

BEHREND LIONS

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF PENN STATE BEHREND ATHLETICS

Women's Soccer Captures AMCC Championship and NCAA Tournament Berth

The Behrend Lions put it all together when they defeated Frostburg State 2-1 to win their fifth league championship title and advance to the NCAA Tournament for the second time. In the AMCC Championship game, Behrend got on the board in the 17th minute, when freshman Whitney Putnam (Erie/Villa Maria) knocked in a Nikki Frisbee (Valencia/Mars) shot that had rebounded off the post.

The blue and white got the eventual game-winning goal at the 29:30 minute mark of the first half, when Putnam assisted on a goal by freshman Cassie Berlin (Cranberry/Seneca Valley). Putnam headed a corner kick to Berlin, who settled the ball and found the back of the net. Frostburg got on the board with 58 seconds remaining in the second half, but could not even the score, as Behrend claimed the championship.

The conference title earned the Behrend Lions a birth in the 2006 NCAA Tournament. Behrend traveled to Ithaca College to face the defending national champion Messiah Falcons on November 10. The Falcons would show their experience and advanced past Behrend with a 6-0 win, eventually reaching the national semifinals. Women's soccer closed out a tremendous 2006 season with a record of 14-6-1.

The blue and white earned several post-season honors as six players were named to the all-conference team. Selected to the All-AMCC First-Team were Nikki Frisbee (Valencia/Mars) and Emily Rogan (Bethel Park/Bethel Park). Frisbee finished a balanced sophomore campaign in which she struck for eight goals along with eight assists. Rogan was a vital part of the Behrend defense that held the opposition to 1.03 goals a game and a stingy .089 shot percentage.

All-AMCC Second-Team honors went to Beth Manganaro (Pittsburgh/Chartiers

Valley) and freshman goalkeeper, Kayla Frost (Venetia/Peters Township). Manganaro improved as the season went on, finishing second on the team with nine goals including two game-winners. Frost made an immediate impact between the posts, racking up 107 saves and was a major part of all ten Behrend shutouts this season.

Kara Struski (Meadville/Meadville) and Whitney Putnam (Erie/Villa Maria) were also named as All-AMCC Honorable-Mention. Struski was the lone senior leader on the Behrend squad, starting in all 20 games and chalking up three goals and six assists. Struski closes her career out with 77 games played for the blue and white and a school-record 24 assists. Putnam scored a team-high 11 goals to go along with five assists in 2006.



WOMEN'S TENNIS WINS THIRD STRAIGHT AMCC TITLE

Penn State Behrend women's tennis successfully defended their conference crown when they edged out Penn State Altoona by one point at the AMCC Championships. Coach Barger leads his crew of women to their third consecutive championship, and seventh overall since the conference started in 1997. The scoring breakdown of the championship was Penn State Behrend in first with 11 points, Penn State Altoona with 10, Frostburg, who finished with six, and Chatham, who was held scoreless.

Leading the way for the women was Allison Mudrey (Hermitage/Hickory) who won 6-1, 6-0 in the first match and 6-1, 6-0 again in match two to take home individual honors at #1 singles. Mudrey also teamed up with Mindy Calvert (Warren/Warren) to win #1 doubles 8-0, 8-5.

Also winning their respective flights

were Christy Calvert (Warren/Mercyhurst Prep) who took #3 singles and Karen Hobough (Kutztown/Kutztown) who was victorious in #4 singles.

Behrend capped its third straight AMCC championship season by sweeping all three AMCC individual awards. Junior Allison Mudrey (Hickory, PA/Hermitage HS) was voted Player of the Year for the third time, completing another undefeated season in AMCC competition in both #1 singles and #1 doubles. Freshman Karen Hobough (Kutztown, PA/Kutztown HS) was recognized as the Newcomer of the Year. She won the #4 singles crown after a perfect regular season, and was the runner up at #2 doubles in the conference championship. Behrend Lions Jeff Barger was named Coach of the Year for the third consecutive season.

PENN STATE BEHREND LEADS THE RACE FOR THE PRESIDENTS' CUP ... AGAIN!

At the conclusion of the fall season in the AMCC, the initial Presidents' Cup standings for 2006-07 reveal a familiar leader, as Penn State Behrend is again at the top of the list. Only six points separate the top three, with Penn State Behrend leading the way with 55 points, followed by Frostburg State (50) and Penn State Altoona (49). Each institution has laid claim to two championships each so far this year.

