

Sports

It's over

Booters' second win of season breaks six game losing streak

by Brad Kane
The Collegian

The Lions found the win column for only the second time this season as they snapped a six game losing streak by defeating Pitt-Bradford last week, 2-0.

Keyed by the shutout goaltending of freshman Phil Double and Les Spear on Oct. 3, the Lions were able to record their first whitewash of the year.

"It was our first shutout," said head coach Herb Lauffer, "but just four or five people were not responsible for what happened. All eleven players realized that they could play good defense and helped contribute to (the shutout) occurring."

"It was good to see the guys put everything together and play well.

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- Herb Lauffer
Soccer Coach

Double was on the way to picking up the shutout on his own, but had to be taken out of the game with 16 minutes remaining due to an injury. He had made six saves until that point. Spear registered three of his own in relief.

Offensively, Behrend got goals from Sam Condeluci, his first of the season, and Vince Pedraza. Condeluci's score came with eight minutes to go in the first half off an assist from Mike Dalzell. Pedraza then added his third of the campaign with just 37 seconds left in the half on assists from Ron Peterman and Erik Filoon.

"I thought that as far as performance, the first half was one of our best performances of the year," said Lauffer. "Offensively, I thought we had good movement off the ball; we rotated well."

"It was good to see the guys put everything together and play well. They've been feeling that they've been snakebitten lately with everything that has been going on (injuries, the losing streak, academic violations), so it was good to see them feel victory again."

The feeling of victory was short lived for the Lions as they fell to Buffalo State 3-2 in overtime on Monday.

After trailing at the half 1-0, Erik Filoon's goal of a Dalzell assist tied the game at one with four minutes to go in regulation. The Bengals scored six minutes into the first overtime period before Peterman scored at 10:40 to tie the game again.

Buffalo won the match with a score coming with just 1:33 remaining in the second overtime session.

The Lions were forced to play short handed against the Bengals. Minutes into the second half, mid-fielder Tony Perdue received his second yellow card of the contest, and was ejected from the match. This seemed to put Behrend at a disadvantage. Not so.

"I think the guys played extremely well (one man

down)," said Lauffer.

Lauffer also said that the officiating played a large role in the game.

"The officials were not competent. The number of fouls called were basically even, but the fouls called against us and not called against them were not even. Cards were not issued when they could have been. It was not good, quality officiating, but everyone's allowed to have a bad day."

The game also saw a return to the basics for the Lions.

"We played really well when we played our simplest passes and pushed the ball through midfield," said Lauffer. "We became a little impatient at times and looked too much for a 35-40 yard ball. But when we were poised, we played well."

NOTES: The chances of injured goaltender Tom Bajus returning for play this season does not appear good. Lauffer stated that the sophomore will most likely still be in a cast for at least two more weeks before rehabilitation can begin. With just over two weeks left in the season, Bajus may have to start looking forward to next year.

Juniata Tournament a valuable lesson

Lady spikers lose in consolation quarterfinals

by Steven R. Smith
The Collegian

Behrend's lady spiker's were taught a lesson last weekend at the Juniata Volleyball Tournament.

The Lady Lions learned that when you are playing against the best, you have to play your best. So for this young squad, playing against some of the best teams in the nation was a tough lesson.

The spikers came into the tournament at 9-12 knowing it would be their biggest challenge to date. The challenge was made even more difficult knowing that they would be without starting hitter Alexis Pasteur, who couldn't make the trip due to a family engagement.

The spiker's first lesson came Friday night in their first round match when they played Ohio-Northern University. Ohio-Northern, who finished their 1989 season ranked second in the nation, sported a large squad with four hitters over six feet tall on the roster.

"They were huge," says five-foot-five starter Chrissy Whiteman. "We had played them before (a 15-0, 15-4 loss in the Allegheny Tournament), so it was no surprise that they were very good. But they still looked like giants."

The Lady Lions played all-out, but were outgunned by the strong Ohio squad and lost, 15-2, 15-5.

Their next match was against another strong team, this time from Salisbury State University.

"We played them earlier in the season and lost, but they weren't looking very sharp at this tournament," says Coach Jan Wilson.

