

BEHREND LIONS

ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF PENN STATE BEHREND ATHLETICS

Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Sweep Inaugural AMCC Championships

Penn State Behrend men's and women's swimming and diving captured the first Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) Championships February 10. The three-day event was held from February 8-10 and featured four men's and four women's teams.

The Behrend men finished with 337 points, a full 205 points better than the closest AMCC competitor Penn State Altoona, who ended with 132. On the women's side, Behrend finished with 300 points to claim the crown.

Dustin Fairchild (Corry/Corry) was the individual high point scorer for the men, taking first among AMCC competitors in an amazing five events. Fairchild set the standard for AMCC competition in the 500 freestyle (4:56.20), 1000 freestyle (10:43.22), 100 breaststroke (1:02.65), 200 breaststroke (2:15.96), and the 200 IM (2:08.10). His 200 and 500 freestyle times were both school records. The men's supporting cast was led by Anthony Spoto (Birmingham, MI/Seaholm) and Jason Hall (Lower Burrell/Burrell). Spoto won the AMCC 50 freestyle (22.33) and 100 freestyle (49.46), while Hall took the 50 backstroke (26.26), 100 backstroke (57.00), and 200 backstroke (2:06.32).

For the women, it was Sara Breese (West Springfiled/Northwestern) who took the individual high point honors with a total 40.5 points. Breese won the AMCC 50 freestyle event with a time of 25.86 seconds. She went on to finish first among AMCC competitors in the 100 breaststroke with a time of 1:14.02. Also coming up big was Colby Seibert (Milton/Milton) who had the AMCC's top time in the 100 freestyle (56.97), 100 butterfly (1:02.51), and the 200 butterfly (2:18.84). Seibert's time of 1:02.51 broke a school record that had been held since 2004.

A total of 12 new school records were set over the course of the event, five by the women and seven on the men's side.

Michelle Quail (Cranberry/Seneca Valley) starred on the boards. Her 1-meter score of 266.30 and 3-meter mark of 242.05 were both new Behrend records. Fairchild, Spoto, and Hall were all part of three separate relay squads that all broke school records.

On the women's side Leah Haller (Ottawa, IL/Ottawa Twp. HS) was named AMCC Swimmer of the Year after earning multiple all-conference honors. Michele Quail (Cranberry/Seneca Valley) was named AMCC Diver of the Year after claiming all-conference first-team honors in both diving events. Colby Seibert (Milton/Milton) was named AMCC Newcomer of the Year after earning two selections to the all-conference first-team. The women also saw seven team members claim 14 all-conference team selections in individual events while another five relay teams were honored.

For the men, AMCC Swimmer of the Year went to Dustin Fairchild (Corry/Corry) after earning multiple all-conference honors. A.J. Kondash (State College/State College) was AMCC Diver of the Year and was all-confer-



Dustin Fairchild

ence first-team in both diving events. Newcomer of the Year was Behrend's Tom Weir (Rochester/Freedom) who was also named to the all-conference team multiple times. In total, the men landed 21 all-conference spots in individual events, and another five in relay events. Fourth-year coach Jen Wallace was named as AMCC Men's Swimming and Diving Coach of the Year as well as AMCC Women's Swimming and Diving Coach of the Year.

FIFTH ANNUAL "SPIRIT AGAINST CANCER" DANCE & CHEERLEADING COMPETITION RAISES \$7,100 FOR THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

Penn State Behrend athletics was able to raise \$7,100 for the American Cancer Society on Saturday, February 10 when they hosted the fifth annual "Spirit Against Cancer" Dance & Cheerleading competition.

The competition featured over 800 participants with schools coming from all over the region. Dance and cheerleading teams from middle school, junior high, junior varsity, high school varsity, college, and all-star (open) squads all participated in the event.

"It was really a wonderful experience

for everyone involved," said Behrend athletic director, Brian Streeter. "It was a fun competition that drew over 1,500 spectators into the Junker Center for a great cause."

"Spirit Against Cancer" was created in memory of Becky Hubler Decker. Her commitment to the community included serving as dance coach at Penn State Behrend, cheerleading coach at Edinboro University, she was captain of the Invaderettes dance team, and a member of the Buffalo Bills (Jills) dance team.

