

# SPORTS

## Super Bowl showdown a surprise for most

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Put a "free beer" sign in a bar window and watch the college students come crashing through the door. Put a ball in Tom Brady's hands and watch the Giants come crashing through the Patriots offensive line. At least that's what they did on Sunday, Feb. 3 as they battled their way to Super Bowl XLII victory.

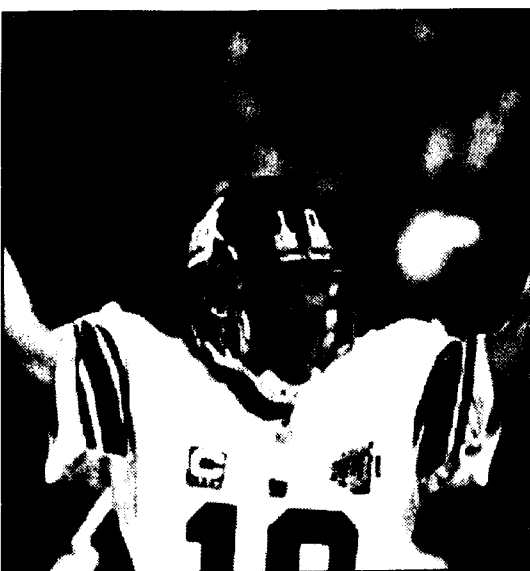
The buzz is still floating about how the New York Giants put an end to the New England Patriots' undefeated season when they upset the favored Pats 17-14. And the buzz will most likely continue for years to come as the game went down as one of the biggest upsets in Super Bowl history.

The 1972 Miami Dolphins can continue celebrating for another year as they go on to be the only team to have an undefeated season in NFL history with a record of 17-0.

The Giants had their game strategy down pat

from the start of the game, all the way through the final seconds of Super Bowl XLII. By winning the coin toss and choosing to start the game with their offense, they were able to keep Patriots QB Tom Brady off the field for almost the first 10 full minutes of the game. The opening drive lasted 9:59, the longest in Super Bowl history, resulting in a total of 63 yards and a 32-yard field goal putting the Giants up by three.

The Giants held the 3-0 lead until the end of the first quarter. The first play of the second quarter RB Laurence Maroney took



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
New York Giants QB and MVP Eli Manning celebrating Super Bowl XLII victory.

the ball into the end zone to put the Pats up 7-3. Not much more would happen offensively for either team for the rest of the first half as well as through the third quarter. The Giants defense held Brady and his no. 1 offense to just seven points in three quarters. The Giants sacked Brady four times and hit him at least 15 other times.

Despite the sacks and high pressure, Brady still connected with his receivers 29 of the 48 attempts for a total of 266 yards and one TD pass. It looked like the Patriots were going to pull off

another come-from-behind victory when with 2:42 left on the clock Brady connected with Randy Moss to take the lead 14-10.

Then, the highly unlikely occurred. MVP Eli Manning took his team down the field in 12 plays for a total of 83-yards and a game winning 13-yard TD pass to Plaxico Burress. Manning went 19 of 34 for 255 yards and 2 TD passes. After dodging what most thought was surely going to be a sack to end the game Manning completed a 32-yard pass into the fingertips of David Tyree for the first down. After a sack and an incomplete pass Manning connected with rookie Steve Smith for a 13-yard gain. Smith ran out of bounds to stop the clock. The next play sealed the deal when Manning hit Burress for the touchdown and the Giants went on to become America's favorite football team; at least until next year.

Do not fret sports fans; the football season isn't over yet. On Sunday, Feb. 10, the NFC will take on the AFC in the NFL Pro Bowl, which is happening in Honolulu, Hawaii at Aloha Stadium.

## The Behrend Beacon Athletes of the Year



**DJ Craven, Sr.**  
Behrend Ice Hockey



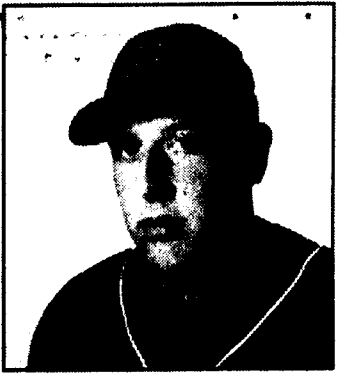
**Kevin Buczynski, Sr.**  
Behrend M. Basketball



**Emily Rogan, Sr.**  
Behrend W. Soccer



**Krystal Kovach, Sr.**  
Behrend Diving



**David Koerbel, Jr.**  
Behrend Baseball



**Julie Andrus, Sr.**  
Behrend W. Basketball

## Behrend misses nationals, CHE playoff bound

by Jess Carlson  
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Feb. 22, 2008

The Penn State Behrend Ice Hockey Team failed to qualify for the American Collegiate Hockey Association (ACHA) National Championship, after going 1-1 in the ACHA Atlantic Regional that was held in Warwick, Pa. Behrend needed to go 2-0 to gain a spot in the championship series, but were eliminated from contention after a 7-3 loss to Farmingdale State on Saturday, Feb. 16.

After a 2-1 lead late in the first period, Behrend let their guard down by giving up the next five goals to Farmingdale State. Behrend would counter with a third-period goal by sophomore Chris Simanic, but it would be too little too late for Behrend. Simanic finished with two goals and one assist in the losing effort. Freshman Nick Winarski grabbed a goal and two assists and senior DJ Craven added three assists. Sophomore netminder Eric Thiessen was peppered throughout the game, finishing with 43 saves.

