

SPORTS

Women's tennis improves record to 6-3 Murdey named AMCC Player of the week



Jenna Yankowski a returning sophomore who reached the finals of last season's competition, hopes to be a top contender during this year's AMCC's.

By Brett Pollack
staff writer

Last weekend the Penn State Behrend Women's Tennis Team won two matches, and lost one. The matches were against John Carroll, Penn State Altoona and Fredonia.

On Saturday, the Lions faced off against The John Carroll Blue Streaks. The Lions were defeated with a score of 1-8. The Blue Streaks current record is 19 - 7.

"The loss against John Carroll is only a tiny stumbling block; we can only build from our mistakes in matches" said Zoe Rose.

On Sunday, the Lions went up against Penn State Altoona. The Lions pummeled the Altoona Lions with a score of 9 - 0. The women's doubles team showed what they are made of when all three teams went below a five game lead on the Altoona Lions. The number one girls double team of Allison Mudrey, and Mindy Calvert won an impressive 8 - 3 match.

In singles action against the Altoona Lions the women went undefeated. Impressive matches were played by number one Mudrey, and number three senior Katie Ranalli. Mudrey won with a dominant score of 6 - 4, and 6-0. Ranalli won with scores of 6 - 3, and 6 - 0.

The next day, Monday the Lions, confident after an easy win, went up against Fredonia. The Lions went 6-3 to win the match. The Lions played Fredonia earlier in the season and won 8-3.

"We beat Fredonia 6-3. It was a solid win be-

cause we were missing a couple of regular players. They all played well in that match," said Coach Barger

The Lions this season have beaten Frostburg and Altoona 9 - 0 in both matches; this has never been done before in Women's Tennis at Penn State Behrend.

The Lions are to play three conference matches this weekend to settle the regular season, and to see who will be regular season Champions. The lions are hoping to go undefeated this season. With the help of co-captains Amy Frizzell and Christie Leininger guiding the team, the Lions have become a tight knit team.

Last week Mudrey was named AMCC tennis player of the week. See went 5 - 1 last week against John Carroll, Fredonia, and Penn State Altoona.

Mudrey, from Hickory High School, competed at the PIAA state championships for tennis all four years of her high school career. Allison won her district finals for two consecutive years. Allison has been playing tennis since she was in first grade.

"Allison played well in both matches this past weekend," said Barger. "It's great to get a player chosen because it helps the team."

When speaking to Murdey, in response to achieving the athlete of the week, she said "It's an honor; I wasn't expecting it, because I am only freshman."

"All the girls are really supportive and we all get along very well, and we all get better together," said Murdey. "We focus more on the team aspect, not the individual."

Murdey and the team's next match is today at Chatham College. They will then travel to Frostburg on Saturday and Altoona on Sunday.

Knapp logs new course record

Takes first at Invitational

By Brooke Dodds
staff writer

This past weekend Behrend hosted the Behrend Invitational Cross Country Meet. After days of terrible rain, and concern of the course being a wreck, the meet ended up being a big success.

"This was the first use of our course for the new season. The weather was sunny and breezy, perfect to run in," said Coach Dave Cooper.

The invitational overall had 84 women runners and 80 men.

Our AMCC runner of the week for the second week in a row, Jess Knapp, set a course record of 19:24 and took first place out of the 84 women runners. Knapp has really been showing what strength she has and has started out the year with a bang.

Other members of our women's team who did a great job were Leslie Gentile finishing fourth with a time of 21:35, and Claire Manelick finished 11th.

For our men's team, Brad Ruffo pulled through and finished 4th overall for men's with a time of 27:08. Tim Schultheis came in 14th with a time of 28:08, Craig Davis finished 17th at 28:52 and Eric Diluzio pulled in at 18th place.

The team that finished in first place for men was Mount Union who earned 27 points. In second place was Case Western University with 42 points and our Behrend Lions finished third with 75. Other colleges that competed for the men's division were Nazareth, Westminster, Thiel, Myers University, Hiram College and La Roche.

In first place for the women's race was Case Western with 36 total points. In second place was Carnegie Mellon University at 51 points and in third came the Behrend women's team with 58 points. Other women's teams that competed in the invitational were Nazareth, Westminster, Hiram, Madaille, Myers and Thiel.

