



photo courtesy of Public Relations Department

Congratulations to former Behrend student Tom Lawless who hit a clutch three-run homer during game four of the World Series. Tom is pictured here during a 1985 awards ceremony with Athletic Director Herb Lauffer and former Behrend Baseball Coach Shorty Stoner.

Volleyball review

by Angie Papaleo
Collegian Staff Writer

Women's Volleyball has become quite important at Penn State-Erie, the girls have a lot of enthusiasm and dedication. Unfortunately, the team this year is not off to as good a season as last year.

The team is not prosperous as last year because of the loss of many upperclassmen. The team started the season with 16 players, but due to injuries and withdrawals, they are now left with eight players. The majority of the team are freshmen, aside from the captain, junior Kathy Williamson and sophomores Beth Beres and Lorena McCallister.

The largest problem with having a team of mostly freshmen is inexperience. This is evidenced in their 7-21 record. There is potential in the team, they work hard and put all effort they have into improving.

The loss of several teammates has contributed to the team's inconsistent play. As different teammates drop out from playing, for whatever reason, the team must compensate for the loss. This means learning new positions and rotating to other strategies. An example is that they have used three different setters already. This creates problems because the setter is the floor leader and must learn to adjust to the other teammates. Hopefully they will continue to recuperate and reform in order to play well.

They are a strong serving and blocking team. The girls need to concentrate on placement of the

ball when serving. "If they play really well, they can still win a few more matches," says Coach Jan Wilson. "I want them to play to the best of their ability and use this season as a growing experience."

At the Buffalo State Tournament last week, The Lion's won three matches, and at the Fredonia tournament they took third place. Their next match is against Grove City on October 22, 1987.

Nittany Football Notes

by Andy Dobry
Collegian Staff Writer

After a 24 - 13 loss to Alabama in just the second game of the season, prospects for a second consecutive national championship looked dim for the Penn State football team.

The Nittany Lions rebounded with a 41-0 whitewashing of Cincinnati on September 19th. Penn State's ground game proved too much for the Bearcats to handle. Fullback John Greene ran the ball 11 times for 124 yards, and tailback Blair Thomas added 154 yards on 22 carries.

Against Boston College, the Lions held off a late charge to win 27 - 17. Blair Thomas ran for 164 yards and two touchdowns in helping Penn State build an early 17 - 0 lead. Darren Flutie of the Eagles tied the score at 17 - 17 late in the third quarter with a touchdown reception. Kicker Eric Etze booted a 46-yard field goal early in the fourth quarter to put the Lions ahead to stay.

On All-University Day against Temple, the Penn State ground game again paved the way to a 27 - 13 victory. Thomas was once again

the hero, rushing for 167 yards and two touchdowns on 24 carries. By doing so, he became the first Penn State back since John Cappelletti to rush or more than 150 yards in three consecutive games. Thomas also added three catches for 57 yards.

On Homecoming Day against Rutgers, the Scarlet Knights held Thomas relatively in check, allowing him only 116 yards on 20 carries. Thomas did manage to run for three touchdowns, but the real story of the game was quarterback Matt Knizner. The senior completed 16 of 26 passes for 215 yards and one touchdown. Speedy Ray Roundtree snagged four Knizner aerials for 107 yards. Rutgers quarterback Scott Erney looked good in defeat, completing 32 of 55 passes for 364 yards and three touchdowns.

The Nittany Lions looked ready to break into the top ten until their encounter with Syracuse on October 17th. Quarterback Don McPherson brought the walls of the Carrier Dome down from the onset. On the first play from scrimmage, McPherson fired an 80-yard scoring strike. Overall, the highly touted quarterback threw for three

touchdown passes and ran for two more in helping the Orangemen build up a 41 - 0 lead. Penn State reserve quarterback Tom Bill brought the Lions back to 48 - 21 when the final gun sounded.

Penn State have a week off to prepare for West Virginia and the Lions will need every minute of it. After the Alabama loss, Joe Patero seemed to cure State's anemic offense by moving John Greene to fullback, but even the dynamic combo of Thomas and Greene cannot make up for the erratic play of Matt Knizner. Knizner screamed for the opportunity to play for the past two seasons, but now he should make way for Tom Bill. While Knizner repeatedly takes too much time to deliver the ball to his receivers, Bill has sparked the offense to life on several occasions. Surely Knizner is not to blame for letting Syracuse to score 48 points, but if the senior had put together some sustained drives early on against the Orangemen, the young Lion defense would not have been on the field as frequently.

With some shake-ups, Penn State should be able to get into a respectable bowl game and look forward to 1988.

The Sports Department desperately needs writers. If you are interested, stop by the Collegian office or call ext. 6221.

Collegian Athletes of the Week

by David Bruce
Sports Editor

Congratulations to Doug McCarthy and Gwen Jones - this week's selections as Athletes of the Week.

Doug, a Junior, is a sweeper back on Behrend's soccer team and hails from Indianapolis, Indiana.

While his importance is primarily felt on defense, Doug was able to assist on a goal during the Lion's 2-0 shutout of Westminster.

Coach Herb Lauffer described Doug as "an important part of our defense" and that, "he has been instrumental... a stabilizing effect on the team."

Gwen is a freshman at Behrend and went to Cambridge Springs High School. She has excelled in recent matches over the last two weeks, and has accumulated 11 serving aces, 31 saves and 30 killPIKES.

Coach Jan Wilson said "Overall, she has improved... she has really played good defense. She is fun to watch, she really hustles and plays consistently."

Both athletes will receive dinner for two at Barbato's Restaurant in recognition for their achievements.



Doug McCarthy

photo by Tracey Kelly



Gwen Jones

photo by Rick Brooks



At the usual times in the normal place!

SPC Movie

Lady Lions End Season

by Marjorie Surovic
Collegian Staff Writer

The Penn State-Behrend Women's Tennis team concluded their season at the St. John Fisher Tournament in New York on Oct. 9 and 10.

Early in the tournament, the Lady Lions were quickly eliminated from further play. "We were not mentally prepared, and we were nervous," said Coach Karin Sobotta. "Even at the team meeting after we lost, only one person was satisfied with the way she played," said Coach Sobotta, "and this disappointed me."

Coach Sobotta felt that her team was very coachable this year. Their attitudes were good and their skills had definitely improved since the

first match. The whole team had its laughs and good times, but the athletes were serious when they stepped on to the courts. "I think our biggest problem was our lack of experience. Experience is a great teacher, it makes the difference between points that are won and lost," said Coach Sobotta. Even though the women's tennis season was short, the players had to learn that college tennis is about playing points rather than playing opponents. "Each time a Lady Lion stepped onto the court, she had just as good a chance of winning as her opponent," said Coach Sobotta.

After a rough season of battling Erie's rainy season and mostly Division Two teams, the Lady Lions still had enthusiasm left in them. "The team talked about winter practices, weight training, and extra indoor playing", said

Coach Sobotta. "They are all serious about this sport and they want to make it a true varsity sport."

When the next tennis season rolls around, four of Coach Sobotta's top six players will have left her "team of 12". These tennis stars are either going to University Park to continue their education or they are stepping out into the real world after graduation in May 1988.

Recruiting time always means that the athletic season is ending. "Recruits from Mercyhurst Prep and Peter's Township are extremely interested in Behrend and its woman's tennis team," said Coach Sobotta. "If we get these recruits, we should be a stronger team next year." Now Coach Sobotta's tough job really begins as she sets out to gather women for her 1988-1989 team.

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