, and 74.

Pagliari's 71 was good for second place overall, but he lost the tiebreaker with Mark Purcell of Mercyhurst, knocking him down to third.

Behrend's White team finished a modest 12th out of the 16 overall teams competing Thursday. The team was made up of Dan Russo (85), John Tellio (84), Troy Shafer (89), and Tim McGill (86). The total 344 strokes was 16 behind Edinboro which finished 11th.

The Lady Lions did not fare quite as well as the men's team, finishing fifth out of five teams. Andrea Winston (121) and Katie Spyker (133) made up the women's team for this event at the always challenging Peak n' Peak Golf Course.

Behrend was looking to improve its play against some tough competition. "It should give our guys a good look at how we match up with better competition.", explained Murphy in an interview Tuesday.

The Lions next travel to face Pitt-Bradford on Saturday. The team hopes to come away with two quality performances before heading into the ECAC Championships, which will be held at University Park next Thursday, Sept. 26th.

Contributed Photo

Big win for Behrend spikers

by Dan Rehmeyer
staff writer

After a devastating 3-1 loss against Fredonia at home Tuesday night, the Behrend women's volleyball team needed to get something started. Head coach Kellie Diehl has so much confidence in this year's team without even including the addition of Danielle Bemis, and Michelle Walther to the volleyball coaching staff.

On Wednesday, the Lions were looking for heads and they weren't taking no for an answer. Before a large crowd of Behrend students, the Lions put a whooping on La Roche that will be remembered by everyone in the crowd. The Ladies walked away from the winner of three matches, 3-0 with vigor and poise.

The Behrend Lions came ready to play and showed no sign of let down which was apparent from the second they hit the floor.

Thursday night, the Lions were

scheduled to play Lake Erie which has always been a tough team. With losses of outstanding players, Brianne Englebert and Jessica Neidermeyer who were All Conference first team last year, the team is really looking for the leadership of junior Danielle Bemis. Bemis was also nominated for the All Conference team last year but came up just short earning Honorable Mention.

With the team ready and the women pumped, the group will hopefully add a W to the record boosting it to that off 9-9. It will be hard for the girls to compete with last years 20-11 record but with hard work and a little bit of faith, these girls are definitely ready to pull it off.

Six Behrend athletes named AMCC players of the week

by Zoe Rose
sports editor

Penn State Behrend athletes gained prestige this past week six athletes were chosen as athletes of the week. Along with Behrend, a few other contending schools include: Frostburg State, Pitt-Bradford, La Roche, and Pitt-Greensburg.

On the men's cross country team sophomore Tim Schultheis finished fourth out of 82 competitors with a time of 28:15 at last week-end's Behrend Invitational. The week before, Schultheis finished second out of 56 at the Westminster Invitational.

Along with Schultheis, sophomore Jessica Sarver began her season with a boost. Sarver led the Lions to a fourth place finish at their invitational by placing fourth of 82 finishers with a time of 20:02:21.

Next up for superior performance for the Lions was sophomore Jeff Black. Black led the golf team to a seventh place finish at the Pitt-Greensburg Fall Chal-

lenge, shooting a 78, ending the day tied for fourth place.

Making the goalkeeper of the week for soccer was junior Jacob Hordych. Hordych was in goal for the Lions first win of the season, a 2-1 overtime rally over Washington & Jefferson.

Freshman Amber Wecksocki boosted the tennis team's record. Seeded number two in singles, Wecksocki lost just one match in seven tries this past week, not counting matches played on Wednesday against Thiel. She was 4-1 in singles action and 2-0 at first doubles with partner Lennys Redondo.

Last but not least, named to this week's athlete of the week was freshman outside hitter Trisha Adams for volleyball. Adams gained a .333 hitting percentage this past week, leading the Lions to a runner-up finish at their invitational tournament. Towards the end of the week, Adams was averaging 3.4 kills per game, 3.3 digs per game, and impressed the crowd with 16 service aces.

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