

SPORTS

Lady Lions volleyball advances in AMCC standings

By Alyssa Peconi
staff writer

In the past week, the Behrend Lady Lions volleyball team has evened up their overall record for the season, now standing at 9-9 overall and 2-1 in the conference, after playing two AMCC matches away from home.

Last weekend, the women's volleyball team traveled a few hours to Altoona for their second conference match this season. On Saturday, they faced the Penn State Altoona's women's volleyball team, a difficult opponent, and lost in four games, 1-3.

At that point, their overall record for the season was 8-9 and their conference record evened out to 1-1.

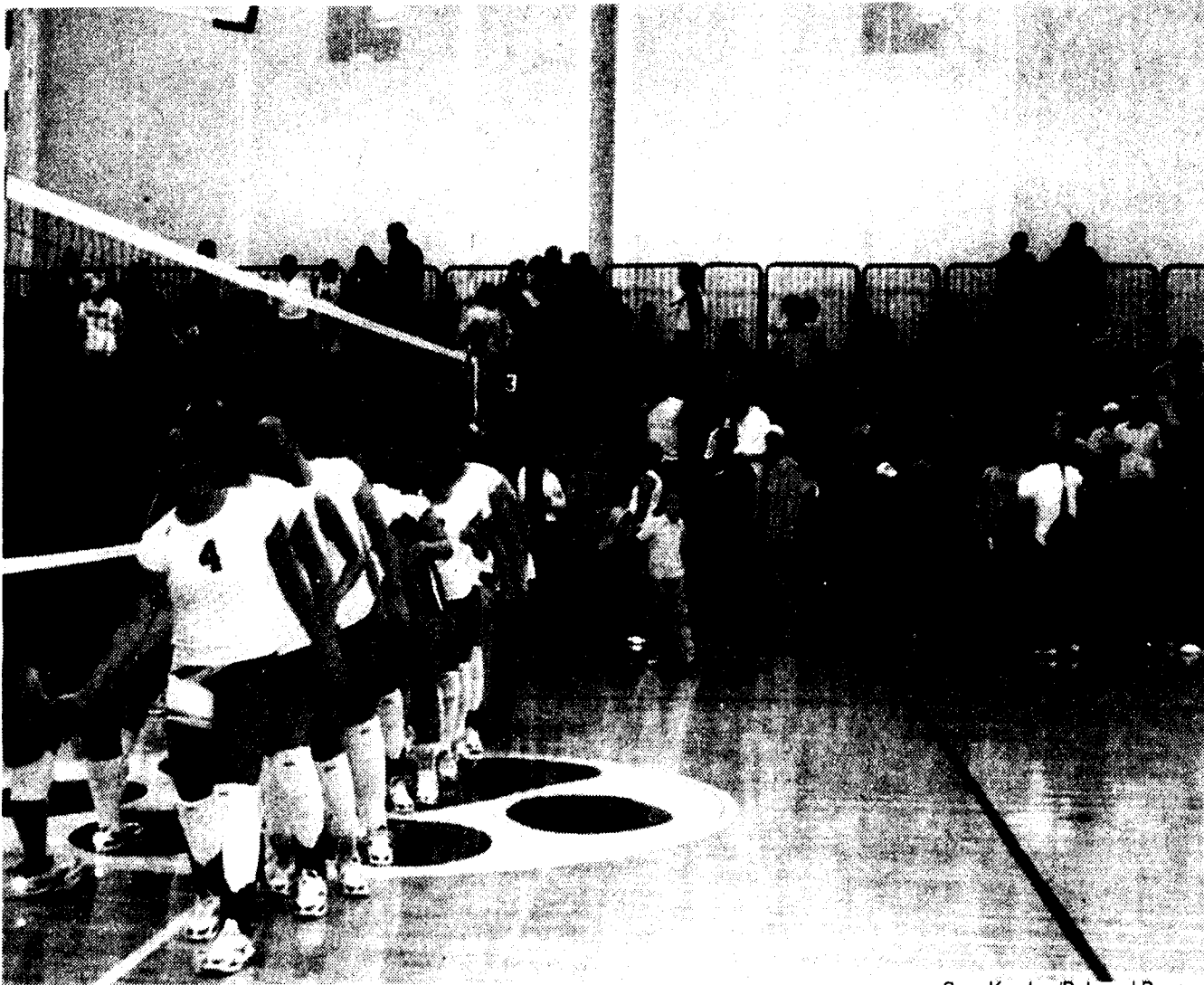
However, the girls came out strong from their loss against Altoona on Saturday to win in their next game on the road.

