

Men's water polo loses heartbreaker against Mercyhurst

By Kyle Woodside
staff writer

Have you ever had something within your grasp, but had it taken away at the last second? We've all been in that situation and the Behrend men's water polo team was too on Wednesday night in their home opener vs. one of their Eric rivals, Mercyhurst College.

It was only appropriate that the pool area was at an extremely high temperature, as this rivalry between Behrend and Mercyhurst has been very heated over the years. In a seesaw-like battle with the Lakers, The Lions were holding on to a 7-6 lead with four seconds left in the match when Mercyhurst scored, forcing double overtime. Water polo matches hold two overtime sessions

regardless of the outcome of the first overtime session.

The Lakers scored the first three goals of overtime and the Lions countered with two goals of their own, closing the gap to 10-9. However, Mercyhurst sealed the victory with a goal near the end of the second overtime to prevail, 11-9.

Controversial foul calls in the second overtime seemed to get the crowd riled up as well as the Lions. A couple of 20-second ejections were called on Behrend, which put Mercyhurst on the power play and helped them put the game out of reach near the end with their eleventh goal.

Andre Prancevicius led the Lions with four goals. Roy Cho and Anthony Spoto had two goals each and captain Steve Schleicher also added a tally. Conor Powers made seven saves in goal and

Leandro Azevedo made six saves.

"The flow of the game was pretty equal until overtime where it seemed that Mercyhurst totally dominated," said a Behrend fan. "I don't understand the game of water polo that well, but it was exciting. The crowd seemed to be getting really into it, as was I."

Behrend also traveled to Redlands, California last weekend for five games in the Inland Empire Classic. The Lions played hard, and finished the tournament with a 1-4 overall mark.

In the first game, tenth ranked Chapman College squeaked out a victory in overtime, 13-12. Cho led the way with five goals and five steals. Spoto had four goals, while Prancevicius found the back of the net twice and Rodolphe Acelor also netted a goal.

The next day, Behrend faced the top-ranked Division III team, Redlands, and lost, 19-6. Behrend recovered by defeating Cal Tech in the next game, 11-6. The next two games were also against nationally-ranked squads. In their fourth game of the tournament, Behrend was blanked in the fourth quarter to fall to Claremont, 12-6. La Verne decisively defeated the Lions in the final contest, 14-5.

The team's overall record is now 1-7 and looks to improve upon that mark at Slippery Rock on Saturday night at 7 p.m. and at W&J on Sunday afternoon at noon. The team also is slated to face their other main rival, Gannon, on September 21 at 7 p.m.

For more information on the team, visit www.psbwaterpolo.com.

Women's soccer continue to roll

By Kelly Houghton
sports writer

It doesn't take a Penn State engineer to calculate what is necessary for a team to be victorious. Attempt this question for starters: What do you get when you combine 21 tough female athletes, a soccer field, a timid rival and remarkable teamwork? Only one thing comes to my fraction frightened head and that's nothing but glory, hollers and cheers.

Your white and blue hit the field hard again Tuesday night, in a non-conference game against powerhouse Carnegie Mellon. Although a definite win wasn't celebrated on the bus ride home, a tie provided the team with plenty to cheer about. It was a game spotlighting defense at its finest, with a final score of 0-0 in double overtime. The tie brought the ladies' record to 3-1-1, where senior goalkeeper Colleen Applebaugh believes they are "sitting pretty." Applebaugh emphasized that the team played "disciplined soccer" with tremendous heart during Tuesday's competition. She also deemed the tie against Carnegie Mellon as a colossal motivator for the team. "We have never tied or beat Carnegie Mellon.

