

Women succeed while men struggle in first round of AMCC

By Jonny Evans
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The AMCC postseason tournament began on Tuesday for both the men and women's basketball teams. The women's team entered the postseason with a 16-9 record and faced the 11-14 Pitt-Bradford Panthers. The number three seed men's team, coming in with a 19-6 overall record, took on the 11-14, number six seed Frostburg State Bobcats.

The women's game was the first to take place. Behrend forward Rachel Slomski came out strong, scoring the first 12 points for the Lions. In a back and forth first half, the Panthers came out on top at the half by a score of 30-26. The game stayed close throughout the second half, but towards the end of the half, Behrend gained the lead by two and held on to win 55-53.

Defense was a key factor throughout the game for Behrend. The Lions forced three turnovers near the end (22 for the game), not allowing Pitt-Bradford a chance to erase their deficit. Guard Brittany Mays had a great game all around. She finished with eight points, 11 rebounds and three steals and dished out four assists. Behrend was led by Slomski, who finished with 16 points, and guard Julia Andrus, who finished with 13 points. This was the third season in a row that the Lions ended rival Pitt-Bradford's season.

The Lions will travel to Buffalo, NY to play in the semi-final round of the AMCC Tournament on Friday at 5 p.m. against the top seed Medaille Mavericks. Medaille is currently 23-1 overall and has an undefeated 18-0 in the conference.

The men's game started the same way, very tight all throughout the first half. Behrend led for most of the half by a short margin, until Frostburg State took the lead with about four minutes left and went into the half with a 30-26 lead. Frostburg held onto the lead for most of the second half, until the Lions fought back and captured a one-point lead, 50-49, with less than four minutes to go.

Then, with Behrend leading 52-51, Frostburg sophomore Brian Owen hit a jumper to capture the lead for Frostburg for good. After free throws by both teams down the stretch, the game ended at a final score of 59-54, completing the upset for the number six seeded Bobcats. Center Kevin Buczynski had a game high of 22 points for Behrend and also grabbed a game high 11 rebounds. Forward David Gahan also added 10 points and five rebounds, and senior guard Justin Jennings finished with a game high six assists. The Bobcats were led by senior forward Marcus McIntyre, who finished with 18 points and six rebounds.

Coach Dave Niland described the loss as "disappointing." "Frostburg shot the ball as well as they have all season. They played very well and unfortunately we didn't shoot the ball well. It was a disappointing loss, but hopefully we'll get a bid into the next tournament," he said. The ECAC Tournament is scheduled for March 1-2. The teams will be announced Sunday or Monday of next week.

Support your Blue and White basketball team as they finish up their season!



Janet Niedenberger/ THE BEHREND BEACON

After a successful season, Behrend was defeated Tuesday by Frostburg in the first round of the playoffs, 59-54.



Janet Niedenberger/ THE BEHREND BEACON

Freshman guard Natalie Engel prepares for upcoming free throws. The Behrend women defeated Bradford 55-53.

