

SPORTS

Women's basketball dominates second half in victory over Medaille

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"I think the team performed very well tonight against Medaille," said Behrend sophomore Amy Oldach. "Just coming off a bad loss at Altoona really motivated us to step up in practice and I think that was very evident during [Wednesday's] game. I think we played as a team, executed our offense in the second half and just wanted the win."

The Behrend Lions started off the game with sophomore Kelly Nowacinski forcing two turnovers which led to a quick four points to put the Lions first on the board, 4-0.

The first half was a back and forth battle as the Lions and Mavericks had a number of lead changes. The score going into the locker room was 24-22 in favor of Behrend.

"The turning point of the game was halftime," said Oldach. "During the half, we talked about what we needed to change and what we needed to do. We made our adjustments and came out

with high intensity. We scored a few quick baskets early in the second half and I think that turned the momentum our way and kept it the rest of the half."

According to Fomari, at half-time the team made a few key changes that resulted in the win.

"Players adjusted well after halftime and made changes they needed to and played a great second half, probably the best all season," said Fomari.

The Blue and White started the second half strong by going on a 13-4 run in the beginning minutes.

With 11:27 remaining in the game, a scary moment quieted the fans in the Junker Center. As senior Ellen Kolos attempted to grab a defensive rebound, she collided with an opponent. Kolos laid on the gym floor as coaches and trainers surrounded her. Kolos was carried off the court on a stretcher by paramedics, and the game resumed play after a three minute warm-up for both teams.

Fomari could not give any information on Kolos's injury



DAN SMITH/THE BEHREND BEACON
Sophomore Amy Oldach drives to the basket.

status after the game.

Adding another AMCC victory to their record, the Behrend Lions were victorious over the Mavericks, 59-47. Nowacinski led Behrend with 15 points while

Oldach contributed 14 points and added three assists, steals and rebounds.

The game was the second televised game of the season for the Blue and White which had a posi-

itive effect on the team.

"I think some people on the team were excited that this was our first home game back from break and it was on TV," said Oldach. "I actually do think it caused us to step up a bit and play with a little more hype than normal. It shouldn't have to take that for us to bring it but whatever works for the victory!"

Over winter break, the women's team had a total of 15 days off and then found themselves back in the gym for a full week of practice.

In a span of six days, the Lions played three away games and went 1-2. On Jan. 5, the Lions traveled to Grove City where their long break away from basketball was shown in the way they played as they lost 58-75.

"The first game back showed that we had 15 days off," explained Fomari.

The second game in the new year was against Allegheny. Behrend won by one point with a score of 64-63.

"We played a very solid team

game," said Fomari. "It was an exciting and fun game to play. The players played to their ability."

On Jan. 10 in an AMCC game Behrend took on Penn State Altoona. Once again, the 15 day break was displayed as Behrend fell, 62-81.

"This game was a reflection of a really long break," said Fomari. "We struggled away at Altoona. Overall we were up and down after we came back from break."

The remaining regular season for the Behrend Lions consists of 12 crucial AMCC conference games. Coach Fomari explained three factors needed to be executed in order to be successful throughout the second half of the season.

"Consistent effort, energy, and hustle are definitely going to be our focus right now on a daily basis," said Fomari.

The Behrend Lions' next game is Saturday at 1 p.m. at the Junker Center against AMCC opponent Franciscan.

Behrend men's basketball team uses strong defense to pick up AMCC win

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with the Medaille Mavericks.

On Wednesday night, the Behrend Lions hit the hardwood with the Mavericks in the second game of a men's and women's double-header.

The Mavericks stormed off early, leaving the Lions in the dust in the opening minutes of the game. It did not take long for the Mavericks to open up a 7-0 lead.

The Blue and White would settle in around the midway point of the half, taking the lead with 12:30 to play. Adam Kaiser tickled the twine from 3-point land, giving the Lions the advantage.

It did not take long for the Lions to settle in defensively either. Coach Niland's switch from man-to-man defense to zone defense seemed to do the trick.

"We changed from man, to zone," Niland said. "The guys did a great job of playing the passing lanes and getting deflections."

Along with the much improved defensive play, the offense also

started clicking for the Blue and White. After Kaiser's three put the Lions ahead, they just kept rolling.

"We created some turnovers and got going into some fast breaks," Niland said.

The Blue and White dominated the rest of the half, going on a 23-5 run to end the first half. The Lions had a healthy 34-15 lead as the half expired.

Niland was very pleased with his team's performance in the first half.

"Tom Newman made some big shots. We were aggressive and it gave us the cushion that we needed," Niland said.

The Lions came out aggressive and kept the points coming early in the second half.

