

# SPORTS

## Cross Country looks to AMCC competition

by Brook Dodds  
staff writer

The Cross Country Invitational was held at Carnegie Mellon University in Shenley Park, which is located in Pittsburgh. The weather was once again a nice sunny, cool day for the blue and white.

The men's team finished fifth out of 16 teams that competed. The invitational included 141 male competitors.

Brad Ruffo finished seventh with a time of 27:07. Eric DiLuzio came in 33<sup>rd</sup> place at 28:19, Tim Schultheis finished 34<sup>th</sup> in 28:22 and Harry Balwick came in 56<sup>th</sup> in 29:27.

Other Behrend competitors included: Andy Marshall, Joe Wilcher, Reuben Smith, Brent Beauseigneur, Mike Barlett, Brett Pollack and Rick Holzworth.

The women finished third out of 17 teams. Strong runner, Jess Knapp, took third place out of 128 women runners. Knapp's time was 18:46 for the 5k.

Leslie Gentile finished eighth with a time of 19:34. Claire Manelick finished 22<sup>nd</sup> in 20:21 and Willa Paterson finished

25<sup>th</sup> with a time of 20:27. Leisl Soergel and Sara Lucas also ran in the invitational.

The hard practices have played a big role in the success of the blue and white. Coach Cooper has the men running 6-13 miles, and the women running 5-11 each day.

Unfortunately, injuries have plagued some of the Behrend runners. These injuries have set the team back in some aspect.

"It's just a matter of working through these injuries and getting back in the season," said Cooper.

The cross country team has been running against some of the top teams in the region at each invitational they have gone to this year, such as Carnegie Mellon University and Allegheny College.

So far, the Lion's have split the conference with Frostburg State.

The men have the challenge of beating Frostburg at the AMCC meet. The match against Frostburg at AMCC's makes or breaks the season.

"A top ten regional finish would add frosting to the cake," said Cooper.

## Volleyball sweeps La Roche Improves to 3-1 in AMCC

By Alyssa Peconi  
staff writer

During the past week, the Lady Lions volleyball team has stayed local, playing five consecutive matches on home territory. While the stands of the Junker Center have been filled with supportive Behrend fans, the women's volleyball team has improved their conference record to 3-1 and stands at 10-10 overall for the season.

On Oct. 7, the ladies hosted Fredonia on their home court. However, the home advantage did not prove to be lucky, as they could not defeat their opponent. Fredonia won in four matches, 1-3, leaving the Lions overall record at 9-10.

The ladies did not let this tough loss keep them down and remained fired up for the upcoming weekend match. On Oct. 9, the women played their fourth conference game this season against La Roche College at 1 p.m.

The lions won in three games, sweeping the competition in a very important match in 3 games.

After the match, the ladies' impressive performance evened their overall record to 10-10 and secured a crucial victory to improve their conference record to 3-1.

The women's head volleyball coach Phil Pisano said that their hard work is paying off in games against tough competitors like La Roche and he hopes that their effort will continue to lead the team to victory throughout the season.

"We are continuing to work hard every day, and are hoping to continue gaining ground on the best teams around," Pisano said.

The Lady Lions upcoming schedule will remain pretty busy with four matches in the next week.

On Wednesday at 7 p.m. the ladies will conclude their home stand with a match in the Junker against Lake Erie College. This will be the fifth AMCC

match of the season for the lady lions.

Thursday the ladies travel to Pittsburgh to play Carlow College at 7 p.m.

Over the weekend, the women's team will also travel to face Pitt-Greensburg for their AMCC match this season. The match is scheduled for 1 p.m. on Saturday.

The lions will get a few days off to prepare for their next match on Tuesday at home. The ladies will face off against Allegheny College at 7 p.m. in the Junker Center.

At this point, the women's volleyball season is well under way and they continue to improve each match. The next few games are very important because they are a huge factor in determining the lady lions' playoff future.

"How we handle the next few weeks will have a big impact on our seeding at the conference playoffs," said Pisano.

## Men's soccer breaks Pitt

By Colleen Applebaugh  
staff writer

The blue and white defeated the Pitt-Bradford Panthers on Tuesday in a 5-0 victory. The team was scoreless going into the half. Junior midfielder Brian Blaszczyk found the back of the net within minutes of the second half.

Herbert Obeng and Stan Kaweesi, both sophomore forwards, each had a goal. Junior midfielder Justin Reese and freshmen forward Spencer Frank snuck one past Bradford keeper Michael Ruffino.

