

On Deck

Behrend Athletic Events

Saturday
Men's and Women's
Cross Country
NCAA Regionals
@ Dickinson
TBD

Friday
Women's Basketball
Behrend Tournament vs.
Waynesburg
8 p.m.

Intramural Schedule

**Men's and Women's
3 vs. 3 Basketball**
Games begin Nov. 16

**Men's and Women's
5 vs. 5 Basketball**
Entries due Dec. 12

Swimmers sink Buffalo State



FILE PHOTO

The Lions started off their season with a record setting win against Buffalo State.

by Samantha Cibula
contributing writer

Both the men and women's swim teams captured their first win in the season opener at Buffalo State last Friday. The women won by one point, posting a 91-90 victory, while the men won 107-101.

"It was an awesome meet. I see a lot of potential on both the men and women's team," said head coach Jen Slack.

Leading the women were freshmen Whitney Marshall and Alexis Puhala. Marshall won the 200 yard freestyle (2:06.72), and 100 yard butterfly (1:07.78).

Marshall's 100 yard butterfly time of 1:07.78 broke the record of outstanding swimmer Christine Williams. Williams now attends Penn State Schuylkill.

"Everyone had to do their part at the meet," said Marshall. "We all did our parts and swam as a team, and that is how you win meets."

Puhala posted wins in both the 1650 yard freestyle (19:47.96), and 500 yard freestyle (5:52.25). Puhala's time in the 1650 yard freestyle set a new team record.

"Setting the record in the 1650 yard freestyle was a big accomplishment for me, especially because it was my first time swimming it," said Puhala. "Hopefully I can improve on it throughout the season with the support

of the team."

Freshman Amy Jakowski rounded out the record breaking meet, by setting a new team record in the 50 yard freestyle, with the time of 27.07.

The men's meet was nothing short of a battle.

The men's meet came down to the last event, which was the 200 yard free relay," said Slack.

Swimming the 200 yard free relay were freshmen Dale Henry, Danny Ball, Patrick Bridenbecker and sophomore Steve Schliecher.

"The relay was definitely a tense situation," said Bridenbecker. "To win the meet we had to win the relay, but it is situations like that, that push you to the next level. We got pumped up and just did it."

Junior captain Eric Phillips led the men. Phillips tripled, winning the 500 yard freestyle (5:23.28), 200 yard individual medley (2:11.83), and the 100 yard breaststroke (1:07.81). Freshman Brandon Theil doubled, winning both the 200 yard freestyle (1:54.00) and the 100 yard freestyle (51.83).

"This first meet really tested our determination," said junior captain Joe Deely. "It is going to be a challenging season but I have confidence that we will have a strong one."

The men and women head to Fredonia Friday to take on both Fredonia and Mercyhurst.

Their first home competition is Saturday. Behrend swimmers will compete in an inner squad competition, Blue and White meet, at the Junker Center. The Blue and White meet will begin at 10a.m.

"We still have areas to improve on and that will come into play during our Blue and White inner squad meet on Saturday," said Slack. "The Blue and White meet will give the swimmers a chance to work on small details while having fun."

Q & A with Andy Laver

by Ray Immekus
staff writer

Beacon: Is this team capable of defeating defending National Champion Messiah?

Laver: Yes. They are the defending national champs, and they are a good team, but right now we are on a high. We know their history and how they play and we can beat them. Some will say we got an unlucky draw. We got a first round bye and now we have to play the national champs, but I think its good.

Beacon: Is this the best Behrend team you have been a part of in your four years here?

Laver: Yeah, hands down. We've had great success and this is a solid team. There are no weak areas on this team.

Beacon: After three straight losses in the AMCC championship game, how does it finally feel to win one?

Laver: That was special. To lose three close games in the championship, by one goal in overtime, that was frustrating. It was real special, especially since it was my senior year.

Beacon: What aspect of your game, or your leadership qualities, etc., do you think the returning players will remember you most for?

Laver: My hard work and good attitude. Just to stay focused and positive during the season. Practicing every day



PHOTO COURTESY OF MEDIA GUIDE

Senior Andy Laver was named men's soccer AMCC Player of the Year, accumulating nine goals and six assists. He was also named to the All-Conference first team.

does get tedious, but always try to have fun and stay positive.

Beacon: How did it feel to be named AMCC Player of the Year?

Laver: Again, that was special. It was unexpected and a surprise. I mean the competition and the talent in the AMCC is incredible, and it's only getting better. Being my senior year, it was real special.

Beacon: What do you plan on doing to stay involved in the game of soccer after you graduate?