The women saw an opening in their opponents armor, but that opening was closed by a rash of service errors and missed blocks. The spikers lost to the squad from Maryland, 15-10, 15-12.

"It was a disappointment," said Wilson. "We had the chances, but we just didn't capitalize."

The loss put them into the consolation round against a squad from Greensborough College, a team that had just finished a tour in California.

The spikers started off slow and lost the first game, 15-5, but surprised the North Carolina squad by coming back to win the second game, 15-8, to force the match to a third game.

Unfortunately, the service aces and consistent play that had sparked the second game victory was put out by a good team effort by Greensborough. The Lady Lions lost the third game, 15-7.

"It was a disappointment. We had the chances, but we just didn't capitalize."

- Jan Wilson
Volleyball Coach

The Lady Lions then took a much needed rest so they would be ready for their lessons on Saturday against Messiah College.

The morning air had a breath of upset in it, and the spikers took a deep breath hoping that they would do some teaching on a non-school day.

The spikers did just that against the team which had been considered the toughest in their region. After losing the first game to Messiah, the women woke up and smelled victory by beating their opponents 15-8, 15-13 in the next two games.

That win tied them for first in their pool with Messiah College, and the two teams played another match to determine who would advance to the next round.

The rematch between these

two squads was not very pretty, at least not for the Messiah hitters. The Behrend spikers were led by sophomore Jessica Powell, who came off the bench on-fire and led her teammates to a convincing 15-6, 15-3 win.

"They (Messiah) folded," said Wilson. "We came out strong and never gave them a chance."

That win lifted the women into the quarter-finals of the consolation round against a strong team from Cleveland's Baldwin-Wallace.

The women made their opponents work, but a balanced attack by the Ohio squad ended the tournament for the Lady Lions. They lost the match 5-15, 7-15.

Coach Wilson commented on the ladies final tournament of the season.

"We went up against a lot of good teams, and it was tough, but the experience will help us in the second half. We had some players who stood out even in this competition, it was a rough lesson, but it shows we can compete."

One player who competed well this past week was sophomore Sara Moss. Moss started in place of an ill Chrissy Whiteman in their win at Thiel on Oct. 2, and started for Pasteur during the tournament.

"You have to have somebody who can come in and play anywhere," said Coach Wilson. "Sara does that for us. She's my seventh player, but she plays like a starter. This week she served well and played back row well. She played steady all-around."

NOTES: Moss got to show off her steady play in her home town last night as the women traveled to Pitt-Bradford for a match....The women's next match is tomorrow night at Grove City where they will face Westminster as well as the hosting Lady Wolverines. Play begins at 6 p.m.

City of Erie softball tournament canceled

Lady Lions, Gannon settle for double-header scrimmage

by Tony Viola
The Collegian

The Softball Fall Invitational was cancelled last weekend, but the Lady Lions were able to play two games against Gannon University on Saturday.

The invitational was cancelled because the coaches from Allegheny College, Mercyhurst College, and Robert Morris College could not make the trip to Erie. The coaches of these teams had other coaching responsibilities last weekend.

On Saturday, the Knights won the first game 5-3.

Gannon trailed 2-1 at the end of the sixth inning before Lion Head Coach Brett Banker made substitutions on the field.

Michele Hoover pitched the first six innings for Behrend before Beth Balizet came in to finish the game.

"It was good for the freshmen to see what collegiate softball is like."

- Brett Banker
Softball Coach

In the second game, freshman Lori Wolfe started for the Lions and pitched the game's first three frames. Balizet pitched the next two innings and Hoover finished the game for Behrend.

The score of the game was not kept.

Banker used the second game to do some experimenting, placing players in different positions than they normally play. He also tried to give the pitchers equal amounts of time on the mound.

Banker used the two matches versus the Knights to view the talents of his new players, six freshmen and one transfer.

"These games were basically for me to see the freshman and the transfers. It was good to see them in a competitive situation," remarked Banker. "It was good for the freshmen to see what collegiate softball is like."

The Lady Lions do not have any more games this fall.