

# BEHREND LIONS

## ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF PENN STATE BEHREND ATHLETICS

## Penn State Behrend Earns Seventh Presidents' Cup in Eight Years

The Penn State Behrend Lions have claimed the 2007-08 AMCC Presidents' Cup for the seventh time in its eight year history. The Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference's ten schools compete for points in thirteen men's and women's sports, with points accumulated for each team's finish during the AMCC regular season. The award is presented annually to the conference member with the most success-

ful overall program in AMCC competition.

Behrend's total of 99.5 points outpaced second-place Penn State Altoona by more than 24 points. Frostburg State, who finished third this year won the cup back in 2003-04 and is the only other team besides Behrend to have won it since the AMCC began awarding this honor eight years ago. Rounding out the standings were Lake Erie

(68), Medaille (65), Pitt-Greensburg (56.5), Pitt-Bradford (48.5), La Roche (45.5), Mt. Aloysius (27.5), and Hilbert (21.5).

The Behrend Lions won ten of thirteen regular-season championships, capturing regular-season titles in baseball, men's basketball, men's and women's cross country, men's and women's soccer, softball, men's and women's swimming and diving, and men's tennis.

## 93 Student-Athletes Earn Academic All-Conference Honors

Annually Behrend Lions student-athletes excel in the classroom. This spring, 93 athletes were honored with academic all-conference honors. To be recognized as all-conference, student-athletes must earn at least a 3.2 grade point average each semester—a challenging task while balancing practice, games, and academics.



**Dustin Fairchild**

In addition, 24 athletes at Behrend have been recognized by the National College Athletic Honor Society (NCAHS). Juniors and seniors on varsity squads with a 3.40 cumulative GPA or better are eligible, and once inducted become members of the Chi Alpha Sigma Pennsylvania Epsilon Chapter. In addition, this year's AMCC Faculty Athletics Award winner was Behrend swimmer Dustin Fairchild, while senior cross country runner Lisa Brozewicz was also selected to the AMCC All-Academic team for her excellence in the classroom.

## Penn State Behrend Lions Announce 2008 Top Athletic Awards

This year's James Frye Male Athlete of the Year was awarded to basketball senior Kevin Buczynski (Erie/Villa Maria). Buczynski holds the number two spot in Behrend history with 1,689 career points. He has been named AMCC Player of Year twice, as well as selected to the AMCC All-Conference team on three occasions.

This year's Cheryl Ramsdell-Anderson Female Athlete of the Year winner was women's tennis standout, Allison Mudrey (Hermitage/Hickory). Mudrey went undefeated in the 2007 season, going 15-0 in singles play and 8-0 in doubles. She's posted a 59-7 career singles record, and was named the AMCC Player of the Year from 2004 to 2006, as well as a first-team All-Conference selection for singles and doubles play in her three years of AMCC play.

Also awarded annually is the John Zahniser Scholar Athlete Award, which is given to the student-athletes who have best combined academic and athletic achievements. This year's male scholar-athlete award was given to Dustin Fairchild (Corry/Corry). In the program's two years of inclusion in the AMCC Conference, Fair-



**Kevin Buczynski**



**Allison Mudrey**

ild has been named the AMCC Swimmer of the Year each season. The female award was presented to Lisa Brozewicz (Wattsburg/Seneca). Brozewicz was a two-year participant on the women's cross country team as well as the track and field squad.

This year's Herb Lauffer Leadership/Scholarship Award winners are senior basketball forward Meagan Bielamin (Erie/Mercyhurst Prep) and senior baseball player Paul Henry (Mamont/Kiski Area). These athletes best exemplify the qualities of former Behrend coach and athletic director Herb Lauffer: to be a leader, an excellent student, and a sincere, genuine person who strives to make everyone around them better.



**Doug Stevenson**

## TRACK & FIELD CONCLUDES STRONG SEASON WITH 15 ECAC PARTICIPANTS

The Behrend track & field teams finished off another successful season by sending 15 team members to the ECAC Championships. Earl Bass (Niagara Falls, NY/Niagara Falls), Virginia Rodgers-Owens (Washington, DC/P.L. Dunbar), Mike Ferraro (Erie/Harborcreek), Kevin Gorny (Erie/McDowell), Bryson Hartzler (Belleville/Indian Valley), Tyler Johnson (Niskayuna, NY/Colonie Central), Denny Kang (South Park/South Park), Samantha Kristufek (Butler/Moniteau), Ronson Mazany (Ashville, NY/Panama Central), Doug Stevenson (Sharpsville/Sharpsville), Mike Stark (Gibsonia/Pine-Richland), Phil Stuczynski (Girard/Girard), Jordan Telin (North Huntingdon/Norwin), Dana Turley (Sarver/Freeport), Amanda Wehrle (Rossiter/Punxsutawney) all qualified to compete at the championships earlier in the outdoor season.

The 15 Behrend Lions competing was the most ever at the ECAC Championships. Kang was named All-ECAC in the men's pole vault, Ferraro was named All-ECAC in the 100 meter dash, and the 4 x 100m relay team of Ferraro, Stevenson, Johnson, and Stuczynski also received All-ECAC honors. Turley set a new Behrend record in the 400 meter hurdles and Gorny set a school record in the steeplechase.

