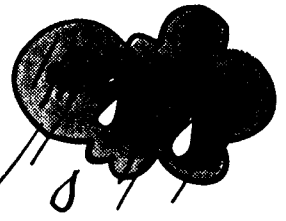
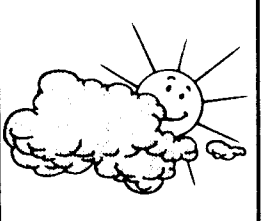



WEEKEND WEATHER

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
		
Showers High: 52° Low: 38°	Partly Cloudy High: 52° Low: 38°	Showers High: 48° Low: 38°

BEHREND BRIEFS

Aerosmith to rock Bryce Jordan Center

Aerosmith will appear at the Bryce Jordan Center on Penn State's University Park campus Dec. 17, at 7:30 p.m. Having sold more than 75 million albums in three decades, Aerosmith continues to thrive despite the changing face of music. Throughout the years, Aerosmith has been recognized as one of the top bands in its class, having received five Grammy Awards, as well as a number of MTV Music Awards and American Music Awards. In 2001, the band was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Tickets go on sale Saturday. For more information, call 814-865-5555 or 800-863-3336 or visit <http://www.bjc.psu.edu>.

Burke accepts Collegiate Challenge

Dr. Jack Burke, interim provost and dean, participated in WQLN's Collegiate Challenge on Thursday from 6 to 9 a.m.

The event was part of October Fest 2002, a radio campaign designed to build awareness and support for public radio. During the Collegiate Challenge, the leaders of Erie County's four higher educational institutions engaged in a friendly competition to generate the largest number of pledges in support of WQLN-FM 91.3.

In addition to gaining pledges for WQLN, the Collegiate Challenge offered an opportunity for Burke to talk about Penn State Behrend's progress and the latest news from campus.

The Collegiate Challenge took place during Morning Edition, a show that many people already enjoy. Penn State Behrend Ecomugs went to the first 20 people who pledged, and a Behrend "variety pack" was available for additional callers.

Penn State enrollment up

Following a year of record applications to the University, Penn State has seen enrollment growth, setting a new record while staying within the University's plans for controlled and modest growth.

According to official figures, enrollment at the University's 24 locations has reached 83,038 students this fall—an increase of 1,334 students (1.6 percent) over 2001-02. At the University Park campus, enrollment has grown to 41,445, an increase of 617 students (1.5 percent).

"These latest enrollment figures demonstrate that the high demand and value placed in a Penn State education are stronger than ever," said Penn State President Graham B. Spanier. "We continue to be one of the nation's most popular universities, and we are pleased that the incoming class this fall was more diverse and more talented than ever."

The figures reflect a continuing effort to maintain steady enrollment at the University Park campus while fostering modest growth at other campus locations.

Minority enrollment increases

As has occurred every year for more than a decade, enrollment of minority students at Penn State University has increased again. Minority enrollment at Penn State increased five percent, or by 483 students, over the numbers for fall 2001. There are now 9,352 minority students attending the University's 24 locations around the Commonwealth.

The number of African-American students attending Penn State increased by 167 this year, with 79 additional African-American students at the University Park campus. The increase represents a five percent gain in African American students at University Park, for a new total of 1,654. There are a total of 3,741 African American students attending all Penn State locations this year.

"Penn State continues to be one of the key educators of minorities in Pennsylvania higher education," said Terrell Jones, vice provost for educational equity. "The real keys to our enrollment success are our high minority student retention and graduation rates."

POLICE AND SAFETY

- 10/9/02 06:00 After opening the west side academic buildings for the day, an officer discovered the license plate had been removed from the cruiser.
- 10/11/02 13:35 A complainant called to report a camcorder missing. They were not sure if a student had taken it and forgotten to sign it out.
- 10/15/02 16:20 A staff member reported that some signs were taken from the Junker Center lot earlier in the week.
- 10/15/02 20:10 An officer observed a student throwing a can over the fence into the Maintenance and Operations vehicle area. An officer escorted the student into the compound while he retrieved the can. The student was referred.
- 10/15/02 22:20 A staff member relayed information regarding an assault that occurred off campus on or about Oct. 13.
- 10/18/02 21:40 An officer encountered an intoxicated male outside Erie Hall. It was determined that he was underage.
- 10/20/02 02:37 An officer was dispatched to Perry Hall for a disturbance.
- 10/18/02 12:00 A student reported that an item was taken from their mail box.
- 10/21/02 16:01 A complainant reported seeing a car on fire in the Reed lot.
- 10/21/02 21:05 A complainant reported receiving obscene messages.
- 10/22/02 14:30 A complainant's vehicle was struck in the Reed lot by another vehicle. The striking vehicle fled the scene without leaving notification requirements.

