

The Behrend Beacon

Friday, October 24, 2003

Volleyball picks up conference victory

by Amy Hiles
staff writer

Penn State Behrend's Lady Lions had an extremely successful week, winning three out of their four games and raising their overall record to 15-13.

The Lady Lions began their game-after-game weekend on Saturday, when they traveled to Penn State Altoona. The Lady Lions pulled through with an easy win of 3-1, rising to 12-12.

"We beat Altoona, which really helped us with our place in the conference," said freshman Karla Murray. "That was a big win for us."

On Sunday, the Lady Lions met an undefeated Frostburg team in another away game. They were not successful and finished with another loss by a final score of 3-0, dropping their record to 12-13 overall.

Murray said, "We could have beat Frostburg and afterwards, our momentum went down and kind of put us in a slump, but then as a team, we pulled out of it together."

Later that Sunday the Lady Lions took on Christopher Newport University at Frostburg. They battled for a victory over CNU and successfully came out with a win of 3-1.

"We were unsure of their skill level," said senior Lauren Senkevich. "We really didn't know much about them before we played them except that Frostburg beat them before so we were a little apprehensive about it."

She added, "This win made us realize that we aren't a mediocre team."

Along with a busy weekend, the Lady Lions also played their last two home games on Tuesday.

In the first game, against Pitt-Bradford, the Lady Lions came out with an outstanding win of 3-1.

"We had some girls with injuries," said freshman Lisa Wagner. "but everyone who played went and stepped up for the last home games. Also, the seniors, I thought, played really well and they stepped it up, especially with it being their last home games."

After getting the win against Pitt-Bradford, the Lady Lions turned around and got another victory over Hilbert, winning by an excellent score of 3-0,



PHOTO BY JEFF HANKEY/BEHREND BEACON

The Lady Lions went 3-1 this week, collecting victories over Pitt-Bradford and avenging an earlier loss to rival Penn State Altoona.

leaving them with an overall record of 15-13.

Freshman Paige Payer said, "We started out slow but then we picked it up and ended up with a win."

Along with preparing for the games and making time for practice, homework, etc, the Lady Lion seniors had been getting ready for Senior Night. Senior Night is a night devoted to the seniors. There is a small honoring of the seniors and their outstanding work and performance throughout the duration of the season. The event took place on Tuesday, before the two games.

The seniors that were recognized at that time were: middle hitter Lauren Senkevich, outside hit-

ter-Danielle Bemis and middle hitter Katie Butler.

Payer, although not a senior, offered that, "Senior night was fine. It went really well for the girls."

Senkevich said, "It was awesome. Everyone was so nice. The underclassmen were so appreciative for what we, as seniors, did for the team. They showed so much support."

As the volleyball season wraps up, the rest of the Lady Lions games are played out of town. This weekend, the Lady Lions will travel to Pitt-Greensburg on Friday. On Saturday, they face Molloy at Waynesburg Quad, Waynesburg at Waynesburg Quad, and later that same day, Fairmont State at Waynesburg Quad.

Runners ready to take back AMCC title

by Amy Frizzell
sports editor

Over the weekend the men's and women's cross country team traveled to Robert Wesleyan College to participate in the Harry Anderson Invitational, the team's last invitational before heading into the AMCC Championship race.

Both teams finished on top yet again. The men's team placed second out of 11 teams while the women's team placed second out of 10 teams.

"Overall we had a great race with most of us reaching our pr (personal best)," said freshman Leslie Gentile. "We were really focused on going after Mercyhurst College, who took third to us." Leading the way for the Lions were freshman Brad Ruffo for the men and senior Jessica Knapp for the women. Ruffo, who has been the top finisher for the men all year, finished in seventh place with a time of 26:37. Knapp, who has also been one of the top finishers for the women all year, placed well, taking second place with a time of 18:41.

"We were all really excited and confident after our finish this week," said Gentile.

Making another strong run this week hasn't been all that the team has been able to enjoy. Gentile, who placed second during 2002 District 10 AAA girls cross country race and was also a state qualifier, was named AMCC runner of the week. Gentile placed sixth out of 120 runners this past weekend in the Harry Anderson Invitational 5K race with a time of 18:56.

