Friday, April 3, 2009

SPORTS

Lions victorious in a doubleheader sweep

EMMA HAHN THROWS HER SECOND NO HITTER OF THE SEASON

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scoring in the second game of the doubleheader as they scored four runs in the bottom of the first on five hits.

With runners on second and third, senior second baseman Nikki Kaschauer drove in two runners making the score 2-0 in favor of the Lions.

Freshman pitcher Emma Hahn had an excellent game as she had her second no-hitter of the season and earned a 9-0 win against the Panthers. In five innings, Hahn had seven strikeouts. Hahn's first no-hitter of the season was last week against the Medaille Mavericks. She now has recorded 38 strikeouts in 25 innings for the season.

"Both [Koman and Hahn] had great games," said Pondo. "We continue to go to both Julie and Emma, however, we will continue to get Laura Frischkorn and Maddie Wieser in to pitch also. We are trying to get as much rest now so we can be at our best at the end of the season."

After playing ten games on the road, the team finally played their home opener on March 25 against Medaille.

According to Pondo, the game was scheduled to be away; however, because Medaille's field conditions were not suitable to play the game was switched to be played at Behrend.

"We actually played our away Medaille game at our field last week, but we were still considered the visiting team," said Koman. " It was good to finally have our home, opener. We gathered quite a crowd and it was good to see fans come out and support our team. It is always nice to play on Wednesday at 3 p.m.

on your home field because you know all the bumps and quirks of your own field because you practice on it every day.

According to Pondo, taking one game at a time and not looking too far ahead into the season is what the team is concentrating on.

"Our goal is to play one game at a time with the focus being on that particular game and moment," said Pondo. "We want to be at our best at the end of the season, this means that we must try to improve our game play each and every day."

The players realize and understand the overall goal of the season.

"Our team goal is to remain focused throughout the season and to stay relaxed and calm," said Koman. "This year, we are more focused on taking one game at a time rather than looking down the road too far because it is important to perform well in those games first so we can end up in those games down the road."

Koman also has personal goals that she hopes to accomplish this year.

"My personal goal for this year is to remain healthy, not just for myself but our entire team," said Koman. "Injuries and illnesses usually plague our team, but we are working hard to prevent them and stay healthy until the end."

The Lady Lions play a doubleheader at home against AMCC rival Penn State Altoona on Saturday at 1 p.m. On Tuesday, the team travels to Fredonia for a 3 p.m. game. The Behrend Lions then play a doubleheader at home against AMCC opponent Franciscan

"Our toughest competition in we need to make sure that we conference will probably be Frostburg and Greensburg," said Koman. "Both teams are performing really well so far. Our hitting will be a primary factor that will help us to defeat those opponents. Also,

come out ready to play and have our game faces on. If we continue to play as solid as we have been in both offense and defense, we will have some great games."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Left: Senior outfielder Katie Whitby plants herself under a fly ball.

Top: Senior outfielder Allison Babish digs hard down the first baseline after a hit.

Athlete Spotlight: James Getty

ENTERPRISE RENT-A-CAR ATHLETE OF THE WEEK



James Getty Men's Tennis Senior

By Nick Blake sports editor npb5041@psu.edu

This week's Enterprise RENT-A-CAR Athlete of the Week is men's tennis player, James Getty.

Getty, a finance major, is a senior at Behrend and was instrumental in success for the men's tennis team.

Getty partnered up with teammate Erkin Nasirli in a doubles match against Pitt-Greensburg. The tandem dominated, taking home an 8-0 win.

Getty and Nasirli would team up against Alfred University and win number one doubles in a tiebreak match 9-8 (7-4).

Getty and Nasirli continued their run for the Blue and White with an 8-1 victory over Frostburg state in number two doubles.

Finishing the week with a perfect (4-0) record, the duo defeated AMCC rival and sister school, Penn State Altoona.

Not only did Getty help to run the table in doubles play, but he also performed well in singles play.

Getty would take a straight sets win against Alfred University, 7-6, 6-3.

Getty would then have to work for his number four match win against Frostburg State. He would take a 2-6, 6-2, 7-6 (10-4) match.

Getty's only bump in the road was against Penn State Altoona in number four singles play. Getty would lose the first set 6-3 and retired in the second set down 4-3.

Getty played a few sports as a kid, but did not pick up tennis until he was a sophomore in high school.

"When I was a kid I played sports all of the time, but mostly football and soccer," said Getty. "My best friend got me into tennis. I was a sophomore in high school and he told me I should try out for the team, so I did and I loved it.'

Penn State Behrend ended up being a perfect fit for Getty when deciding on where to go to further his education.

"I grew up in Erie and I wanted to stay close to home. I used to live right next to the campus so I spent a lot of time here as a kid," Getty said. "I knew the campus very well and I really liked it. Also, I really wanted to play tennis in college, and that was a big reason why I came to Behrend."

As a tennis player, Andre Agassi is a player that Getty looks up to.

"He was such a great player and just a great guy," Getty said. "He has given so much back, he has raised over 60 million dollars in his foundation for underprivileged children."

After his college career is over, Getty isn't sure

where he'll end up.

"I am really not sure what I want to do after I graduate," Getty said. "I really just want to be a tennis coach at some level."

Getty has spent a lot of time with the tennis team, and that has helped build memories.

"I would have to say that my favorite memories have to be with the tennis team on spring break and road trips."

The Blue and White will be on the road for four of their final five matches. On April 3 they will take on Pitt-Greensburg.



CONTRIBUTED PROTO

Getty stares down his opponent as he prepares to serve the ball