

SPORTS

Cross country runs away with second place

By Matt Waronker
staff writer

Heavy rain, blistering winds and even a few hail stones fell last Saturday. These circumstances wouldn't appear to be the most inviting conditions for any outdoor activity, let alone an eight mile race, but this less than ideal weather couldn't stop the men's and women's cross country teams from earning a second place finish in the AMCC Championships held at Lake Erie College.

"The course was basically a swamp," said freshman Kevin Gorny. "But even with the terrible conditions everyone pulled through and ran extremely well."

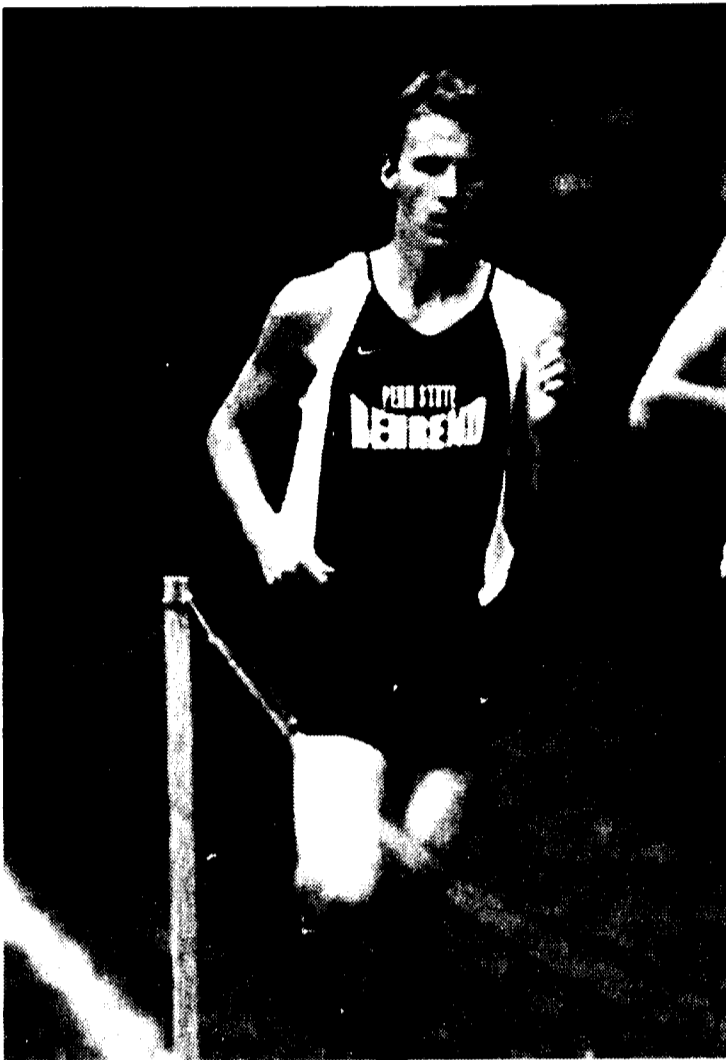
Leading the men's team was senior captain Brad Ruffo who placed second overall with a time of 28:38. Also finishing with strong performances were Gorny who finished in seventh place with a time of 29:23, and freshman Andy Iams who finished in tenth place with a time of 29:37. Ruffo, Gorny and Iams each received All-Conference honors. As a team the men earned 46 points which placed them second in a field of ten teams. Frostburg State placed first with 31 points and captured the AMCC championship title.

Not to be outdone by the men's team, the women's team placed four runners in the top eleven. The women were led by sophomore Jenny Bailey who placed first overall. Bailey was followed by juniors Willa Patterson and Leisl Soergel who finished sixth and seventh respectively. Freshman Lisa Brozewicz placed eleventh overall. The women's team finished with 39 points, enough to make them the runners-up behind first place Frostburg State. Frostburg State finished with 34 points and captured the women's championship title as well.

With the regular season now finished, both teams will begin to prepare for the NCAA

Midwest Regional Championships which are to be held at Waynesburg College on November 11.

Team members say they will do well at the tournament. "We expect everyone to perform well at Regionals," said Gorny. "The team has been having good practices and everyone has been working hard and staying consistent so given the right conditions I think we'll be able to run very competitively."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Brad Ruffo kicks hard to finish strong at a recent invitational.

Whether the heavy rain and blistering winds will stay at Lake Erie remains to be seen, but the team members will continue to compete full heartedly.

Behrend ice hockey turns up heat on Alfred

By Tommy Phillips
staff writer

The Penn State Behrend men's ice hockey team looks to continue a good start to its season this weekend against Robert Morris University (RMU). Behrend has started out with an overall record of 6-3, although all three losses so far have come in their league, the North Division of the American Collegiate Hockey Association.

Behrend fell to Case Western last Friday by a final score of 5-4. Despite two goals from forward D.J. Craven, the Lions were unable to overcome the offensive performance of their opponents. Forwards Chris Simanic and Brian Hammel both added goals in the losing effort.

The Lions roared back from the loss in a big way by defeating Alfred State College (ASC) on the road 18-1. The team turned in an overwhelming offensive performance, doubling its highest goal total of the season which also came against ASC. Forward Dan Thiessen led the onslaught with four goals and

three assists in the game. Craven added a goal and six assists. Forward Andy McLachlan scored three goals, while forwards Jon Romanelli, Brad Alayon, Max Polinski and Simanic all tallied two goals. Goalie Pat Laskey and the defense stifled the Alfred offense, only allowing one goal.

As the Lions try to defend their North Division title from last season, they will need to continue to get good performances from their leaders. Craven leads the team with 17 points, with seven goals and 10 assists on the season. Alayon has scored the most goals on the team with his nine goals so far this year. Craven, Simanic and Thiessen are not far behind him with seven goals apiece so far this year. If Behrend's offense continues to have a good season, the team should be able to come back from their 0-3 start in their league. They will try to take the positive momentum from the last game in their next game against RMU. The game is at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday at Mercyhurst College.

Sports Trivia

The Buffalo Sabres matched the NHL record for consecutive wins to open a season by winning their first ten games this year. What team shares the record, and when did they set it?

Last week's answer: Karl Malone is the oldest player to record a triple double in an NBA game.

E-mail your answer to Dan Mitchell (dgm147@psu.edu) or Jordan Gilmore (jtg178@psu.edu). The first person to answer correctly will have his or her name printed in next week's issue of the Beacon, along with the answer.



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