Behrend has captured five of the six Presidents' Cups awarded. The Presidents' Cup is based on final regular season standings, with the exception of cross country, tennis, swimming & diving, and men's golf. The Presidents' Cup is awarded annually to the AMCC institution with the most successful overall program in conference competition. The AMCC, celebrating its tenth anniversary as a conference, sponsors 14 championships.

MEN'S SOCCER HAS THREE EARN ALL-CONFERENCE RECOGNITION

Behrend men's soccer had three members earn All-Conference Recognition for the 2006 season. The men, who started the year 1-5-1, finished strong posting a 7-4-1 mark down the stretch with a youthful squad and advanced to the conference semifinals where they were eliminated by Medaille on November 1.

Making the All-Conference First-Team was sophomore David Baleno (Pittsburgh/Plum), a versatile midfielder that was consistently solid on both ends of the field. Baleno anchored the midfield and registered five goals and two assists on 39 shots.

The All-Conference Honorable-Mention list included forward Ahmad Salim (Cranberry Township/Seneca Valley) and senior defender Sean Ruhlman (Warren/Warren). Salim led the Behrend scoring attack with a team-high seven goals and 40 shots. Ruhlman chipped in two goals and an assist from the back row, but made a much larger contribution leading the Behrend defense.

Volleyball Advances to ECAC Tournament Championship Game

The Penn State Behrend volleyball team completed a record-breaking 2006 season with a second place finish in the ECAC Division III South Volleyball Championships on November 10 and 11. Behrend (29-4) defeated Lebanon Valley and Westminster before falling to host New Jersey City University in the Championship Match.

On Friday, November 10, after dropping the first game #2 seed Behrend rallied to defeat #7 Lebanon Valley (21-11) in four games. The blue and white saw strong performances from seniors Elaine Voltz (Saxonburg/Knoch) who slammed 19 kills and Lisa Wagner (New Castle/Laurel) who put away 13 kills to go along with 24 digs. Senior outside hitter Karla Murray (North East/North East) tallied 18 digs and had two service aces.

The win over Lebanon Valley put Behrend into the ECAC semifinals against #3 Westminster (24-12). It took four hard-fought games, but Behrend picked up a victory for the second time this season against the Titans. Scores were 30-21, 27-30, 30-24, and 32-30. Voltz was outstanding, finishing with 25 kills and eight blocks. Sophomore defensive specialist Brittany Hennessy (Hopewell/Hopewell) posted a season-high 31 digs, while senior outside hitter Paige Payer (Venango/Cambridge Springs) chipped in with seven kills on 14 attempts.

In the championship match Behrend would face host and #1 seed New Jersey City University. After NJCU took a 1-0 lead in the match, the Behrend Lions claimed game two to even the final, 1-1. The Gothic Knights edged Behrend 30-28 in the third game for a 2-1 lead. In the fourth game, NJCU was again challenged by the blue and white late, as Behrend closed the Knights' lead to 26-25. However, NJCU scored the final four points to claim the championship. In the final match of their careers, Behrend was again led offensively by Voltz and Wagner who finished



with 17 and 11 kills. Freshman setter Brooke Gallentine (Mt. Pleasant/Southmoreland) dished out 42 assists to go along with 12 digs.

The 2006 season saw the Behrend squad set school records for wins (29) and winning percentage (.879). The Behrend Lions also earned their first postseason wins ever in the ECAC Tournament. Voltz was named AMCC Player of the Year for the second time. Joining her on the All-AMCC First Team were Wagner and Hennessy, while Second Team honors went to Gallentine. Murray and freshman middle hitter Sheila Ogden (Grove City/Grove City) were named All-AMCC Honorable Mention. Penn State Behrend will lose five seniors from the 2006 team, as Murray, Payer, Voltz, Wagner, and Katie Ward (Center/Monaca) wrap up their careers by finishing with a 55-12 record the past two seasons.

Bailey Tabbed AMCC Runner of the Year, Five Others All-Conference

Penn State Behrend's Jenny Bailey (Corry/Corry) has been named the 2006 AMCC women's cross country runner of the year. Bailey finished first among the Behrend women's team in every race this season. She capped off a great sophomore campaign with a first-place finish in a field of over 50 at the AMCC Championships. Other highlights included fourth-place crossings at both the Roberts Wesleyan Invitational and the Westminster Invite. Bailey was the AMCC Runner of the Week a league-high three times in 2006.

Other women on the All-Conference Team are juniors Willa Patterson (Woodward/Penns Valley) and Liesl Soergel (Evans City/Butler). Both placed well in the conference championships, with Patterson

in at sixth-place and Soergel right behind at seventh. Patterson and Soergel were consistent as the second and third finishers for the Behrend women throughout the season and both grabbed a top-20 finish at the Behrend Invitational.