"It was really exciting, I didn't expect anything like it," said Gentile of being AMCC runner of the week. "It's all so new to me being a freshman."

After finishing out a successfully strong regular season, the Lions have been practicing hard for their next task at hand, AMCCs.

"We've been practicing every day doing interval workouts," said Gentile.

The AMCC race will be held Nov. 1 at Pitt-Bradford.

"We definitely want to go out and win, and also do our personal best individually," said Gentile.

Last year, the men took second to Frostburg State University by 24 points. The women also fell short, losing their AMCC title to Frostburg by 8 points.

Hordych sets school shutout record

by Ray Immekus
staff writer

Senior goalkeeper Jake Hordych broke Behrend's shutout record in a 2-0 win over Lake Erie on Wednesday. It was his fifth shutout of the season and sixteenth of his career.

Hordych had tied the record only three days earlier against Swarthmore with his 15th shutout in his four years here at Behrend. The record was previously held by Tomas Sieg, who played for the Lions from 1997-2000.

Hordych is the current leader in goals against average (.88) and shutouts (5) in the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference. He was named to the second team All-Conference in both of the previous two seasons.

Hordych's career totals include more than 60 games and 300 wins. For his efforts, he was named the AMCC's goalkeeper of the week.

"Jake has enjoyed an outstanding senior season and has led a defense that is allowing less than one goal per game," said head coach Dan Perritano. "His leadership and steady goaltending has put us in position to finish our season in great form."

Before the two straight wins against Swarthmore and Lake Erie, the Lions traveled to the University of Scranton for a 3 p.m. game on Saturday.

Scranton senior forward Chris Hundersmark gave the Royals an early 1-0 with a goal assisted by senior defenseman Josiah Sulouff at the 14:32 mark.

The Lions responded in the 19th minute with a goal off the foot of freshman forward Stan Kaweesi and assisted by junior forward Eric Nyberg.

The scoring ceased for the remaining 70 minutes of regulation and the teams went into overtime tied at 1-1. Sulouff broke the tie and won the game for the Royals when his shot in the 104th minute reached the back of the net.

The next day, Behrend ventured to Swarthmore College for a Sunday afternoon contest against the 4-8-2 Garnets. Kaweesi scored the only goal for the Lions for the second straight game. It came in the 14th minute of the first half and was assisted by senior midfielder / defenseman Jeff Morris.

The Lions played solid defense the entire game. Hordych made ten saves and the men's soccer team earned their ninth win of the season.

Hordych's record setting game on Wednesday night against Lake Erie was the 10th win of the season for the Lions, two more than last year's AMCC runner-up team.

Senior midfielder Andy Laver put the Lions on the board with a goal assisted by sophomore midfielder Justin Ramsey at the 26 minute mark of the first half. Sophomore defenseman Luke Goldner made the score 2-0 in the 72nd minute off an assist by sophomore midfielder Justin Reese.

The defense allowed only four shots, and Hordych needed to make only two saves to ensure the shutout.

"The defense is what gets my name in the paper, they make my job so much easier," said Hordych.

Behrend is now 4-0 in the AMCC and has two conference games remaining, Penn State Altoona and Frostburg State. The Lions clinched a playoff spot with the victory over Lake Erie.



FILE PHOTO

Over the past week the Lions have gone 2-1, beating Swarthmore and conference team Lake Erie, clinching a playoff spot. Senior goaltender Jake Hordych also set a new Behrend record of most career shutouts. The Lions will be finishing out their regular season with games against Penn State Altoona, Thiel College and Frostburg State University.

AMCC

Athlete of the Week

PENNSTATE
Erie



Jake Hordych

Sport: Men's Soccer
Class: Senior
Date: Oct. 20, 2003

Senior Jake Hordych (North East/North East) was named this week's AMCC goalkeeper of the week.

In Sunday's 1-0 win over Swarthmore, Hordych tied the Behrend Lions' career shutout record with 15. He

currently leads the AMCC in both GAA with .92 and shutouts, earning five so far this season.

Hordych has 68 saves in 14 starts for the Behrend Lions in the 2003 season, and has posted over 300 saves during 60 games in his career.

Next up for the Lions is an away game at Penn State Altoona on Saturday at 5 p.m.