

SPORTS

Women's basketball slides to 3-3

By Sara Kamber
Co-sports editor

Your team is down by two and in danger of losing its second game in two days. The leading scorer on your team has the ball with 15 seconds left to go on the clock. She turnovers the ball but with three seconds left, your team has the ball again. A three-pointer wins the game. The shot doesn't fall though and the game ends.

This was the situation the Behrend Lions women's basketball team found themselves in last weekend. In Saturday's game against Frostburg State, Behrend came up short losing their second straight conference game 61-63. Despite being in the lead the last few minutes of the game, a few key turnovers turned the game around. Behrend committed 19 turnovers against Frostburg.

The night before, Behrend couldn't find an answer for Pitt-Greensburg's defense. While Behrend's shooting percentage was better than Greensburg's, the Lions turned the ball over 27 times compared to Greensburg's 15. Greensburg also managed to limit the amount of shots Behrend took. Behrend was 22-50 from the field with Greensburg going 26-67.

In last season's AMCC championship tournament, Behrend defeated Pitt-Greensburg in the finals to take the title. These two teams being the top in the league, they always make for a good game.

"It was because of last year's end of the year performance against them that makes them want to beat us even more," said Head Coach Roz Fornari.



Last season's AMCC Newcomer of the Year, Tenesha Aden (right), combined for 44 points in two nights of play during last weekend's conference openers. Senior Captain Bambi Lewis (left) notched 7 points in Behrend's loss to Fredonia last Tuesday.

"We tend to get more excited playing top teams in our conference. We were physically and mentally up for that game."

Sophomore Tenesha Aden gave an outstanding performance last weekend leading her team both nights in points scored. Against Pitt-Greensburg, Aden combined for 18 points and 13 rebounds. She came out swinging again against Frostburg finishing with 22 points. Aden was a perfect 6 for 6 from the free throw line while dishing out four assists and pulling down four boards.

Senior Amber Krumpe also had a solid game against Frostburg coupling 16 points with 10 rebounds. She shot 50percent from the field and was 6 for 10 from the free throw line.

A pleasant surprise off the bench this season has been transfer student Rachel Slomski. The sophomore is averaging 11.0 ppg and 6.2 rpg. She combined for 22 points this weekend and 19 rebounds.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

"We didn't execute down the stretch like in earlier games. We didn't convert on key free throws in the last minutes of each game, we gave up way to many offensive rebounds and turned the ball over too many times in the last 5 minutes," said Fornari.

Unfortunately, the Behrend Lions took another loss at Fredonia on Tuesday, 56-66. This was the first time in 10 years that Fredonia defeated Behrend. The Blue Devils had four players in double figures to break Behrend's hold over its team.

Sophomore Brittany Mays led her team with 15 points followed by Slomski with 10 points. The blue and white shot much better from the field against Fredonia at 46 percent but still turned the ball over 21 times.

"I think just putting in 40 minutes of good basketball is a focus for us," said Fornari. "We are going to work on boxing out and get back to the basics and hopefully continue to improve."

Fredonia and Behrend could possibly meet again in this weekend's Winter Classic. The blue and white will host three teams in the tournament, RIT, Westminster and Fredonia. Fredonia plays Westminster Friday night at 6 p.m. with Behrend taking on RIT at 8 p.m. A consolation game will be played Saturday at 1 p.m. and the championship game will be at 3 p.m.

"I am encouraged by how they bounced back in practice and the energy and enthusiasm they had to get better immediately after losing. We have good character and I am fortunate to have the team that I have in regards to them being good people, not to mention competitive athletes that want to win," said Fornari.

Behrend men's basketball team looking to rebound

By Bryan L. Spry
staff writer

The Behrend men's basketball team has gotten off to a slow start this season with a 2-4 record. After finishing first in AMCC regular season play last year with 22 wins and only four setbacks, the Behrend men are looking to get back into the championship form they finished out the season with last year.

It is early in the basketball season and hopes for another title shot are already being talked about. The Lions stand at 1-1 in conference play thus far, but have lost some tough games to non-conference opponents.

The Lions beat a solid Frostburg State team this past Saturday in conference play and are looking to carry the momentum into this Saturday's game when they host the Blue Devils of Fredonia (3-4) at 8 p.m.

