

SPORTS

Another competitive year set for intramural events

By Michelle Quail
staff writer
mlq5001@psu.edu

Karyn Thornberry spent a Thursday night playing a game of dodge ball with eight of her friends. The night was stress free and filled with laughter. After the game, she ate a couple pieces of free pizza, walked back to her dorm room, and thought to herself, "Man, college life is the best!" Among all of the things we get out of college, such as an upstanding education, new friendships, freedom, and learning how to work with others, many students find their most memorable and enjoyable times when playing intramural sports.

In fact, intramural activities annually involve more students, faculty, and staff than any other program at the college. What students like Thornberry have found is that the intramural program allows you to become involved, meet people, relieve stress, and have fun. Showing appreciation for your health is always important and intramurals offer a way to break a sweat without becoming bored on a gym treadmill.

High school athletes who have chosen not to continue playing at the college level use intramural sports to play the games they love, without all of the commitment and pressure that they may find in varsity sports. On the contrary, intramural activities

offer a great avenue for anyone to try a new sport they have never played.

Offerings have increased tremendously this year with a number of programs added, such as a 4v4 CoRec Soccer Tournament, Inner tube Water Basketball, Inner-tube Water Polo, Chess tournament, Euchre tournament, Rock-paper-scissors tournament, and an Ultimate Frisbee tournament. Rob Wittman, Coordinator of Intramural and Recreational Programs, says "We wish to develop the program to its limits, that interest and facilities permit."

All tournaments are divided into three divisions: Men's, Women's, and Coed. Wittman says the most popular sports so far have been football and dodge ball, followed closely by 3v3 basketball. The intramural program does offer opportunities for a fun time for any student.

Athleticism is not important, only willingness to enjoy. Any students who are not encouraged to play may also come watch. There is a golf tournament on Saturday, Sept 22. There is a Fun Run on Monday, Sept 24. "Our goal is participation. Take advantage of all that is offered. We welcome and rely on any suggestions you may have. We are here to serve you to the limit of our staff and facilities" adds Wittman. Costs for Intramural sports are \$3 per person charged to the student account.

Behrend hockey laces up for new season

By Chris LaFuria
editor-in-chief
csl5005@psu.edu

As the season approaches, the Penn State Behrend Ice Hockey team look ready and prepared to start the 2007-2008 off the right stride. With top goal scorers returning and a solid core of new comers, the boys of winter look to obtain their first CHE title in their short existence.

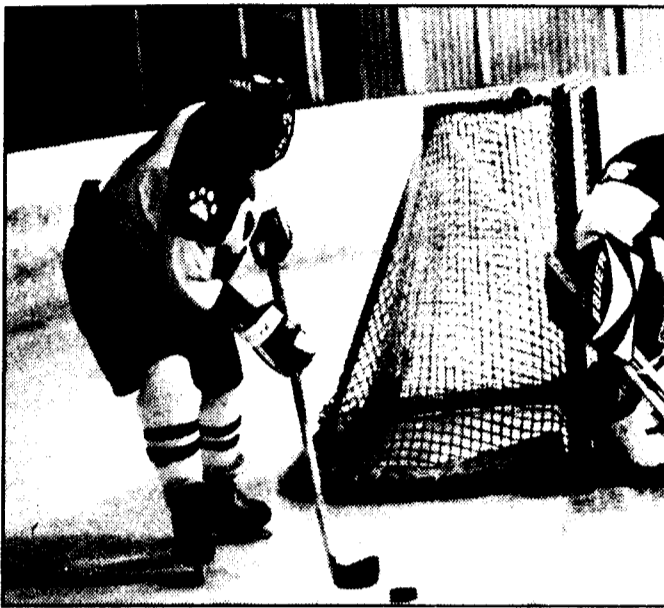
Finishing the season last year with a disappointing loss to St. Vincent in the first round of the CHE playoffs, the Behrend Hockey team have a chip on their shoulder about the loss.

Dan Thiessen, a senior forward of the Penn St. Behrend hockey team says that the team is moving forward from the disappointment from last year. "We have ended our season the past two years by losing in the first round of the playoffs and it's been tough to deal with that over the summer. For all the seniors on this team, I know we would like to go out as champions this year."