Laver: Well I've been coaching for three years. I've played soccer all my life and I love the game, so I plan on continuing to coach. These next few weeks will probably be my last of playing competitively, but I definitely plan on coaching in the future.

Women's soccer team falls in the AMCC title game to Frostburg

by Rachel Lyons
staff writer

After a successful season, the Lady Lions' year came to a close last Saturday, when the Frostburg State Bobcats defeated Penn State Behrend 4-2 in the AMCC championship match.

The two teams met for the second time in a week after advancing through the first round of the conference tournament. The loss ends the Lady Lions' season, while Frostburg received a bid for the NCAA tournament, beginning this week.

Last Wednesday, Behrend defeated Pitt-Greensburg 2-1 after senior Andrea Krahe scored in the seventh round of a shootout. Frostburg advanced 3-1 over La Roche to host Penn State Behrend for the AMCC title game.

Penn State Behrend jumped on top early with sophomore Holly Greiner feeding a corner kick to sophomore Kacie Burns in the 27th minute.

Frostburg answered on a Becky Rambo goal in the 40th minute, taking the game to a 1-1 first half tie. The second half was all Bobcats. AMCC "Newcomer of the Year" Danielle Carter scored twice in six minutes to put the Bobcats up for good.

Greiner did score with 12 minutes remaining in the game, but it was too little too late. Behrend's season concludes with a 12-7-1 record. Frostburg, winners of 11 straight, face Westminster in the NCAA tournament.

The Lady Lions' championship loss did not influence the AMCC when it named this year's all-conference teams. Behrend had four players receiving first-team honors, more than any other team in the AMCC.

Sophomore midfielders Heather

Crawford and Michelle Newland, named first-team, finished with 19 points and 17 points, respectively. Sophomore defenseman Stephanie Bowen made the team, and freshman goalkeeper Dara Nielsen, who missed the last three games due to injury, lead the conference in GAA.

"I was not expecting this," Nielsen said of her award. "I thought the senior from Frostburg would get it."

Stephanie Zyck, Frostburg State's goalkeeper, claimed second-team honors. Nielsen felt that the team played very well she tore her ACL at the very end of the season against Buffalo State.

"The team picked up where we left off," she said, complimenting the play of her replacement, Liz Hall.

Nielsen attributes the winning season to teamwork, especially the sophomores playing well together. Nielsen also points out the great leadership of team captains Erin Mauer, Mandy Gesuale and Kacie Burns.

The Lady Lions also had two of its players named second-team all conference, forward Greiner and senior defenseman and co-captain Gesuale. Behrend's other captains, defensemen Mauer and sophomore midfielder Burns, were named Honorable Mention. Mauer, Gesuale, and Andrea Krahe have played their final games as Behrend Lady Lions.

Nielsen said the team is still wrapping up this year, and tying together the loose ends. The team will have some down time. It does not start preparing for the spring season until January. The players will be starting their fund-raiser to help send the team to Ireland to take on club teams abroad.

Hockey team struggles to shake its losing streak

by Amy Hiles
staff writer

After facing two tough losses just two weeks ago, the Behrend men's club hockey team unfortunately took two more losses. Their first loss was to California University on Saturday.

Coach Dan Fritts predicted it to be a good game as California University has the speed along with good hard hitting to compete with. Behrend played a strong first and third period but had some trouble in the second and let the game slip out of their control, leaving them with an unfortunate loss of 3-1.

Sean Salem said, "We felt good about the game but when it came down to it, we just couldn't get it done."

Junior James Wyble scored the only goal for Behrend with assists by senior Michael Fritts and freshman Josh Grumski. There were 32 shots on goal with 29 saves by Jon Stull.

"It was a close game. We just didn't seem to have much coming our way," said Stull.

On Sunday, Behrend competed with Carnegie-Mellon for the first time at Mercyhurst Ice Center. Because Behrend had never played CMU before, the players were all apprehensive of the outcome.

The Lions, again, played a strong first and third period but had a bit of a breakdown in the second, causing them to come out of the game with another loss of 5-2.

Junior Ryan Lang scored one unassisted goal while Darren Douglas scored the other goal with an assist from sophomore Joe Persang.

The Behrend men's club hockey overall record is 1-5. The men definitely feel they need a bit more work; however, they are still a fairly new team.

Winning comes with practice and the

Lions are definitely practicing harder and harder. Behrend's next game is another home game on Nov. 23rd at 7:45 p.m. at the Mercyhurst Ice Center.

There they will compete for a win against Penn State West, whom they tied with in a game last year.

"We are definitely looking for a win. We want to play well but at the same time we want it to be a fun game not only to play but to watch as well," said coach Derek Gates said.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Daniel Craven is one of seven freshmen who joined the Lions.