

SPORTS

Track and field off to a strong start

By Tommy Phillips
staff writer

The Penn State Behrend Indoor Track and Field team is starting their season off strong.

The team gained their first Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) qualifier in a meet at Mt. Union last Saturday. Sophomore Kim Chapman ran the 500-meter run in 1:23.35, finishing third place in the event, and becoming Behrend's first ECAC qualifier this season.

The men's team came in fifth place out of eight teams in the Mt. Union meet. The top individual performers were Kenji Ikeo, Rob Shrawder, and Doug Stevenson. All finished amongst the top five in the events they competed. Ikeo finished fifth place in the 500-meter run, giving the team two points. Shrawder ran the 1000-meter run in 2:47.01, earning four points. Stevenson finished in third place in the 55-meter run, earning six points. He finished the run in 6.80 seconds.

The women's team finished in seventh place out of ten teams in the meet. Chapman's third place performance in the 500-meter run was worth six points for the team. Jenny Bailey also helped the team with her run of 3:19.22 in the 1000-meter run. She finished in fourth place in her event.

Chapman says the team's goals include qualifying for ECAC's in both the indoor and outdoor seasons and qualifying for the NCAA's during the outdoor season.

"Overall I feel that the team is very balanced with



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Dan Mitchell throwing at track & field meet.

many good athletes in each of the events," Chapman said.

The indoor track and field team will be back in action this Saturday, Feb. 10th. They will be at the Slippery Rock Invitational, which starts at 10 a.m.

Men's basketball on a roll

By Matt Waronker
assistant sports editor

The new year has treated the Penn State Behrend Men's Basketball team very kindly. The Lions are 11-1 in 2007, and since their loss to Lake Erie College on Jan. 18, they have begun a new winning streak. After two pivotal wins against conference opponents Penn State Altoona and Medaille College, Behrend has achieved six consecutive victories. The Lions outscored both opponents by 16 and 20 points respectively, and these games were crucial towards Behrend's conference record. The Behrend men, who rank second in the AMCC with an overall record of 16-5 and an almost flawless conference record of 14-1, have established a strong presence in their conference.

The Lions cemented this dominating presence at home this past Saturday with a 77-61 victory over visiting conference foe Penn State Altoona. Behrend leapt out of the gates taking an early lead and entered the half with a 36-23 advantage. Despite a few late runs, Altoona was unable to steal back the lead and Behrend managed to seal the game with a late run of their own. Behrend was led by junior center Kevin Buczynski who contributed 16 points, 7 rebounds, and 5 assists. Also aiding in the winning effort were freshman and sophomore guards Justin Kovac and Tom Newman, who both scored 10 points.

Behrend sustained their momentum, adding yet another tally to their win column in Wednesday night's game at Medaille College. Head coach Dave Niland attributes much of the team's success against Medaille to their quick, impressive starts at the beginning of each half.

"Our quick starts allowed us to establish good leads," Niland said. "Another big factor was Kevin Buczynski. He played extremely well."

Led by Buczynski, who scored a game high 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Junior Doug Straub sets the team up for a play.

points, the Lions earned themselves a decisive 66-46 victory. Defensively, the Lions allowed only one Medaille player to reach double digits in scoring. The Mavericks were held to a dismal 33% shooting for the game.

The Behrend men will spend the next week on the road with two crucial upcoming conference match-ups. The Lions will face La Roche this Saturday and then travel to Painesville next Wednesday for a rematch against rival Lake Erie College. The Storm defeated Behrend 63-51 in their last meeting, handing the Lions their only conference loss.

Winter X games 11 pushes the limit



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Snowboarding phenom, Shaun White, left this years Winter X Games with a silver in the superpipe.

by Jon Diurba
contributing writer

Winter X Games 11 pushed the progression of extreme sports and its athletes to a whole new level.

Many amazing tricks were thrown down this year at the X Games, and they were broadcasted to 121 different countries. ESPN and ABC combined 15 hours of live programming along, with iTunes and Mobile ESPN, allowing fans to watch their favorite video clips. With snowboarding, skiing, and snowmobiling, the X Games had it all.