For newcomers, the Behrend hockey team, it has been an interesting change from high school hockey to college. David Humphrey, a freshman defenseman for the Behrend hockey team is looking forward to starting his career in the blue and white. "My experience with the team so far has been awesome. All of the guys are really friendly and help

me out any way they can." Being a freshman, Humphrey is looking forward to the new competition he will face this year. "There is a definite difference in the talent level between high school and college. The players in college are faster, stronger, and smarter than the players in high school."

Head Coach Giovanni Duchini is going into his second season with the Behrend Hockey Club. In his first year as coach of Behrend hockey, Duchini led the team to their second consecutive playoff appearance. Brysten Jones, a senior forward for Behrend, has seen the team improve since the



Contributing Photo

Sophomore Chris Simanic looks to score against St. Vincent

acquisition of Coach Duchini. "It's been a breath of fresh air since Coach Duchini joined the team. The practices have been organized and well thought out. He is a major key to this team growing into a powerhouse in the CHE," said Jones.

For the first time this year, the Behrend Hockey club will have two teams. With an influx of freshman and a strong lineup of returning players, the club will have

two teams to represent the school this year. "Having all these players interested in playing hockey is a good feeling, especially since having a pretty big senior class this year", says Thiessen.

The hockey team starts their season off on Saturday, when the team travels to Meadville to take on Allegheny College at 4 p.m.

Beat The Experts

The Beacon Staff will be using their expertise in the field of American Football and pick NFL and NCAA up-coming matchups. We would like to see if the Behrend campus can not only keep up with the minds, but possibly beat the experts. Email asm5006@psu.edu or mbw5028@psu.edu by 11:59 a.m. to enter your picks. Winners will receive a prize from the Behrend Beacon Staff.

NFL	Andy	Chris	Ryan	Muska	Matt
Pittsburgh vs. San Fran	Pitts.	Pitts.	Pitts.	Pitts.	S.F.
Cleveland vs. Oakland	Clev.	Clev.	Oak.	Oak.	Clev.
Indi. vs. Houston	Indi.	Indi.	Indi.	Indi.	Indi.
NY Giants vs. Wash.	Wash.	Wash.	Wash.	NYG	Wash.
Baltimore vs. Arizona	Ari.	Balt.	Ari.	Balt.	Ari.
Philly vs. Detroit	Det.	Det.	Det.	Philly.	Philly.
NY Jets vs. Miami	NYJ	NYJ	NYJ	NYJ	Mia.
Dallas vs. Chicago	Dal.	Dal.	Chi.	Dal.	Dal.
SD vs. Green Bay	SD	SD	SD	GB	SD
Tie-Breaker Tennessee vs. New O.	(+7) N.O.	(+6) Tenn.	(+13) N.O.	(+10) N.O.	(+7) N.O.

NCAA	Andy	Chris	Ryan	Muska	Matt
Penn St vs. Michigan	Mich.	Mich.	PSU	Mich.	PSU
Florida vs. Mississippi	FLA	FLA	Miss.	FLA	FLA
USC vs. Washington St.	USC	USC	USC	USC	USC
LSU vs. South Carolina	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU
Georgia vs. Alabama	'Bama	Geo.	Geo.	'Bama	'Bama
Totals:	9-6	12-3	8-7	10-5	8-7

Can Browns make it two in a row?

By Dan Jaworski
staff writer
drj5003@psu.edu

After a disappointing opening week versus Pittsburgh, the Cleveland Browns traded starting quarterback Charlie Frye before the second week of regular season play to the Seattle Seahawks for a sixth-round draft pick. With Derek Anderson stepping into a starting position, the Browns defeated the Cincinnati Bengals 51-45 in an offensive grudge match during week two in Cleveland.

Off of a huge division victory over Cincinnati, the Browns(1-1) will travel to Oakland to face the Raiders(0-2) for what will be Cleveland's first road game of the 2007 season. The Raiders are coming off a disappointing overtime loss to the Broncos in Denver.

