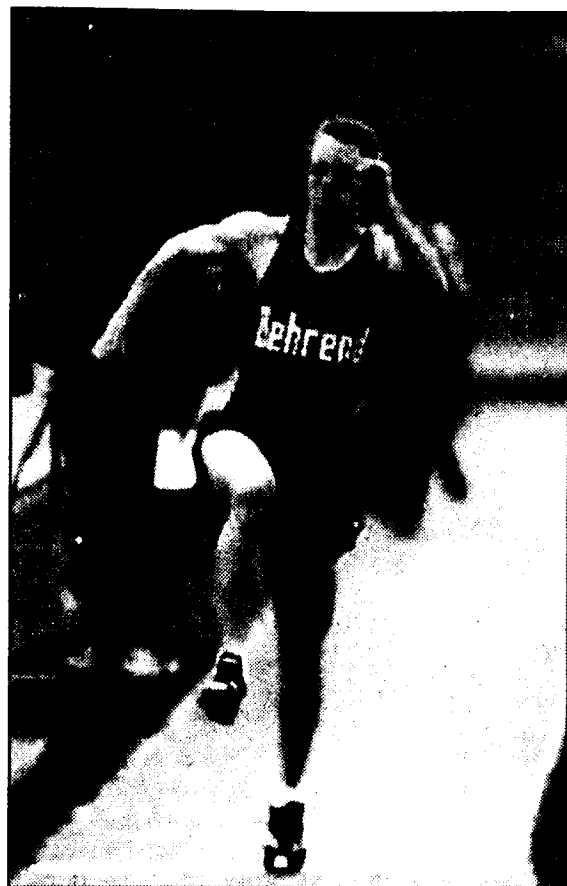


SPORTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Shane Rock and Staci Banaszek compete in their events for the Blue and White track and field teams. Behrend has several players who have already qualified for the ECAC Championships in March.

Behrend runners off to quick start

By Jonny Evans
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Penn State Behrend is off to a running start this season. Several players have already qualified for the ECAC (Eastern College Athletic Conference) Championships which are scheduled throughout the beginning of March. According to Assistant Cross Country and Track Coach Greg Cooper, they recently competed at the Mount Union Open College Invitational, which was held last Friday.

Track member Colleen White is running for Penn State Erie this season. With no running experience in high school, she decided to run track here and says that the season is going well. "I would say it's going very well; we have had a couple of people qualify for the ECAC Championships," she stated. Staci Banaszek is one of those qualifiers. Banaszek has

had a very impressive season thus far. She has qualified for the ECAC Championships in the high jump, the triple jump, and the long jump, and also qualified for the NCAA Championships that are to be held at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minn., on March 10-11. Her 5'5" jump in the high jump at the Spartan Relays hosted by Case Western Reserve University on Jan. 28. Also at the Spartan Invitational, Jon McKinney qualified for the ECAC Championships in the triple jump, with a distance of 43' 1.5."

In a previous interview, Coach Dave Cooper said, "We are starting to make an impact at the ECAC Championships. The 2005 season was our best ever." He is backing up his statement this season as his team has been very impressive so far this season. Coach Cooper and the Behrend teams next meet is scheduled for Feb. 25 at Mount Union College for the Mount Union College Invitational.

Mount Union Open College Invitational for Behrend

Women's Results			
Place	Name	Event	Time/Distance
*1st Place	Staci Banaszek	High Jump	5' 3"
*1st Place	Kim Chapman	500m	1:23.59
2nd Place	Leisl Soergel	500m	1:24.33
2nd Place	Jenny Bailey	3000m	11:10.15
***2nd Place	Staci Banaszek	Triple Jump	36' 0"
3rd Place	Giuliano, Soergel,		
	Chapman, Kremm	4x400m Relay	4:19.39
*4th Place	Staci Banaszek	Long Jump	16' 7.5"
5th Place	Kim Chapman	55m Hurdles	-9.47
7th Place	Jaylan Giuliano	400m	63.95
8th Place	Lauren Kremm	Long Jump	16' 1"
* - indicates this participant has qualified for the ECAC Championships scheduled for March 3rd-4th. *** - indicates that it is a new Behrend record.			
Men's Results			
*2nd Place	Shane Rock	Triple Jump	43' 8.5"
3rd Place	Jon McKinney	Triple Jump	42' 0"
4th Place	Rock, Stuczynski,		
	Choate, DeLorme	4x160m Relay	1:16.73
4th Place	Scheuer, Stuczynski		
	DeLorme, Choate	4x400m Relay	3:42.92
5th Place	Jon McKinney	Long Jump	19' 9"
5th Place	Brad Kuffo	3000m	9:14.58
5th Place	Harry Balwick	1000m	2:44.25
7th Place	Gabe DeLorme	Long Jump	19' 1"
7th Place	Mike Forbes	Pole Vault	13' 0.25"
8th Place	Harry Balwick	1 Mile	4:39.18
8th Place	Dennis Scheuer	55m Hurdles	8.55
8th Place	Gabe DeLorme	Triple Jump	38' 10"
8th Place	Dan Mitchell	Shot Put	44' 5"