On the men's side, senior captain Brad Ruffo (West Middlesex/West Middlesex) made the list for his fourth consecutive season as he again placed first for his team in every race he participated in. Ruffo was the individual runner-up at the AMCC championships as well as the Westminster Invitational. Other Behrend runners earning All-Conference status were freshman Kevin Gorny (Erie/McDowell) and Andy Iams (Harrison City/Penn Trafford). Gorny



Jenny Bailey



Brad Ruffo

finished the championships in 29:23, a seventh-place effort, while Iams broke the top-10 with a time of 29:37. The two first-year sensations were the only freshmen to earn the conference honor.

The Junker Center: Home of Penn State Behrend Lions Basketball



The 2006-07 season marks the sixth season the Behrend Lions men's and women's basketball teams will call the Junker Center their home. Over those years, Behrend has held a strong home field advantage with the men winning 83 percent of the games and the women winning 71 percent.

Last season the men's team posted a sharp 13-2 mark on the Junker hardwood. Historically the blue and white have performed very well at home under the guidance of head coach

Dave Niland. Since 1994-95 the Behrend Lions have accumulated 219 wins against 105 losses. Niland's team have posted thirteen straight winning seasons. He remains the only coach to post .500 or better seasons in every season he

has coached. In addition, Niland has guided the Behrend Lions to the postseason (NCAA and ECAC Tournaments) in nine of the past ten seasons.

The women's team was 12-3 in the Junker Center last season. Since guiding the program from 1993-94 the Behrend Lions have accumulated 222 wins against 127 losses under head coach Roz Fornari. Her teams have posted an impressive twelve winning seasons. In addition, Fornari has

guided the Behrend Lions to the postseason (NCAA and ECAC Tournaments) eight times.

The Junker Center, a \$10.2 million dollar facility, opened in the spring of 2001 and features gymnasium seating for 1,600 fans.

Overall Record

Men's: 71-15 (.825)		Women's: 64-26 (.711)	
2000-01	10-3	2000-01	11-4
2001-02	11-3	2001-02	9-6
2002-03	14-4	2002-03	8-7
2003-04	13-1	2003-04	14-2
2004-05	10-2	2004-05	10-4
2005-06	13-2	2005-06	12-3

Yes ...

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 - Sport Specific _____
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A T H L E T I C A S S O C I A T I O N

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Behrend Lions Home Events

Date	Event	Time
December 29	WBB, Behrend Winter Classic	
	Mount St. Joseph vs. Hood	6:00 p.m.
	Behrend vs. Washington & Jefferson	8:00 p.m.
December 30	WBB, Behrend Winter Classic	
	Consolation Game	1:00 p.m.
	Championship Game	3:00 p.m.
January 10	WBB, Medaille*	6:00 p.m.
January 10	MBB, Medaille*	8:00 p.m.
January 13	MWSD, Edinboro	1:00 p.m.
January 13	WBB, La Roche*	4:00 p.m.
January 13	MBB, La Roche*	6:00 p.m.
January 18	WBB, Lake Erie*	6:00 p.m.
January 18	MBB, Lake Erie*	8:00 p.m.
January 20	MWSD, Penn State Altoona w /Frostburg	2:00 p.m.
January 20	WBB, Frostburg State*	2:00 p.m.
January 20	MBB, Frostburg State*	4:00 p.m.
January 31	WBB, Hilbert*	6:00 p.m.
January 31	MBB, Hilbert*	8:00 p.m.
February 3	WBB, Penn State Altoona*	4:00 p.m.
February 3	MBB, Penn State Altoona*	6:00 p.m.
February 17	WBB, Pitt-Bradford*	6:00 p.m.
February 17	MBB, Pitt-Bradford*	8:00 p.m.
February 17	MTEN, Waynesburg	1:00 p.m.

Former Behrend Athlete? Update Your E-mail To Stay In Touch!

Use our Alumni Information Form to help us keep you up-to-date with the latest Behrend Lions news. When you visit the Behrend Athletics Web page, click on the "For Alumni" link. At this screen you can find e-mail addresses for your old teammates and colleagues at Behrend. You can also update your information by completing the online Athletic Alumni Information Form.

It's an easy way to stay current with the latest happenings with Penn State Behrend athletics and upcoming alumni events.

Coming soon will be information on ways to help endow future Behrend Lions athletics initiatives!

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