On Tuesday the Lady Lions visited Hamburg, NY for their third conference game against Hilbert College.

The only junior member of the women's volleyball team, Amanda Evans, said that in the game, a few less experienced teammates got a chance to play and did very well to close the game in victory.

"They proved to everyone that if we need to move people around, they are ready to go in and play hard," said Evans.

The ladies swept Hilbert in three games, 3-0, improving their overall record to 9-9 and 2-1 in the conference for the season, where they currently



Sara Kamber/Behrend Beacon

Women's volleyball prepares to face AMCC competitors Fredonia and La Roche.

stand.

The Lady Lions have spent this past week in practice preparing for upcoming games against Fredonia and LaRoche College because in the next

week, the Lady Lions have three home matches, including two key AMCC competitions.

The next match is scheduled for Saturday, October 9 at home against

Fredonia at 1 p.m. at the Junker Center. Also, this weekend the women play La Roche in a match at 1 p.m. in the Junker, which will be the Lady Lions' fourth conference match this season.

Evans said, "We aren't taking these games lightly, but we know we can beat them. We have been trying to improve our offense and I think this week we will see Elaine (Voltz), Karla (Murray), Lisa (Wagner), Paige (Payer), and (Amanda) Butta get more kills."

Also, on Saturday, an Alumni volleyball game is scheduled to be played at the Junker at a time yet to be announced.

The ladies will finish their three-game home stand against Lake Erie College on Wednesday at 7 p.m. in the Junker. This will be the fifth conference match for the Lady Lions this season.

On an additional note, the women's volleyball team would like to recognize their captain, Ashley Ordy, who is doing a great job as the team's leader. She is currently ranked at number five in the AMCC in aces per game and number two for digs per game.

The women's volleyball head coach, Phil Pisano, would also like to thank the many fans that showed up for the Lady Lions' home match against Pitt-Bradford last Wednesday.

"We have been on the road battling all season and it gave our team a nice boost to play in front of their home crowd," Pisano said.

The upcoming home stand presents a great opportunity for students to see how well the women's volleyball team is doing this season and will give fans a chance to show their support for the Lady Lions this season.

ECAC Championship eludes Behrend golfers

By Annie Sevin
staff writer

Last weekend the men's varsity golf team competed in the Easter Collegiate Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championships and finished in 12th place. On Sept. 23 and 24, the team competed at University Park to qualify for the championship. They placed second out of 8 teams at the University Park tournament, which allowed them to move on to Rochester, NY for the finals.

"Last year we didn't qualify for the second round so we've done considerably better this year," Head Coach James Curren said.

In October, the players participated in 36 holes of golf in two days. They ended up with a team total of 654 strokes, which placed them 12th out of 18 teams along the ECAC. Individually, the scores ran thus: Josh Looney - 161; Kevin Gringol - 176; Anthony Pagliari - 168; Josh Hull - 176; and Alex Kiproff - 158. Kiproff finished 12th overall as an individual.

At the qualifying ECAC round the previous weekend, Gringol finished fourth with a score of 73. Kiproff and Gringol, both freshmen, have been a nice surprise for the men's golf team this year. "They've played really well for freshman. They've been some of our top golfers this season," said Curren.

Kiproff seemed pleased with his performance in Rochester, "Overall I played well except for a few holes but [a score of] 79 for both days was good enough to put me in a tie for 12th individually."

"During the weekend of the ECAC's, we went there hoping to play to the best of our ability," said Kiproff.

Even though the team didn't place in the top ten, Kiproff was still optimistic, "I think our team was expecting more as a group...but that's just the way things go sometimes, plus there's always next year."

During the tournament, the weather turned a little sour. On Saturday, the teams only got about 13 holes in before rain and cold temperatures settled in. And that unfortunately didn't help anyone's game that day Kiproff said, "the rain and the below 45 degree weather put an end to many good rounds that day."

