

**BEHREND
 LIONS
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 PRESS 1**

BEHREND LIONS

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF PENN STATE BEHREND ATHLETICS

2005 Behrend Lions Upcoming Home Dates

Date	Event	Time
April 1	Men's Tennis, Alfred	4:00 p.m.
April 2	Baseball, Pitt-Greensburg* (DH)	1:00 p.m.
April 2	Men's Tennis, Frostburg*	6:30 p.m.
April 3	Baseball, Case Western (DH)	1:00 p.m.
April 5	Baseball, Hilbert* (DH)	1:00 p.m.
April 6	Men's Tennis, Slippery Rock	3:30 p.m.
April 7	Softball, Fredonia (DH)	3:00 p.m.
April 9	Women's Water Polo, W & J	4:30 p.m.
April 9	Softball, Frostburg* (DH)	1:00 p.m.
April 10	Softball, ALUMNI GAME	11:00 a.m.
April 11	Softball, La Roche* (DH)	3:00 p.m.
April 12	Baseball, Westminster (V/JV)	2:00 p.m.
April 13	Baseball, Medaille* (DH)	1:00 p.m.
April 14	Golf, Behrend Tournament	12:00 p.m.
April 16	Baseball, Mount Aloysius* (DH)	1:00 p.m. TV GAME
April 17	Baseball, ALUMNI GAME	10:00 a.m.
April 19	Softball, Pitt-Bradford* (DH)	3:00 p.m.
April 19	Women's Water Polo, Slippery Rock	7:30 p.m.
April 23	Softball, Penn State Altoona* (DH)	1:00 p.m. TV GAME
April 24	Softball, Bethany (DH)	1:00 p.m.
April 24	Baseball, Oberlin (DH)	1:00 p.m.
April 27	Softball, Lake Erie* (DH)	3:00 p.m.
May 1	Baseball, Fredonia (DH)	1:00 p.m.

*AMCC Contests

Did You Know ... ?

Penn State Behrend's Director of Athletics Brian Streeter was named the 2004-05 recipient of the General Robert R. Neyland Outstanding Athletic Director Award.

In February, Streeter was recognized at the sixty-sixth Banquet of Champions, held in Princeton, N.J., by the All-American Football Foundation. This award recognizes an individual for his ongoing support of college athletics and his continued support of college

football. Through his Eastern College Athletic Conference involvement, Streeter continues to show support for the growth of college football and the recognition of its coaches and student-athletes through the All-American Foundation.



Men's and Women's Basketball Players Earn All-Conference Honors

The Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference announced its all-conference team and award winners this past weekend. Several Penn State Behrend athletes were recognized.

Men's basketball senior Jared Clough (N. Andover, MD/Bridgton Academy) earned first-team all-conference honors for the blue and white. Clough ranks thirty-fifth nationally in field-goal percentage at 59.5% and held the one or two spot in the AMCC for field-goal percentage the majority of the season. Fellow senior Tom Lulich (Canonsburg/Peters Township) was named to the honorable mention team for the second-straight year. Lulich has consistently been one of the league's best three-point shooters and took third in three-point field-goals made.

On the women's side, last season's Newcomer of the Year, sophomore Tenesha Aden (Sandy Lake/Lakeview), took second-team all-conference honors. She was the team leader in scoring throughout the season and led the league in field-goal percentage at 51%. In her first season with the Behrend Lions, sophomore Rachel Slomski (Erie/McDowell) found herself on the honorable mention list. Slomski is ranked thirty-first in the nation for free-throw percentage.

