

# SPORTS

## On Deck Behrend Athletic Events

## Men's soccer finds its groove

By Colleen Applebaugh  
staff writer

The defending men's soccer AMCC champions were victorious over Fredonia 1-0 Tuesday. This is the first victory over Fredonia in Behrend men's soccer history.

Spencer Frank, a freshman forward put one past Fredonia's keeper to secure the win.

"Spencer's goal was sick, right over the keep's head," said sophomore goalkeeper Matt Zimsak. "We just played brilliant, we finally came together as a team."

Thanks to the recent win, men's soccer is back on track for the AMCC championship.

"Players recognized how to win games; we're starting to find our game," said head coach Dan Perritano.

The team looked to make adjustments after a two game losing streak prior to Tuesday. They accomplished just that. The men stand first in the conference with a 3-2 record. Frostburg is close behind with a 3-2-1 record.

In the game against Westminster, the team was beaten again in a 0-2 loss. The game was intensely physical, as proven by the red card earned by sophomore forward Herbert Obeng. The men scored a goal in the first half, but it was revoked based on an offside call.

The team fell to Alfred last Thursday but

the score does not justify the play.

"We have a relatively experienced team; we're just figuring things out," said Perritano.

The team strives to retain its title as the AMCC champions. In doing so, Coach Perritano believes that not giving up chances and putting forth a full 90 minute effort will guarantee their success.

Individual leaders included junior central defenders Dan Bash and Brian Blaszczyk.

"They're playing very strong this year," Perritano said.

The blue and white return to the field against Washington and Jefferson at 1 p.m. Saturday.

Sept. 17  
Women's soccer  
Behrend vs. Thiel 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 18  
Men's and women's  
cross country  
Behrend Invitational 10:00 a.m.

Women's Tennis  
Behrend vs. John Carroll 1:00 p.m.

Men's soccer  
Behrend vs. W&J 1:00 p.m.

Women's volleyball  
Behrend at Richard Stockton tournament

Sept. 19  
Women's tennis  
Behrend vs. Penn State Altoona 1:00 p.m.

Men's and Women's golf  
Behrend at Pitt Bradford 1:00 p.m.

Sept. 20  
Women's tennis  
Behrend at Fredonia 3:00 p.m.

Sept. 21  
Women's tennis  
Behrend at Hiram 3:00 p.m.

Women's soccer  
Behrend at Allegheny 4:00 p.m.

Men's and women's golf  
Behrend at La Roche 10:00 a.m.

Sept. 22  
Men's soccer  
Behrend at Grove City 4:00 p.m.

Men's water polo  
Behrend at Mercyhurst 7:00 p.m.

Women's volleyball  
Behrend at Daemon 7:00 p.m.



During a time out while playing Bethany, Pisano and Vensel strategize with the team about taking over the close match. The Lions went on to defeat Bethany and improve their tournament record to 3-1.

## Pisano and Vensel take team in new direction

By Emily Hannah  
staff writer

The Behrend volleyball team placed third at their invitational held Sept. 10 and Sept. 11, in which eight different teams participated including Behrend. Other teams that competed were Geneva, Pitt-Bradford, Meadville, Bethany, Fredonia State, Shenandoah, and D'Youville. Geneva placed first with a 4-0 record and Fredonia placed second with a 3-1 record.

The two top performers overall during the tournament were Elaine Voltz and Ashley Ordy, the team captain. Ordy is a senior defensive specialist while Voltz is a sophomore middle hitter for the team. Voltz was named to the All-Tournament team, and received AMCC volleyball player of the week honors.

Including these two players, the other starters for the Lions are Amanda Evans, Lisa Wagner, Karla Murray, Paige Payer, and Amanda Butta.

Their only loss at the tournament was to a much more experienced Geneva squad. Coach Pisano said that the team was especially pleased with getting two wins on Saturday after having seven talented teams participate in the tournament over the weekend. He also remarked that the improvement that should stand out the most about this team is that they have a strong focus on their defense.

They play an intense style of defense in which they go after every ball that comes towards them and are always diving on the floor in an attempt to keep the game going in their favor. He explained that the fans will not see too many other

teams that are committed to the same effort that they are currently committed to. That should be the first thing that stands out when you see the Lions represent Behrend.

Some of the team's goals this year are to improve individually and as a team each day. AMCC competition is always on the front burner. They want to focus on outworking all of their opponent and begin building an elite program.

The Team also has a new addition, Gerry Vensel, the assistant coach. She brings much talent to the team as she has a higher level of experience to offer the girls.

Assistant coach Vensel happens to be coach Pisano's aunt. She is the person who trained him as a player. Coach Pisano has been around the sport of volleyball for a while with his aunt being a previous coach. She and coach Pisano have been working volleyball camps and clinics together since Coach Pisano had finished his high school career.

The coaches have similar coaching philosophies and opinions on training athletes and both are very competitive people. This will be one asset that will benefit the team. Coach Pisano said that with her addition, there was an enormous boost in the teams training this year.

"We are excited about the effort and improvement the team has displayed so far, and plan to continue taking steps towards building an elite program at Behrend," said coach Pisano.

The Lions are currently 4-2 and are traveling to Richard Stockton College in New Jersey to participate in a tournament Saturday and Sunday.

