

SPORTS

Women's soccer shuts out Thiel

By Mike Tomko
staff writer

Sept. 17 the Behrend women's soccer team shut out the Thiel Tomcats 2-0 improving their record to 3-1-1. Junior Colleen Applebaugh, who was last weeks AMCC's goalkeeper of the week, recorded her third shut out of the season for the lions.

"We are a very technical team and a very smart team when our passes are on," said Applebaugh.

The Lions scored their first goal of the game in the thirty-third minute of play when junior Heather Crawford came in off the bench and assisted junior midfielder Michelle Newland. In the fifty-second minute of play Newland scored her second goal off a header, this time assisted by sophomore defensive back Crystina Hickey.

The Lions offense took twenty-eight shots, five of them by Newland, putting 15 on target against the Tomcats. Kara Struski also had five shots on goal for the Lions.

"Considering the weather conditions I think we played the ball smartly," said Applebaugh. "We were able to control the ball even though the field was soaked; it was a big swamp."

On Tuesday, the lady Lions could not continue their winning ways losing to the Allegheny Gators by the score of 2-0.



Sophomore Kara Struski took five shots on the goal against Thiel. The blue and white take on AMCC rival Penn State Altoona Sept. 25.

K.J. MARGRAFF/BEHREND BEACON

This marked the first game the blue and white failed to score a goal this season. The two goals scored by Allegheny came from freshman defensive back Kelsey Boivin and freshman

midfielder Rebecca Rotoloni, both were unassisted.

"I don't think we were focused. We dominated for the first fifteen minutes and we played our game," said

Applebaugh. "I think the two things that hurt us were our attitude towards the middle of the game, we kind of fell through the cracks. The second thing was our passing wasn't as effective as

in the past."

The Lions were out shot by Allegheny 10-11 and had four corner kicks to the Gators six. Behrend goalie Applebaugh made four saves on six Gator shots that were put on target. Juniors Katie Ritchey, Stephanie Bowen, and Holly Greiner each had two shots on goal for the Lions.

All ten of the Lions shots came during the second half of play. Despite picking up their play in the second half the Lions were still unable to cut the deficient against the Gators.

"We attacked the goal a lot in the second half and I would say most of our shots came during the second half toward the last ten minutes," said Applebaugh. "We picked up our play at the end."

Showing the persistence to win even when you're down is a good sign for a team who hopes to win the AMCC championship this season.

At this point the Lions sit at 3-2-1 with an upcoming game against Buffalo State at home on Thursday. The Lions kick off AMCC play on Sept. 25 against Penn State Altoona.

"Personally I feel that we have very good chances of getting an NCAA bid and winning the AMCC championship," said Applebaugh. "We have a very skillful team even though we have a very young team."

Men's water polo continues to make splashes



BY SAMANTHA CIBULA/BEHREND BEACON

Junior Brandon Sieber and freshman Andre Prancevicius strategize before taking on Division II Slippery Rock on Thursday.

By Kyle Woodside
staff writer

Have you ever been used to something and then all of a sudden had to change your ways? Well, that's good. Now you know how the

men's water polo team felt last week when they had to face Gannon.

Gannon's pool is about 10 feet shorter in width than the pools Behrend usually plays in. To further complicate things, there is a wall instead of an open space where the

out-of-bounds line is. Thus, when expecting to be able to use the whole pool, Coach Tristan's Lions hit the wall at times, literally. It threw off their passing attack.

Despite the skewed pool dimensions and facing a tough Gannon

squad at their place, the Lions played as best as they could in the 19-6 defeat.

"We forced 18 shots and lost control of our game plan," Tristan said. "They had lots of energy and we got intimidated physically, but we still played OK mentally."

The score was 6-1 after the first quarter and the Lions were forced to play catch-up after that. A potent offensive attack and a mediocre referee enabled Gannon to dominate.

Charles Doane, a phenomenal player for Gannon, controlled the "2-meter" position for the Knights. He finished with seven goals, four of which came in the first quarter. A 2-meter is parallel to a center in hockey or basketball; he camps in front of the opposing goal and tries to outmuscle the opposing defender(s).

"We used three different guys on Doane to try and stop him, but they couldn't. Water polo is more about being a smart player than getting in the 'zone'. Doane saw our defense and knew immediately how to score on it," said Tristan. "Next time we face a tough 2-meter, we will try to

change up the defense a bit in hopes of better results."

