

Sports

NCAA Tourney Sweet Sixteen

by Michael Cifelli
Collegian Staff Writer

Midwest Regional (at Minneapolis, Minn.)

Illinois vs. Louisville: Battle and the fightin' Illini are known for plenty of high flying dunks. But, even more devastating is their intelligent play on the court which is orchestrated by point guard Steve Bardo. Illinois' game has been sparked with the return of Kendall Gill. A concern for the Louisville Cardinals has to be the Illinois defense which has forced 35 turnovers and allowed only 42 percent shooting from the floor. Cardinal hopes for advancement lie solely in the hands of Pervis Ellison and Labradford Smith.

Missouri vs. Syracuse: These two teams met in November at the NIT Big Apple Tournament's title game. The Orangemen won that contest 86-84, behind the play of Sherman Douglas. The key for Syracuse in this match-up is Derrick Coleman, who has a bad back. His second round comeback of 12 points and seven rebounds has seemed to spark the Orange attack. The key for Missouri depends on the outcome of the backcourt showdown between Byron Irvin and Douglas.

Southeast Regional (at Lexington, Ky.)

Oklahoma vs. Virginia: The Sooners are back in high scoring form after a season-low point tally (72) in their one-point escape from E. Tennessee. The Cavaliers are at their peak, coming off back to back 100-point games. Virginia's Richard Morgan has scored 33 points in each of the past two games. However, the Sooners possess the best inside/outside combination around in Stacey King and Mookie Blaylock. The Cavs will have their hands full with these two.

North Carolina vs. Michigan: This is a regional rematch of a year ago which the Tar Heels won. North Carolina's main concern has to be the hot Wolverine trio of Terry Mills, Glen Rice and Rumeal Robinson. The return of North Carolina's J. R. Reid from suspension should help make this contest a battle to the very end.

East Regional (at East Rutherford, N.J.)

Georgetown vs. N.C. State: When Charles Smith is clicking, so are the rest of the Hoyas. Along with Smith is Georgetown's freshman sensation Alonzo Mourning, the nation's leading shot-blocker. Jim Valvano's hot scorer is guard Rodney Monroe who is coming off a tournament high 40 points against Iowa. He is the Wolfpack's clutch player down the stretch.

Duke vs. Minnesota: The Golden Gophers are wearing the glass slipper this year. Considered to be in a rebuilding year, Minnesota has gone farther than anyone expected behind the likes of Willie Burton. Duke, on the other hand, are following the lead of superstar Danny Ferry who is trying to lead the Blue Devils to their third Final Four appearance in four years.

West Regional (at Denver, Colo.)

Arizona vs. UNLV: The Runnin' Rebels thrive on defense as do the Wildcats of Arizona. The Cats are the best ball handling club in the nation behind defensive star Sean Elliot. Elliot predicts that number one Arizona will go the distance whereas the Rebels' Stacey Augmon and Anderson Hunt provide the power for a possible upset.

Indiana vs. Seton Hall: Bobby Knight has done it again and gotten his Hoosiers deep into tournament play. He has solid help in Jay Edwards as well as one of the deepest benches in the nation. The Pirates have been struggling but are confident they can improve. Although the Pirates are bigger than Indiana, Ramon Ramos needs to fully recover from a concussion for Seton Hall to take it to the Hoosiers.

Top Performers After Two Rounds

Points: 40 - Rodney Monroe, N.C. State vs. Iowa
36 - Glen Rice, Michigan vs. S. Alabama
35 - B.J. Armstrong, Iowa vs. Rutgers
34 - Mookie Blaylock, Oklahoma vs. La. Tech
34 - Charles Smith, Georgetown vs. Notre Dame
34 - Mario Credit, Arkansas vs. Loyola - Mary.

Lady Lions' Softball New Coach Takes the Field

by John Musser
Collegian Staff Writer

It's a new season for the Lady Lions' softball team and they have a new coach to guide them through it.

"I'm very excited to be here," said first-year coach Brett Banker, "I'm fully committed to building a quality softball program."

Banker, who also is Sports Information Director here at Behrend, spent his last three years at NCAA Division II Springfield (Mass.) College as an assistant coach. Before that, he was varsity head coach at Hanover High School (New Hampshire) for three years where his teams qualified for the state tournament all three years. He has also coached summer, fast-pitch American Softball Association teams for seven years.

Banker, a Hanover native, is a graduate of Springfield College, where he played baseball. At Springfield, Banker earned a Bachelor of Science degree and a Masters in Education.

The new coach is ready to take Behrend to a new level. "I very much respect what previous softball coaches have accomplished at Penn State-Behrend. At the same time, though, I'm ready to take the next step and develop consistently competitive teams."