CLASSIFIED

"Good manners, disciplined behavior and civility are the very glue that keeps organized society from flying apart."

- Chief Justice Warren Burger, 1971

Janet Neff Sample Center
for Manners & Civility



FOCAL POINT

Blood drive goes to the dogs



PHOTOS BY ROB WYNNE / BEHREND BEACON

A Behrend student shows his generous spirit by giving blood during Wednesday's Blood Drive, much to the apparent bewilderment of this perky pup.

Poet Parker infuses reading with humor

by Erin McCarty
news editor

On Oct. 17, Behrend welcomed Alan Michael Parker, accomplished poet and former a Behrend professor to the Smith Chapel for a reading of his work. The second speaker in the Creative Writer's Speaker Series, Parker has written three books of poems: "Days Like Prose," "The Vandals," and "Love Song with Motor Vehicles," which will be published in 2003. He currently serves as associate professor of English and creative writing director at Davidson College.

Behrend English professor Dr. Diana Hume-George introduced Parker, announcing that she would be wearing, both literally and figuratively, two hats during her opening speech. She began by listing Parker's professional credits and giving a sample of other poets' critical responses to his work. She then switched hats and discussed her own association with Parker as a colleague and friend.

She recounted how Parker went through a period in which the creation of the vandals poems overshadowed every other aspect of his life. During this time, he slipped his poems under George's door as he finished them, seeking her comments and allowing her to be one of the first to see what would become a widely acclaimed book of poetry.

"These are poems that will outlast their author and me and everyone here," said George.

Although Parker read several selections from "The Vandals," he did not limit himself to those poems, promising when he took the podium that he would read "old work, new work, red work, blue work." Before launching into "Gents," one of his older poems, Parker explained to the audience that he had broken his thumb while signaling left in heavy traffic. This set up a recurring theme, with Parker intermittently

interjecting fabricated reasons that his thumb was broken. He followed up "Gents" with "Up," another older poem describing a cityscape made beautiful by the presence of snow.

Next, he read three newer poems: "Two Questions"; "The Piano," which he described as a love poem, wryly indicating that this admission was foreshadowing, not announcing; and "More Bees," one of the many poems he has written which deals with bees.

The bulk of the reading consisted of poems contained in "The Vandals." He started with "The Vandals" and moved on to "Another Poem about the Vandals." It was not long before he inserted some humor into his remarks between poems.

"I like microphones," he said. "Me and my microphone are friends. If you were a poet, you could be friends with a microphone too."

Next, Parker read "The Vandals, Dying" and "In the Pre-dawn Light which is the Poem." Before reading "Cruelty, the Vandals Say," Parker told he audience of his early decision to kill animals in his poetry, largely because people have become desensitized to violence against humans. He recalled that the first time George read one of his poems depicting the death of an animal, she responded with a shocked "oh!"

"I kill animals in this book like you wouldn't believe," he said. "It allows me to write about pain and suffering." He also noted that the poem included a cameo by his father. "And You and I" centers around the lovers, recurring characters in the book who appear in this poem in the distorted image of a Chagall painting.

For "The God of the Vandals," Parker adopted a southern dialect with which he has become quite familiar while living in North Carolina.

