

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

# Lady Lions annihilate Hilbert in last home game, 87-23

AMANDA STETZ  
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senior reporter/staff writer

The last home game of the year for the women's basketball team was a memorable one for everybody in Behrend's 87-23 victory over Hilbert College.

The game started with an emotional moment as the Lions honored Christine Krankota, the lone senior on the team.

"It was a little emotional knowing a great four years is about to come to an end," Krankota said. "I've learned so much during my time here about life on and off the court from Coach Fornari and from teammates both past and present, and I'll always cherish those things. The memories, experiences, and friendships I've created here are priceless, but I know there are still many more to come. With the talented team we have and the way we are playing now, I truly believe we have a lot of basketball left to play."

Behrend took control of the game from the onset. The Lions' sharp defensive play forced Hilbert to turn the ball over frequently in the first half. As a result, Hilbert was getting into early foul trouble.

The Lions took off on a 12-point run, and it wasn't until there was 12:48 remaining in the first half that Hilbert would break it.

It was smooth sailing for



Junior guard Kelly Nowacinski (32) started for the Lions and racked up 15 points in 34 minutes of play against Hilbert College.

Daniel Smith / The Behrend Beacon

Behrend the rest of the first half.

Behrend would hold Hilbert scoreless for 10 minutes and enjoyed taking a 47-7 lead to the locker room at halftime.

In the first half, junior Amy Oldach had nine points, while junior Kelly Nowacinski and freshman Holly Borquin added eight points each.

To open the second half, the Lions would open up another scoring run.

Behrend continued their dominate defensive play, and Hilbert never had an answer for it the rest of the game.

"We carried the same mentality into the second half that we did at the start of the game," Krantoka said. "We wanted our de-

fensive intensity to cause turnovers, and we wanted to capitalize on the turnovers we created."

Throughout the rest of the game, Behrend limited the scoring chances for Hilbert and continued to force turnovers.

In fact, with only 4:15 left in the game, Behrend led by an astounding 68 points.

Behrend finished the game just as they started it and would defeat the Hawks by 64 points with a final score of 87-23.

For the Lions, this win continues to build their momentum going into the AMCC playoffs.

Behrend has now won five straight games, and have high confidence going into their last regular season game at Altoona

this Saturday.

"Altoona plans to be a tough game," Nowacinski said, who finished with 15 points against Hilbert.

"I feel that we are playing our best basketball right now, and we hope to come out on top Saturday night."

With the end of the season approaching, Behrend is fifth in the standings, but the Lions look to come out on top in the post-season.

"At this point in the season, I believe we are playing our best team basketball of the season, and we don't see any signs of us slowing up," Krantoka said. "Dealing with adversity this year has made us a more experienced and more resilient team, and we can certainly use those qualities to our advantage heading into the AMCC post season."

Head coach Roz Fornari is noticing the strong play coming from her team and is impressed by the elevation in defensive play, especially the full court press. She is confident in her team as playoffs are fast approaching.

"We are playing really well right now," Fornari said. "Our defense has gotten a lot better, and our strong full court pressure is helping our defense generate offense. You can see everyone's enthusiasm, and they are all believing in one another. They are peaking at a really good time."

WINTER OLYMPICS

# USA racking up the medal count in Vancouver Olympics, lead in gold

NICK BLAKE  
sports editor

Team USA is off to a great start in the 21st Olympic Winter games.

Through the first week of competition, the United States leads the overall medal count thanks to outstanding performances by a number of athletes.

One of the top stories for Team USA is the gold medal performance by downhill skier Lindsey Vonn.

In the 2006 Games at Torino, Vonn was favored to win the downhill event, but a devastating crash during training kept her from competing.

Four years later, top-ranked Vonn's ability to compete was questioned again after suffering a deep bruise in her shin.

Even with extreme pain in her right leg, Vonn would not miss out on this chance to win Olympic gold, and she succeeded, taking gold in the downhill event.

Vonn tore down the hill and took turns on one leg when possible and won the downhill event by over half a second. Teammate Julia Mancuso would take the silver in the same event.

Vonn collapsed and broke down in tears after seeing that she took the gold.

"It's one of the most incredible moments of my life," said Vonn. "When I crossed the finish line and saw my name in first and Julia's [Mancuso] in

second, it was just the coolest thing."

In the Nordic Combined 10 km cross-country event, Johnny Spillane took the silver medal, earning the United States its first ever medal in the event.

Also shredding the snow was snowboarder Shaun White. The favorite going into the men's half pipe, White did not disappoint.

White is revolutionizing the sport and did not even need his second of two runs in the finals to win gold.

White scored 46.8 out of 50 on his first run, besting the first and second runs by every other competitor.

Although his second run was completely unnecessary, White took it as a victory lap, and unveiled a trick that the sport has never seen before: the Double McTwist 1260, which combines three rotations and two flips, earning White a score of 48.4 out of 50.

Inside on the speedskating tracks were sport favorite Apolo Ohno and Shani Davis.

Davis was the first black athlete to win an individual gold medal in the Winter Olympics when he took the top spot in the 500m in Torino in 2006. Davis also won a gold medal in the 1000m at those games.

Davis snatched the gold again in the 1000m, becoming the first man to win back-to-back gold medals in the event.

Ohno also saw success, taking silver in the 1500m short



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Lindsey Vonn (right) and Julia Mancusa (left) celebrate their one-two finish in the women's downhill event last Wednesday.

track event. With the placement, Ohno tied the record for most medals by a Winter Olympian. With three events still to compete in, Ohno is poised to become the most decorated Winter Olympian in history.

The women's hockey team is cruising through the preliminary round with a 2-0 record.