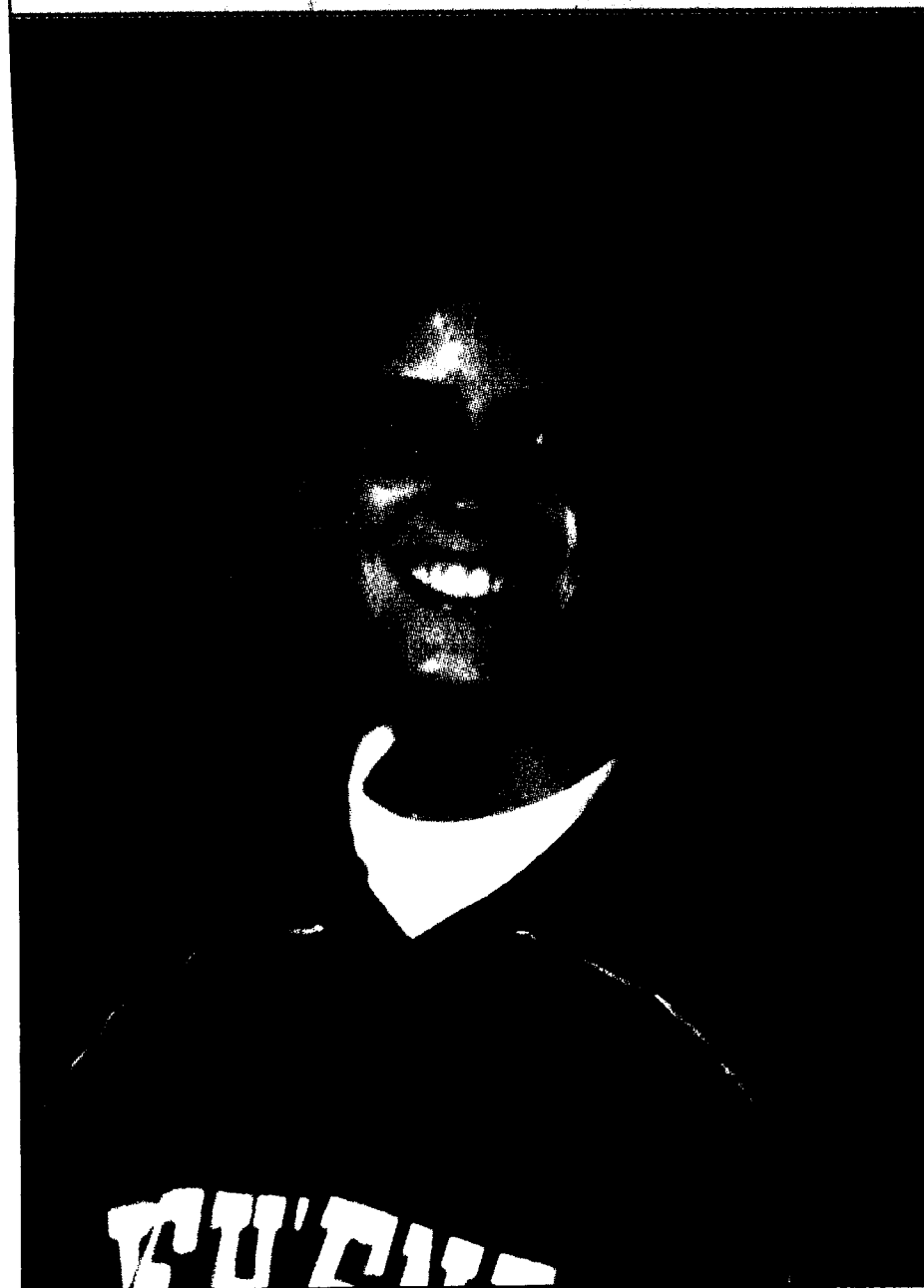
Sports Trivia 101

Duke is off to one of their best starts in years. They are almost as balanced as the 1999 Four Duke, which saw four players drafted into the NBA, all of whom were drafted in the first round. The players drafted include Elton Brand, Trajan Langdon, Corey Maggette and what other player?

Last Week's answer: **Australia and New Zealand** (Answered by Jordan Gilmore)

The answer will be posted in next week's Beacon issue. Email your answers to cs15005@psu.edu. The first person to answer correctly will have their name printed next week. Good Luck!

HOUSING AND FOOD SERVICES ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



NAME: **Brittany Mays**
SPORT: **Women's Basketball**
CLASS: **Junior**
DATE: **February 20, 2006**

Brittany Mays (Knox/Keystone) has been named the Housing and Food Services Athlete of the Week.

The junior guard led the Behrend Lions to a 3-0 week in the Junker with a non-conference win over Fredonia and a pair of Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference wins over La Roche and Lake Erie.

In a pair of season-ending conference wins, Mays provided the spark for the Behrend Lions by averaging 15.5 ppg (52.0 FG%), 9.5 rpg, 3.5 apg and 2.0 spg. Her highlight was a 20-point, 8-rebound, 3 assist performance against Lake Erie. Earlier in the week Mays also helped the squad to a win over Fredonia State, which was fresh off an upset victory of SUNYAC #1 Cortland State. She contributed 6 points, 5 boards, 6 assists and 4 steals in a 70-64 win.

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

Greg Lanich: Olympic update part deux

By Greg Lanich
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The United States fell behind in the medal count during week two of 2006 Olympic coverage. Germany, Austria and Russia have the top three spots in the gold medal count. Day seven on Feb. 17, consisted of a huge disappointment for the US when Lindsey Jacobellis attempted a difficult move in the final round. Jacobellis had the largest lead in the tournament but sacrificed it all and fell, leaving her with the silver and Tanja Frieden of Switzerland with the gold.