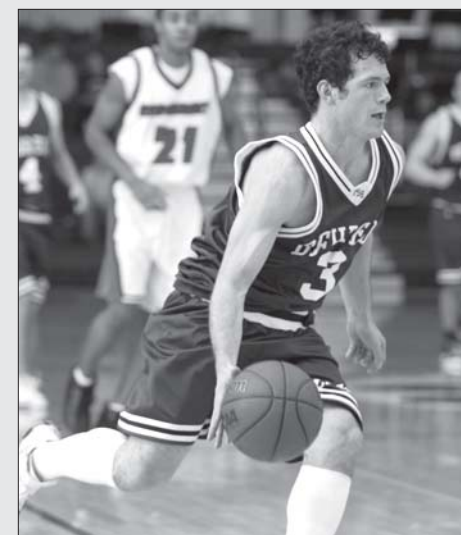
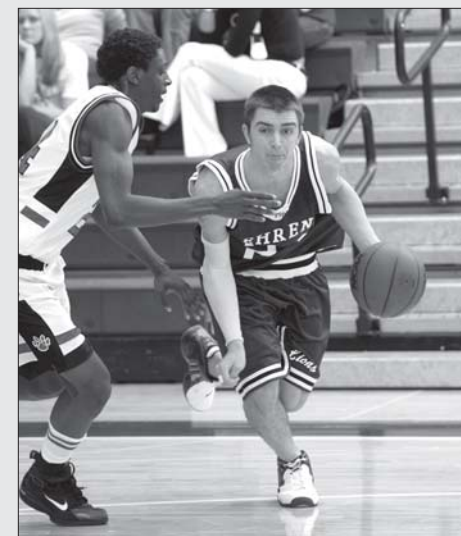
Men's Basketball Wins AMCC League Title—Advances to NCAA Tournament

In the AMCC Championship senior Cam Mascara (Charleroi/Belle Vernon) hit a bucket with seconds remaining in the first half to cut Pitt-Greensburg's lead to ten (31-21) at intermission. Behrend came out firing in the second half, erupting for 31 points while keeping the home team's offense in check. Behrend played tough defensively and limited the Bobcats to only 18 points after the break on its way to capturing the AMCC tournament championship with a score of 52-49.

Strong bench play proved to be the difference in the game. Mascara came off the bench to hit five of seven shots for a team-high 16 points. Also, freshman sensation Kevin Buczynski (Erie/Villa) added 10 points, six rebounds and three blocks in twenty-five minutes of work. Behrend connected on 48% from the field while holding the Bobcats to 34%.

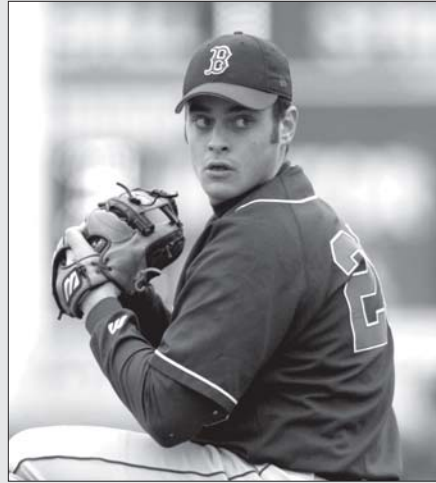
Behrend, the winner of four AMCC regular-season titles, also won the conference tournament in 1997-98 during the league's inaugural season. With the win, the Behrend Lions earned the league's first-ever automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament, and the third in the team's history. Last season, Behrend advanced to the tournament and finished the season with a 22-4 mark.

The blue and white played in the first-round of the NCAA Division III tournament on Thursday, March 3 at Lebanon Valley College at 7:00 p.m. Lebanon Valley entered the contest with a record of 19-6 and a twelve-game home win streak. Behrend shot just 38% in the game and fell to Lebanon Valley by a final score of 71-53. Tom Lulich (Canonsburg/Peters Township) and Kevin



Buczynski led the team in scoring with 11 points each. Joe Lucas (Edinboro/General McLane) added 10 points in twenty-five minutes of action. Coach Dave Niland's team had another outstanding year, finishing with a mark of 19-8.

**BASEBALL PAIR NAMED
"PLAYERS TO WATCH"**



Chris McCartney, a junior from Baldwin, and Vince Canzano, a senior from Rochester, are listed as Division III Players to Watch in *Collegiate Baseball Magazine*.

"Chris and Vince are outstanding players," said tenth-year head coach Paul Benim. "Both have contributed greatly to our past success and will again be key components to our season."

McCartney performed very well last season posting a record of 6-2. He led the team in starts, wins, innings pitched and displayed a sharp 2.32 ERA. Canzano's performance on the defensive side is inspiring. He flashes the leather as well as any shortstop to ever play at Behrend. He was named last season's golden glove winner and hit .288. Canzano also scored 25 runs and was 12 for 13 in stolen base attempts.

The Behrend Lions open 2005 in spring training in Port St. Lucie, Florida by playing nine games. Conference play begins on March 26 with this year's AMCC Tournament winner automatically qualifying for the NCAA Division III Tournament.

