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"My goals for the season are to stay undefeated in the AMCC, and make it far into the playoffs and go all the way to the finals," Vasy said. "As for my career, just to stay healthy and in shape always give my best effort to be an asset to the team in every game until my four years is up.

Having a utility player like Vasy has been key for a team that has been stricken with injury. Two of best friends Katie Mundy and Cayla Walters. While Mundy and Vasy both played for Norwin and gone to school to school together through out the years, Walters and Vasy grew up together since birth. While these two hold a special bond between them, to most they behave like sisters.

"When growing up Sam was the first out of us two to start playing soccer when my dad first asked me if I wanted to play I said no and changed my mind the first game I saw Sam playing," Walters said. "So after that I signed up and we've been playing ever since. We started out at

these players lost to injury are Vasy's tiny kickers and played the whole involved together." way up to travel until I started playing for Penn-Trafford and my high school team. Once we got to high school it was always weird playing against each other, but the score of the game never changed how we felt off the field. Even though we went to different high schools we still got to play together on our cup team so we never really stopped playing with each other it just depended what season it was.'

> "Even if we weren't in season, we were always practicing together kicking around, running, and trying to push each other to make us better. So yes growing up we always were

Although Walters is out this year with a season ending injury, her hard work towards recovery and support really benefits the team. Going to school together seemed obvious for these two, and the jump into the college world was not nearly as brutal because, as they put it, they "had each other".

"Going to school and rooming with Sam is awesome," Vasy said. "We went to rival schools so I never got the chance to ever see her in school or be in any of her classes. The fact that now I get to see her everyday and have a couple classes together though is great I love it. I love being

able to see her face to face everyday and be able to have someone to talk to and help me out that I know wouldn't steer me in the wrong direction."

The Lady Lions are currently undefeated in the AMCCs and showed they could hold there own against one of the nations best teams. Namely Nationally ranked 16 Allegheny, as they fell to the Gators 2-1 in overtime.

Vasy will be looked to for stability as the team travels to Franciscan in hopes to make their record 3-0 in the conference.



Eric Dye / Behrend Beacon Sophomore outside hitter Lexy Weissinger dives for the ball. She had nine digs and four spikes in the match against Altoona

#### Lady Lions: Young guns getting job done

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plays. We need to improve on playing more as a team," said Magnusen. "We seem to become six individuals on the court instead of playing as a team."

The third game was the strongest for the Lions. Stefanie Kelley was successful in the libero position. She served six straight points to end the game at a score of 25-12. The fourth game started off slowly for the Lions. They trailed early in the game, but made a huge come back and went on to win 25-18 thanks to Danielle Woods's game point ace serve. However, Behrend did not keep their winning streak, loosing the last game 15-9.

"We still have time to turn around our streak but it is tough having a small upper class," Magnusen said. "Having a large younger class will be beneficial in the future. At the same time, we need to play in the present and not for

the future."

Woods collected 26 digs during this match to bump her up to fifth place on the all-time digs list with 1,496 career digs. Kelley tallied a team high 27 digs and four aces, Mary Sperry had 10 kills and 16 digs, Kelly Treser had 13 kills and three blocks, Magnusen had 20 assists and four blocks.

"We can pull out of this funk and win some more games in the future," Magnusen said.

# **Tortella:** Hoping for his success to continue for his team's AMCC playoff run

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does on the field that has made him a great player, but it's what he does off the field as well. He is in the gym every day during the offseason, and is constantly working to improve his game. Tortella has always been working above and beyond the call of duty to get to the place he is today.

"In high school, I would come home from school and would be in my backyard or the fields for hours just with ball on my foot," Tortella said.

High school was not his first time on the soccer field. He started playing at the age of three, and his Dad was his biggest influence.

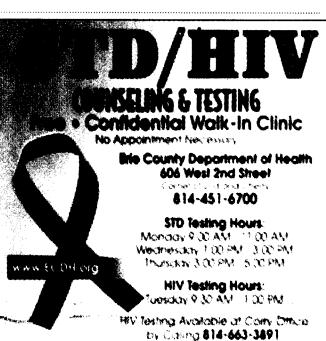
"He knew nothing of the game of soccer, until I started playing, but he was at every

game of mine, pushing me to excel in the sport I love," Tortella says of his father.

It's not just about athletics for this soccer star. It's about the balance between soccer and academics. Tortella is an accounting major with a minor in management. The balance is difficult for every student-athlete, but he finds a way to make it work. "It takes a lot of dedication goals.

to be doing your schoolwork on the bus to and from games," said Tortella.

Tortella has a great team around him. He believes in them and knows that they can make it to new heights. They all have their eyes set on the AMCC championship, and with this extraordinary senior wat the helm, they definitely # have the ability to reach their







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