

Men's tennis team maintains its undefeated record in AMCC

by Amy Frizzell
sports editor

Over the weekend the men's tennis team defended its undefeated conference record, which is now 4-0. After a disappointing loss to Alfred University on Friday, the Lions bounced back against Penn State Altoona and Frostburg State.

The men took on Frostburg for the first time this season on Sunday. The Lions started off the match with strong doubles play as they took two out of the three doubles matches. Sophomore John Barber and freshman Brian Espin provided a win at second doubles 9-7. Freshmen Matt Meyer and Garrett Grenek won at third, 8-6.

Singles proved to be harder than expected when the men dropped three singles matches, just squeaking by with a 5-4 win. Barber provided the first win at third, 6-4, 6-2. Meyer won at sixth 6-1, 6-3 as sophomore Kevin Fiorenzo sealed the deal for the team winning 6-0, 7-6.

"Good win for us, I still think that's the team we have to beat," said head coach Jeff Barger. "We can beat them again, only I'm looking for a better score next time."

On Saturday the Lions traveled to Altoona for their second meeting. This time the men were able to pull ahead, winning 8-1. Junior Ryan Deimel and sophomore John Marini took home the win 8-1; Barber and Espin won 9-8 as Grenek and Meyer rounded out the win-

ning 8-1. Singles was almost as a sweep. Deimel took the win at 6-2, 6-0. Marini won at second 6-0, 7-5.

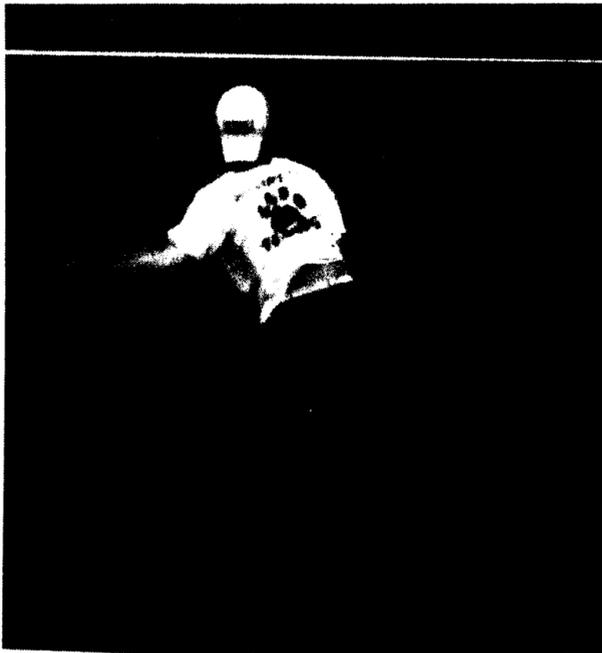


PHOTO BY AMY FRIZZELL/BEHREND BEACON

The men's tennis team will try to go undefeated in the AMCC this weekend when they face conference opponents Pitt-Greensburg and Frostburg State.

Barber prolonged his winning streak at 6-0, 6-0. Espin won at fourth 6-2, 6-4. Meyer rounded out the line-up at 7-6, 6-3.

"It was the best match we played all year," said

Barger. "They really played doubles well, that sets the tone for the match."

On Friday the Lions lost a tough match to Alfred University, 7-2.

"I wasn't happy with their play," said coach Jeff Barger. "They didn't play with intensity. We should have won."

Marini and Deimel produced the only doubles win at one, 8-3. Deimel also produced at win at first singles 6-1, 6-1. Barber won at third 6-4, 6-3.

"The loss was tough, it really lowered our confidence," said Espin.

The Lions will have a chance to redeem their loss this weekend as the team will take a its annual roadtrip to Pitt-Greensburg and then Frostburg.

"If we stay undefeated this weekend then we'll have a lot of confidence going into the tourney," said Barber. "I also feel that it will put more pressure on the other team, which could be to our advantage."

This weekend will mark the end of conference play for the Lions. They will then prepare for the AMCC Championships, which will be held on April 17.

"Frostburg is a key match as far as setting up some first seeds," said Barger. "This match is important to keep those first seeds alive."

Obtaining a first seed for the AMCC tourney is key. This will almost guarantee the men an easy first round of play.

"If we beat Frostburg individually we should get first seeds," said Espin.

"They'll have to battle it out between Altoona and Greensburg and we'll have an easy first round."

The Lions are still sticking to its game plan of going in with confidence and intensity.

Baseball team splits doubleheader with Pitt-Bradford



FILE PHOTO

The baseball team is currently 2-4 in the AMCC after splitting a doubleheader at Pitt-Bradford on Wednesday.

by Kevin Fiorenzo
sports editor

After suffering a series of postponements, the baseball team finally played games this week at Pitt-Bradford.

On Wednesday, the Lions traveled to Bradford for a doubleheader with their conference opponents.

In the first game, the two teams were embroiled in a low scoring, but hard-fought contest, losing 4-0.

In the first three innings the two teams played scoreless baseball, but in the final three innings, Bradford scored all four of its runs to pick up the win.

The Lions managed to get only two hits and had no extra base hits. The losing pitcher for Behrend was senior Jason Shaffer. He pitched for 4 1/2 innings, with five strikeouts and allowing two runs. Behrend's other pitcher in the game was freshman Brian Hart, who pitched for 1 2/3 innings and also gave up two runs.

In the second game of the twinbill, the Lions managed to turn the tables on Bradford, shutting them out 2-0.

Behrend scored only two runs in the second and third innings, but that was enough to pull out the win.

The Lions had eight hits in the game and junior shortstop Vinnie Canzano had a double in the game.

The winning pitcher for the Lions was sophomore Chris McCartney. McCartney threw a complete game and gave up six hits, no runs and had five strikeouts.