The blue and white have displayed a great amount of talent this year with the play of the team captains, Tom Lulich, Cam Mascara and Jared Clough. Lulich and Mascara lead their team in points scored with 15.5 ppg and 11.2 ppg, respectively. Against Frostburg state, Lulich had 11 points and 4 rebounds, bringing his total for the weekend to 28 points and 9 rebounds. Mascara averaged 10 points again in the conference openers.

Clough accounted for 12 points, 5 rebounds, 4 assists and had 2 steals to lead the Lions in their win over Frostburg. Having a game with those stats, it's no wonder Clough is this week's AMCC player

of the week.

Off the bench for the blue and white this weekend was freshman David Gahan. Against Pitt-Greensburg, Gahan scored 15 points and 2 rebounds in 12 minutes of play. The next night, he contributed 5 points and 5 rebounds.

"We've played some tough non-conference games and with the win last Saturday, we are looking to turn things around," said first-year Assistant Coach James Curren, who is also Behrend's all time leading scorer. In the end, we have to learn how to win games. We can compete with anyone in this league and we will continue to go out and expect to win."

When asked what the coach's expectations of the players were, Curren said, "We expect the team to play Penn State Behrend Basketball. We want the players to leave everything out on the court at the end of the game. We expect to make a run at the championship at the end of the season."

The season is going well so far. We have had a tough schedule to start out with," said Jared Clough, team captain. Most of all we have to learn how to win games. We have to learn how to stay on top after getting a lead and just blow teams out. The players are figuring out their roles on the team and we are starting to come together."

The Penn State Behrend men's basketball team still has eight more conference games to play in the season. The players, as well as the coaches, are expecting to make a run for the championship starting this weekend when they face Fredonia in a non-conference game at home.



Senior Captain Jared Clough was named last week's AMCC Player of the Week and averaged 14.6 points, 5.0 rebounds and 5.0 assists for the week.

Women's Basketball
Winter Classic

Friday @ 8 p.m.
Behrend vs. RIT

Saturday
Consolation game @ 1 p.m.
Championship game @ 3 p.m.

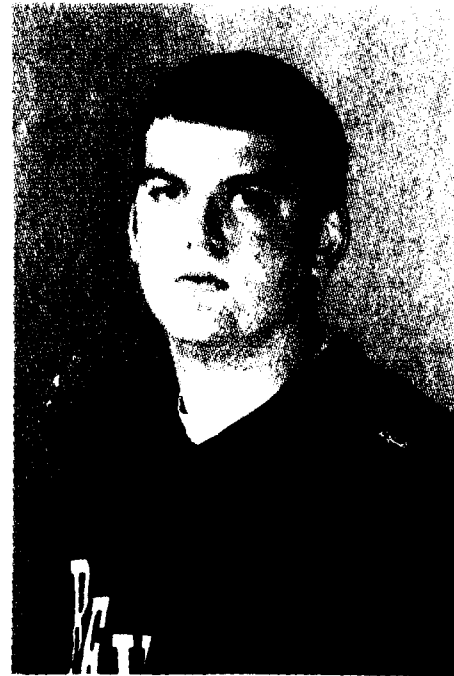
FREE Pepsi cups at the door!

Men's Basketball

Saturday @ 8 p.m.
Behrend vs. Fredonia

Half-time winners receive \$25 to
Ricardo's Restaurant

Housing and Food Services



PENNSTATE
Athlete of the Week ...
Erie

Coming off the bench, Gahan energized the Behrend Lions in a pair of AMCC games this weekend. In a tough overtime loss to Pitt-Greensburg on Friday, he hit seven of eight from the floor for 15 points and two rebounds in only 12 minutes of work. In a win over FSU the very next day he added five points and five rebounds sparking the Behrend Lions to the 50-47 win.

The blue and white will close out the first semester with a home game against the Fredonia State Blue Devils on Sat. at 8 p.m.

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



HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

LIVE DOWNTOWN!
FURNISHED APARTMENTS

ACROSS FROM CAMPUS STUDY LOUNGE GREAT RATES UTILITIES INCLUDED FITNESS CENTER FREE CABLE TV

SIGN UP TODAY TO BE ENTERED TO WIN A YEAR'S FREE RENT!!

RATES STARTING AT \$299/PERSON

Stop by Today!

Don't catch the chill and miss out on the best apartments!!

meridian
on college avenue
814-231-9000
www.meridiancollegeavenue.com