This year was meant to be Shaun White's 7th X Games gold and his 5th year undefeated, but touching the ground with his hand cost him those records. In the past four years White's snowboarding ability, with his precise landings and super technical runs has dramatically raised judges expectations of a good run to perfection. Judges harsh scoring cost many riders lower grades this year. Riders that pulled amazingly stylish airs and grinds got lower scores due to lack of technical aspect. White's run was textbook and every trick was pulled to the maximum, but on his last jump, he put his hand down to regain balance and the judges scored him without mercy. White only received a silver and a bronze at this year's X Games.

"I was kind of disappointed that Shaun White's winning streak came to an end," said Behrend student and X Games fan Chris Camilleri.

Despite the harsh scoring, all of the competing snowboarders agree that the fun of riding is back now that they are not training and preparing for the Winter

Olympics. In the Olympics, riders are scored by a spin judge, a difficulty judge, a straight air judge and an amplitude judge. The X Games judges on overall impression, and the judges are all pro or ex-pro riders, so they know the sport and they know when someone is riding above the norm.

Because of this judging style, the X Games are synonymous with progression. This year, Chris Burandt did a back flip on his snowmobile over a 110 foot gap, approximately one and a half semi-trucks. Behrend student Rob Helm was amazed by this trick. "I can't believe someone would even attempt to flip a 500 pound snowmobile over a gap that large," Helm said.

The freestyle snowmobile event gave competitors 75 seconds to do as many tricks as possible. Heath Frisby was the leader in the event with a nearly perfect score. Burandt wasn't planning on doing a flip over the 110 foot gap, but he knew that if he did the judges would boost his score, possibly into first. Right after Burandt did his flip, Daniel Bodin from Norway did the same flip but luckily for Burandt, Daniel's run wasn't as clean.

Downhill skiing was more than impressive with a neck-to-neck struggle between Casey Puckett, a 2010 Vancouver Olympics hopeful, and World Cup racer Jake Fiala. Near the finish, Fiala was sent flying through the safety nets after losing his edge in the hard-packed snow.

Winter X Games 11 was no doubt an extremely progressive and competitive year for the athletes and next year is expected to push the envelope even further.

UPCOMING BEHREND SPORTING EVENTS

- Feb. 9-10 M & W Swimming/Diving @ Grove City
- Feb. 10 M & W Indoor Track & Field @ Slippery Rock, 10 a.m.
- Feb. 10 Men's Tennis @ Baldwin-Wallace, 8 p.m.
- Feb. 10 Women's Basketball @ La Roche, 4 p.m.
- Feb. 10 Men's Basketball @ La Roche, 6 p.m.
- Feb. 14 Women's Basketball @ Lake Erie, 6 p.m.
- Feb. 14 Men's Basketball @ Lake Erie, 8 p.m.
- Feb. 15-17 M & W Swimming/Diving @ ECAC Open
- Feb. 17 Women's Basketball vs. Pitt-Bradford*, 6 p.m.
- Feb. 17 Men's Basketball vs. Pitt-Bradford*, 8 p.m.
- Feb. 17 Men's Tennis vs. Waynesburg*, 1 p.m.

*bold indicates Behrend home matches

Super Bowl XLI Fantasy Football Results

	<u>Danielle</u>	<u>Anthony</u>
Quarterback:	Manning (Ind.) 16	Grossman (Chi.) 10
Running Back:	Jones (Chi.) 14	Addai (Ind.) 10
Wide Receiver:	Harrison (Ind.) 2	Wayne (Ind.) 9
Kicker:	Gould (Chi.) 6	Vinatieri (Ind.) 10
Defense:	Bears 10	Colts 20
Total:	48 LOSER	59 WINNER

INTRAMURAL UPDATE

DEADLINES:

Ping Pong - Friday, Feb. 9

Arena Football - Friday, Feb. 9

Swimming - Friday, Feb. 23

4 v 4 Co-ed Volleyball - Friday, Feb. 23

AEROBICS CLASSES:

Monday - Thursday

6 p.m. - 7 p.m. and 7 p.m. - 8 p.m.

call Rob Wittman @ 898-6280 for details

Do you know how to find out if the weight room, gymnasium or track is available?

visit this site for details:

<https://secure.bd.psu.edu/Events/>