With their split at Pitt-Bradford, the Lions record became 10-8-1 overall, 2-4 in the AMCC.

While the Lions are not off to the great start they had last season, the season is still young and there are many games left to be played.

The Behrend squad will next hit the field on Saturday when it hosts another AMCC opponent in Lake Erie College.

Lake Erie will definitely challenge the Lions because they have this week's AMCC pitcher of the week, Jon Gibson.

One of the bright signs for the Lions has been their pitching. They are currently leading the AMCC in ERA at 4.17. Also, McCartney is the owner of the best individual ERA in the conference, with a 2.31 mark.

Softball rises to top of AMCC

by Ben Raymond
staff writer

Over the past week the Lady Lions softball team has had six games; three of them have been wins. These three wins have rocketed the softball team to the top of the AMCC.

Last Saturday, the women's softball team split a pair of games when they hosted rival Penn State Altoona.

The Lady Lions lost the first game against Altoona in a heartbreaker by a score of 3-2 in eight innings. The Behrend women bounced back quickly and pummeled the Altoona Lions 9-0.

On Monday the softball team traveled to take on Lake Erie College. They rolled right through the Lady Storm by taking control of both games.

The first game seemed to be a pretty fair matchup with the Behrend girls coming out on top with a score of 6-4. As in Saturday's game, the Lady Lions blasted through the second game, which resulted in a 13-0 pasting.

The women carried a three-game winning streak when they took on Westminster College on Wednesday for some non-conference action.

They gave a valiant effort but the Westminster girls seemed to be just too much for the Lady Lions.

The first game was a fierce battle that ended in a 5-4 loss for the Behrend women. They suffered a hard loss during the second, falling to Westminster by a score of 8-0.

With this slight setback the girls were still looking to maintain the positive attitude that has been a part of the team this year.

Their overall record might be 5-17, but the five wins have all been earned against AMCC teams. With the 5-1 record the Lady Lions are no. 1 in the conference.

They have some other positives going for them, one being freshman third baseman Kristin Macha, who leads the AMCC in doubles. She also holds the highest team batting average of .429.

Another freshman who has been producing some good numbers is pitcher Sandra Jaussi. She is third

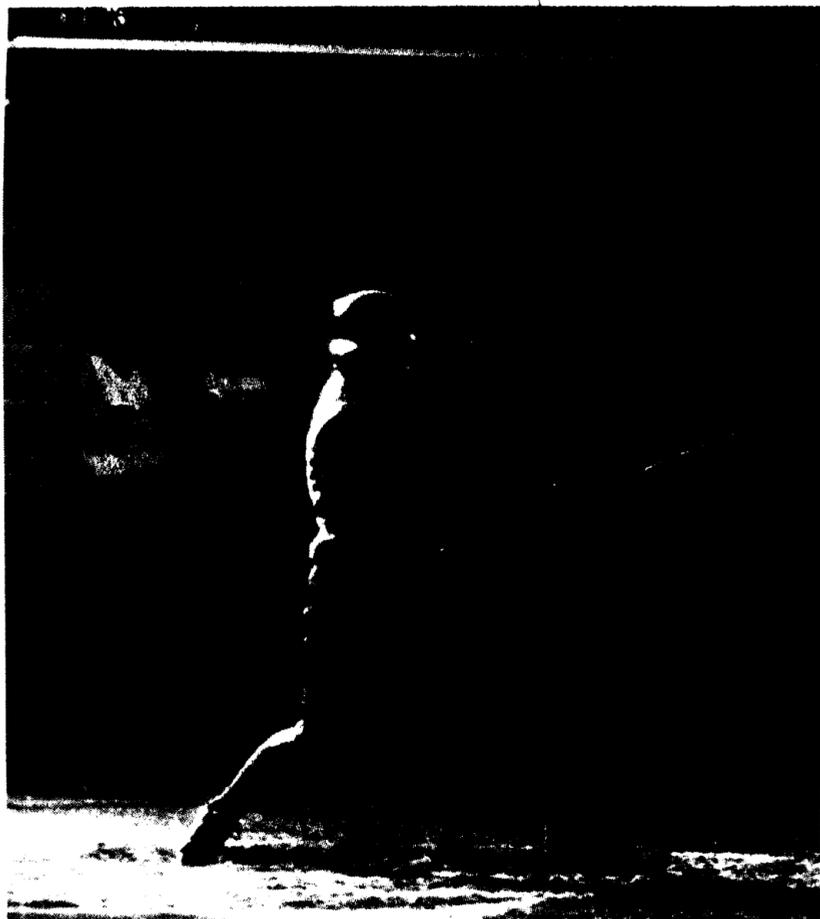


PHOTO BY AMY FRIZZELL/BEHREND BEACON

With a 5-1 conference record, the Lady Lions softball team rose to first place in the AMCC.

in the conference with an ERA of 1.71.

All of the players have been putting forth a great effort so far this season and are continuing to grow.

The Lady Lions are traveling to Hilbert College

on Tuesday with a game time set for 3 p.m. After the six game road trip they are hosting Allegheny College on Wednesday at 3:30 p.m.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
Housing & Food Service
Athlete of the Week
Isiah Meek

Behrend SLI
Isiah Meek

Sport: Men's Track and Field
Class: Junior
Date: April 5, 2004
During the Western Pennsylvania Championships held at Carnegie Mellon University this past weekend, Meek placed first in the 110 high hurdles with a time of 15:31, and qualified for the ECACs. Meek also qualified in the 4x100 relay with a time of 44.62. Meek's performance helped Behrend to place in a tie for first out of 16 schools in the ECACs. The Behrend team will travel to the ECACs Union with events starting at 9 a.m.