

Win sparks women's swim

By Samantha Cibula
co-sports editor

The Lady Lion's swim team had the opportunity to show Frostburg they thrive on competition. Jan. 22 the blue and white swam Frostburg race for race. The women landed on top scoring 110 points to Frostburg's 103. The win moves the record to 2-7.

"After a long bus ride to Frostburg we were able to out swim them in a meter pool," said sophomore Brittany Yost. "The win came at the right time in our season. This win gave us a new spark heading into conferences."

The win definitely came as a team effort. Although first place finishes were found by freshmen Cyndi Morales, Melissa Pilewski, sophomore captain Whitney Marshall, and senior diver Catherine Franklin, it was the duo of winning relays and second, third, and fourth place finishes that determined the outcome of the meet.

"We were getting the wins where we needed to and the second, third, and fourth places that we were missing in other meets," said Head Coach Jen Slack.

In the 50 meter freestyle Behrend didn't take first but they took second, third, and fourth. Yost followed by sophomore Cara Ludwig, and freshman Amanda Wiest led the triple point finish. The second, third and fourth place finishes

outscored Frostburg's first place points.

The women also came up strong in the 200 meter medley relay and 200 meter free relay. The 200 meter medley relay, swam by freshmen Emily Bodie, Pilewski, and sophomores Marshall and Yost, set the tone of the meet while setting a new team record with the time of 2:27.91. The 200 meter freestyle relay was the last event of the meet and the quartet of Weist, Ludwig, freshman Ashlee Marchand, and sophomore Alexis Puhala knew they had to win the race to take home a victory. The women won the race with the time of 2:09.84 securing the team win.

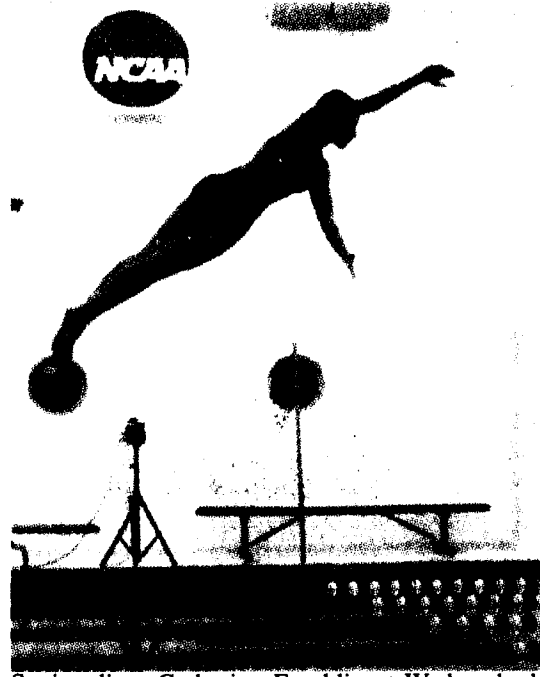
The win was capped off by record breaking performances by Yost in the 50 meter freestyle (30.11), Marshall in the 200 meter freestyle (2:18.91) and 100 meter fly (1:14.44), Morales in the 200 meter Individual medley (2:42.38), and Pilewski in the 100 meter breaststroke (1:22.33).

Pilewski swam the last individual event of the meet (100 meter breaststroke) and breaking the team record was only part of her accomplishment in the event.

"Missy needed to win the event and then we needed to win the last relay," said Head Coach Slack.

Pilewski won by three seconds and set a new record.

The men were able to keep the meet close, as



Senior diver Catherine Franklin at Wednesday's meet. Franklin took second place in the women's one meter diving competition with a score of 155, coming in behind Washington and Jefferson's Lindsay Bridgell.

did the women but fell short of a win. The men lost, despite winning six individual events, 104-122 dropping their record to 3-5.

"The guys lost in numbers, we were missing

Anthony Spoto and a few guys from earlier in the season," said Head Coach Jen Slack.

