

Balancing academics with athletics



Michelle Madison, Lisa Butch, and Lisa Dorenkamp

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Promising players keep coach yelling

by Margie Survoic
Collegian Staff Writer

The Penn State-Behrend women's Tennis team has had to practice indoors a lot this year. Even though the weather has not been the greatest, coach Karin Sobotta is very optimistic about all of her players and the upcoming season.

"The team this year has a good mix and depth from player number one to player number twelve," said Sobotta. The three returning players are Kelly McConnell, Stormy Vanhese, and Kathy Veazy. "These three have played competitively in the past and they know that our competition is tough," said Sobotta. "But these players are bringing on-court experience to our game this year," said Sobotta.

The new players on the team include Richann Bryant, Chris Huff, Jane McKnight, Kathy Miller, Carissa Nickolas, Frances Pimental, Shari Stumpo, Jan Thompson, and Jennifer Vila. "The progress is slow but sure," said Sobotta, "and I can tell by the attitudes and the actions of the members that every single one of them want to be good tennis players." "Every one of the girls asks for extra help to constantly improve their game, they come early to practice, and best of all they are excited and get along very well," said Sobotta.

"I really think we are going to be O.K. this year," said Sobotta, "because even though we play

tough people, our girls have a team attitude rather than a self attitude and that makes a difference." In practice, we have been working on fundamentals, exaggerating topspin, and improving the confidence in their strokes," said Sobotta. During practice, the girls know they are in trouble if coach Sobotta stops yelling because she tells them that if she stops yelling, that means that she has given up on them.

Some of the players played in the PennBriar Tournament, and this boosts the confidence of the players because then they know what to expect during their upcoming games. Richann Bryant made it into the finals and Kathy Veazy made it into the semi-finals. "At the end of the season there is going to be a tennis tournament in New York and the players cannot wait to go. Their footwork should be at its peak by that time," said Sobotta.

"The goal to strive for is to have every player come off the courts feeling good about their game," said Sobotta. "Depth is where it's at and we've got that this year," said Sobotta. This year's team is going to really be competitive and we could use some school support," said Sobotta. Home games are Sept. 14 against Buffalo State at 3:00 p.m., Sept. 19 against Thiel at 1:00, Sept. 29 against Gannon at 3:00 p.m., Oct. 1 against Fredonia at 3:00 p.m., Oct. 3 against Allegheny at 3:00 p.m., and Oct. 7 against Geneva at 3:00 p.m.



New golf team, coach

by Chris Stowe
Collegian Staff Writer

After a nine year absence, Penn State-Behrend has added golf to its fall sports schedule.

Renewed interest in the program, from both within and outside of the campus, was instrumental in reviving the sport, according to coach Dave First. "A lot of inquiries about it, plus contributions from the private sector were major factors in the revival," said First.

The interest is well illustrated by the fact that 20 students have tried out for a spot on the roster. Members include Sophmores Jim Eighme, Rick Kwarciak, John Martone, and Dave Spath; and Freshman Paul Demyanovich and Tom Kelly.

The team hopes to compete against some tough competition, especially since all of its contests will be on the road this year. It is certain, however, that home tournaments will be held in the future at nearby Gospel Hill golf course.

All contests will be played under tournament play rules. The first tournament will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 15, when the team will travel to Stevensville, Ontario, to take part in the Buffalo State Golf Classic.

Coach First is enthusiastic about the upcoming season. He summed up his team's goals as "...to do the best we can. We have a fresh start here. I think we have good talent to start here."

Attitude is all part of the game

by Darrell Freund
Collegian Staff Writer

With last season's record of 7-9-1 behind them, the Behrend Men's Soccer Team went into this year's Alfred University Tournament with high expectations. This year's tournament attracted soccer talent from throughout the region. The Behrend team saw this gathering as a chance to see how their skills compared to schools of similar size.

The first team to take on the Lions was the host of the tournament, Alfred University. Behrend Head Coach Herb Lauffer was not pleased with the results of the first game. "We got thumped, to put things into simple terms," stated Coach Lauffer, "when we needed a goal, we couldn't find one." The final score was 2-0, a fairly close match. But, Coach Lauffer and the team had their share of "close" games last year. Especially when you take into consideration that eight of last years nine losses were

by one goal.

However, the tournament was not a complete loss. The following day the team played Ursinus College. "The game against Alfred was obviously one sided. We lacked ball possession and shots on goal. "It was as if Alfred had grabbed our ankles," commented Coach Lauffer. However, the Lions came out a different team against Ursinus. "The difference was like night and day. We thought aggressively, we thought attack with a purpose," Coach Lauffer went on to add, "I was very pleased with the rebounding ability of the team." They lost the game to Ursinus 1-0, but they were out of the doldrums experienced in the game against Alfred.