Team USA did not just beat the teams they played, they dismantled them. In the team's first game against China, the

U.S. posted a 12-1 victory. The U.S. women upped the ante in their second game, defeating Russia by a score of 13-0.

The men's hockey team is also off to a great start in preliminary play. The men post a 3-0 record, the most recent victory coming against Team Norway. The U.S. won easily by a final score of 6-1.

Team USA leads the way in the overall medal count and Germany is in close pursuit with a week left of competition.

(As of 2-19-10)	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE	TOTAL
UNITED STATES	5	5	1	17
GERMANY	4	4	3	11
NORWAY	3	3	2	8
CANADA	3	3	1	7
FRANCE	2	1	4	7

CURRENT U.S. GOLD MEDAL WINNERS
SHAUN WHITE: SNOWBOARD - MEN'S HALFPIPE
LINDSEY VONN: ALPINE SKIING - LADIES' DOWNHILL
HANNAH KEARNEY: FREESTYLE SKIING - LADIES' MOGULS
SHANI DAVIS: SPEED SKATING - MEN'S 1000M
SETH WESTCOTT: SNOWBOARD - MEN'S SNOWBOARD CROSS

**BEHREND INTRAMURALS**  
**UPCOMING DEADLINES**

Coed Volleyball Registration Due by Feb. 19

Boys Volleyball Registration Due by Mar. 6

**5V5 BASKETBALL CHAMPS**

Men's Competitive League:  
Multiple Scores

Men's Recreational League (Gold Bracket):  
5/1

Men's Recreational League (Silver Bracket):  
Old Boys

Women's League:  
Baby You Down

MEN'S BASKETBALL

# Bound for AMCC's

In the last home game of the season, the Behrend men took control of their court

ALEC ITALIANO  
sports editor

The Hilbert Hawks were a shot down last Wednesday by the pink-clad Penn State Behrend men's basketball team by a score of 85-71, as the team played their final home game of the season.

Breast cancer awareness was the reason for the Lions' pink warm-up shirts, teaming up with the cheerleaders who also wore pink shirts for the evening.

It was also senior night at the Junker Center, and seniors Adam Potter, Adam Kaiser were honored before the game for their dedication to the program.

The game did not start out ideally for the Behrend men, succumbing to a few quick baskets by the 3-20 visiting Hawks.

The team bounced back, however, tying the game before going on a 14-6 run to build a temporary six-point lead.

The Hawks then sparked another comeback to tie the game before a shooting sprawl from beyond the arc by Behrend cemented a 30-11 run to close out the first half.

The Lions finished the half with eight of 18 3-pointers and a 47-28 first half lead.

Starting the second half out hot, the Lions built up a 24-point lead at the 11-minute mark.

Behrend surrendered the lead down to eight to the Hawks with only eight minutes to play as they turned it into a shootout coming down the stretch.

The Blue and White were able to clamp down visiting

Hilbert College though, accumulating an eventual 14-point win after making seven of the team's last nine shots from the field.

Junior Chris Saltzman turned in a double-double for the Lions as he finished the game with 22 points and 10 rebounds. The seniors combined for 26 points on the night and mopped up six rebounds off the glass on their senior night performance.

Other double-digits Lions were junior Justin Kovac with 13 points,

and freshman Nick Dvorsky with 11.

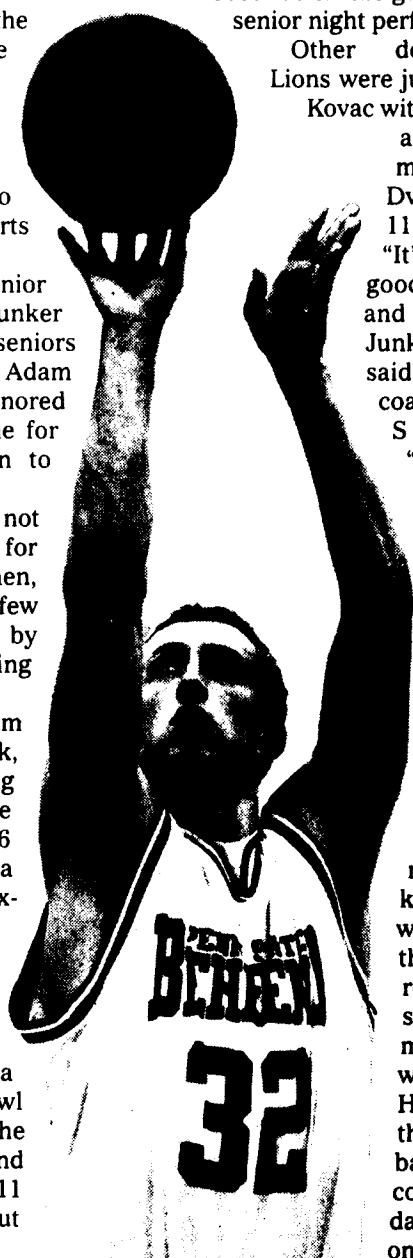
"It's always good to play and win in the Junker Center," said assistant coach Jimmy Sutton.

"Hopefully we can continue this push heading into our final conference game and next week AMCC playoffs."

The men's basketball team wrapped up their last regular season home match in the win over Hilbert, but the Lions are back on the court Saturday to take on rival Penn State Altoona before playing in the first round of the AMCC tournament on Tuesday.

The tournament concludes on Saturday, Feb. 27 where their NCAA Division III tournament life will be decided.

Head Coach Dave Niland has coached the squad to its 15th consecutive winning season, and are looking to repeat their AMCC championship win from last season.



Daniel Smith / The Behrend Beacon

Junior forward Chris Saltzman had 22 points in the game against Hilbert.