# Behrend Lions Capture 2008 AMCC Softball Title and Advance to NCAA Tournament

In May the Penn State Behrend softball team won five straight games to capture the 2008 AMCC Championship and the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. The blue and white rallied after losing a game on Friday to storm back and capture their second championship in three seasons.

Behrend began its climb back to the championship round by eliminating Pitt-Bradford with a 7-2 victory, before cruising past Medaille 8-3. Behrend next earned a decisive 9-1 win over Lake Erie to advance to the championship round, where the blue and white would need to win two games against Frostburg State. The Behrend Lions would prove they were up to the challenge, winning game one 2-0 before rolling to a 9-1 win in the title game.

This was the second AMCC title in three seasons for Behrend as the squad last captured the championship in 2006. The blue and white then advanced to Ithaca College to play in their second ever NCAA Tournament. Behrend ran into two strong teams in the regional tournament, falling 4-1 to Ramapo before losing 11-0 to Rochester which brought the Behrend Lions season to a close with an overall record of 33-14. Junior second baseman Nikki Kaschauer (South Park/South Park) was named to the NCAA regional all-tournament team.

Junior pitcher Julie Koman (McKees Rocks/Montour) and junior outfielder Katie Whitby (Tyrone/Tyrone) were both named AMCC First Team All-Conference. Koman was again dominant on the mound for the blue and white. She led the AMCC in E.R.A., strikeouts, wins, and opponents' batting average. This is the third straight season that Koman has been named to the All-AMCC first team. Whitby was also named to the All-AM-



**Katie Whitby**

CC first team for the third consecutive season. She led the league in runs scored, triples, and stolen bases, while batting .393 for the season.

Kaschauer made the second team as she led the conference in hits, while batting .401 on the season. This is the third all-conference selection for Kaschauer as she was named to the first team the past two seasons. Junior outfielder Allison Babish (Coraopolis/Montour) had her best season for the Behrend Lions batting .331 on the year, while freshman Kelsey Mulhollem (Altoona/Altoona) got her career off to a great start by hitting .369 for the blue and white, as both were named Honorable Mention All-Conference.

## TOPSoccer Program Completes Eighth Year at Penn State Behrend

The TOPSoccer program, a community-based program aimed at giving special needs children the opportunity to learn and play soccer, recently completed its eighth season at Penn State Behrend. The program was created by Penn State Behrend soccer coaches Dan Peritano and Patrick O'Driscoll in 2001. The program began with 12 participants in the first year, but has seen substantial growth over the years. This year, 65 children participated over the eight weeks of the program along with 65 volunteers from various Behrend athletic teams and other organizations on campus.

The program is sponsored by Sertoma

Club of Erie County and the Kiwanis of East Erie. In addition to helping fund the speaker series and awards ceremony, the support of the sponsoring organizations also helps to provide a T-shirt and soccer ball for each participant. The program, which runs in the spring semester, pairs a volunteer with a special needs child. Each week the children participate in basic soccer skills and small sided games as well as other activities. Other features of the program are the sibling swim program, a speaker series for parents of special needs children, and the end-of-season awards ceremony and pizza party.

# AMCC Champions! Behrend Baseball Clinches Title and NCAA Tournament Bid in 9-8 Championship Thriller

Penn State Behrend captured the 2008 AMCC Baseball Championship at the Behrend baseball field on Sunday, May 11 by holding off Pitt-Bradford 9-8. A week after knocking off the nationally ranked Ithaca Bombers on the road, the Behrend Lions snatched the AMCC title and the conference's automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

In the final, a walk put the tying run on first base in the top of the ninth, but AMCC Player and Pitcher of the Year David Koerbel (Pittsburgh/Central Catholic) who had come on in relief earlier in the inning, got the final batter to line out as Zachary Sullivan (Oil City/Oil City) made an excellent play and the Behrend celebration began and finished with the team's players piling up on pitcher's mound.

"Our players were very focused this season and played a high-level of baseball," said head coach Paul Benim. "We are very pleased with the progress this group has made and the energy they brought every day to the diamond. They earned it."

Behrend posted an impressive 17-1 AMCC regular-season record and were ranked as high as fifth in the NCAA Mid-Atlantic region polls during the season. In the NCAA Tournament, the Behrend Lions fell 8-1 to Messiah and 5-3 to Gwenedd-Mercy to finish with the second most wins in school history and a 34-12 overall record.

Earning AMCC honors this spring were David Koerbel and Andy Chrobak (Laurel/New Castle). Both were tabbed to the First-Team All-AMCC Team. Koerbel, went 5-0 with five complete games in league play

with a 1.80 ERA. Overall this spring he was 8-2 with seven complete games in 11 starts. He struck-out 73 hitters in 70 innings and walked only 13. Chrobak was 7-4 with a 2.90 ERA for the season, but dominated the AMCC going 4-1 with a 1.95 ERA with three complete games in five starts.