They opened with an 11-2 run in the first six minutes of the half, extending their lead to 46-17.

The Blue and White continued their tough play, but their hot hands quickly became cold. They were struggling to make shots, and the Mavericks began a come-

back.

Over a seven minute stretch, Medaille scored 23 straight points, cutting the Lions' lead to 46-40. With four minutes remaining in the game, it began to look like the game was in jeopardy for the Blue and White.

"We were stuck on 46 forever," said Niland. "They played good defense too."

Even though Medaille had just about all the momentum, the Lions were not ready, or about to, relinquish their lead.

The Blue and White hung tough and stepped up their defense to keep the game in their hands.

With only minutes to play, Adam Potter got the ball in his hands under the basket, and was able to get a tough two points to stop the Maverick run.

Medaille kept pushing, but Drew Seker drove the final nail into the coffin, with a three very late in the game. The Lions were able to put the game on ice and get the conference win, 54-46.

Within a great team effort, Adam Potter put forth a great

individual effort, scoring a game high 15 points and collecting 8 rebounds.

"I am very happy with our team's performance," Potter said. "Although we lost a lot of seniors from last year, as well as our point guard Justin Kovac, this team is really starting to show its potential and we were happy to have big contributions from everyone."

Potter also stressed the importance of the team's defensive play against the Mavericks.

"Our defense is something that Behrend has always relied on to keep us in games, and this game was no different. We really tried to put an emphasis on our defensive intensity and ball pressure this game, and it proved to be the key to the game."

Tom Newman also had a great

all-around game with eight points, seven rebounds, three assists and two steals.

Pat St. Andrews chipped in with nine points, and Adam Kaiser added to the cause scoring eight of his own.

The Behrend Lions will be in action again on Saturday with a 3 p.m. tip off against Franciscan in the Junker Center.



DAN SMITH/THE BEHREND BEACON
Freshman Pat St. Andrews secures the basketball away from Medaille.

Last semester's results:

1. Connor
2. Rachel
3. Matt
4. Ryan
5. Chris

As the start of the new semester begins, "beat the experts" also is beginning a fresh start, with new challengers.

Want to play?

Email cen5056@psu.edu for a list of next week's games to see if you can "beat the experts".

Beat The Experts

NFL	Connor	Matt	Rachel	Christine	Nick
Philadelphia @ Arizona	Philly	Philly	Arizona	Philly	Philly
Baltimore @ Pittsburgh	Pitt.	Pitt.	Balt.	Pitt.	Pitt.
NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL					
#1 Pittsburgh @ #20 Louisville	Pitt.	Pitt.	Pitt.	Pitt.	Pitt.
#2 Wake Forest @ #9 Clemson	Wake	Wake	Wake	Wake	Wake
#12 Georgetown @ #3 Duke	Duke	Duke	Duke	Duke	Duke
#15 Xavier @ La Salle	Xavier	Xavier	Xavier	Xavier	Xavier
#22 California @ Stanford	Cal.	Cal.	Cal.	Cal.	Cal.
#6 Oklahoma @ Texas A&M	Okla.	Okla.	Okla.	Okla.	Okla.
St. John's @ #23 Villanova	Villa.	Villa.	Villa.	Villa.	Villa.
#18 Butler @ Illinois-Chicago	Butler	Ill-Chi.	Butler	Butler	Butler
Iona @ Canisius	Iona	Canisius	Canisius	Canisius	Iona
Ohio @ Buffalo	Ohio	Ohio	Ohio	Ohio	Ohio
Penn State @ Indiana	Indiana	Indiana	Penn St.	Penn St.	Penn St.
Wagner @ Robert Morris	Robert M.	Robert M.	Robert M.	Robert M.	Robert M.
Sacred Heart @ Mt. St. Mary's	St. Mary	Sacred H.	St. Mary	Sacred H.	St. Mary
#19 Purdue @ Iowa	Purdue	Purdue	Purdue	Purdue	Purdue
Tie-Breaker	+3	+10	+14	+10	+2
#13 Notre Dame @ #8 Syracuse	Syracuse	Notre Dame	Syracuse	Syracuse	Syracuse
Season Totals:	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0

UPCOMING NHL GAMES

Pittsburgh Penguins:

- Jan. 16: vs. Ducks
- Jan. 18: vs. Rangers
- Jan. 20 vs. Hurricanes

Buffalo Sabres

- Jan. 17: vs. Hurricanes
- Jan. 19: @ Panthers
- Jan. 21: @ Lightning

Don't forget to catch your favorite Pens and Sabres players in the All-Star game on January 25 at 6 p.m.