Friday, February 15, 2008

BEACON SPORTS

Men's hoops on five-game winning streak

By Ryan Smosna contributing writer

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The Behrend men's basketball team looks to continue their near-perfect leapyear record going. The Lions have only lost one game since the start of the new year and are rolling over the competition.

Last Saturday, the Behrend Lions traveled to rival Penn State Altoona and took care of business. The men again put on a clinic on the defensive side of the ball only allowing Altoona to score 40 points. Behrend lead by seven points at the end of the first half with help from sophomore guard Adam Kaiser. But once again, in the second half, the Men turned up the intensity and dominated each side of the ball cruising to a 69-40 victory over Altoona. Junior guard Justin Kovac continued his impeccable play, scoring 15 points, and did not commit one turnover in the game. Kovac said "in practice everyone plays really hard and that makes our team better." The loss moved Altoona to No. 4 in the AMCC standings and left them in serious jeopardy of missing the AMCC tournament later this month.

The men won a gritty game against conference partner Medaille in front of another energetic home crowd Wednesday, Feb. 13. The Lions came out fired up and with the help of excellent

penetration by Justin Kovac, forwards Adam Potter and Dave Gahan scored easily. The Lions again played a defensive game and at the end of the first half the

score was 42 25 in favor of the Lions.

In the second half, Medaille tried their best to get ahead of the Lions by changing up defenses and constantly rotating players in and out of the game. However, time each Medaille would

digits Behrend the ball and a win for the mens team. overall record sits them had an answer. Junior guard/forward Tommy Newman did an excellent job of stopping the AMCC's third leading scorer James McNeil. McNeil averaged 17.2 points per game going into Wednesday night, but with stiffening defense from Newman he was held to 10 points, shooting and just 25 percent from the field. Newman said "we focused on stopping

of points." On the offensive side of the ball,

him because he is capable of scoring a lot

Newman also stroked home four buckets and finished second on the Lions with 14 points. Once again, Behrend senior center Kevin Buczynski finished with the game

high in points. Medaille had no answer for Buczynski in each half; he shot 9-12 from the field and stroked the midrange jump shot all night. Medaille tried switching defenders and even changing their defense to a zone but to no avail -Buczynski finished with 24 points. "We wanted to come out and get the lead and keep it till the end," he said. They did just that as the CONTRIBUTED PHOTO Lions undefeated home

get within single Junior guard Tom Newman fights for record is still alive and their atop the AMCC.

Along with being No. 1 in the AMCC, the men are also the No. 1 ranked DIII team for scoring defense. Prior to Medaille. Behrend held it's last nine opponents to 60 points or less.

The Lions will host La Roche on Saturday, Feb. 16 and Lake Erie on Wednesday, Feb. 20 before heading to Pitt Bradford Feb. 23 to finish out the reg-

ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



NAME: **SPORT:** Kayla O'Connor Women's Basketball

CLASS: **Junior**

Feb. 11, 2008 DATE:

ions fall to Medaille College

By Jessica Carlson sports editor jlc5018@psu.edu

On Wednesday, Feb. 13, the Penn State Behrend women's basketball team fell to the Medaille Mavericks for the second time this season by a score of 59-44. The Lady Lions have an overall record of 11-11 and an AMCC record of 9-6, putting them in a tie for No. 4 with LaRoche

The Mavericks are sitting atop the AMCC with an overall record of 20-2 and a conference record of 14-1. Medaille shot for 53 percent in the first half, giving them an 11-point lead over the Lions. The biggest drawback for the Lions was not being able to control the ball on offense as Medaille's defense nabbed 22 turnovers and blocked seven of Behrends shot attempts.

Despite the loss, senior guard Julia Andrus had a strong performance. In the past three games she has tallied up 57 points. Against the Mavericks she contributed six points and four rebounds for the Lions in the first twenty minutes of the game. Andrus went on to finish the game with a total of nine points. Also contributing points for the women was senior, forward Anne Priester coming off the bench and adding five points to the score, as well as eight rebounds on the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO The Lady Lions huddle around head coach Roz Fornari during a game.

defensive side of the ball.

For the Mavericks, senior forward Amanda Baker was the player to excel on both sides of the ball. Her exceptional game on offense complimented her defensive feats. Baker was the leading scorer of the night going six for 13 with a total of 12 points, as well as blocking two Behrend shots and six rebounds. Other high scorers for Medaille were senior guard Marisa Clark and freshmen

Amanda Sahhar with nine points each, followed by senior guard Amanda Walling with 16 points.

Medaille is currently No. 1 in the AMCC followed by No. 2 Lake Erie with a record of 12-3. Pitt-Greensburg holds and both Behrend and LaRoche hold the No. 4 spot with a record of 9-6.

Needless to say, Saturdays game will be critical for the Lady Lions as they battle against the LaRoche Redhawks for record of 14-8 and have lost their last two to make it three.

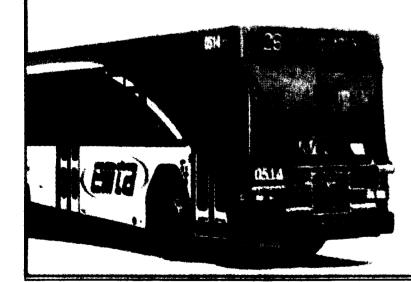
On Wednesday, Feb. 13 the Redhawks lost to Mt. Aloysius by a score of 74-62 surge with a four-game winning streak 7-8 in the conference and 12-9 overall came from the Lake Erie Storm on Saturday, Feb. 9 by a score of 61-58.

Both the men and women have two home games remaining for the season. The women will tip-off against LaRoche College on Saturday, Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. followed by the men at 8 p.m. The last home game for the blue and white hoops will be on Wednesday, Feb. 20 against the Lake Erie Storm. Tip-off is set for 6 p.m.

On Saturday, Feb. 9, the women's basthe No. 3 spot at 11-4 in the Conference ketball team traveled to Penn State Altoona, where they defeated the Altoona Lions 76-64. O'Connor made fourth place. LaRoche has an overall significant contributions for the Blue games in a row. Behrend will be looking and White, posting an impressive double-double for the day. Kayla was able Mt. Aloysius has had an end of the season to add 17 points and 12 rebounds to the and currently are in No. 5 with a record of Behrend Lions offense for the victory. The first of their two-game losing streak The women moved to 11-10 overall with a 9-5 record in AMCC play. The Blue and White are currently tied with La Roche College for fourth place in the conference standings. Only four games remain in regular season play.

> The Behrend women's basketball team lost against No. 11 ranked Medaille College on Wednesday, Feb. 13 by a The women hit the score of 59-44. court again when they take on La Roche College at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 16. The Blue and White will close out the regular season with a home game against Lake Erie College on Feb. 20 and a final away game at Pitt-Bradford on the 23. AMCC Tournament action will begin on Tuesday, Feb. 26.

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	2.25 p.m.	3:00 p.m.	3:30 p.m.
	3 35 p.m.	4:10 p.m.	4:40 p.m.
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