Also earning First-Team honors were Dustin Dubensky (Punxsutawney/Punxsutawney) and John Gray (State College/State College) after both hit above .400 in AMCC play. Dubensky, who was selected by his teammates as the Most Improved Player of the Year, had an amazing sophomore season. He led the team in hits (54), doubles (23), and RBI (46), while batting .365. Gray improved to a .350 batting average and scored 34 runs, stole 13 bases and played flawless defense in center field. Named to the second-team were senior catcher Adam Martin (Rochester/Rochester) and Geoff Lang (Pittsburgh/North Allegheny). Both were main clogs in the middle of the Behrend Lions line-up in the four and five spots. Martin hit a team-high .403 with 2 home runs and 38 RBI, while Lang added a .349 average, 10 doubles, 19 RBI, and 14 stolen bases. A year after being tabbed to the first-team, Behrend's Josh Fyffe (Fredonia/Sharpville) earned honorable mention honors. The starting shortstop hit .333 and led the league in runs scored with 46 and in walks with 30. Fyffe also posted 11 doubles, 25 RBI, and a team-high 21 steals. In addition to the All-AMCC honors, Koerbel and Fyffe both were named to the NCAA Division III Mid-Atlantic All-Region Second Team.



Adam Martin



Andy Chrobak

## Behrend Men's Tennis Team Wins 2008 AMCC Championship

The Penn State Behrend men's tennis team captured the 2008 AMCC Championship. The Behrend Lions were undefeated in conference play during the regular season, and continued to excel at the championships to earn the conference crown.

Behrend freshmen Elliot Blackstone (Wexford/Pine-Richland) and Jon Henderson (Upper St. Clair/Upper St. Clair) came up big for the blue and white as each earned a singles title and the duo teamed up to capture a doubles title. Blackstone won the #2 singles title, Henderson won the #5 singles, and they teamed to take the #2 doubles title. Winning the #3 singles title was Erkin Nasirli (Baku/Baku Oxford School) and taking the #4 singles title was Jim Palmer (Sharon/Sharon). This was the first men's tennis championship

for the Behrend Lions since the 2004 season. It was also the third overall conference championship for the Behrend men's tennis program.

After winning the conference championship, numerous Penn State Behrend Lions were named to the 2008 AMCC All-Conference team. Blackstone took away Newcomer of the Year award, as well as being named Co-Player of the Year. Blackstone remained undefeated throughout the 2008 season, marking a 6-0 record in both AMCC singles and doubles play.

Fellow freshman and doubles teammate Henderson also received All-Conference honors for singles play and the #2 doubles championship title. Rounding out the freshmen award winners was Nasirli who made the first-team singles and teamed with James Getty (Erie/Harborcreek) for second-team doubles

honors. Seniors Palmer, Miles Boyea (St. Vincent, WI/Upper Canada), and Trevor Dougherty (Meadville/Meadville) were also selected to the All-Conference team. Un-  
defeated in singles play, Palmer landed himself on the first-team for singles and second team for doubles with Boyea. Dough-

erty had an impressive year, going 5-1 on the 2008 season. He was honored with a second-team selection in singles and leaves Behrend as the all-time wins leader. Coach Jeff Barger was named as AMCC Tennis Coach of the Year for an impressive eighth time at Behrend.



Elliot Blackstone

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## BEHREND LIONS HOME EVENTS

### JUNE 2008

Date	Event
June 7	JV Boys Basketball Team Camp
June 9-13	Boys & Girls Soccer Day Camp
June 9-13	Boys & Girls Swim Camps
June 14-15	Girls Basketball Shoot-Out
June 16-20	Girls Basketball Day Camp
June 16-20	Boys & Girls Soccer Day Camp
June 20-21	Boys Basketball Team Camp
June 23-27	Boys Basketball Day Camp
June 23-27	Girls Softball Day Camp
June 29-July 2	Grandview Resident Basketball Camp
June 29-July 2	Jerry Sandusky Football Camp

### JULY 2008

July 7-9	State Champs Volleyball Day Camp
July 21-25	Boys Basketball Day Camp
July 28-August 1	Girls Basketball Day Camp
July 28-August 1	Boys Baseball Day Camp

### AUGUST 2008

August 4-8	Boys & Girls Little Dribblers
August 4-8	Boys Baseball Day Camp

\*\*For camp registration and brochure go to [behrend.psu.edu](http://behrend.psu.edu) "click" on ATHLETICS

## Herb Lauffer Memorial Golf Tournament FRIDAY, JULY 25, SHOTGUN START, 1:00 P.M.

The Herb Lauffer Memorial Golf Tournament has become one of the most eagerly awaited events on the Penn State Behrend calendar. And why not? It's a great time, on a great golf course, for a great cause.

It's fun, it provides valuable support for Penn State Behrend athletic teams, and it's in honor of longtime Athletic Director Herb Lauffer.

*Save the date!*

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### Putting Contest

Throughout the round.

#### Golf Scramble

1:00 p.m.

#### Dinner

6:00 p.m.

All events at Lawrence Park Golf Course.