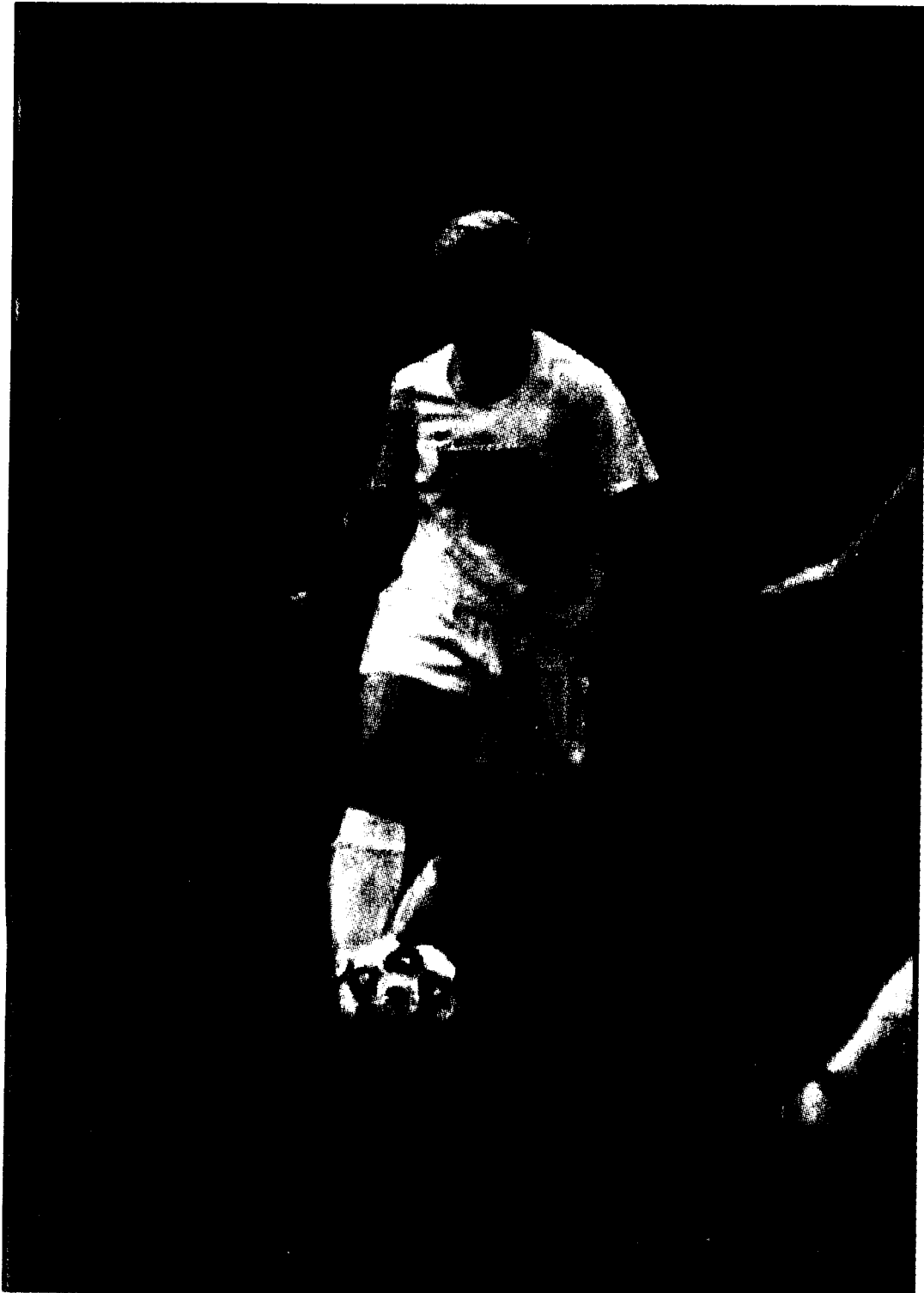
It's a huge step in Behrend's program," Applebaugh said as she emphasized that the essence of teamwork found on this year's squad is an explanation for their recent success. Their compatibility and strong fundamental skills give them

an edge over all competitors. If the team moral remains skyrocketed, as it currently is, there will be a season in the making that you won't want to miss. When sophomore defender Emily Rogan was asked about her expectations for the season, there wasn't any uncertainty as she stated, "I think we're going to win the conference."

Applebaugh couldn't help but enhance Rogan's words regarding a conference championship by exclaiming, "I feel it in my fingers! I feel it in my toes!"