The win Tuesday brings Behrend to a 3-

2-1 regular season record and an 8-4-1 overall standing. They are fourth to Pitt-Greensburg in first, Penn State Altoona in second and Frostburg in third.

The men currently have 141 shots on goal, 17 goals, and 46 points total. Sophomore goalkeeper Matt Zirsak has 47 saves, only 11 goals against and leads the conference in shut outs with six.

The team lost Saturday in an intense game against Pitt-Greensburg. The final score was 4-2.

The game drew one of Behrend's larger crowds. Although the game resulted in a loss for the men, a few fans enjoyed the game

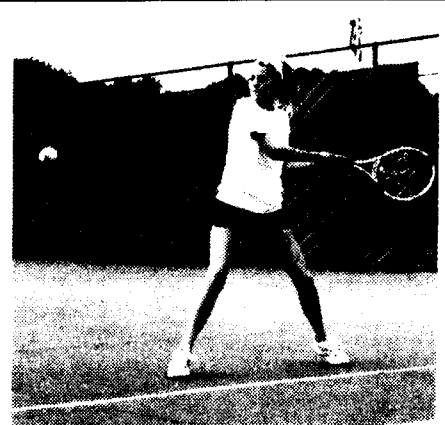
for more than the pure pleasure of good athletics.

"Those guys are so aggressive and talented," said junior Brittany Charles. "They make soccer look so intense, but easy."

The men have stepped up their play and are still optimistic for the remainder of the season.

"I'll be back for more Behrend soccer for sure; nothing could keep me away from these guys!" said Charles.

Next up for the men is a trip to Maryland to play Frostburg this is a huge game for the team. The next home match will be on Oct. 22 against Case Western Reserve at the Behrend fields.



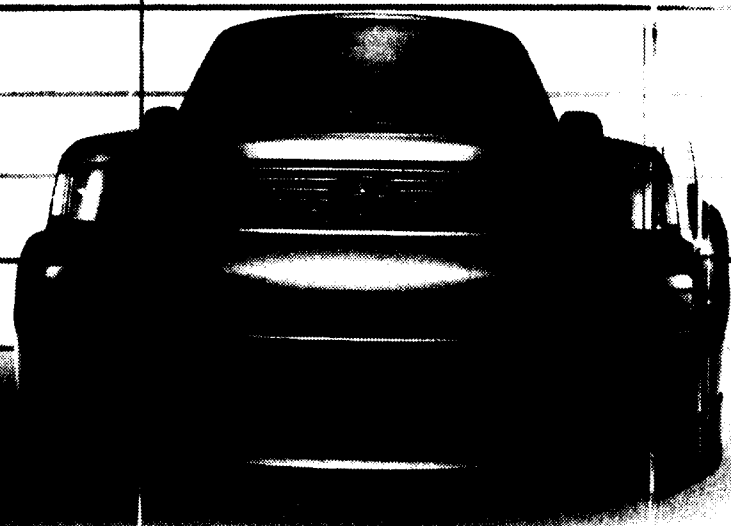
## Women's tennis expected to win conference championships

The women's tennis team completed its regular season on Wednesday with a 9-0 win over Thiel and a 6-3 win over Westminster on Tuesday. The lady lions are currently 14-3 and 6-0 in the conference.

The ladies are favored to win this year's conference championships and will enter tournament holding a number one seeds in every singles and doubles flight. Frostburg will host AMCC's at Penn State Altoona on Sat.

Senior captain Christie Leinginger has lead the team to a successful regular season finish. She will be looking to add to her first team all conference honors at the AMCC's on Saturday.

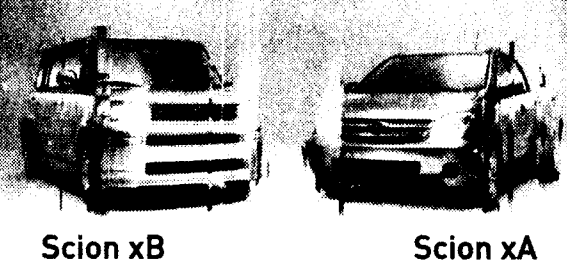
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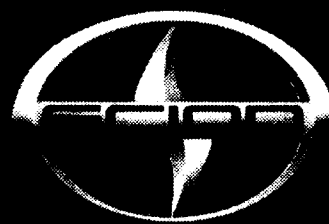


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