

## Women's basketball loses in final second Swimmers stay strong

By Sara Kamber  
sports co-editor

With 24 second left on the clock, junior guard Nikki Pacinelli came through for her team for the second straight game. Pacinelli made a free-throw shot giving Behrend the lead 70-69. Unfortunately, with 0.4 on the clock, foul was called on Behrend sending Medaille to the line where they secured the victory 71-70.

"If we can play consistent for 40 minutes, it shouldn't have to come down to those last second shots," said Pacinelli. "We have to hit our foul shots and easy shots under the basket early on in the game when we're not as tired."

In the second half of the game, the Behrend Lion's collapsed at the free-throw line shooting 10 for 21. Seven of those missed shots were with five minutes or less on the clock. Over the last few games, there have been some difficulties for the blue and white at the line.

"I couldn't ask for better people to go to the free throw line. In the last four games the players that went to the line I have great confidence in," said Head Coach Roz Fornari of her team's difficulties. "It is a matter of them knocking them down, it is that simple. We work hard to get to the free throw line and often it's a well executed play. The first half we did a good job at the line, in the second half, we didn't. It's not a desire, it's a way of thinking and focusing."

Despite their free-throw troubles, the women did well offensively having five players reach double figures. Pacinelli hit some key three's in the game as did freshman Jessica Serafin who had a career high 12 points. Serafin was 3 for 5 from long distance. Pacinelli is currently one of the top five three-point shooters in the AMCC.

"I am primarily a three point shooter and I happened to have a lot of open looks in the last game because of the type of defense that they (Medaille) played," said Pacinelli. "We have strong post players so our responsibility is to work the ball into them, but when teams begin to double-team our posts, that leaves us guards wide open looks that we have to knock down."

Sophomore Rachel Slomski contributed a solid game in Tuesday's loss, leading the team with 16 points and had 6 boards. She is currently averaging 10.5 ppg (second best on the team under sophomore Tenesha Aden) and 4.8 rpg. Slomski has been stepping up in a big way so far this season.

"I am working hard this year at being a post player. Since I am not very big, I try to contribute by hustling, running the floor, and getting touches on the ball," said Slomski.

In regards to how the team can pull out some wins this weekend, Slomski said "I think we need to relax and play strong the last 5 minutes of the game in order to come out with the win. After a tough loss like (Tuesday's), we have moved on and are concentrating on Lake Erie and La Roche this weekend. We know what we need to do in order to



Sophomore Rachel Slomski led the team in Tuesday's loss with 16 points. Slomski is second on the team with scoring.

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win and that's execute our plays and make our foul shots."

AMCC and ECAC Player of the Week Tenesha Aden sustained a head and neck injury in the second half of the game during a nasty collision with a Medaille player. She did make it back out onto the court for a few minutes after the accident and should be dressed for play in the conference games this weekend.

"I was really excited when I found out I got AMCC and ECAC Player of the Week because it's really a great honor to be recognized with so many great players in both conferences," said Aden of her awards this week. "I definitely wouldn't have go those honors if it wasn't for my teammates and coaches. I've really been pushed a lot more since coming back from Christmas break and the confidence that my teammates have in me makes everything easier. I feel a lot more confident in my playing lately and it definitely comes from my

team."

A return by all-conference player sophomore Brittany Mays is still up in the air; Mays was injured in the Altoona game on January 7. Before Mays was hurt she was averaging 7.7 ppg and 5.0 rpg.

"We are anxious to get Brittany Mays back," said Fornari. "We have 2 losses and 3 wins without her. We miss her fire and energy on the floor." "The biggest thing is to get us back focused on defense," said Fornari.

In preparation for the two conference games at the Junker Center this weekend, the team will be concentrating primarily on fixing its own problem and tweaking a few things. Behrend will host Lake Erie (1-5 AMCC) on Friday at 6:00 p.m. and then La Roche on Saturday at 4:00 p.m. The La Roche (4-2 AMCC) game will be broadcast live on Image Sports.

By Samantha Cibula  
sports co-editor

Division II Edinboro found a strong match against the Behrend men's swim team Jan. 15. With perfected diving performances and strong swims, the blue and white found themselves six points short of a win. The loss for the men drops them to 3-4.

Freshmen Anthony Spoto, Dustin Fairchild, and Dan Wiltrout each doubled.

Spoto, who has proved to have hot hands throughout the year, won the 50 and 100-yard freestyle events. The 50 free was a freshmen dominated event for the day led by Spoto with a time of 23.49. Spoto ended the day with a win in the 100-yard freestyle.

Fairchild had a strong finish in the 200-yard freestyle alongside sophomore Brandon Thiel. The blue and white mid-distance duo knocked Edinboro's senior Seth Murphy out of first and second place. Fairchild came back later in the meet to win the 500-yard freestyle.