One of Cleveland's four wins last season came against the Raiders 24-21 in Oakland on Oct. 1. Cleveland head coach Romeo Crennel is 2-0 against the Raiders and the Browns have won six of their last seven games against them. The Browns are ranked dead last in defense so far this season, having given up a league leading 79 points, but Oakland is not far behind, ranked No. 28 while giv-

ing up 59 points in the first two. The Browns are ranked No. 7 in offense with 775 total yards and 7 touchdowns while the Raiders are ranked nineteenth with 628 total yards and five touchdowns.

The Oakland Raiders have not won a regular season game since October 29, 2006, when they beat the Pittsburgh Steelers. With Derek Anderson starting to take form along with Cleveland's offensive line led by rookie left tackle Joe Thomas the Browns might have a good shot despite their lack of defense.

Running back Jamal Lewis, tight end Kellen Winslow, and wide receiver Braylon Edwards are all coming off of stellar performances against the Bengals. The Browns will have to show that they can play defense this week, however, and stop the run from Raiders running back LaMont Jordan, who has put together two solid starts this year.

The Browns recorded just one sack on 50 defensive snaps in week two against Cincinnati and must find a way to pressure Raider QB Josh McCown if they want to come out with a win. The game should be tight with both teams playing better than their records show. Game time is 4 p.m. and will be shown regionally on CBS.

Pittsburgh Steelers look to go 3-0

By Jessica Carlson
staff writer
jlc5018@psu.edu

"Field goals don't win games." I hear my roommate say it every week when we sit down to cheer on our hometown football team, the Pittsburgh Steelers. As they fail to score a TD, the Steelers have to settle for a measly three-point field goal.

If you caught the Steelers vs. Bills game last week, you could imagine how many times the saying was shouted throughout my apartment. The Steelers managed to drive down the field four times and fail to put the ball in the end zone. They had to settle for 12 points from the foot of kicker Jeff Reed.

Although the four field goals and two touchdowns was more than enough to grant Pittsburgh a 26-3 victory and extend their record to 2-0, the Steelers will have to face more competitive teams like the Patriots and the Seahawks in the coming months.

The 49ers also hold a record of 2-0 leaving many NFL enthusiasts scratching their heads and wondering how they are leading the NFC West. In two games, they have averaged 190 total yards while QB Alex Smith has passed for 252 yards. In last week's game Smith went 11 for 17, totaling 126 yards, however none of which were touchdowns. He was sacked four times and fumbled once.

The 49ers defense has given up 368 passing yards, however, only allowed the Rams in the end zone once last Sunday. They managed to sack Bulger six times and Nate Clements made one of

the plays of the game when he poked the ball out of a receivers hands just eight yards from the end zone, resulting in a touchback.

On the offensive side of the 49ers, Frank Gore is their main man, scoring three touchdowns in two games. Gore had the defining play of the game against the Rams when on a fourth and 1, he took the ball for a 43-yard touchdown. Kicker Joe Nedney made the 40-yard game winning field goal.

Now onto the Steelers, starting with Big Ben. Last year, after two games Ben had five interceptions, no touchdowns, and a record of 0-2. This year, Roethlisberger has five touchdowns, one interception, and is 2-0, putting the Steelers on top of the AFC North. The numbers say a lot but there still have been a few signs of slip-ups from the young QB. Against the Bills there were a few inaccurate passes that in a much more competitive game could have been picked off or simply had a more dramatic affect against the games outcome.

The defense seems to be doing their job so far. They are ranked No. 3 in the NFL and have held their opponents to just 220 yards per game along with only giving up ten points. Offensive numbers put the Steelers in the top five ranking. With 60 total points in two games and an average of 195 rushing yards per game, odds are looking like the Steelers will come out with another victory Sunday. If this happens to be the case, the Steelers will hold a record of 3-0, which hasn't happened since 1992, Bill Cowher's first season as head coach. Sensing a pattern here?

Kickoff is set for 1 p.m. at Heinz Field and will be televised regionally on CBS.

Do you have a question?
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