Super Bowl XL: game in review

By Dani Brown
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Thousands of people in Pennsylvania got together with their friends this past Sunday to watch the biggest football game of the season: the Super Bowl. With all the food, beer and excitement, who could miss this event that only comes around once a year? This game was more significant to the people in Pennsylvania because the Pittsburgh Steelers were one of the two teams fighting for the ultimate title. To add to the satisfaction that the Steelers made it to the Super Bowl, they achieved a victory over the Seattle Seahawks with the final score of 21-10.

The Steelers started out poorly, and by the end of the first quarter, they were down 3-0. In the second quarter, the Steelers continued to play a lot worse than they had throughout the early rounds of the playoffs. Finally, quarterback Ben Roethlisberger managed to run the ball in for a touchdown, despite the ambiguity of the call, making the game 7-3 going into halftime.

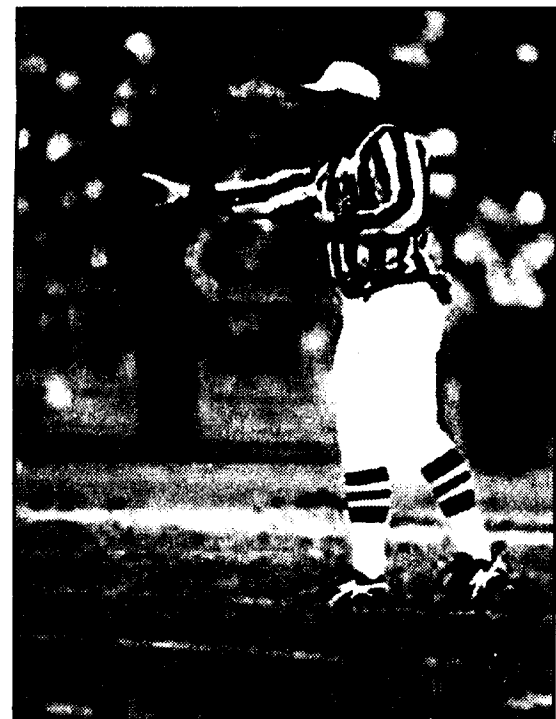
The second half was much better for the Steelers, scoring two more touchdowns. The first touchdown was a long run by Willie Parker. Parker's 75-yard touchdown was the longest run in Super Bowl history. The Steelers' final touchdown was a fake reverse play, ending with Antwaan Randle El throwing the ball to Hines Ward in the end zone.

The Seahawks had only one touchdown in the second half, which was a pass made by quarterback Matt Hasselbeck to tight end Jerramy Stevens. Seattle had many dropped passes and penalties throughout the second half, causing them to fall short in this big game.

The MVP award for Super Bowl XL went to Steelers receiver Hines Ward. Ward had five catches totaling 123 yards and one touchdown. In addition to the MVP trophy, he also received a brand new Cadillac Escalade. Ward has been a member of the Pittsburgh Steelers since 1998 and plans to continue helping their success as a football team.

Along with all the excitement during the Super Bowl, we cannot forget the incredible story of

Jerome Bettis. Bettis, a halfback for the Steelers, won the Super Bowl in his last year as a member of the NFL. He also got to play the last game of his career in his hometown of Detroit. Bettis' parents still have a home in Detroit, so many of the fans attending the game were there to support him. After the Steelers' victory, Bettis said, "It's been an incredible ride. I decided to come back and win a championship. Mission accomplished. So with that, I have to bid farewell." This statement of course, meant that he is ready to retire from football. Bettis has had a great career with Pittsburgh and it would not be unreasonable to say



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

After Super Bowl XL, the NFL and league officials are reviewing the job of the league's refs.

that he will probably be Hall of Fame material in the future.

Super Bowl XL was a memorable one, with the sixth seed, the Pittsburgh Steelers, coming out on top to win the game. The Steelers have had five Super Bowl victories and are hoping to come back next season even tougher in order to make it six.

