



HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICE ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

NAME: Jason Bem
SPORT: Men's Cross Country
CLASS: Freshman
DATE: October 31, 2005

Behrend's Jason Bem (Union City/Union City) was named Housing and Food Services Athlete of the Week. Bem finished seventh out of 51 runners at the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) Championship, covering the 8K course in a time of 28:35.

"Bem has been a very consistent freshman this year for us. He has been running great races and showed that in the AMCC Championship," said head coach Dave Cooper. Bem was also named to the AMCC all-conference first team.

The Behrend Lions finished their season second overall in the AMCC Team Championship and they will next be in action at Dickinson College on Nov. 12 for the NCAA Mideast Regionals.

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

Women's soccer heads to finals



John Fry/ THE BREHREND BEACON

Senior forward Holly Greiner dribbles the ball past a Pitt-Greensburg defender. Greiner and her offensive clan scored three goals in the semi-finals Wednesday.



John Fry/ THE BREHREND BEACON

A cluster of Behrend women stride down the field looking to add to the goal total. The blue and white controlled the ball for the majority of the game and maintained defense.



John Fry/ THE BREHREND BEACON

TEAM LEADERS (As of Nov 2):

Goals: Holly Greiner 14
Assists: Kara Struck 8
Points: Holly Greiner 31
Shot Percentage: Danielle DeMay .267

AMCC Tournament @ Frostburg

Behrend #2 vs. Frostburg #1 Nov 5 @ 2:00 PM
 November 9, 12-13 ECAC/NCAA Tournament:
 Times TBA

Men's water polo concludes season

By Kyle Woodside
 staff writer
 kdw1008@psu.edu

Have you ever been sick, been on the verge of being sick or been in the process of getting over being sick? How about all three at the same time? Welcome to the world of Behrend men's water polo this past Saturday at the Southern Championships, which were held at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD. The team finished eleventh out of 11 teams competing in the tourney.

"We played the best we could play under the circumstances [of being sick]," said head coach Joe Tristan. "One of our best defenders had to stay at home with a 102 degree fever. Fatigue plagued us and it was a little too much to overcome."

In the first game, the Lions faced the Princeton Tigers. Princeton, a Top 12 team in the country, won decisively, 14-5. Andre Prankevicius scored the hat trick and Anthony Spoto netted the remaining two goals. Leandro Azevedo had five saves in goal.

Next, Behrend played one of its main rivals, Gannon. The Lions clawed to a 5-4 lead at halftime, but the flu bug was no match for the Knights as they outlasted Behrend for an 11-8 victory. Andre Prankevicius continued his hot shooting from the previous game with five more goals. Roy Cho, Rody Acelor and Justin Thoresen each contributed with a goal. Azevedo again made five saves.

The final game of the tourney and the season came against George Washington. The Colonels drilled the Lions with a 15-2 thrashing earlier in the season, but Behrend hung tough in this contest, being down only 6-4 at the half. However, illness set in yet again as George Washington prevailed, 17-8. Spoto had the hat trick, while Thoresen and Acelor added two goals and Cho had the remaining goal. Azevedo had five saves yet again and Conor Powers also made five saves in the contest.

"Despite the fact that this tourney showed the cookie crumbling on our season, we had the best season in the history of Penn State Behrend's men's water polo team," Tristan explained. "The improvement wasn't in the

win-loss column, but it was in the competitiveness of the games. Hopefully, next season we can turn some of the one-point losses we had into one-point wins. It will take continual recruiting on my part as well as a lot of hard work by everyone."

Coach Tristan does 60 to 70 percent of his recruiting in the summertime due to his year-round coaching duties of men's and women's water polo, as well as swimming. The weekends are usually occupied with games, so he has to make phone calls on most nights as well as having the occasional recruit come in person to discuss being a member of the team must suffice.

"I also get to use my Christmas and Spring Breaks for recruiting as well," Tristan said. Gifts and sunny days: how appropriate these two breaks are if a recruit commits to Behrend.

The squad finished with a 3-20 overall record. "If I had to choose an MVP, I would probably choose my two goalies," Tristan beamed. "They kept us in a lot of games. They are dynamic players who made many brilliant saves and who jump-started the offense and defense."

As of November 2, out of more than 60 water polo goalies in the country, Azevedo finished thirteenth in saves with 152 in 12.5 games and Powers finished twenty-seventh with 106 saves in 10.5 games. The two goalies combined for a 49 percent save percentage, which is quite high for a game in which the goalie has a slim chance of stopping shots from point blank range while being confined to moving laterally in water.

As for goals scored, out of approximately 900 offensive players, Spoto finished ninth in the country with 56 goals in 23 games. Prankevicius' late surge placed him thirty-fifth overall with 38 goals in 22 games.

The Lions had contributors in other areas as well. Cho led the team in assists with 15 and tied Vincent Brewer with 25 steals. Spoto led the Lions with 46 kickouts drawn, which are equivalent to drawing a penalty by the other team in hockey.

Congratulations to the team for a hard-fought season and for getting the Lions a bigger dot on the water polo map.

"We had the best season in the history of Penn State Behrend's men's water polo team."

-Coach Joe Tristan

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