Anthony Spoto continued to shine as he led Behrend with a hat trick. Justin Ryder, Brandon Sieber, and Steve Schleicher contributed with one goal apiece.

Behrend looks forward to their upcoming matches against Mercyhurst and Slippery Rock, both Division II opponents.

"Mercyhurst has only had two games under their belt and we've had nine," said Tristan. "Also, we beat them four times last year, so our guys should be confident going into the game."

Slippery Rock was victorious over the Lions earlier this year, but Tristan hopes his team can beat the Rockets for the first time in Behrend men's water polo history.

Behrend will be competing in the W & J Invitational on September 25. The Lions are slated to play two exhibition games. They take on Carnegie Mellon at 10 a.m. and Yale at 11 a.m.

At 2 p.m., Behrend will compete against W & J. "If we win, we could be in the top 10 in the Division III men's water polo rankings," said Tristan.

Golf makes history; wins first tourney

By Jenna O'Block
staff writer

Despite the cold weather in Erie, amazingly Behrend's golf team is actually able to play golf. The team is lead by James Curren in his first year coaching at Behrend. The team is made up of 12 men and four women. Though some may not think so, golf is a very competitive sport at Penn State Behrend.

This year, with newly added Mt. Aloysius to the AMCC, Behrend will play against nine different conference rivals as well as some other Division II and III schools.

The team won their match at Peak n Peak Sept. 16 with a score of 297. At Pitt Greensburgh on Sept. 7 and Lake Erie Sept. 11, they came in second place with both losses coming from Division II schools. They took third at Pitt Bradford Sept. 19 and LaRoche Sept. 21. Their worst finish of the season came at Penn State Altoona on September 13 coming in seventh.

This is the first year the team has ever won a tournament and also the first year they have broken 300 as a team.

"I am very excited about how well the team has been playing," said sophomore Josh Hull. "With the great play of our co-captain Josh Loaney and the amazing talent of our freshman class we received this

year, I am very excited for the ECAC's and AMCC tournaments."

The players take in the responsibility of figuring out each others schedules to determine the times they are able to practice, which is usually two times a week. They practice at Gospel Hill golf course about a mile away from Station Road.

The season ends Oct. 10 and they starts back up again on April 8. Since it is hard to predict the weather, if it snows the match gets canceled.

"If it snows we just use orange balls" said Hull jokingly.

The team is happy with their successful season so far. Already they have captured a first place finish, two second place finishes, and three third place finishes.

"This year has been the most successful season for Behrend golf during my four years here," said senior co-captain Jeff Black. "We have a great bunch of guys that can flat out play. We have very high expectations going into the next couple matches."

"It's a young team with a lot of talent, and the team is also excited for Behrend's golf future," said sophomore Josh Loaney.

The team is very proud of is Shelley Leonard who was an individual medalist this year at Pitt Greensburgh with a score of 80. The team hopes to be one of the favorites to win the AMCC championship.

Men's soccer team on fire Beats Grove City College in final minutes



BY K.J. MARGRAFF/BEHREND BEACON

The men's soccer team has been undefeated since its loss to Westminster. The team now holds a record of 5-2

By Colleen Applebaugh
staff writer

The Men's Soccer team is on fire with a three game winning streak de-

feating Grove City Wednesday 1-0.

Veteran defender Luke Goldner scored the goal, making this his first for the season. This victory over Grove City keeps Behrend first in the

conference with a 5-2 record.

Saturday the team put Washington and Jefferson away in a 2-0 victory.

Senior midfielder Jason Ferrier attributes the team's success to their determination to win.

"We have a drive to win and it kept us going," said Ferrier. "We had a little bit of a rough start with our away games, but we are picking up the pieces and going to come out strong this weekend against Altoona."

Team standouts this week were sophomore keeper Matt Zirnsak and freshman midfielder Spencer Frank.

The AMCC named Zirnsak goalkeeper of the week after capturing three shout-outs. He now has five shut outs on the season and leads the conference in goaltending. Frank who scored in the Washington and Jefferson game was mentioned as a member of the weekly AMCC best of the rest honorable.

The blue and white take the field again Saturday at Behrend fields against Penn State Altoona at 3 pm. This marks their first conference game of the season.