Sports Trivia 101

Charlotte Hornet point guard Chris Paul is a front-runner for this year's Rookie of the Year. The rookie out of Wake Forest University was born in 1985. Who won the NBA's Rookie of the Year award for the 1984-1985 season?

Last Week's answer: **Larry Brown**

(answered by Mike "Me" Williams and Kara Hesch)

The answer will be posted in next week's Beacon issue. Email your answers to csl5005@psu.edu. The first person to answer correctly will have their name printed next week. Good Luck!

Inside the world of sports gambling

By Dani Brown
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Getting a group of friends together to play poker or watch a sports game is a good way to relax and have fun after a long week of school. But people, especially college students, need to be careful about losing too much money by gambling.

Texas Hold'em poker is a craze that is sweeping the nation. People all over the world are beginning to learn more about this card game so they can achieve what most poker players want, money. Greed is a powerful thing, so even if someone is

winning a decent amount of money playing Texas Hold'em, they will continue betting their winnings, sometimes losing everything. Millions of people watch poker on television to brush up on their skills. The most famous of these programs is the World Series of Poker that is featured on ESPN. Here, the biggest names in poker compete for first place to win a multi-million dollar prize. Other poker shows include: The World Poker Tour on the Travel Channel, Celebrity Poker Showdown on Bravo and Poker Royale on The Game Show Network. As people watch all these programs, they begin picking up Texas

Hold'em skills, and think they can be as successful as the professionals. This leads to many individuals going to casinos or buying into big tournaments and, ultimately, losing their money. Another way many people lose money to gambling is by betting on sports games. Many people cannot control their emotions and begin betting on their team. Once someone wins a bet or two, they begin to feel unbeatable, and then more money is placed on subsequent games. This is when sports betting can become a real problem.

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of your bank account or use a credit card. There are also many websites made simply for betting on sports games. Many of these sites guarantee that you win money if you bet with them. That obviously cannot be true, because they cannot predict the outcome of every game. These websites are just easy access to the world of gambling, causing people to become more susceptible to losing money.

Playing Texas Hold'em poker is a great way to have fun with your friends, and betting on sports is a way to make the games more exciting, but it all has to be done in moderation. People need to realize when their gambling is going to far and take control of the situation before it is too late.

It's not too late to start writing for the Beacon. Contact Chris LaFuria at csl5005@psu.edu and get started writing sports stories.

This Week's Hits and Misses

Hits:

- **Chris Paul** (PG, New Orleans Hornets): The leading candidate for NBA Rookie of the Year, Paul, has averaged 16.2 points per game, 5.6 rebounds per game and 7.7 assists per game. He was the fourth overall pick out of Wake Forest.
- **Johnny Damon** (CF, New York Yankees): After fleeing the city of Boston for the Yankees, Damon bought an entire full-page ad in The Boston Globe to thank the city of Boston for their support. "Many thanks to the great fans of New England and the city of Boston. It was a privilege and an honor," said Damon in the ad.
- **George Washington University** (NCAA basketball): The Colonials are off to the best start in their school's history at 19-1. They sit atop the Atlantic 10 Conference and number eight in the nation. Danilo "J.R." Pinnock leads the Colonials with 15.3 points per game.
- **John Daly, Jose Marie Olazabal** (PGA): Both Daly and Olazabal have had stellar careers in the PGA and have been recognized by being added to the 2006 World Golf Hall of Fame ballot. Daly has seven worldwide victories including the 1991 PGA Championship and the 1995 British Open. Olazabal has won 29 times nationwide including two Masters titles.

Misses:

- **Wayne Gretzky, Rick Tocchet, and Janet Jones** (NHL): Gambling shows its ugly face in professional sports as this trio is under investigation over a gambling ring. Jones was reported to have bet \$500,000 in recent bets. Tocchet has been charged with promoting gambling, money laundering and conspiracy and is currently on a leave of absence. Gretzky, who denies any allegation, has been under investigation over his involvement.
- **Los Angeles Angels and Benjie Molina** (MLB): The recently traded catcher commented about his deal. According to Molina, "The way they let me go without a notice, without calling me, that said a lot. That's what really hurts me."
- **Oakland Raiders' head coaching position** (NFL): It's not a matter of the position doing anything wrong or detrimental; it's a matter of the number of people who have turned down the job. Recently, the spot has been turned down by Steelers' offensive coordinator Ken Whisenhunt.
- **Mark Cuban** (Owner: Dallas Mavericks): After Lakers' coach Phil Jackson offered his thoughts on the poor officiating, claiming that they are scared of Cuban, the Mavs' owner stated that Jackson "must now be considered my bucket boy."