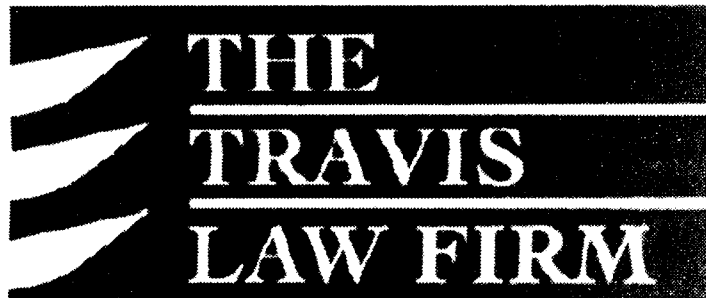
Curren says that the team is really looking forward to their next match.

They will be playing in the AMCC Championships at Pitt-Bradford this Sunday. Overall Curren has been pleased with the team's performance this year saying, "They've all worked hard...[this is] one of the best years as a golf team."

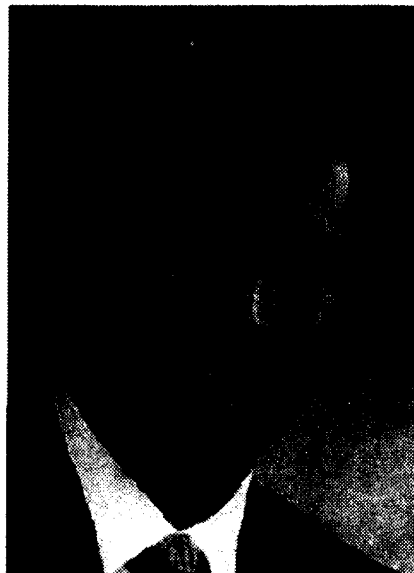
Likewise, Assistant coach James Bowen is also very proud of the team, "I have been helping out with the golf team for 12 years now. In those 12 years, I had the opportunity to coach some very good players and we had some good teams...[but] this is the best all around team of 12 players I have coached."

The coaches are trying to improve the team this year, and so far they think it's been working. Bowen said, "All of our players...get along very well." He also has been extremely pleased with the golfers this season,

"This team takes representing Behrend athletics very seriously...I am proud of all of these guys for the effort they have put forward for the Behrend golf team. It has truly been a pleasure working with these young men."



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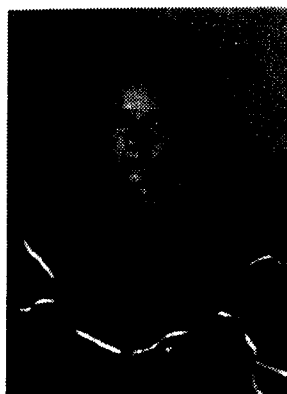
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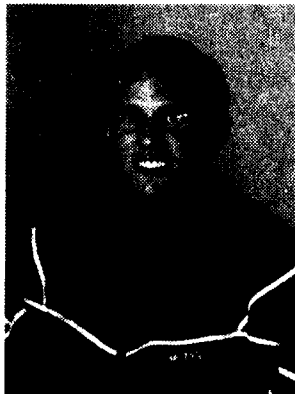
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Senior Spotlight



Christine Leininger
Women's Tennis



Mike Barlett
Men's Cross Country

BB: What are your plans for after graduation?

CL: I plan to get a high paying job in sales, eventually get married, be rich and happy.

BB: What will you miss most about Behrend?

CL: Hanging out with friends, partying, going to bars, athletic formals, my roommates, crazy times with bia and using George Foreman.

BB: What are your favorite memories from your sport?

CL: Launching balls with Holey, Hooters and Hoover, tennis outfits, Mexican mouse, Ronald, Absolutly, and JRB dance (we haven't won AMCC's yet!)

BB: What is your most embarrassing moment?

CL: Getting beat by a six foot, 300 pound girl who looked like Ronald McDonald.

BB: What are your plans for after graduation?

MB: I am hoping to attend law school to either study criminal law, litigation or real estate law.

BB: What will you miss most about Behrend?

MB: I will miss the atmosphere, I like how tight it is on campus. Everyday, you see somebody you know.

BB: What is your favorite memory from your sport?

MB: When I was selected to compete in the NCAA Regional race, and performed with a personal record. I astonished myself because it was a goal I set earlier in the year.

BB: What is the funniest thing that has happened to you during competition?

MB: Everyday, somebody does something ridiculous reminding us that sports are truly about having fun.