**Morales First Female Behrend Swimmer
To Compete at ECACs**

Behrend swimmer Cyndi Morales (Mexico City/Universidad Del Valle de Mexico) took to the pool at the University of Pittsburgh in late February as the first Behrend women's swimmer to compete in the ECAC Swimming and Diving Championships.

Freshman Morales swam in both the 1650 and 500 yard freestyle events. Her top performance came in the 500 where she placed seventeenth out of twenty-nine swimmers with a time of 5:15.57, beating ten Division I swimmers. Morales placed twenty-first in the 1650 yard freestyle with a time of 18:32.76. This was her second best time of the season.

"It was a great experience for Cyndi," said head coach Jen Slack. "She knows what it is like to compete at this level and she has set her goals for next year. She is raising the level of competition within our program."



**Track and Field Excels at Indoor
ECAC Championships**

The Penn State Behrend men's and women's indoor track and field teams qualified 14 athletes for the ECAC Indoor Track and Field Championships, which were held at St. Lawrence University in Canton, NY on March 4 and 5. Over fifty schools competed in both the men's and women's competition. The blue and white had their finest ECAC performance to date, with the men finishing twenty-first and the women placing twenty-sixth.

Isiah Meek (Wayne, NJ/Wayne Valley) had Behrend's best-ever individual performance at ECACs when he finished second in the 55-meter hurdles with a time of 7.76. Meek's school record time of 7.74 in the preliminary round provisionally qualified him for the NCAA Indoor Championships. Shane Rock (McKean/General McLane) and Jon McKinney (Summerville/Union) both qualified in the triple jump with distances of 44'2.75" and 43'9.75", respectively. McKinney placed eighth in the meet and Rock finished twelfth. The final individual male qualifier was pole vaulter Donnie Hackworth (Monroeville/Gateway). Hackworth cleared 13'11" to tie for eighth place.

On the women's side jumper Staci Banaszek (Erie/Harborcreek) qualified in the triple jump with a distance of 36'4.5", the long jump with a distance of 16'9.5", and the high jump with a height of 5'1.75". Banaszek's best performance came in the triple jump, where

she placed sixth. Becky Gonzalez (Morrisville/Piscataway) competed in the 55-meter hurdles where she shattered her old school record by two tenths of a second to run 8.71 and place eighth. Leisl Soergel (Evans City/Butler) also qualified individually in the 500-meter dash with a time of 1:23.00. Soergel ran the event in a school record time 1:22.84 to finish in eighth position.

Both the men's and women's squads also qualified their 4x800-meter relay teams. The women's team of Leslie Gentile (Corry/Corry), Nicole Mineweaser (Warren/Warren), Claire Manelick (Youngsville/Youngsville), and Leisl Soergel ran 10:01.62 to finish in sixth. The men also finished in sixth place. The team consisting of Brad Ruffo (West Middlesex/West Middlesex), Eric Diluzio (Erie/Cathedral Prep), Mike Barlett (Erie/Iroquois), and Joe Wilcher (Irwin/Penn Trafford) posted a time of 8:05.07. Both teams set new school records.

Head Coach Dave Cooper was delighted with the performance of the team this season. "Fourteen indoor ECAC qualifiers is a record number for Behrend, up from six in 2004. The athletes were ready to compete and scored a record number of points." Behrend also had a record total of thirteen All-ECAC performers. The honor is awarded to those athletes who finish in the top eight spots in their event.

