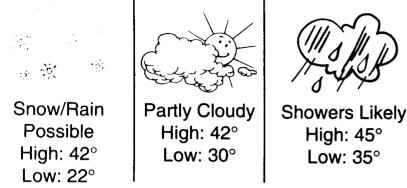
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The Behrend Beacon

WEEKEND WEATHER SUNDAY MONDAY

SATURDAY



BEHREND BRIEFS

Article features Behrend reservist

A March 14 issue of "The Chronicle of Higher Education" featured comments by Behrend student and Army reservist Chad Lindell. In the article, Lindell discussed the tensions involved in waiting for deployment and the difficulty of knowing what to say to family and friends. The article also discussed Lindell's duties and his documentation of the experience with his digital camera. At the time of the writing, Lindell was stationed in a reserve center in Franklin, Pa.

War to last 2 to 10 months??

A statistical analysis of key factors in wars fought over the past nearly 200 years indicates that the Iraqi war will last two to 10 months, according to a Penn State political scientist. "While the media have given frenzied coverage to the shortterm ups and downs of the still-early war with Iraq, history would never have suggested that the war would be as short as some pundits predicted," says D. Scott Bennett, associate professor of political science. "Rather, history reveals that half of the wars fought since 1816 have lasted more than five months, with the average length of a war being 17 months."

Bennett is co-author of the forthcoming book, "The Behavioral Origins of War: Cumulation and Limits to Knowledge in Understanding International Conflict" (University of Michigan Press), with Allan C. Stam, an associate professor at Dartmouth College in New Hampshire.

Allergies more than sniffles

Spring has arrived. The scent of fragrant flowers is in the air. Birds are singing and noses sneezing.

According to the latest edition of the Medical Minute, a service of Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, allergic rhinitis, often called "hay fever," comes from the immune system's response to a foreign substance, typically plant pollen. The word "rhinitis" refers specifically to inflammation of the nose, but allergies often affect the ears, throat, eyes and lungs, as well. Plant allergies are common, but allergy sufferers can also react to many other things, such as pet dander. Allergic problems are not benign. Perhaps a quarter of all Americans are affected, resulting in 3.8 billion missed days of work and school per year at a cost of \$4.5 billion annually. There are an estimated 5,000 deaths attributed to allergies each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Scholarships hit half-million

For the first time, Penn State Erie has awarded more than a half-million dollars in campus-based scholarships during the 2002-2003 academic year. The Behrend scholarship funds come principally from private philanthropy. Overall, nearly \$800,000 in scholarships have been awarded, because students also receive Uni-

$\Xi / / \lesssim$ Friday, April 4, 2003

FOCAL POINT



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Behrend students pause for a picture during a Spring Break trip to Spain. The students had an opportunity to enjoy Spanish culture and practice their Spanish-speaking skills during the trip.

Students support affirmative action

by Susie Szafran contributing writer

Want to know more about affirmative action? Edalia George, president of the Multicultural Council (MCC), and Dante Spain will hold a forum discussing affirmative action tentatively set for April 16.

You may have noticed on March 31, that campus was a little more silent. Almost 50 Behrend students wore gags that said "affirmative action" and refused to speak the whole day in support of affirmative action. George participated in the activity.

"Some people were trying to see if they could make me talk because they didn't

understand the cause I was doing this for, said George. The goal of this activity was to show what the campus would be like without cultural diversity.

On Tuesday, students protested also by refusing to spend money either on or offcampus. This also included not using their meal plans. That activity was called "the power of the dollar" and was done because Penn State is not pro affirmative action. "I think these activities brought awareness to the college," said Spain.

Spain and George recently attended a NSOBE (National Society of Black Engineers) conference in Anaheim, Calif., where more than 12,000 professionals, undergraduates, and graduates discussed many issues, including affirmative action.

These protests were in response to the Supreme Court case in which it is trying to decide whether it is constitutional to accept students to college because of race. The main goal of affirmative action is to level the playing field for all minorities, not just African-Americans. Since affirmative action has been implemented, it has helped five million minority members and six million white and minority women move up in the workforce.

George said that she has received antiaffirmative action emails from students. She believes it is simply because they are not well-educated on the benefits of affirmative action. Students can find out more about affirmative action at the forum.