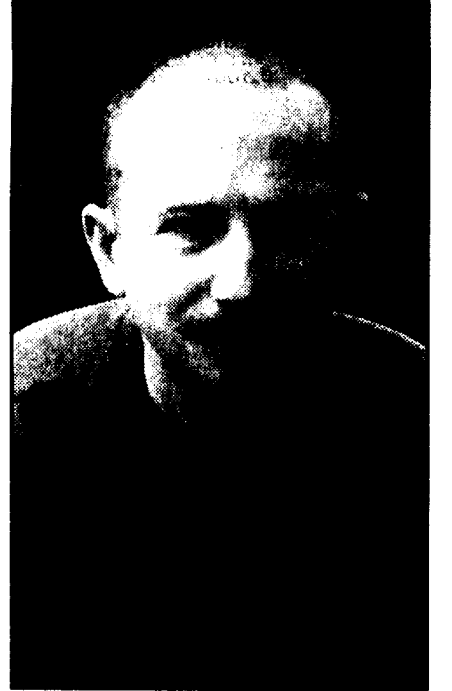
"There's a little Arlo Guthrie in that," Parker quipped. "Sue me, after you buy the book." While reading "At the Car Wash, the Vandals Sing," Parker sang the words which the vandals sing in the

poem. The final vandals poem he read was "In Abundance, the Vandals."

"It's amazing how amazingly fortunate I feel to be in a position where people will sit through my work," Parker said. He went on to debunk the notion of a "starving artist," saying that he didn't write poetry when he was starving because he was too busy starving.

"My new work is very involved with how lucky I am," he said. He concluded his reading with two newer poems, "Books and Money" and "Driving Past my Exit," describing the blissful but rather hazardous phenomenon of temporary insanity.

Parker stayed to answer audience questions and sign copies of his books, which were available for purchase. The Creative Writer's Speaker Series concludes in March with Amy Hempel, writer of fiction and nonfiction.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Alan Michael Parker, former Behrend professor and author of three books of poetry, was the second writer to speak in Behrend's Creative Writer's Speaker Series. He currently teaches at Davidson College.

CORE and FHC merge to prevent teen pregnancy

by Katie Hinman
staff writer

The Center for Organizational Research and Evaluation and the Family Health Counsel (CORE) has collaborated in order to decrease teen pregnancy and its results for teens, parents and the rest of society. This group effort is called the Peer Power 2002 Parent and Professional Track.

A reception with wine and hors d'oeuvres was held Oct. 17 from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. in the Smith Chapel. This function officially announced what the two groups will accomplish by working together.

"CORE wants to work closer with FHC, and our hope is for FHC to have a stronger presence in the Erie area," said Kimberly Skarupski, director of research at CORE. "We want people to be aware that there are very serious consequences to their actions. Many people don't want to talk about teen pregnancy or other issues; however, we need to face these problems and do our best to correct them."

The Peer Power conference took place

at the Avalon Hotel in Erie from 7:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. The conference was created for teenagers in the Erie area so that both youth and parents will have the opportunity to learn about various issues that teens face today.

The topics that were discussed at the meeting were eating disorders, pregnancy, drugs and alcohol, STDs (sexually transmitted diseases), dating violence, HIV and AIDS, men's issues of relationships, abstinence and teen parenting. There were also a few sessions for adults, only.

"FHC is mainly located in the Pittsburgh area," said Dr. Carl Kallgren, Director of Administration and Outreach at CORE. "Having an office in Erie is such a great help for the youth in this area and in turn helps us. We are delighted to be working with FHC on various projects because we will be able to expand and reach out to teenagers, parents and teachers by bringing more sex education into the schools and also to special populations, such as the Barber Center and other youth organizations."

CORE was originally designed in order to "provide research, evaluation,

and grant writing services to teen pregnancy prevention service providers. CORE has also expanded its focus beyond teen pregnancy organizations to include other social service agencies, health care organizations, educational institutions, and industry in Northwestern Pennsylvania."

The goals of this association are "to enhance community agencies' productivity, to identify and transfer 'best practices' in service delivery to local agencies, and to assist agencies in securing funding."

One project it will work on together is taking surveys in the state to understand what adults think about sex education — whether or not adults want this in the schools. More projects are creating clinic services in order to understand different areas, sustained healthy youth development so that visits will be continuous and not a one-time deal, and media campaigns to make people more aware of teen issues.

For more information, call the CORE office at 898-6397, or go to the CORE website at www.pserie.psu.edu/hss/core.htm.