## Men's water polo topples Grove City

By Kyle Woodside  
staff writer

Coach Joe Tristan is taking his Lions' progress one week at a time. They seem to be making his weekly evaluation more and more positive thanks to great team play and a love and heart for the game.

After a respectable tournament two weekends ago at the Navy Open, Behrend arrived for the Bucknell Invitational pumped and ready to play.

In the first match, the Lions caught Grove City off-guard with a 13-3 pounding. In the past, Grove City was victorious against the blue and white with one to three goal margins of victory. However, the Lions prevailed against the Wolverines for the first time in Behrend men's water polo history.

Behrend was in control from start to finish. After the first quarter, the Lions were up 5-1 and never looked back in route to victory.

The second contest of the tournament was an exhibition game against non-NCAA sanctioned Toronto University. Behrend fought hard from a 6-1 deficit at halftime but came up short, 9-5.

"We were within two goals but then errors cost us. It was a good effort like the first game," said Tristan.

The third match was the most anticipated for the Lions. Long-time rival Gannon won by a score of 15-2.

"We felt we could have made the game a lot closer. We defeated ourselves by making bad passes," said Tristan.

The fourth and final match, which was also an exhibition game, pitted the Lions against the host, Bucknell's "B" team. Similar to the Navy Open, the Lions' conditioning caught up to them by the end of the tournament as Bucknell B managed to win, 16-5.

"Overall, it was a great tournament. The guys came together and realized that their goal is to have fun and act as a team," said Tristan. "If we are going to do something wrong, I hope we do it as a team."

Andre Prancevicius led the offense with 11 goals. Anthony Spoto netted 8, and Vincent Brewer chipped in with 2. Spoto leads the team with 19 goals this season and Prancevicius is right behind him with 18.

The team is looking forward to the return of sophomore Justin Ryder, last seasons leading scorer. He will rejoin the lineup as Behrend hopes to get even with Gannon at their Carnival Athletic Pavilion this week.

"With Justin in the water, we should enhance the offense a lot," said Tristan.

Behrend is also looking ahead to games against Washington and Jefferson, Slippery Rock, and Mercyhurst for chances to repeat the element of surprise that was undertaken playing Grove City during the September 11-12 tournament.

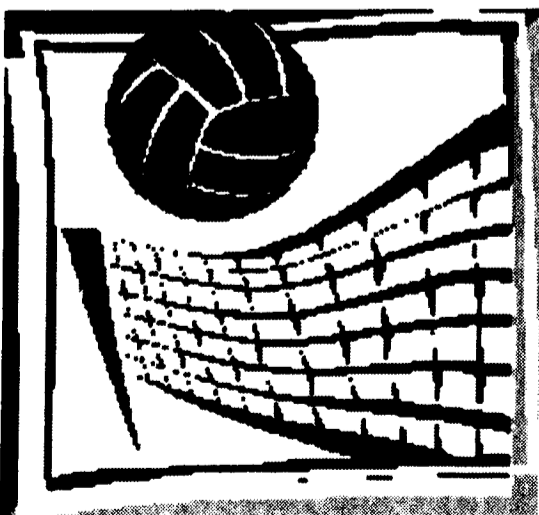
## Housing and Food Service

## Athlete of the week

Elaine Voltz (Saxonburg/Knoch H.S.) was named this week's Beacon/Food and Housing Athlete of the Week.

Voltz helped the blue and white to a 3-1 weekend during the Behrend Invitational, finishing third out of eight teams. She led the Behrend Lions in kills throughout all four games, including a high of 26 against Bethany College. For the week, Voltz totaled 80 kills.

Next up the team will travel to Buffalo State on Sept. 14 before heading to New Jersey for the Richard Stockton Tournament on Sept. 18.

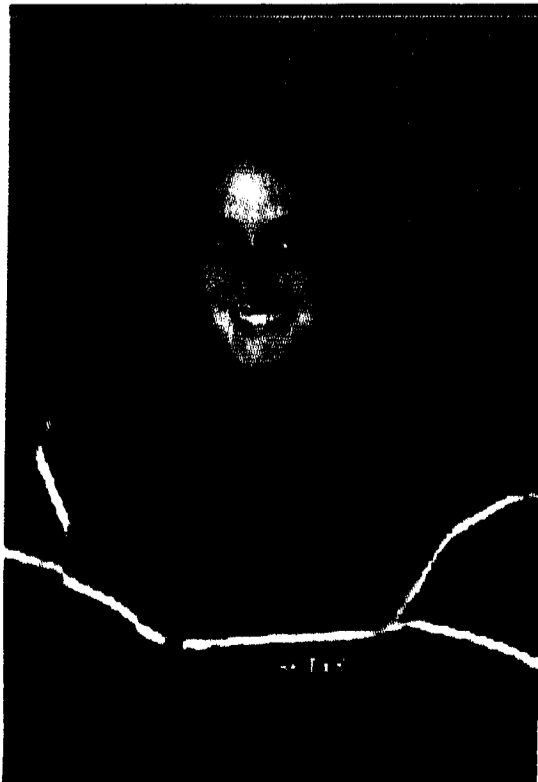


NAME: Elaine Voltz

SPORT: Volleyball

CLASS: Sophomore

DATE: September 13, 2004



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Housing and Food Service Athlete of the Week is selected by the Sports Information Staff