Kayaking lesson first step in creating new ESACT class

by Katie Zellars staff writer

The Outdoors Club, along with Student Activities, is hosting a free kayaking lesson on April 12 from noon to 4 p.m. at the Junker Center pool. "The goal is to first demonstrate that there is interest in these types of activities on campus," said Chris Fox of Student Activities. Through the display of interest in the kayaking event, the hope is to present the information to athletics and possibly start a kayaking ESACT course for credit and purchase boats for the school Kayaking is a very diverse sport and the

organizers hope the lesson will give opportunities for students who have the students a taste of all of it. There are several different types of kayaks and many Looking for something different to do? will be available to students at the event. Some are designed for specific use such as whitewater, surfing, and flat water. Others are touring boats made for oceans or lakes and far distances. Another is a recreational boat made for calm lakes and rivers used in shorter distance kayaking. Outdoors Club member April Ames is very excited about the event. "I've always been canoeing," she said. "I've never been kayaking so it would be neat to try something new." Fox, who was a kayaking instructor at his previous job, says that the kayaking lesson is part of the "push to create

interest." The whole idea for the event came from the students.

"They had the interest," Fox said.

versity-wide scholarship monies.

Gamble earns faculty award

John King Gamble, professor of political science and international law, has been chosen to receive the W. LaMarr Kopp Faculty International Achievement Award. The award acknowledges Penn State faculty members who have made a significant contribution to the international mission of the University. Gamble serves as coordinator of the Honors and Schreyer Scholars programs at Penn State Erie and is currently vice president of the American Society of International Law. Early in his career, Gamble served as executive director of the Law of the Sea Institute at the University of Rhode Island. In 1978, Gamble chaired the United Nations' 12th annual conference of the Law of the Sea Institute, working to develop the Law of the Sea Treaty, which set the current rules for international maritime law.

College for kids registration

Registration for College for Kids at Penn State Erie is under way. Now in its 10th year, the program offers a diverse selection of one-week, age-appropriate summer classes for children aged 6 to 14. Classes begin June 9 and continues through Aug. 8 and are scheduled from 9 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. daily, with early and late day care and an optional lunch break are available. Cost for each one-week, three-hour class is \$65 with material fees included. Early day care and late day care are \$10 each per week.

Special Olympics volunteers

The Special Olympics Pennsylvania 2003 Summer Games will take place June 4 to 7 on the University Park campus. The success of the games is dependent on 2.500 volunteers in many different areas. The games will offer 2.050 Special Olympic athletes from across Pennsylvania the experience of a lifetime. There will be nine sports venues: athletics, aquatics, basketball, gymnastics, softball, golf, tennis, equestrian and bowling.

POLICE AND SAFETY

3/26/03 12:30 Complainant reported a stolen cell phone.

- 3/27/03 00:09 Information Report.
- 3/28/03 Complainant reported the theft of the emblem from the grill 16:00 on his vehicle.
- 3/29/03 05:40 Person entered students room while they were sleeping.
- 3/31/03 Complainant reported that a pear tree in the apartment quad 09:40 was broken in half.

GLASSIEIED

"I have a moral obligation to aid those who are worse off than myself." - John Rawls

Janet Neff Sample Center for Manners & Civility



'Student Activities wanted to facilitate the process.

Turnout at the kayaking lesson will be the kick start to programs like a kayaking class and other related events. Ames says the key to making the event successful is getting the students to come and prove their interest.

She has high hopes for the event.

"I think a lot of people will enjoy it because people from all skill levels can come and learn something interesting and new," Ames said.

FROM FRONT PAGE

BURKE

dollars toward tuition payments. Given the state of the economy in recent years, this shift has accelerated. We need to continue resisting this shift, to raise more endowment for scholarships, and to contain costs.

O: How would you improve **Behrend?**

A: My firm belief is that we need to be better today than yesterday and better tomorrow that today. This means trying to improve everything we do --improving one hundred things by even just one percent each can make a big difference. I would especially like to see improvements to the academic culture here — that students view learning as very important and more than just the accumulation of credit hours.

O: What advice would you give to students graduating this semester? As they leave Behrend and prepare to

fight their way into the "real world"? A: Be persistent, find balance in your life, and have great personal integrity ---make your word your bond.

Q: What is your favorite thing to do, outside of working here at Behrend?

A: I like reading — especially fiction. I like Richard Russo's works because he writes about small towns, everyday lives, and interesting characters.