TWO BEHREND BASKETBALL PLAYERS REACH SCORING MILESTONES

Behrend women's basketball star senior Brittany Mays (Keystone/Knox) broke the 1,000 point barrier on January 24 when she dropped 16 points and hauled down 12 rebounds in a 79-53 win against Mt. Aloysius. Mays finished her career at third all-time in points at Behrend with 1,173. The women's basketball scoring record at Behrend is held by Erin Phillips with 1,581 points.



Brittany Mays



Kevin Buczynski

Mays also leaves her name several other places in the Behrend books. She ranks eighth all-time in field goal percentage, shooting .475 from the floor in her career. Her 628 rebounds have her at fifth all-time.

Behrend men's basketball forward Kevin Buczynski (Erie/Villa Maria) recently hit the 1,000 point mark for his career here at Behrend. Buczynski dropped 17 points in a victory over Frostburg State on January 20.

Buczynski currently ranks ninth all-time in the Behrend record books with 1,223 points. The career scoring record at Behrend is James Curren's total of 1,726.

The junior has also made the school record book in other categories. He is third all-time in blocks with 84 and ranks second in field goal percentage, shooting .588 from the floor.

Men's Basketball Reaches ECAC Southern Championship Title Game

The Penn State Behrend men's basketball team defeated Grove City and Juniata to advance to the finals of the 2007 ECAC Southern Championship held on March 3 at DeSales University. In the first round game, top-seeded Behrend rolled to a 30-point win over Grove City at the Junker Center. The win over Grove City put the men into the ECAC semifinals also hosted by DeSales. The blue and white handled Juniata College 77-69 to advance to the championship game. In the finals the blue and white fell to #2 DeSales 72-63 ending the season for the Behrend Lions at 21-8.

Behrend, who had no seniors on the squad this year, earned its sixth postseason bid in the last seven seasons after just missing out on an AMCC championship. In the AMCC Championship Game the Penn State Behrend men's basketball team held the lead against host Lake Erie for just shy of 40 minutes. However, a last-second three-point shot gave Lake Erie the lead and the AMCC's birth in the NCAA Tournament.

Behrend men's basketball landed two of its starters on the 2006-07 AMCC all-conference team. Freshman point guard Justin Kovac (Venetia/Peters Township) was elected the Newcomer of the Year while Kevin Buczynski earned a spot on the all-conference first-team for the second straight season. Kovac started



Justin Kovac

in 26 games, averaged 7.6 points per game and led the team in assists with 69. His three assists a contest ranked eighth in the conference. Buczynski had a superb junior season, averaging 17.7 points and 6.9 rebounds per game, putting him at fifth and third in the conference respectively. He started in all 29 games for the blue and white, shooting a remarkable 59% percent from the floor.

Women's Basketball Earns ECAC Bid After Advancing to Conference Championship

The Behrend women's basketball team made their seventh appearance in the ECAC South Tournament after advancing to the championship game of the AMCC conference tournament. The women finished the season at an impressive 21-6 and 15-3 in the AMCC.

After splitting the regular season series against rival Medaille, #2 Behrend fell to the top-seeded Mavericks on the road in the conference championship game. In the ECAC

tournament, Behrend was again seeded #2 and earned the right to host a first-round game but was upended by a tough Moravian squad.

The season marked coach Roz Fornari's third 20-win season and the fourth overall for Behrend women's basketball. Senior Brittany Mays and junior Julia Andrus (Corry/Corry) were both named to the all-conference team.

Behrend Lions Student-Athletes Attend Leadership Conference

Student-athletes Jenny Bailey (Corry/Corry) and Paul Henry (Mamont/Kiski) had the opportunity to attend the NCAA Division III regional leadership conference in Pittsburgh this past January.

Along with Jenny and Paul were Behrend's Director of Athletics Brian Streeter and 250 other student-athletes, administrators, and

coaches from Ohio, West Virginia, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, and Pennsylvania.

The conference covered such topics as the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, hot topics for Division III athletics, discussion sessions for each athletic conference, and forming action plans to use when the participants returned to their campuses.

Greg Cooper Named New Head Track and Field and Cross Country Coach

On Tuesday, January 21, 2007 Penn State Behrend Director of Athletics Brian Streeter announced the appointment of head track and field and cross country coach Greg Cooper.

Cooper is no stranger to the program. He previously served under his father, Dave Cooper, as assistant coach of the track and field team at Behrend for five years and the cross country team for two years. He has also coached and taught at the high school level.