Freshmen Dustin Fairchild, Matt Seiferth, Vince Brewer and sophomore Brandon Thiel led the men. Doubling for the lion's were Fairchild (200 meter freestyle, 400 meter freestyle) and Seiferth (200 meter individual medley, 100 meter breaststroke). Thiel and Brewer each added a first place finish.

Seiferth and Fairchild also set new team records. Fairchild set a record in the 400 meter freestyle with the time of 4:32.61. Seiferth set new records in the 100 meter breaststroke (1:12.13) and 200 meter individual medley relay (2:24.72).

Although the men and women split, eight team records were broken in a meter's pool. Most of the records were broken by seconds. This is quite an accomplishment since the blue and white have only competed in a meter pool one other time this season.

"The team swam really well for being on a bust for a long period of time and having a short warm up," said Slack. "They did what they had to do during this point in the season."

The men and women return to action in their last dual meet of the season at Grove City College Jan. 29. This meet will give the team the chance to race in the same pool they will be returning to in a week for their conference meet.

Women's basketball hits the road

By Sara Kamber
co-sports editor

The women's basketball team defeated Hilbert 47-44 to extend their win streak to three and improve their AMCC record to 5-4, 10-6 overall. Although the blue and white pulled off the win, the team did not play up to par. With two players out due to illness and the posts struggling, the Lion's did not handle the ball the way they usually do.

"We had a lot going on externally that day and the day prior that I think my team was just a little out of sync," said Head Coach Roz Fornari. "One good thing is we hit free throws down the stretch to win, which has been a big deal for us to close out our games."

This weekend will be a big test for the Lion's as they play the top two teams in the conference and duke it out in a five-way tie for third place. Only nine games remain in the season and the way the team plays this weekend could be a testament to how those games will go. The women have been working hard to be more consistent from game to game and iron out any other little kinks along the way.

"I do like the way we are progressing and how our depth is coming along," said Fornari. "Our more experienced players have done a nice job of taking this team and leading them."

A missing piece of the puzzle was for about two weeks was all-conference player, sophomore Brittany Mays. Mays has suited up in Behrend's last three games and is averaging 7.7 ppg and 4.5 rpg. The team will need her to be in good health this weekend.

"I wouldn't want to be back if I wasn't 100 percent because then I wouldn't be able to give 100 percent on the court," said Mays. "It feels great to be back, I was sick of being a cheerleader," Mays said jokingly.

The Lions will play Frostburg on Friday night and Pitt-Greensburg on Saturday, both games away. Unfortunately, the women lost to both teams earlier this season, back to back. Pitt-Greensburg defeated Behrend 70-60 while the Frostburg game was much closer, 61-63.

"I'm very confident in how we will play this weekend because we shouldn't have lost to both teams the first time we played them," said Mays. "There is a chip on our shoulders because we know we could be higher in the conference if we hadn't lost. We just need to play our game and we will have no problem beating both teas."

Frostburg State is currently undefeated in the AMCC, 9-0, and Pitt-Greensburg is in a 19-0 win streak at home. Neither team will go down without a fight, but a strong Behrend team could come in and shake things up. How sweet would those victories be?

"I like our chances. If we play to our potential, we are as good of a team as any in our league," said Fornari. "I know we are on the road again and with back to back games it will be tough, but I certainly think we are capable. With the way we traditionally finish our season, I wouldn't want to play Behrend in February."

The team definitely has the talent and depth, and with all of the pieces of the puzzle starting to come together, it can only mean one thing: it's about to be February.

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Athlete of the Week ...

DiLuzio took first place in the men's 1600 meter run at the Slippery Rock Invitational and his time of 4:40.01 set a new school record, surpassing Brian Wheeler's time set in 2002 of 4:44.22. DiLuzio also anchored the 4 x 400 meter relay finishing in third place at 3:39.50.

The Behrend Lions will hit the road on January 29 for the Case Western Reserve-Spartan Relays.

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



Eric DiLuzio
Men's Track and Field

Chris LaFuria's Super Bowl Preview
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