Dan Wiltrout continued to improve on the boards placing first in both the one and three meter competition. Wiltrout scored 183.75 in one meter competition and 181.55 in three meter competition.

"The divers continue to improve scoring important points in the meets," said Head Coach Jen Slack.

Freshman Matthew Seiferth mixed in a first place finish in the 200-yard breaststroke, setting a new pool record with the time of 2:21.32.

The women lost 75-135 against Edinboro after winning 7 out of 13 events the day before against Mount Union. The loss for the women drops their record to 1-6.

The blue and white gathered first place points from freshman Cyndi Morales, sophomore Whitney Marshall, and senior diver Catherine Wiltrout.

Morales continued dominance in the 1000 free setting a new team record with the time of 11:09.86. Morales took first place out of the hands of Edinboro freshman Brooke Heath.

Later in the meet Morales and Heath had a rematch in the 500-yard freestyle. Although the race stayed close, Heath was able to out swim Morales at the end with the time of 5:26.00.

Marshall and Franklin rounded out first place finishes for the Lady Lion's. Marshall continued to work the 200-yard freestyle, winning with a time of 2:04.09. Franklin's improvement on the one meter bored gave her another first place finish scoring 144.50 points.

"The women are swimming strong," said Slack. "On Friday they won seven out of 13 races, as they continue to build depth on the team meet outcomes will change."

The men and women will look for a win Saturday at Frostburg as they face both Frostburg and Penn State Altoona

## Bash receives recognition

By Colleen Applebaugh  
staff writer

The Mid-Atlantic region named Behrend's Dan Bash, MIS 06, as a member of the All Regional 2nd team. The defender is only the fifth men's soccer player in twelve years to achieve this feat. Only two other players amongst the regular season teams made the team with Bash.

Bash recorded three goals, one assist, and was a captain for the 2004 season. He is a solid member of the men's defensive. A third year veteran to the Behrend squad, Bash has been nominated to the first team all-conference for the past two years.

"Bash is a very hard-worker," said Coach Dan Perritano, "he takes responsibility with

intensity." Coach Perritano is very proud of Bash's success and recognition. "This is a well-deserved award."

The Mid-Atlantic Region consists of 58 teams in total. This year only 20 of the 58 had players represented on the all-regional teams. The nomination process happens during the post-season. All the coaches in the Mid-Atlantic conference nominate players. After the nominations are submitted, the coaches then conduct a vote. Eighteen coaches voted on Bash, and based on his play agreed he deserved placement among the honored.

The award is a huge honor for the athlete. It also puts the Behrend soccer program map for talent acknowledgment.



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## Basketball fight for top spot

By Kyle Woodside  
staff writer

Ever been run over by a steamroller unexpectedly? Luckily most of can say no to that question. Unfortunately for Medaille, they have had to say yes. After an upset to at Pitt Bradford the blue and white are back on track with a big win over Medaille.

Behrend has won six out of its last seven games to improve its record from 1-4 overall and 0-1 in the conference to 7-5 overall and 4-2 in the conference. The team is currently seeded third in the AMCC, one and a half games behind Pitt-Greensburg and one game behind La Roche.

On January 15, Behrend dropped a heart-breaker at Pitt-Bradford in overtime, 66-62. The Lions held a 33-25 edge at the half but couldn't hold off the Panthers' rally. Jared Clough led the blue and white with 19 points while Cam Mascara contributed nine points off the bench.

The men recuperated in a hurry by branding the Medaille Mavericks, 85-64. Tom Lulich dropped 21 points on a perfect 8-for-8 shooting (5-5 from 3-point range), J.J. Ferguson netted 14 points off the bench, and

David Gahan blitzed Medaille with 13 points in only 14 minutes of playing time.

Behrend is pumped for a thrilling weekend of basketball at home. On Friday night, the men will tip off at 8 p.m. against Lake Erie. On Saturday night at 6 p.m., La Roche will try to up their conference lead over Behrend to two games. Image Sports will televise the La Roche game. For Adelphia viewers, the game can be seen on channel 12 and Cablevision viewers can watch it on channel 20.

"We're starting to play better," said assistant coach James Curren. "We have a lot of conference games left, so we need to keep up our intensity. Anyone in that conference can beat anyone else in that conference, so we must remain sharp every game from this point on. We have to finish strong if we're going to have a chance at that automatic NCAA bid."

All twelve of Behrend's remaining games are against conference foes; hence, a very important juncture as the second half of the season gets under way. Behrend will look to seek revenge against Pitt Bradford, and La Roche who beat Behrend last year in AMCC's and went onto win the AMCC title.