As for his players, Banker feels that he has assembled a talented group. "We have a lot of quality players, and for the first time, there is depth on the pitching staff. We are very fortunate to have an excellent group of returnees and talented freshman as

well."

Returning letter-winners are Tammy Altsman (INF-OF), Lisa Butch (INF), Lisa Dorenkamp (C), Jennifer Mowris (INF-P), Tina Mattress (INF), Erica Scribner (1B-OF), and Theresa Sumner (OF-P).

Top newcomers include Beth Balizet (P-1B), Melanie Dunn



Brett Banker

(INF-P), Lisa Irvine (INF), Kellie Jordan (C-INF), Keiren Logue (OF-1B), Lea Morrison (INF), Cindi Patton (P-OF), and Erika Renwick (P-INF).

The '89 edition of Behrend softball features a strong infield. Altsman, last year's starter at second, will see a lot of playing time again at second and is a solid contact hitter. Butch is a tremendous athlete and a strong hitter whose good defense has her anchored at the shortstop position.

Dunn will see time at third or first, while Morrison will also see

time at first. Mowris is a talented player who does everything well and will play a lot at third. Dorenkamp and Jordan will split time behind the plate, and both are quite capable with the bat.

Although there is a lack of depth in the outfield, there is no lack of talent. Sumner is an outstanding defensive center fielder who is expected to be the quarterback of the outfield. Scribner, who has a strong throwing arm, could possibly start in the outfield along with Patton and Logue.

Mattress and Irvine can both play a variety of positions, providing important versatility to the team. Mattress gives the team an added dose of experience.

The pitching staff has more depth than the Lady Lions are used to. According to Banker, "Pitching is the key" to a good year. The staff is lead by freshmen Renwick and the hard throwing Balizet. Mowris, Sumner, and Patton will also work from the mound.

At the plate, Jordan has the best fundamentals on the team. Scribner is one of the strongest hitters on the team while Altsman, Butch, and Dorenkamp are all solid contact hitters.

Banker was quick to point out that, "with all double-headers, everyone on the roster will see playing time."

What is Banker's outlook on the season? "At this point, I would expect to go at least .500. (However) No Division III team in the country plays as hard a schedule as we do." Nearly half of the schedule is against Division II and/or NAIA schools, plus some highly ranked Division III teams.

Club Volleyball Action

by Missy Mace
Collegian Staff Writer

A hot gym with six people on each side sacrificing their bodies to keep a ball from contacting the floor and trying to place the ball on the floor of the opponent's. The sport is volleyball and the Men's Volleyball Club plays it as well as any other.

Scott Olsen and Mark Shreck organize practice every Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday nights for a couple of hours. They also organize playing time for each player as any coach would do.

The team consists of many soccer players along with other talented players. Tom Kerr and Chris Prince serve as captains and both are setters who take control of the game. Chris mostly sets from the back row and also hits powerfully from the middle front row position. He is also perfecting a jump serve.

Tim Wilson hits well from the middle and newcomer Doug Hanes handles the outside. Rick Rohall, Kevin Hess, Tim Hepinger, Greg Mellquist and Olsen are all strong outside

hitters. Matt Gallagher has quickness and accurate passes from the back row along with Mark Shreck, Carmine Romano, and Jason Dix.

Their most recent match was at home against Grove City on March 17. Grove City was the better team winning in straight sets, 15-12, 15-9, and 15-5. The scores speak for themselves as the Behrend spirit decreased with each defeat.

According to freshman captain Chris Prince, "Our loss to Grove City made us realize that we have to play our game and stick together as a team." The team did not "stick together" as there was a lot of mis-communication on the court. Their passes were inaccurate and as a result the sets were off the mark and their offense was nowhere to be seen.

The team keeps on improving as the season moves on. They possess a lot of talent and potential that is fun to watch. Chris Prince has a positive attitude towards the team, "Although we are lacking height and experience we are improving with each match. Hopefully, by

the end of the season, we will be able to beat the best teams in the conference."

Track Club Competes at Clarion

Penn State Behrend's newly formed track club traveled to Clarion March 18 to compete in the Clarion University Invitational. Six club members went up against athletes from Duquense, Pitt-Bradford, Pitt-Johnstown and Clarion.

Top finishers included club president Ala Stanford who took first place in the women's 100 meter hurdles as well as third in the 200 meter dash. Other top performers include Jeff Lavalle (who finished second in the men's 100 meter dash and third in the 200 meter) and Chris Filoon who took fourth in the 200 meter.

The track club will compete next at Case Western University in Cleveland on April 1. A field of 12 different teams is expected.