

Cubs Top 'Hurst For Third Soccer Win

By Justin Panson
Collegian Sports Writer

The Behrend Varsity Soccer team didn't exactly begin the season with a bang, losing its first five games, including being shutout in the first three. But an amazingly positive attitude has paid off. Since that horrid start, the Cubs have come back with three straight victories, including a 10-0 whitewashing of Alliance and wins over Mercyhurst (5-4) and

who is the captain; Greg Zemanski, and John Lorenz. John and Terry are juniors and Greg is a senior. Beyond that, Joel Buckwalter came off a fine freshman year and has started out well this year. Jamie Kreber, as a freshman, was our second leading scorer, producing six goals and five assists."

True to his coach's words, the robust, hard-working, sometimes zany midfielder, Terry (Smurf) Mannering leads the team with five goals and one assist. Joel Buckwalter is second with five goals, followed by Jamie Kreber's four goals-three assists; Ron (Bong) Lee with four goals; and Greg "Z" Zemanski with one goal-three assists. In addition to these strong performances, the excellent job that the other team members have been doing mustn't be forgotten.

Once again, the two striker offense is being used, and Coach Lauffer explains the reasoning. "The midfield is a very critical area of the field to be dominant in; it's the vital link between us offensively and defensively. The two striker offense (4-4-2), provides an advantage because attacks coming from deep in the defense, tend to be confusing to the opponent." He also added



Mannering Buckwalter

Edinboro (2-0), two teams that beat Behrend last year. This attitude stems from coach Herb Lauffer, a rational, no-nonsense man who believes strongly in a logical, ball control style of play. Coming off a disappointing season at Behrend, he speaks candidly of the problems of building a team at a two year school. "It's more difficult than at many of the schools we have to compete against, but it's something that all of our coaches have experienced. If you think about it, it just becomes frustrating, so you just have to go with it. First of all, we don't have students that are here on scholarship in any of our sports and I recognize that they are here primarily for an education. As coaches, we have to continue to remind ourselves that his or her education is the most important thing. There is no question, we're in a unique situation -- oftentimes we are in the situation where we have to



Zemanski Kreber

that the 4-4-2 isn't less offense at all, rather a solid middle and it's possibly the system of the future in soccer.

Another important aspect of the game is goaltending, and sophomore Larry Gunther returns, having allowed just 1.27 goals per game last year. It's no secret that Gunther has struggled this year, looking especially flat-footed in the first half against Gannon. But he seems to be mounting a comeback after his shutout over Alliance, gaining confidence and coming up with a number of key saves.

Looking to the remaining half of the schedule, Lauffer cites Slippery Rock, Grove City, Geneva, and Fredonia as having strong programs. He says, "Our goal always is to make the play-offs, and to do that we have to play well against everyone, but in particular, to play well against those four teams that I mentioned. The way we're playing now, we can't take anyone for granted, we just have to take 'em one at a time."



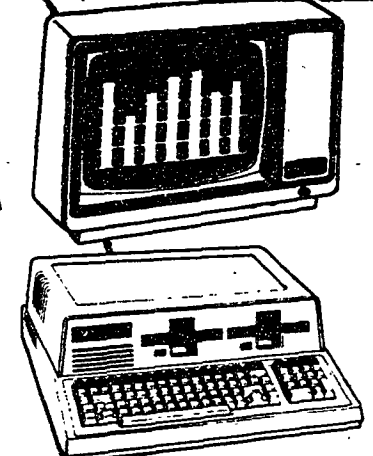
Lee Gunther

recruit an athlete twice; we recruit him as a freshman, and then we attempt to recruit him at the end of his sophomore year to stay in one of our major programs, rather than go down to University Park."

Of the twenty-five man roster, three are upperclassmen and the rest are freshmen and sophomores. Coach Lauffer sees the strength, leadership and solid play coming, especially from these three, "... and I'm referring to Terry Mannering,

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