

Men's Basketball lights it up

By Kyle Woodside
staff writer

"There really are only two plays: Romeo and Juliet, and putting the darn ball in the basket," former Oklahoma City Coach Abe Lemons once said. The men's basketball team could care less about Shakespeare.

Great shooting of late has kept Behrend on a hot streak. In two wins last weekend over Mount Aloysius and Penn State Altoona and one on Tuesday against Hilbert, the Lions out shot their opponents 53 percent to 34 percent from the field.

On Friday night, Mount Aloysius tried to climb their way up in the AMCC standings by full court pressing Behrend for the majority of the game, which was Mascot Night. Unfortunately, the AMCC seemed like Mount Everest on this night. Behrend was in control the whole game, and emerged as a 91-65 victor.

Four players for Behrend scored in double figures. Senior Jared Clough had 24 points, senior Tom Lulich netted 14, junior Doug Merski added 13, and freshman David Gahan chipped in with 12. Everyone got to see playing time for the Lions.

On Saturday afternoon, which was Behrend's second annual Homecoming game, the Lions picked up right where they left off the previous night and defeated Penn State Altoona, 62-32. JJ Ferguson led the charges with 16 points off the bench. Gahan and Lulich had 12 and 11 points, respectively.

"We wanted to control the pace of Friday's game," junior guard Justin Jennings said. "We didn't let them get any good looks from three-point range, which is Mount Aloysius's strength. On Saturday, we had to face one of the hottest teams in the conference right now [Altoona]. They are hot because they recently got some suspended players back such as Tyler Franklin, who scored 41 points the other night. We held him in check along with everyone else."

On Tuesday night, the Hilbert Hawks came to town in hopes of making Behrend look like a mouse squeezed between their talons. They found a poisonous snake instead. The Lions



Rob Frank/Behrend Beacon

Freshman Kevin Buczynski makes an easy lay up as Penn State Altoona's Evan Thompson looks on. Buczynski has averaged 12 ppg over Behrend's last two games.

emerged as winners, 69-54. Kevin Buczynski was perfect from the field (7-7) and free throw line (2-2) and led the way with 16 points. Merski nailed five of six three-point attempts in a 15-point effort.

"We knew it was a big game," said Merski. "Hilbert's underrated and very capable of winning. We knew we had to come out and play hard and we did."

"The last three games, we have gotten con-

tributions from everyone," senior guard Joe Lucas said. "Some nights you just don't have the energy and the legs to play well. It's nice that other guys on the team have picked up the slack when that has happened."

Behrend's next game is at home versus Pitt-Bradford at 8 p.m. this Saturday night. Pitt-Bradford defeated the Lions in overtime the last time these two squads faced off and Behrend hopes for some sweet revenge.

Women find their groove, hit three game win streak

By Sara Kamber
co-sports editor

The women's basketball team is on a three-game winning streak and has won each of those games by at least 14 points. In their latest game versus Hilbert last Tuesday, the Lion's tore apart the Hawks taking the win by 18 points. 12 players posted numbers on the board for Behrend.

"I was really happy with our stat line for the game," said Head Coach Roz Fornari, who notched her 200th win during Saturday's game against Penn State Altoona. "I get all crazed during the game but the reality of the game was that we did a good job with our strengths and played hard. I like how we are playing right now; it's a little balanced and a little smarter."

With the win over Hilbert, Behrend is tied for fourth in the AMCC with Pitt-Bradford, who, coincidentally, is this Saturday's opponent. The last time the two team's met up, Behrend won by a bucket. Sophomore Tenesha Aden had a game high 23 points and 7 rebounds but Bradford was able to keep it tight.

"This time I would like to see us do a better job containing from the top with penetration and to rebound better," said Fornari. "We gave up a couple of big rebounds last game off free-throws which hurt us. I would look for us to be more active and rotate better to help on drives."

The second time around, Pitt-Bradford will see a different Behrend team. When they

met the first time this season, Behrend was straightening out some free-throw issues as well as a few other kinks. The blue and white were also without sophomore Brittany Mays. Aden and junior Nikki Pacinelli were the only players able to break double figures against Bradford.

"We didn't go to our strengths enough in the last game we played against them," said Fornari. "We will get our team focused and get our game plan set. Our players do a good job with preparing."

One of Behrend's strengths might continue to be out of the game. Senior Amber Krumpe is "hopeful" for Saturday's game and might make it on the floor to play restricted minutes.

Saturday's game against Pitt-Bradford also serves as Senior Night, when the team will honor their two seniors Krumpe and Bambi Lewis. If the team can pull out another win and increase their streak to four, they have a chance to host an AMCC tournament playoff game.

"I'm excited for my seniors to have Saturday be such a big game for them in regards to its meaning in the conference and for them in general," said Fornari. "A win would give them one more game at home and that would be a nice gift for them."

The women will take on Pitt-Bradford at 6 p.m. on Saturday. Besides being Senior Night, it will also be Alumni Day. Alumni are welcomed back to compete against each other in a 4 p.m. game.

Housing and Food Services



Liesl Soergel
Freshman
Women's Track and Field

Athlete of the Week

At the Mount Union Invitational, Soergel took one first place and two second place finishes while breaking two school records. Soergel finished first in the women's 500 meter dash with a time of 1:23.00. With this time, she broke Jen Smialek's record of 1:23.60. In the 4 x 400 meter relay, Soergel, along with teammates Erica Smith, Claire Manelick and Nicole Mineweaser, set a new record of 4:22.30, which was good for second. Soergel also took second in the 1000 meter run.

The Behrend Lions will head back to Mount Union Feb. 26.

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

Sign up for Intramural Swimming! Deadline is Feb. 18 @ 4 p.m. sign up at the front desk or online! Swimming will take place on Feb. 24 @ 8 p.m. in the Junker pool. Events include the 50 freestyle, breaststroke, butterfly and backstroke, 400 freestyle, 200 medley relay (back, breast, butterfly and free), 100 freestyle relay, 200 coed freestyle relay and 200 coed medley relay (back, breast, butterfly and free)

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