

Sports

EDITORIAL:

DISEASE THREATENS TEAMS by Allen Dorchester

It appears to me that the Behrend athletic teams are becoming very susceptible to a disease presently affecting the student body. That disease is "apathia contagia", i.e. contagious apathy. I place no blame on the team members or the coaching staff, but squarely on the shoulders of you, the student.

Have you attended any Behrend basketball games this year? Did you know that Behrend has a wrestling team? If you answered no to either of these questions you have already contracted the disease.

The symptoms are simple. Do to lack of student support in the form of large cheering crowds at athletic events or filling empty seats on bus trips to away basketball games, the teams become tired and run down. Actually they lose enthusiasm because they find it hard to play to empty bleachers. Due to lack of team enthusiasm, they tend not to perform at their best. Because of poor performances, they lose games and wrestling matches, and all this brings unfounded criticism to the players and their coaches from the student body.

It is very demoralizing to play a basketball game and see more members of the faculty in the bleachers than students; or to wrestle another college team in our own gym and find more spectators from the other school.

The reason for this poor turnout at games and pep rallies is a mystery to me. It surely isn't the price, because all athletic events are free to Behrend students and faculty. Anyone would think that you would want to come and watch your friends perform on the basketball court or wrestling mat. Maybe the reason is that Behrend students don't have any friends. If this is the case, they should get out and revive the Behrend "Hello Spirit".

My prescription for the prevention of a major epidemic of apathy on campus is take one friend to the next basketball game. Plan for a not-so-quiet bus trip to the next away basketball game; follow it by one evening of watching a wrestling match. This simple remedy should give our teams a much needed shot in the arm to boost their morale.

RE-MATCH SCHEDULED

This Saturday, January 27, is the date of a re-match with Allegheny Community College of Pittsburgh. The event will take place in Erie Hall at 1:00 p.m.

The Cubs wrestled them once before this season in Pittsburgh. They lost by a score of 22-15. The Behrend grapplers shall be out for vengeance on their own mats and in front of a home crowd.

This match is to take the place of a previously scheduled match with Altoona Campus (PSU) which was originally planned for that date. Altoona's wrestling team folded up due to lack of wrestlers. This unfortunate event shall eliminate two

matches from Behrend's schedule and the State Tourney. The State Tourney was to be held at Behrend this year, but due to lack of enough junior college teams in the state, the tourney has been cancelled.

BEHREND CAGERS LOSE 4 WIN 1

Behrends basketball record now stands at 7-6 after four hard losses and one win. Last Saturday, the Cubs bowed to the visiting Altoona Campus team, 82-48. Although the game was delayed one hour and a half, due to bad weather, it didn't seem to hurt the Altoona team. The visitors held a 34-15 half-time lead, increasing the cushion in the second half.

The hoopsters lost a heartbreaker last Tuesday night to a rugged home-team, Jamestown Community College squad, 85-83. The score was 76-76 at the end of regulation play, with Doug Moorhead sinking the tying basket with only thirty seconds left. However, Jamestown scored nine points in the overtime period, while Behrend scored only seven.

Newcomer, Dan Fry, was high scorer from Behrend in both games, with thirteen against Altoona, and twenty-nine points in the Jamestown game.

Friday and Saturday night saw Behrend losing two more hard fought games, one to the McKeesport Campus, 109-91, and the other to the New Kensington Campus 89-80. Both of these games were away games.

The Cubs finally got back on the winning track Tuesday night with an easy victory over Bradford-Pitt, 77-57. Behrend scored the first bucket and never lost the lead throughout the rest of the night.

Saturday the Behrend Campus gets back into action against Johnstown; and the on Tuesday, January 30, against Ashtabula. Both games are scheduled for Erie Hall at 8:00p.m..

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