This years team is anchored by a duo of co-captains. Returning seniors and co-captains Dave Titley, at the back position, and Joe Kushom, at the striker position, will add leadership and stability to this years squad. Coach Lauffer was pleased to

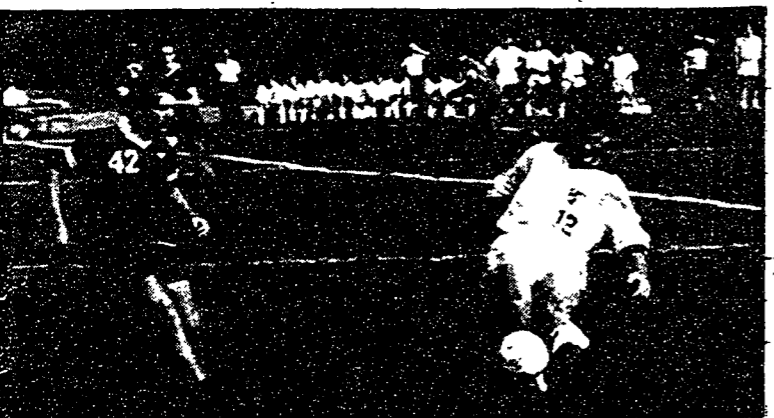


discover during this preseason that this years team has some depth. "The gap between our best player and player of least experience is not as wide as I had thought," stated Coach Lauffer.

With key players returning, this years squad looks fundamentally sound. All Conference sweeper back Doug McCarthy, along with senior mid-fielders Jose Domingos and Mike Cifelli, will add some experience to the team.

It looks as if graduation did not deplete the team of quality players. Junior Mike Smelko, a mid-fielder, Sophmore striker Ken Crumb, and Sophmore back Jay Varcoe will be returning for this season. Sophmore goalie Mark Yingling will be between the posts for the team this season.

Coach Lauffer considers all of his players important to the team effort. This years crop of freshmen are the future of men's soccer at Behrend. "As of now, I haven't seen enough of the freshmen to make any evaluations," com-



by Andy Dobry
Collegian Staff Writer

Freshman who are having difficulty finding time for school work should take notice of a few classmates. A number of students are combining their studies with participation in two varsity sports.

Balancing academics is nothing new for Education major Randy Baughman. Randy, a member of both the Behrend baseball and basketball teams, won numerous all-city honors in both sports at East High School. He also found time to quarterback the football team and graduate near the top of his class.

Men's basketball coach Doug Zimmerman was quick to praise Baughman. "Randy is an excellent point guard who sees the court very well and has good leadership qualities." Randy will pitch and play the infield for the baseball team.

Mike Jenkins, an Academy High School graduate, comes to Behrend with a fine athletic reputation. Like Baughman, he will also play baseball and basketball. "Mike is an excellent all-round athlete who can do a number of things well", said Zimmerman.

Not to be outdone, two other freshmen will take part in women's volleyball and softball. Education majors Erica Scribner and Gwen Jones are expected to be an important part of each team.

With new faces like these in the athletic program, Behrend fans can look forward to an exciting future.

Coach Bari confident about Cubs

by Richard Cain
Collegian Staff Writer

The Behrend baseball team began their fall workouts last month with enthusiasm and excitement. A total of 48 players reported to the opening tryout with hopes of obtaining one of the 23 spots on the roster. The 23 man roster will eventually include a pitching staff of up to 10 men. This prospective roster alone is cause for enthusiasm considering last season's team consisted of only 15 men with four pitchers.

Major ingredients for success for this year's team include strong showings from some of the recruits. One of the quality additions to the team is Shawn Selby. A transfer student from Penn State Beaver, Shawn has shown both hustle and leadership abilities. These talents give Coach Michael Bari high hopes for a productive season from Shawn.

Some other major additions to the team come from the Freshman class. These promising newcomers include Joel Domkowski, Rich Adams, Joe Viera, Mark VanHorne and Randy Baughman.

The experience missing from the first year players will undoubtedly be alleviated by some outstanding second year players. The stand out from these returning athletes is Reese Wetzel. Wetzel is coming of a great first year having hit over .400 and receiving an honorable mention in the All Midwest Region All-Star Team. The other standout from last season's team is Bob

Druschel, who hit .3 last spring. Accompanying these stand outs on to the field this season are a number of other quality players, including: Tom Partridge, Jim Sanyo, Dave Bruce, Bob Duma, Ron Thompson, and Matt Rose.

The eventual outcome of all this depends on the ability of the new recruits to weld with the returning players. The burden of this task falls on the shoulders of second year coach, Michael Bari. Having a year under his belt and a larger, more talented group of players to work with, Coach Bari is confident about the Cub's success. "I think we have the capabilities of being a real competitive team in the spring," said Coach Bari, "This all depends on our fall workouts and our ability to come together as a unit."

The Cubs have 8 exhibition games in the next two weeks. There is a double-header against Gannon, at home, on Sept. 12. The next day they travel to Jamestown Community College to play another two games. The following weekend they play two at home against Mercyhurst and a double-header with Fredonia on Sept. 20.

The Cubs then wrap up their fall activities with a 100 inning fund raising game on Oct. 4. Having raised \$2,200 last fall, the team will be looking for pledges for this game. All proceeds from this game go toward a spring break trip to Florida for the team. This trip includes a number of exhibition games against quality teams from all over the country.

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