Coach Cooper said the team has run into a few minor injuries from practice but luckily there hasn't been anything serious enough to get in the way of anyone's good spirit of having a great season.

The next race for Behrend's Cross Country Team will be the Allegheny Classic Invitational held September 25 at 10:00 a.m. They are expecting roughly thirty teams to be competing there. Allegheny is the site of the NCAA Regionals for this year.

Housing and Food Services Athlete of the Week



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Name: Jessica Knapp
Sport: Women's Cross Country
Class: Senior
Date: September 20, 2004

Jessica Knapp (Erie/McDowell) was named this week's Beacon/Food and Housing Athlete of the Week.

The AMCC Preseason Runner of the Year put in a strong performance at the Penn State Behrend Cross Country Invitational, pacing the field of 85 runners and finishing first place. The time of 9:24 established a new course record.

Penn State Behrend's cross country team are next in action on Saturday, September 25 at 10:00 a.m. at the Allegheny College Invitational.

Housing and Food Services Athlete of the week is selected by the Sports Information Staff.

Women's volleyball surpasses expectations

By Alyssa Peconi
staff writer

The Penn State Behrend women's volleyball team took part in the Richard Stockton College Tournament, held in New Jersey last Saturday. Behrend played three matches during the tournament against opponents Gwynedd Mercy College, Catholic University, and Widener University.

The women's volleyball team finished with an overall record of 1-2 in the tournament, shutting out the competition in their first match versus Gwynedd Mercy 3-0 on Saturday. Their second and third matches were well played, but resulted in losses to Catholic University 1-3 and Widener 0-3.

Highlighting tournament play for the Behrend volleyball team was Elaine Voltz, a sophomore middle hitter, who was named to the All-Tournament team. Voltz is also first in the conference in kills per game. Fellow sophomore Lisa Wagner also had an exciting performance with a career-best 20 kills versus Widener.

Currently, the women's volleyball team at Behrend leads the conference in digs per game with 24.61. While the team, as a whole, leads the conference in digs per game, that outstanding figure can be attributed the help of a veteran player, Ashley Ordy.

Ordy, the team captain this year, who is a defensive specialist at libero, is the only senior among the vol-

leyball team. She has shown her leadership skills this season, where she stands at second in the conference in digs per game.

Ordy is very pleased with the team this season and hopes to continually improve every game.

"My expectations of how we would start the season have already been surpassed," Ordy said.

Despite their overall record in the tournament, the team played strong and is showing great improvement since last year. Ordy commented that she thought the tournament went well.

"Compared to how we've started in the past, this year we came out with a bang," Ordy said.

After the tournament, the team's overall record for the season was 5-4 until Wednesday, September 22, when the team was tested again in a well-fought battle against Daemen College. However, Behrend was not victorious Wednesday night, losing the match 2-3, leaving their current record at 5-5.

This weekend, the women's team's travel plans include the Ohio Wesleyan Tournament which runs from Friday to Saturday. Behrend will face Hanover, Otterbein, Westminster, and an opponent yet to be determined at the tournament this weekend.

Next week, the women's volleyball team will begin their conference schedule with a home game, hosting Pitt-Bradford at the Junker Center on Wednesday, September 29 at 7 p.m.

Intramural Update

Sept. 20

Meals on Wheels 31, Misfits 19
Bambinos 1, Binders 0 (forfiet)
Juice 11, KDR 1
Fockers 21, Sigtau 5

Sept. 21

Crimson Tide 18, Loose Balls 15

Sept. 22

Juice 29, TKE 2
Fockers 10, Sig Tau 0
Project Mayhem 18, Sig Tau 2
Last Run 20, Corey's Team 10

Flag football deadline Oct. 1, officials needed! Contact Rob Wittman at 6280 or rww3@psu.edu

On Deck this week...

Sept. 25

WSOC vs. Penn State Altoona, 1:00 p.m.
MSOC vs. Penn State Altoona, 3:00 p.m.
Hall of Fame Ceremony, 5:00 p.m.

Sept. 28

WSOC vs. Hilbert, 2:00 p.m.
MSOC vs. Hilbert, 4:00 p.m.
WTN vs. Waynesburg, 3:00 p.m.

Sept. 29

WVB vs. Pitt-Bradford, 7:00 p.m.

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