

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK

Gamble Goes To Goal

Impact goals give Gamble great start

KAELA BISHOP
staff writer



With three goals in three games so far this season, Jake Gamble knows how to score big.

Starting off just his second year as forward with the Lions, Gamble leads his team in goals. He has played and started in three out of the three games Behrend has played this fall. This was change for Gamble who was used as a substitution last year, and now is in the starting 11.

Gamble scored the lone goal in the season opener against Geneva. Although the team only got away with a draw, it put Gamble on a roll. The Behrend men took on Utica during the annual Herb Lauffer Memorial Tournament. There the Lions beat the Pioneers 2-1 with both goals scored by Gamble. The first goal was very early in the game assisted by Joshua Teti. Also, in the first half, Gamble took the ball, thrown in by Aaron Meehl, to the goal with a sliding kick. The goals were enough for Behrend to hold onto the win. This let Behrend advance to the championship game, where they defeated Baldwin Wallace.

"It felt good but it was early in the game," said Gamble. "At the end, knowing we won was what mattered most."

During the match up against Geneva College at Beaver Falls, with 37 seconds left on the clock, Gamble scored the goal to tie the game. After two overtimes, neither team was able

to come up with a goal. The game remained tied, but it kept the team without a loss.

Danny Poljak and Mike Liebdzinski have been able to help Gamble since the start. After rooming together for two years Gamble and Poljak are often found together. All sophomores, these players find it helpful to give and take advice and suggestions from one another. Not only are the boys teammates together, they are also all close friends.

"They keep me focused on and off the field," Gamble said.

Gamble always has the team in mind first over his statistics and numbers. He realizes the team success is more important than individual success. Gamble is a selfless player and looks out for his whole team.

"My goal is to keep winning," said Gamble. "If I score, I score but winning is really what matters. We have the opportunity to be really successful and I just want to do whatever I can to help us get there."

"At the end, knowing we won was what mattered most."

Jake Gamble

sophomore forward

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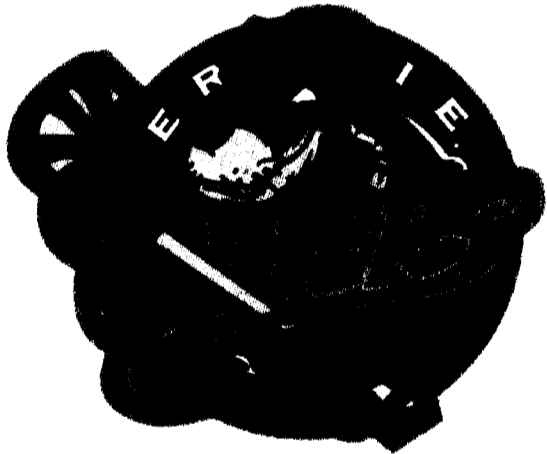
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