

SPORTS

Friday, December 13, 2002

The Behrend Beacon

Men's indoor track and field season just around the corner

by Ed Mesaros
staff writer

For most schools across the country, the track and field season will not begin for another couple months. For the men's team at Behrend, it began last week. Dec 2 marked the first official track and field practice of the year. Outdoor meets will not begin until the spring, but the men at Behrend have the opportunity to compete in an indoor track and field season.

Dave Cooper is once again serving as head coach for the track and field team. Garrett Arndt and Greg Cooper are returning as assistant coaches.

As of now, the 2003 indoor season looks to consist of six invitationals, with the first on Jan 18 at SUNY Fredonia. The team will compete at Fredonia twice over the course of the season, once at Slippery Rock, and once at Mount Union.

The indoor season will conclude in early March with the ECAC Indoor Championships, as well as the NCAA Indoor Championships the following weekend.

The indoor track and field season pays dividends to the team.

"The main reason we do the indoor season is to prepare adequately for the

outdoor season while getting in some competitions along the way," said coach Cooper.

Competing against other schools during the indoor season will give the men's team an idea of what it will be up against when it takes to the outdoor tracks.

The 2003 men's team looks to be strong and also looks to improve on their performances from last season.

The team will be returning much of its talent from last season.



PHOTO BY ZOE ROSE/BEHREND BEACON

Most of the men's cross country team of the fall will be running indoors this season for the track team.

Sophomore Tim Schultheis is coming off an excellent cross country season, and will look to be a strong force in the

distance events. Sophomore Isiah Meek is a strong hurdler, and returning indoor record holder.

Sophomore Mike Barlett, record holder in the 800 meter event, and Senior Brian Wheeler, record holder in the 1000 meter and one mile events, are both returning, and should make an impact this season.

Sophomore Donnie Hackworth is also a returning record holder in the pole vault, and once again this season, should help the team out in his event.

A strong group of freshmen will join the team this season, and look to make an impact on the team's performance.

Although the season begins early for the team, members feel that the indoor season greatly helps them to prepare for the outdoor season.

"I feel that during this indoor season, we're going to have numerous great performances. Considering our outdoor season is only five meets, the indoor season will provide excellent competition and opportunity to prepare ourselves for outdoor," said Clayton Kirshner, returning distance runner.

With the team's first indoor invitational not for another month, the team will continue to train, both indoors and outdoors, in hopes of having a successful indoor season.

"This indoor season, we're going to have numerous great performances."

-Clayton Kirshner,
returning sophomore distance runner

Fall 2002 semester sports recap

by Zoe Rose
sports editor

Books are being sold back, and every student will have three weeks to relax and recuperate from the stress of the fall semester. It's been a long 15 weeks, filled with heavy workloads and tons of athletic events. The semester is over, so long to fall sports.

But first here's a recap. Driving by the tennis courts, the Penn State Behrend women's tennis team could be seen practicing or competing in a match. Two vital members joined this year's team. Amy Frizzell and Amber Weckoski, under the leadership of co-captains Lennys Redondo and Becky Snyder. The season's focus was mainly on Frostburg State University and school rival Penn State Altoona, a strong competitor after clinching the AMCC Championship in 2002.

Before heading into the AMCC tournament held at Penn State Behrend, the Lions had a 3-2 conference record. Penn State Altoona slighted Behrend by earning the championship title. Senior Becky Snyder and doubles partner sophomore Christine Leininger won the second doubles flight and Snyder was the runner-up in six singles at the AMCC tournament.

The women's volleyball team fought a tough season, coming out with an 8-4 conference record. Leading the Lions was senior Rose Boni. Key juniors were

Lauren Senkevich, Danielle Bemis, and Katie Butler, who all made a big contribution to this year's squad. Senkevich averaged 3.2 kills per game and five blocks in the AMCC tourney. The Lions were not able to defend their conference title however, losing to Frostburg State University (3-0) in the championship round.

The men's and women's cross country teams were led by sophomore captain Tim Schultheis, and the two Jessicas, Knapp and Sarver. Schultheis finished first for the team in every meet except for the NCAA Mideast regionals, where senior Brian Wheeler took his spot. Penn State Behrend hosted the 2002 AMCC men's and women's cross country championships, taking second place to Frostburg State. Behrend's top runner was Sarver, who won the individual title in 24:18.26 in the 6k. On the men's side, Schultheis placed fifth in 28:52.

The 2002-2003 season for the men's soccer squad saw leadership from co-captains Jake Hordych and Matt MacArthur. The team included 11 returning players and a strong group of skilled freshmen. Six conference games were played during the season before the AMCC conference semifinal, which was against Penn State Altoona. The Lions pulled out of the battle with a tight win in the second overtime (3-2). The championship game was played on Nov 8 with

Behrend losing in overtime to Pitt-Greensburg.

The women's soccer team placed fourth in the conference behind AMCC champion Frostburg State. The team was the youngest in the history of the program with 12 freshmen and six sophomores on the roster. Sophomore Erin Mauer led the team, assisted by returnees Carrie Smock, Jen Baker, and Maria Gahagan. Finishing 8-12 overall on the season, 4-3 in conference action, the Lions lost to La Roche in the opening round of play in the conference.

In their third year of competition, the men's water polo team saw three experienced seniors return to help the incoming recruits to transition to collegiate level play. Ben Atkins, Dario Kis, and Brian Vallor, along with five returning players and a talented rookie class, struggled to lead the team to a 6-21 overall finish.

The Penn State Behrend men's golf team hosted the AMCC championship at Peek n' Peak and finished fifth. The Lions turned in a 312, with top shooter sophomore Anthony Pagliari (76), last season's newcomer of the year. Pagliari and junior Kirk Seth earned All-Conference honors.

All in all, it was a good semester to be involved in Penn State Behrend sports.

DID You Know....

You Could Live At

CALDER COMMONS APARTMENTS

For The 2003-2004 School Year

RENT FREE!!!

Sign A Lease by March 30, 2003, and Enter Our FREE RENT Drawing!!!

Plus Enjoy: * Huge 2 Bedroom, 2 Bathroom Apartment Homes

* On Site Laundry * FREE Cable TV

* Fabulous NEW Fitness Center and Study Lounge

* Covered Parking Available * Convenient Location

(814) 238-3456

520 E. Calder Way, State College

www.caldercommons.com



Calendar of Events

Behrend Athletic Events

Saturday

Women's Basketball
@ Penn State Altoona,
6 p.m.

Men's Basketball
@ Penn State Altoona,
8 p.m.

Swimming
@ Penn State Altoona,
1 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 3

Men's Basketball
Behrend Tournament
vs. D'Y'ouville, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 4

Men's Basketball
Behrend Tournament
Consolation Game,
1 p.m.
Championship Game,
3 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 7

Women's Basketball
@ Case Reserve Western,
7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 8

Men's Basketball
@ Allegheny, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 9

Women's Basketball
@ Hiram, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 11

Women's Basketball
vs. Thiel, 6 p.m.

Men's Basketball
vs. Thiel, 8 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 13

Women's Basketball
vs. W&J, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 15

Women's Basketball
@ Lake Erie, 6 p.m.

Men's Basketball
@ Lake Erie, 8 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 17

Swimming
vs. Mount Union, 6 p.m.

Intramurals Schedule

5 vs. 5 Basketball

Men's and Women's
entries due Dec. 13
Games begin
spring semester

WE ARE

PENN STATE