

The Housing and Food Service Athlete of the Week



Anne Bonner
Sophomore
6'1" Center
Communication
Pittsburgh, PA
Avonworth High School

Bonner started the first semester for the 23-4 Lady Lions at the center spot. On Jan. 27 in a huge win over Buffalo State, Bonner went down with a serious knee injury. At the time she was the Lady Lions' second leading scorer and top rebounder.

Bonner did not return to action for three weeks and even then not close to 100 percent. During the ten days between the final regular season game and the beginning of the ECAC playoffs, Bonner improved enough to play. In the championship game versus a 22-5 Frostburg State University team, Bonner came off the bench to collect 12 points on 4x5 shooting from the floor, 4x4 from the line, grabbed four rebounds and came up with five steals, a team high.

For her efforts, Bonner was selected as championship game Most Valuable Player.

For the season Bonner contributed 8.4 ppg, appearing in 19 contests. She also averaged 6.9 rebounds per game and shot 48 percent from the floor.

Housing and Food Services is happy to sponsor an Athlete of the Week. For being selected Athlete of the Week, the student will receive a complimentary two-item pizza from the Wintergreen Cafe.

Lions roar to ECAC playoffs

It has been said that coaching is a science. You bring together the right combinations, mix a compatible formula, stir in discipline, defense, and dedication.

The potion for Paulsen-Thompson-Viscuso is a deadly one.

For the second time in four seasons the Lions of Penn State-Behrend capped off a successful campaign by earning a post-season bid in to the Eastern College Athletic Conference regional playoffs.

Not only did they earn the trip, but they went out and grabbed the runner-up trophy, the school's best ever finish for men in the ECAC's.

Second year coach Fred Paulsen proved that a .500 slate in '91 (12-12) was not his final goal even though it was only the second .500 or better ledger recorded at the college in ten previous seasons.

The Lions replaced three senior starters and with them 65 percent of their offense but never wavered finishing 16-12 overall.

The sixteen wins represent the most victories since 1981 when the Penn State-Behrend squad went 18-10. Only five seasons in Behrend's long 32-year men's basketball history have been better than the year Paulsen's

Lions put in this season.

When you examine the schedule and the success you start to see common denominators; the Lions' ability to remain in every game, the ability to rely on defensive pressure, and the knowledge to treat each offensive possession with importance.

On January 11, arguably the most exciting contest old Erie Hall has seen took place.

"You can coach a very long time and not see a comeback better than the Keuka win for us," Coach Paulsen stated. "It typified the group that we had this year--outworking people, playing defense at a much more aggressive clip than our opponents, and taking a disciplined approach to offense. Not slowing down, but working for the best shot we can get out of a specific situation."

The mighty Lions roared toward the finish winning six of their last eight to earn the post-season opportunity and the number one seed in the field of four. This year the southern regional was held at Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA.

The club knocked off number four seed Frostburg for the second time this year, 72-56 in the semi-finals. Plyler's 18 paced the Lions in double digits. Thorne and Clark hit for 14 and Respress

ten.

The win placed the Lions in to the championship battle with Dickinson, the number two seed.

Dickinson prevailed for the championship trophy, 70-55. Behrend was up two at the half, 30-28 but preceded to shoot just 24 percent in the second twenty minutes (9 x 37) while Dickinson went crazy from the floor.

The host team shot 70 percent themselves, 14 x 20, to win going away. In addition the hosts went to the free throw line 22 times to the Lions' five.

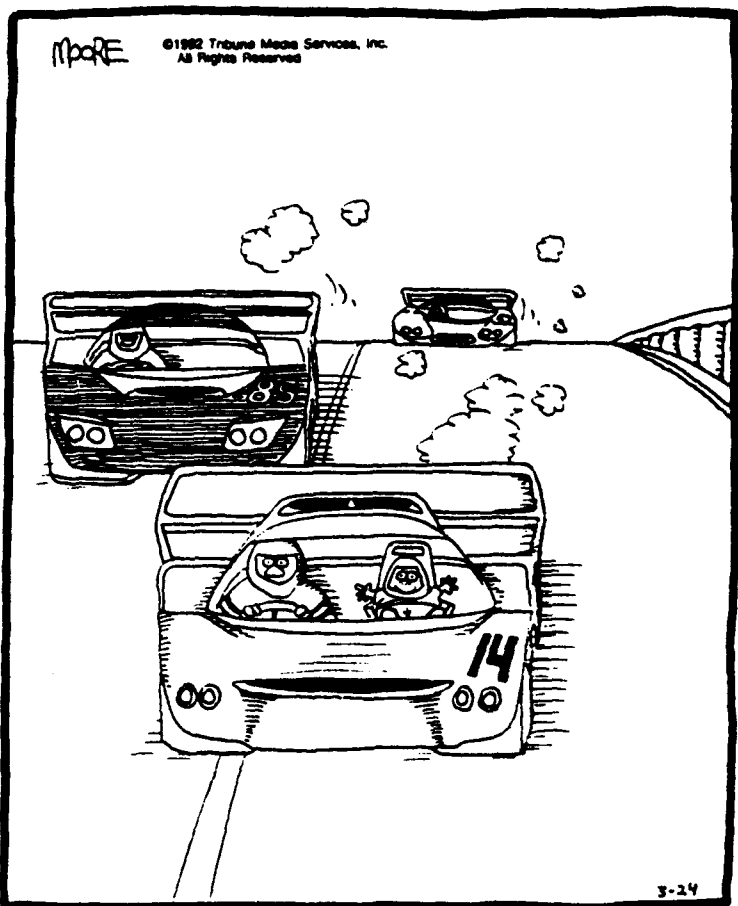
The 1991-92 season proved to be a tremendous success and a testament to the style of play Paulsen preaches and demands from his teams.

The Lions were forced to replace the all-time leading Behrend scorer (Rick Demski), the all-time leading assist man and 1,000 point scorer (Randy Baughman), and one of the top two long ball threats the Lions have had in the past five seasons (Chris Viscuso).

This season's experiment began on uncertain terms and finished as one of the most successful science projects ever done in the Erie Hall lab. The formula Paulsen-Thompson-Viscuso brewed works. The pot is on the stove for '92-93.

IN THE BLEACHERS

by Steve Moore



**-Behrend Athletics-
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