"We are excited to have a former athlete who had success in the classroom and in athletic competition as our head coach," said Director of Athletics, Brian Streeter. "We

have the unique benefit of having a terrific assistant coach to work along Greg as he matures into the head coaching role."

As an assistant coach Cooper specialized in the 400 and 800 meter sprints as well as the hurdles. He played an integral role in coaching Isiah Meek to national qualifying times in both the indoor and outdoor hurdles. This season Cooper will also be taking on the additional assignments of coaching the 100 and 200 meter sprint events.

Cooper was a cross country and track standout at Union City High School where he was a PIAA champion in track & field (4 x 800 meter relay) and captain of Union

City's 1996 PIAA State Champion cross country team. Cooper continued his success at Behrend, where he set records in the 400 and 800 meters as well as three relay records.

Cooper graduated from the Behrend MBA program in May of 2006. In addition to coaching Cooper also instructs in the health and physical education department.



Greg Cooper

Behrend Softball Looks To Defend AMCC Title

A year after a 34-10 campaign that saw the blue and white capture the AMCC Championship and the automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament, the Behrend Lions are back and ready to again challenge for a conference title and postseason appearance. The team returns eight of nine starters and 15 letterwinners from their outstanding 2006 squad and has been chosen by the AMCC coaches as the preseason favorite to repeat as conference champions. Fourth year coach Stacy Pondo returns in charge of a team that dominated AMCC competition a year ago finishing 16-2 in the regular season before capturing the conference title at home in dramatic fashion.

The blue and white dismissed three-time defending champion Pitt-Bradford to claim the 2006 AMCC Championship in the decisive game of the championship tournament by a 5-0 score. The Behrend Lions were then sent to the Northeast Regional of the NCAA Tournament hosted by Ithaca College. Behrend would fall to Ithaca and Union in the NCAA Tournament but gain valuable experience for a young team. Pondo said, "Going to the NCAA Tournament was a huge confidence builder for us and has been reflected in our players dedication throughout the offseason."

The 2007 season will begin with the annual trip over Spring Break to Florida. This season the blue and white will compete in eleven games March 11-17 while at Kissimmee, Florida. After returning to



Julie Koman

the north, the blue and white will host Westminster on March 22 and begin AMCC play March 24 at home against Frostburg State. The AMCC Championships will be held May 4-6 with the winner receiving an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament.

Yes ...

I WANT TO BE A BEHREND LIONS SUPPORTER!

- Lions Club.....\$1,000.00
- Lions Den.....\$500.00
- Lions Trainer.....\$250.00
- Coaches Club.....\$150.00
- Players Club\$100.00
- Blue Club\$50.00
- White Club.....\$25.00
- I waive all membership premiums and tickets and may claim a tax deduction.
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- Sport Specific _____
- Shirt Size _____
- (For gifts of \$250.00 or more)
- My company will match my gift. A completed form is enclosed.

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A T H L E T I C A S S O C I A T I O N

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF PENN STATE BEHREND ATHLETICS

BEHREND LIONS HOME EVENTS

Date	Event	Time
March 30	MTEN, Alfred	4:00 p.m.
March 31	MTEN, Frostburg State*	5:00 p.m.
March 31	BSE, Mt. Aloysius* (DH)	1:00 p.m.
April 3	SOFT, Pitt-Bradford* (DH)	3:00 p.m.
April 7	SOFT, Penn State Altoona* (DH)	1:00 p.m.
April 9	SOFT, Fredonia (DH)	3:00 p.m.
April 11	SOFT, Lake Erie* (DH)	3:00 p.m.
April 14	BSE, Pitt-Greensburg* (DH)	1:00 p.m.
April 15	BSE, Case Western (DH)	1:00 p.m.
April 18	SOFT, Bethany (DH)	3:00 p.m.
April 18	WWP, Slippery Rock	7:30 p.m.
April 19	BSE, Fredonia (DH)	1:00 p.m.
April 19	GOLF, Penn State Behrend Invitational	TBA
April 21	SOFT, La Roche* (DH)	1:00 p.m.
April 25	BSE, Hilbert* (DH)	1:00 p.m.
May 3	BSE, Bethany (DH)	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.

www.behrend.psu.edu

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