The loss left a bitter taste in the mouths of the players, but they believe that advancing that far into regionals is something to build off of. "For a program that has only been around for six years and to

be one game away from going to nationals is awesome. I am just glad I could have been apart of it and I'm looking forward to this weekend," says senior Dan Thiessen.

In their first matchup at regionals, Behrend played division rival Robert Morris in a grudge match from the week before. On Feb. 10, Behrend was upset by Robert Morris 5-1, setting up an interesting first round matchup with the two at regionals.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Behrend Hockey looks for first CHE title

Trailing 3-1 after one period, Behrend came back, scoring six unanswered goals to a 7-3 victory. Leading the way for Behrend was Craven, who finished with four goals and two assists. Freshman Josh Horvath chipped in with two goals and two assists and Simanic added four assists for Behrend. Junior Justin Duchini scored the other goal for Behrend. E. Thiessen finished with 25 saves in the win.

This weekend, Behrend will travel to New Kensington, Pa to participate in the 37th Annual College Hockey East Playoffs. Behrend, who is the No. 3 seed in the playoffs, will face sixth seed St. Vincent on Friday, Feb. 22 at 8 p.m. If the favored Behrend squad is victorious on Friday, they will play Sunday, Feb. 24 at 1:30 p.m. against second seed Penn State Altoona. The CHE Championship will be held the following week at the Airport Ice Arena in Moon, Pa.

## Behrend soccer teams win AMCC titles

By Andrew McLachlan  
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Nov. 3, 2007

Move over Brazil and Italy, because Erie, PA is the center of the soccer world. This past weekend, Penn State Behrend men's and women's soccer teams both took home the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) titles, which is the second time both Behrend soccer teams won the AMCC title in the same year.

The women hosted the AMCC title game against Frostburg State and even though Frostburg grabbed a 1-0 lead in the second half, Behrend came back, scoring two goals within three minutes to win 2-1. With the win, Behrend jumps over Frostburg State in all-time AMCC title wins, with six title wins to five.

The now two-time defending champs started off slow, being out-shot by Frostburg 10-6 in the first half. Senior Jess Carlson was not happy with the rough start, but knew that the team could prevail in the end. "We have been the underdogs all year, so there was no surprise that we would have to come

back again in this game too." This is the first time since 2000 that Penn State Behrend beat Frostburg State in the regular season and in the playoffs.

For seniors Danielle Demay, Emily Rogan, Katie Ritchey and Carlson, it was a season that had its ups and downs, but will be looked back on as a lesson in never giving up. "With the start that we had, it was hard to think about winning another conference title, but we took each game at a time and walked away with another AMCC title," Carlson said.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
2007 Penn State Behrend Women's Soccer Team

The girls will travel to Springfield, Ohio to take on Wittenberg University (17-2-2) in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Last year, the girls were knocked out by the top seed Messiah 6-0 in the first round of the tournament and even with Wittenberg's impressive record; the girls, who have won 10 of the last 12 games, have high hopes in the match up. "It's been such a crazy year, so I have no idea what might happen, but we have what it takes to win this game," Carlson said.

The men's soccer team was the lower seed and the underdogs in the championship game, but with heroics from an unlikely hero, the men won 2-1 in

overtime against Medaille and were crowned the 2007 AMCC champs.

The men trailed 1-0 throughout the game and as time ticked away, it appeared the men would lose the title game to Medaille. With 20 seconds left, the men were awarded a corner kick, which potentially could have been their last chance to score in the game. A pinpoint corner kick from sophomore Eric Murillo was connected by a header from junior Adam "Sunshine" Cline, which sailed into the back of the net and sent the game into overtime. In the early stages of the first overtime period, it was defender Cline who would again score from outside the box, giving Behrend the win and the AMCC title.

Cline, who scored his fourth and fifth goals of the year last Saturday, is known for his strong defensive play, even though he is fifth in total points on the season. Cline was named the AMCC Player of the Week and sophomore netminder Dustin Walker was named AMCC Goalkeeper of the Week after their play in the title game. Walker had four saves in the winning effort against Medaille. Head Coach Dan Perritano, who won his second AMCC title with Behrend, knew that his team had what it took to win the section title. "This was a well

deserved win for our team. We stayed focused all year and it paid off."

The men traveled to Washington, PA on Wednesday Nov. 7, to take on Washington & Jefferson (12-6-3) in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Earlier in the season, Behrend downed W&J in a 6-1 victory. Since the loss, W&J has gone 11-1-3, leading to a Presidents Athletic Conference (PAC) title.

In a defensive struggle, Behrend knocked out W&J with a 1-0 win. Scoring for Behrend was sophomore Jerry Tortella, who grabbed his 17th goal of the season, passing Dennis Grace for most goals in a single season for Behrend.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
2007 Penn State Behrend Men's Soccer Team

With the win, Behrend will travel Saturday to New Jersey to face Montclair State in the next round of the tournament. Montclair State was granted a first-round bye after posting a 17-2-1 record and winning the New Jersey Athletic Conference for the eighth time.

The winner of Saturday's Montclair/Behrend game will move on to play in the Sectional Tournament on Saturday, Nov. 17 and Sunday, Nov. 18.