

Sports

Lady Lions Look Back on Top Season

Softball Team enjoyed a record-setting year

by Mike Leshner
Collegian Staff Writer

While everyone here at Behrend was rejoicing the start of their summer break, the girls softball team, coached by Brett Banker, set a school record for the most wins in the regular season, finishing with a 17-9 record.

"To prove yourself, you must repeat the success you've earned over and over again. That's our goal."

**-Brett Banker
Softball Coach**

The girls were given a post-season bid to play in the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Southern Championships. This was the first playoff bid ever extended to Behrend. Only four bids are offered in an area comprising of metro New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania.

Behrend was seeded second with William Paterson, New Jersey seeded first, Ramapo, New York seeded third and Manhattanville, New York ranked fourth. The tournament was double elimination,

meaning that once a team lost two games, they were finished.

On the first Saturday of the tournament, the Behrend girls split a pair of games, beating Manhattanville 7-2 but losing to William Paterson by a 4-1 score. The following Sunday, Behrend was eliminated from the tournament by Ramapo, who won 6-2.

Some of the standouts in the playoffs were Lisa Butch, Tammy Altman, and Erika Renwick. Butch, from Northwestern High School, batted .400 during the playoffs, including a bases loaded double in the first game. Altman added to the offense by hitting .350 in the tourney. Both Butch and Altman were clutch players, getting hits with two outs to drive in runs.

Erika Renwick was busy pitching twenty of the possible twenty-one innings played, keeping Behrend close and competitive in each of their games.

Coach Banker said, "The William Paterson game was a very well played softball game. Two great pitchers going head to head." He also stated that "pitching always highlights tournament play at the college level."

William Paterson claimed the top spot with Behrend placing an impressive third place in the ECAC Southern Championships. Erika Renwick was an Academic All-American nominee, and the whole team received notice in the



Collegian file photo

Tammy Altman, shown in a game from last spring, helped Behrend to a third place finish in the ECAC.

National Fast Pitch magazine for their success.

When asked how the approaching season looks, Coach Banker stated that "being successful helps in recruiting, gaining self-respect and community awareness." Behrend has lost only three starters: shortstop Lisa Butch, centerfielder Theresa Sumner, and rightfielder Cindi Patton.

After improving from an 8-16 record

in 1987-88 to 17-9 in 1988-89, the Behrend girls hope to keep improving.

According to Banker, there is a "solid group of newcomers that were heavily recruited; I expect to see a dozen new faces at tryouts this fall and next January."

He summed up by saying, "To prove yourself, you must repeat the success you've earned over and over again. That's our goal."

Lady Spikers Travel to Cortland

Tournament Starts Friday

The 1989 Women's Volleyball team hopes to improve on last year's 15-29 record. They are a small team, with seven returning letter-winners, and five freshmen recruits. What they lack in depth they make up for in hustle, quickness, and desire.

The team has been practicing for two weeks and is concentrating on improving defensive skills. According to coach Jan Wilson, they are weak in blocking skills, but have depth in the setting position.

Coach Wilson regards the schedule as a challenge. It includes tough competitors such as, Grove City College, Mercyhurst College, and Westminster College. The teams goal is to finish the season above .500.

The returning letter-winners from last years squad are, Ingrid Conner, Leise Guiher, Kellie Jordan, Missy Mace, Michele Mallory, and co-captains Amy Karmazon and Erica Scribner.

The freshmen recruits are Pam Allshouse from Conneaut Lake high school, Sue Greco from Valley, Kelly Kingston from Saegertown, Sara Moss from Bradford area, and Sue Nichols from Maplewood.

Coach Wilson is very optimistic about the Cortland tournament being held this Friday and Saturday. She thinks the teams chances are good to reach the finals there.

Women's Volleyball Home Schedule *

9/12	John Carroll Case Western	6 p.m.
9/28	SUNY-Fredonia Pitt-Bradford	6 p.m.
10/12	Thiel College Buffalo State	6 p.m.
10/14	Grove City College Westminster	1 p.m.
10/18	Geneseo College Allegheny College	6 p.m.
10/21	St. John Fisher Carnegie-Mellon	1 p.m.
10/26	Mercyhurst Washington and Jefferson	6 p.m.

*Home matches will be played in the Erie Hall Gymnasium.