Men's Tennis Set to Defend AMCC Crown

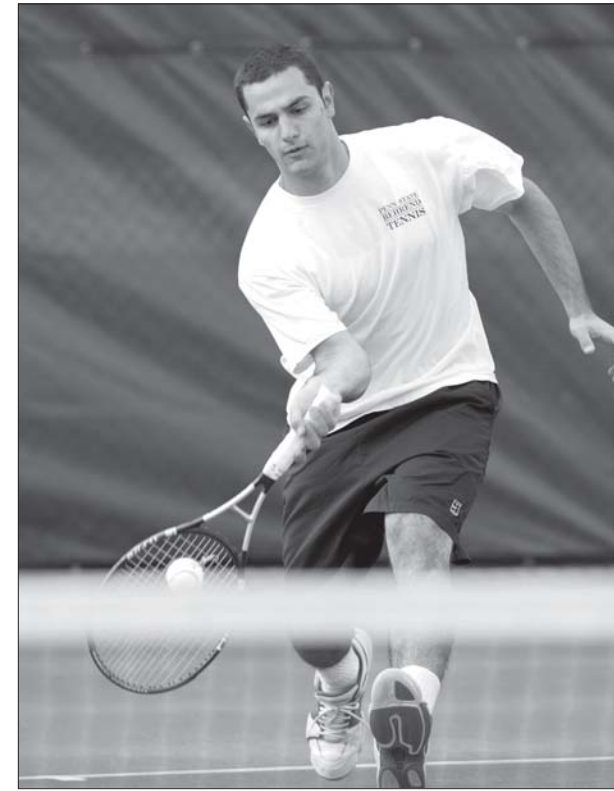
The Behrend Lions men's tennis squad enters the 2005 season as the defending Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) champions and confident of future success. The blue and white captured the league title with a one-point win over Frostburg in the conference tournament, and will be the pace setters this season with every league team gunning for them.

"We are looking to improve on last year's record," said eighth-year head coach Jeff Barger. "We will have a young team and the real question is how they will perform." Last season, Behrend posted a perfect 6-0 mark in league play and tied the school-record for wins with a 14-7 overall mark. In addition, eight players earned all-conference honors, and coach Barger was tabbed the Coach of the Year for the fifth time.

After returning with good experiences from spring training in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, the team was 6-6 overall. The team rallied, elevated its play, and earned victories in eight of nine matches including the AMCC finals. "The conference should be tight again this season," Barger said. "There is good depth in the league with several top-notch returning players."

Leading the team into the season will be three experienced netters. Captains Brian Espin (Warren/Warren) and Matt Meyer (Rush, NY/Rush-Henrietta) are respected by their teammates and are expected to lead the team early. Espin and Meyer were 7-8 and 11-4 respectively in singles play and both worked with teammates to grab eight wins at number-two and number-three doubles. Meyer earned AMCC Co-Newcomer of the Year honors last season, while Espin was voted the team's Rookie of the Year. Also returning will be senior Jeremiah Guthrie (Butler/Butler). Guthrie pushes his teammates in practice and brings veteran experience and leadership to the team.

The incoming class has a great deal of potential and will push for time at the top flights in both singles and doubles. This group will need to step up its play to fill holes created by the loss of three all-conference performers. Seven freshmen join



the 2005 squad with good high school success and add competitive depth to the team. The freshmen include Miles Boyea (St. Vincent, WI/Upper Canada), Trevor Dougherty (Meadville/Meadville), Todd Guarnieri (New Castle/Neshannock), Brian Kaleta (Harborcreek/Harborcreek), James Myers (Cranberry/Seneca Valley), Daryl Nowacki (Warren/Warren), Steve Rohm (Cranberry/Seneca Valley), and first-year seniors Jose Rosas (Erie/Jose De Diego) and Jon Stull (Erie/McDowell).

"Our team should be good this spring," said Barger. "We will look to improve each day. How our young players perform under pressure will tell our team's story."

The netters travel to Baldwin-Wallace for matches against the Yellow Jackets and Tiffin in mid-February. The home opener is against Waynesburg on February 26, followed by Westminster coming to Erie to play two days later. In March, they will travel to Hilton Head and play six matches during the week. The conference slate will feature home contests against Frostburg, Penn State Altoona, and Pitt-Greensburg. The conference tournament will be on April 16 at Pitt-Greensburg at 9:00 a.m. "We will have a tough schedule against non-conference teams," said Barger. "Playing high-quality teams early will prepare us for AMCC play in April."

**BEHREND SITS ATOP
THE PRESIDENTS' CUP
STANDINGS**

Penn State Behrend is sitting atop the AMCC Presidents' Cup Standings through the end of the AMCC basketball season. With only tennis, baseball, and softball remaining, the blue and white have a 10 point lead over Frostburg State. Teams accumulate points for their school based on their final placement at the end of each sport season. Behrend stands at 58 points, with Frostburg at 48 and Penn State Altoona and Pitt-Greensburg at 44.

Behrend is looking to reclaim the cup in its fifth year. Frostburg took it home in 2003-04. The Behrend Lions had won the cup the previous three seasons.

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