

SPO RTS

Behrend ends season on losing note

By Jessica Carlson
sports editor
jlc5018@psu.edu

Penn State Behrend hockey saw its season come to an end on Sunday, Feb. 24, after a 5-4 loss to Penn State Altoona in the semi-finals on the College Hockey East (CHE) playoffs.

Penn State Altoona got off to a fast start, leading 3-0 after the first period, but Behrend battled back, getting a goal from sophomore Eric Fry early in the second period. After giving up a powerplay goal to make it 4-1, Behrend's luck began to change as senior Josh Grumski scored with two seconds left in the second period.

Behrend ripped off two early goals in the third period from freshman Josh Horvath and junior Brian Hammel, but Altoona scored the go-ahead goal with four minutes left in the game, proving too much for the Behrend squad.

"We came out flat and that killed us," said senior Dan Thiessen. "Altoona was very beatable, but we just didn't have what it took today."

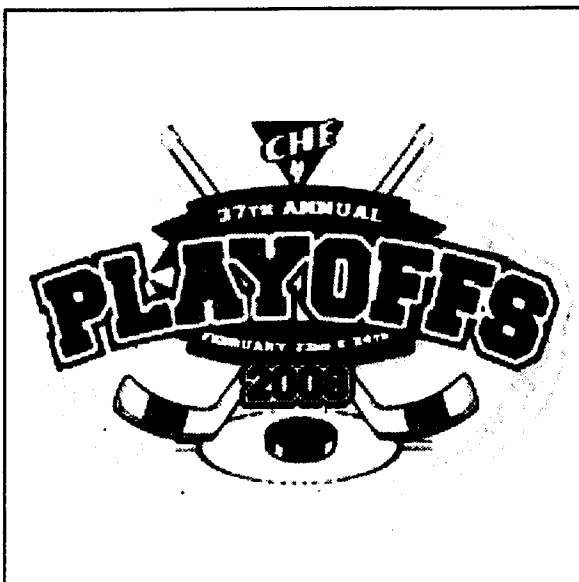
The weekend was not a total loss for the Behrend hockey team, going 1-1 in the playoffs. On Friday, Feb. 22, Behrend up-ended St. Vincent in the first round of the CHE playoffs 7-4. Behrend started off

slow in this game as well, dropping to a 3-1 deficit early in the second period. Behrend battled back, going into the second intermission down 4-3.

The third period was a different story for Behrend, ripping off four-straight goals in the victory. Senior Andrew McLachlan jump started the team, scoring two goals in the third period and adding an assist in the game. Horvath also led the comeback, scoring two goals and adding an assist. Also finding the net for Behrend was Simanic, senior DJ Craven, and sophomore Matt Laskey.

The win against St. Vincent was Behrend's first CHE playoff win in their six-year existence. Even though the team was disappointed in only grabbing one win, they see more wins in their bright future. "There is a lot of talent coming back to the team next year," said senior Brysten Jones. "We have on paper, a team that can contend for another CHE title."

With the loss to Altoona, Behrend's season is not only over, but also the end of several careers for Behrend. The team said goodbye to seniors McLachlan, Grumski, Craven, Thiessen, Pat Laskey and sophomore Aaron Marks after the loss. Even though their careers are over at Behrend, there is plenty to smile about. "It has been a great four years playing hockey for Behrend. It has really been neat watching the team evolve into the team it is today," says Thiessen.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NHL trade deadline strengthens cup contenders

By Andrew McLachlan
co-editor-in-chief
asm5006@psu.edu

Never disappointing hardcore fans, the NHL trade deadline has come and gone with many NHL all-stars changing teams. As the deadline approached, GM's from all around the league were on their phones, trying to make deals that will either help their team in the present or in the future. While some teams made minor deals to strengthen their

team, others went all out to prepare for a Stanley Cup run? Starting off with the San Jose Sharks, who are currently sitting No. 5 in the Western Conference. In the early hours of Tuesday, Feb. 26, the Sharks acquired high-profile defenseman Brian Campbell and a seventh-round pick from the Buffalo Sabres for forward Steve Bernier and a first-round pick. Campbell, who is an unrestricted free agent at the end of the year, is considered to be the total package on defense. With five goals and 38 assists on the

year, Campbell will add to a Sharks roster that was already considered a contender in the West.

Not to be outdone by their divisional rival, the Dallas Stars made a splash into the trade market by grabbing former Conn Smythe winner center Brad Richards from the Tampa Bay Lightning for forwards Jussi Jokinen, Jeff Halpren, goaltender Mike Smith and a fourth round pick. Dallas also acquired Johan Holmqvist from the Lightning. Richards, who has 18 goals and 33 assists on the season, will add another scoring threat to the Stars, who are currently sitting at No. 2 in the Western Conference. With the Stars and the Sharks adding all-stars to their roster, the Pacific Division has an excellent

shot at sending a representative to the Stanley Cup Finals.