The ladies will travel this Saturday to Mt. Union, where they will battle against a squad that is returning seven starters and who concluded their 2004 season with a conference record of 4-4-1. If Behrend continues playing disciplined soccer, they should have little trouble being triumphant.

Next week will also deliver a home contest for our women's soccer team. Our own blue and white will be playing for you live and local from Behrend's fields against a tough Allegheny team, who finished last season with a conference record of 4-4. A victory against the blue and gold Gators of Meadville, PA, who are returning eight starters and 22 letter winners, would prove that our women's soccer team is undeniably headed to the top. You don't want to miss this fierce match, so grab a friend and come cheer on your Lions as they fight off the Gators of Allegheny this coming Thursday.



Contributed Photo

Senior defender Stephanie Bowen looks to pass to one of her teammates. Bowen and her crew look to remain strong in their next appearances, improving on their already impressive record.

Behrend women desire lacrosse team

by Danielle Tomasello
staff reporter

Lacrosse, considered America's first sport, is a cross between soccer, hockey and basketball. We watch as the men run the field to score goals, but what about the ladies? Girls have become just as involved with lacrosse as guys have. Goggles, sticks, and a skirt, and the girls are ready to play. At Behrend, the girls have been taking a stand in starting a team for the first time in years.

Behrend girls have been trying to start a team for the past three years. This current year, girls have had an increased enthusiasm for starting a team. Once there is a sufficient amount of girls interested, a team can finally be started. "This year, the girls have been showing a lot of dedication and I think that it is going to happen," Junior Heidi Brackbill said. "There have never been enough girls to start a team, until now," President of the boys lacrosse team Brett Folga said.

With more interest in starting a girl's team, more funding will be available. "We hope to do some really unique fund raising that no one else has done before," Brackbill said. The girls have the option to request funding from the Student Government Association (SGA) and Student Activity Fee (SAF). Folga offered the help of the men's team in hope to have sufficient funding to provide the girls with an adequate amount of equipment and money for

league entry and referees. The men's lacrosse team is all in favor of starting a girl's team.

"We want to see the sport grow on campus and having a girls team would provide a great club for the girls, as it does for the guys," Folga said.

The lacrosse club has included both guys and girls. It gives an opportunity for the girls to toughen up and for the guys to learn different strategies of lacrosse. Starting a girl's team will show the willingness and determination of the Lacrosse Clubs efforts. "We already have a great group of girls and with the commitment of a few more I am confident we will be able to enter a girls' team in the spring season," Folga said.

One day, the girls hope to have an official team instead of just a club sport. "The sport is just starting to gain popularity in the area and I'm sure every year we will get more and more players," Brackbill said.

Girls who have no training in the sport are very welcome to come to practices. The Lacrosse Club is open to all newcomers, willing and ready to teach the art of lacrosse. The boys and girls have a strong team unity, in hope of having a great season and a new start for the girls.

With help from the boys team, funding from SGA and SAF, and the inspiration from the girls, Behrend could be awarded its first girls lacrosse team. With the help of other girls on campus, this team can be made possible.

The Behrend Beacon is still looking for sports writers. Anyone interested in gaining genuine experience working with a news staff, exercise your talents by writing for us. If you are interested, please email Chris LaFuria at sportseditor5005@psu.edu or come down to the Beacon Office in room 10H in Reed Union Building.

Get the signal.

**EVERYTHING YOU WANT,
RIGHT IN THE PALM
OF YOUR HAND.
UNLESS, OF COURSE,
YOU WANT A BURRITO.**

Text Messaging • Photo Messaging • Email • Web Browsing
Plus downloadable games and ring tones • All bundled together for one low price

And now try Signalink™ free for one month
with no commitment or obligation

signalink

CELLULARONE
from Dobson Cellular Systems



© 2005 CellularOne, Inc. All rights reserved. Signalink is a trademark of CellularOne, Inc. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. This advertisement is for informational purposes only. Coverage is not available in all areas. See your carrier for details. CellularOne, Inc. is not responsible for the content of any external links. CellularOne, Inc. is not responsible for the content of any external links. CellularOne, Inc. is not responsible for the content of any external links.