

## Question of the Week

*"What are you doing to enjoy this beautiful day?"*



*"Taking a walk in the woods and creeks."*  
Ashleigh Jackowski  
Ecology, 02



*"Playing some ball."*  
Chris Light  
DUS, 02



*"Failing an Act397A test."*  
Joey Herrmann  
Finance, 06



*"Soaking up the sun."*  
Nicole Johns  
English, 06



*"Being kicked in the (crotch) by my Act397A test."*  
Jay Chmielewski  
Finance, 06

# Annual Astronomy Day to feature observation of planet alignment

by Nicky Galloway  
assistant news editor

The annual Astronomy Day is being celebrated this Saturday at the observatories at Penn State Behrend. Astronomy Day is always held on the second to last Saturday in April, but Behrend doesn't always take part.

This year's Astronomy Day will begin shortly after sunset at 8:30 p.m. and will last until approximately 10:30 p.m. The time may vary due to the weather and the number of visitors who attend. Everyone from the age of one to 104 is invited.

As long as the weather permits and the clouds are thin or it is clear, the event will go on as planned. If it is partly cloudy, the brighter objects like the moon, Jupiter, and Saturn will pop in and out of the clouds, but will still be observable. However, if the clouds are too thick, even the really blazing objects will not be seen.

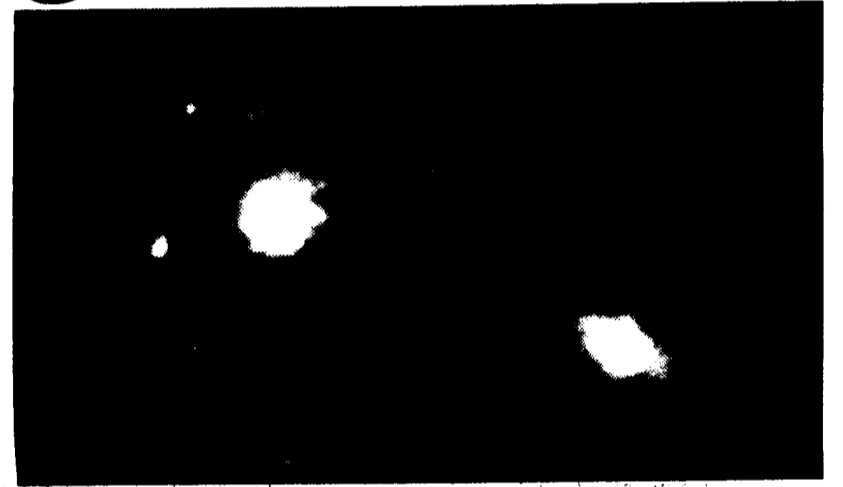
Both of Behrend's observatories will be open this Saturday for observers to look at the solar system. The smaller observatory contains a Meade twelve-inch Schmidt-Cassegrain telescope. Basically, the telescope is a twelve-inch refracting telescope. The Mehalso Observatory is larger than the other one, and contains an 18-cm Meade

refractor equipped with computer controls and a CCD Camera. The Mehalso Observatory and its seven-inch refracting telescope were a gift from Behrend alumni Dr. Robert Mehalso and his wife, Elizabeth, in 2000.

Students who attend the Astronomy Day will be observing the alignment of Saturn, Jupiter, Mars, and the moon. All of these objects are close together if the viewer looks in the western sky. If time permits, students will be

observing objects and nebulae outside of the solar system in the Mehalso Observatory. Some of these objects might include Pleiades, the Subaru Cluster, Orion Nebula, and Sirius the Dog Star.

The Annual Astronomy Day is to raise awareness of astronomical events, like the alignment of Jupiter, Saturn, Venus, Mars, and the moon. Organizers hope it will gather interest in astronomy as a field of science and indicate what direction should be taken for an astronomy education.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Companion galaxies, as seen through the Mehalso telescope.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Mehalso Observatory will be open on Astronomy Day, along with the older observatory.

## Students habla español in La Peña

by Erin McCarty  
news editor

Students who are struggling with Spanish now have a chance to come together to speak the language with other students on campus. This year, several students who felt that it filled a void in their lives and decided to start a Spanish club. The club, La Peña, was founded by Jackie Cavicchio, a sophomore in psychology.

It provides the opportunity to speak Spanish with other students in a non-intimidating setting. "It's a safe place," said Cavicchio, who is the president of the club. Due to the small number of Spanish speakers at Behrend, students in the club are interested in studying the subject themselves. Such was the case of sophomore Kevin Hilligan, who is pursuing a degree in Spanish, and Leah Rosenthal, who is a senior majoring in psychology. Participating in the Spanish club is a way to keep those speaking skills active during the semester.

complete with tacos and Latin music, which was held yesterday. Big plans are already underway for next year. The club has already received funding to present the story of how chocolate came to America outside Bruno's. Accentuating the information will be cookies and hot chocolate. La Peña has also been funded to present a Spanish reading during which students will read various selections in Spanish and share Spanish food. Cavicchio is especially excited about the prospect of holding a Carnival, the Spanish version of Mardi Gras that is characterized by elaborate costumes.

"La Peña is designed to help students learn the Spanish language and culture in a non-intimidating setting," said vice president Libbie Johnson, Communications 08. Not only can students speak with one another, experts are on hand to ensure they are speaking correctly. Club members include native speakers, and students can also seek guidance from advisor Guadalupe Alvarez-Madrid, Dr. Juan Fernandez-Jimenez, or Dr. Soledad Traverso.

Spanish speakers of all skill levels are invited to attend meetings, and the club is currently seeking officers for the positions of secretary, treasurer, and vice president. For more information on the club, please contact Cavicchio at jmc407@psu.edu.

Where do I file this?

Where's my P drive?

Cut and Paste??

Complete my schedule on Elton?

This paper needs footnotes!

## BASIC PC SKILLS FOR ADULTS



Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> Computer Basics 7:00pm – 8:00pm

Topics include: parts of the computer, windows functions, hardware and information storage, and location of commonly used features

NICK 156

\*\*\* NEW TIME AND LOCATION \*\*\*

Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> Microsoft Office 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Topics include: Word, EXCEL and PowerPoint

Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> Internet applications 6:30pm – 7:30pm

Topics include: Internet usage, eLion, Eudora

HAMMERMILL 130

\*Must know your userid and password and bring a 3.5" disk\*

To RSVP or for additional information contact Biddy Brooks at 898-6260 or email [bb9@psu.edu](mailto:bb9@psu.edu)

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