The Colorado Avalanche, who is currently on the outside looking in at the playoffs, added big names to make a serious push, not only at the playoffs, but the Stanley Cup. The day before the deadline, Colorado surprised the hockey world by signing former Avalanche all-star Peter Forsberg to a contract for the rest of the season. Forsberg announced a week prior that he was not planning on playing in the NHL this season, but had a change of heart hours before the deadline. The Avalanche also acquired rugged defenseman Adam Foote and Ruslan Salei at the deadline as well. With Forsberg up-front and two hard-nosed defensemen like Foote and Salei, the Avalanche have an excellent shot at making noise in the playoffs this season.

Heading out to the Eastern Conference, the Pittsburgh Penguins shocked the hockey world by grabbing all-star forward Marian Hossa and third-line grinder Pascal Dupuis from the Atlanta Thrashers for young forwards Erik Christensen, Colby Armstrong, Angelo

Esposito and a first-round pick. Hossa, who has 26 goals and 30 assists, is just the scoring winger that the Penguins have been looking for all season. With centers Evgeni Malkin and Sidney Crosby already leading a dynamite attack for Pittsburgh, Hossa will just make the Penguins possibly the favorite to win the Stanley Cup this season.

With only about a month and a half of the NHL season left, teams who are still in the playoff hunt will leave it all on the line to get a shot at Lord Stanley this summer. Time will only tell if these trades will pay dividends for the teams in the end. The NHL playoffs begin in mid-April.



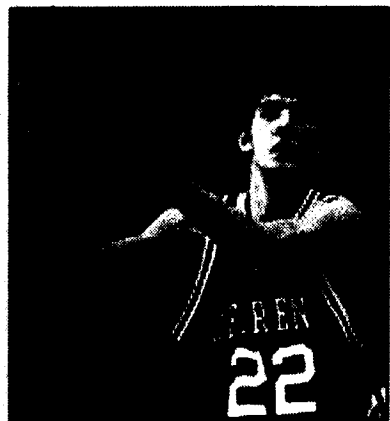
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Forward Marian Hossa debuted yesterday against Boston

This Weekend's Schedule

Friday, Feb. 29

Behrend W. Basketball: @ Medaille, 5 p.m. AMCC Playoffs



Behrend M. Basketball: vs. Penn State Altoona winner, 6 p.m. Junker Center

Behrend Swimming: @ ECAC Championships, Pittsburgh, Pa

Saturday, Mar. 1

Behrend Track: @ Mount Union Invitational, 10 a.m.

Behrend W. Basketball: AMCC Championship, 3 p.m. Medaille College

Behrend M. Basketball: AMCC Championship, 3 p.m. Junker Center

Behrend Swimming: @ ECAC Championships, Pittsburgh, Pa



**Sunday, Mar. 2
No Games Scheduled**

R.I.P. Myron Cope



1929-2008



Lady cagers advance to semi-finals

By Jessica Carlson
sports editor
jlc5018@psu.edu

The Penn State Behrend women's basketball team dribbled past La Roche College to win the first round of the AMCC playoff tournament by a score of 63-49.

The Lady Lions hosted the first round in the Junker Center gym. They entered the game as the No. 4 seed with an overall record of 13-12 and an AMCC record of 11-7. La Roche held the No. 5 seed coming into the game with a record of 14-11 and 9-9.

The Blue and White ended the first half with an eight-point lead over the Redhawks by a score of 31-23. Five players for the Lady Lions scored four or more points in the first half as the team shot 50 percent from the 3-point area and 48 percent from the field.

La Roche came into the second half with a surge of energy, scoring six straight points and closing the gap to just a four point margin for the Lions at 46-42. However, it would not be enough for the Redhawks. At the end of the game Behrend shot 7-

for-12 from the 3-point line and 92 percent from the free throw line.

Sophomore forward, Jenn Emberg had an outstanding double-double performance. Emberg scored a game high 17 points as well as nabbing 10 rebounds for the Blue and White. Also showing a strong performance were senior forward Anne Priester with 11 points and six rebounds and senior guard Julia Andrus contributing 10 points for the night. This was La Roche's first playoff appearance and best season record under the head coaching of Eddie Barton. Senior captain Marlis Graves led the Redhawks with 11 points followed by freshman Jaquaylla Kessler with 10.

The Lady Lions will travel to Medaille College for the semi-finals/finals tournament on Friday, Feb. 29. Behrend will go against Medaille College who are ranked No. 11 in Division III hoops. Tip-off is scheduled for 5 p.m., followed by Pitt-Greensburg vs. Lake Erie. The winners of

each game will play against each other in the AMCC Championship game on Saturday, March 1.



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Soph. Kayla McLaughlin against La Roche