In an exciting upset, Sweden beat the States in women's ice hockey. The game went to a shoot-out where Sweden won 3-2. Sweden went on to the finals against Canada and lost 4-1. The U.S. shutout Finland in the bronze medal game 4-0, including a hat trick by Katie King.

Day eight had a great day in curling for the U.S.; a defeat in men's hockey and an unlikely Apolo Anton Ohno bronze. Ohno has only two events left to get the gold medal he came to win. In long track speed skating, America got gold and silver from Shani Davis and Joey Cheek.

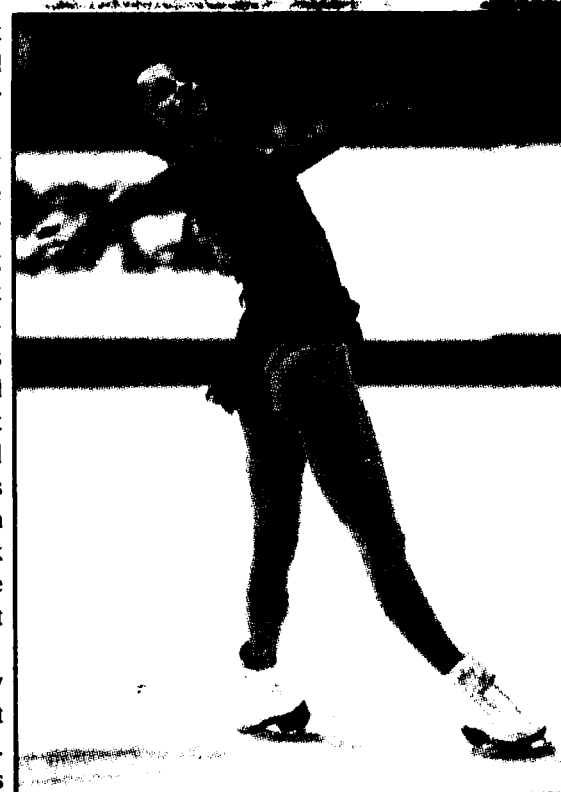
On day ten, Americans Tanith Belbin and Benjamin Agosto got the first U.S. medals in Ice Dancing since 1976 and took home the silver.

Day 11 saw Sasha Cohen in a fantastic performance take the lead in the

women's Ice Skating short program. Shani Davis and Chad Hedrick won silver and bronze in speed skating. Feb. 23, day 13, saw Rosey Fletcher win the bronze in America's only alpine snowboarding event: Parallel giant slalom. It was a huge victory for the U.S. team, as 30-year-old Fletcher and was considered a long shot to make it to the medal stand. Interestingly, Swiss brothers Philipp Schoch and Simon Schoch took gold and silver in the men's parallel giant slalom.

There are still many chances for America to get back into the top seat. Apolo Anton Ohno has two chances in his two best events. 500m short track, and relay. When asked his Olympic goals this year, Ohno said, "One goal was just to get to Torino. Now I just want to finish and say, 'I did my best,' regardless of the outcome. That would be perfect."

Speed skating offers Chad Hedrick, Shani Davis and Joey Cheek, all three gold medal winners already this year, in two more events. The women's 1000m short track remains, as does curling finals, the bobsleigh and men's



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sasha Cohen is one of the bright stars for the United States this year as she competes in figure skating.

ice hockey. Day 13 also showed women's figure skating, with Sasha Cohen going for the gold.

The Closing Ceremonies of the 2006 Winter Olympics are scheduled to be held on Feb. 26, 2006 beginning at 2 pm at the Stadio Olimpico in Torino. The 2008 Summer Olympics are set in Beijing, China and the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

Weekly Beacon Sports Poll

Which of these Top 6 NCAA Men's teams will gain a top seed in this year's NCAA March Madness Tournament?

1. Duke
2. Villanova
3. Connecticut
4. Memphis
5. Gonzaga
6. George Washington

The answer will be posted in next week's Beacon issue. Email your answers to cs15005@psu.edu. Vote for your favorite men's basketball team!