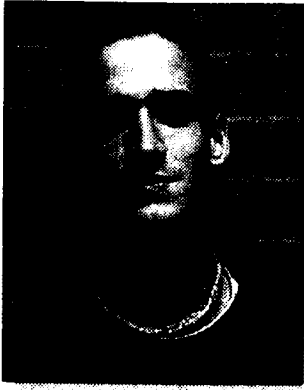


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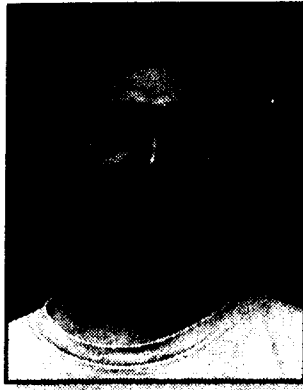
By, Teresa Nicolia

How is the Internet connection in your dorm?



"The Internet service in my dorm is horrible. It doesn't work yet. I registered about nine days ago and talked to three different people. They all tell me it's just going to 'turn on'"

Jon Dunbar
BIOBD, 01



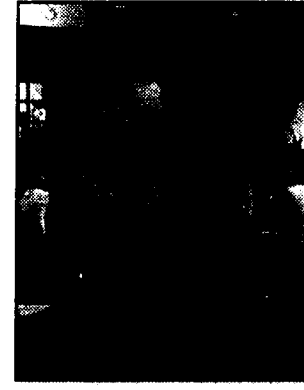
"My roommate has it but I don't. I've registered multiple times and talked to two technicians and they said it's a wiring problem. After they tear through the wall and re-wire it, I'll have to register AGAIN. It's a burden upon my soul."

Chris Groesch
MEDVL, 01



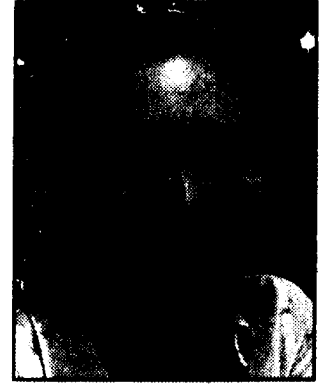
"It sucks. I'm not getting any response from the computer center. They are giving me the run-around."

Lisa Miller
PSHBA, 07



"It works whenever it feels like working. It's not a big problem to me, though, because I'm not in my room a lot."

Erin Hilla
EK ED, 04



"It's alright. It's an inconvenience with it always turning off...luckily I don't need it that much."

Anna Sims
MRKTG/COMBA, 05

Have a suggestion for Question of the Week? Email your question to us at: behrcoll2@aol.com.

Police and Safety anticipates need for staff additions

By Bryan Spry
staff writer

Each year, Penn State Behrend continues to grow and develop. With the expansion of the college campus, the size of the Police and Securities staff at Penn State Behrend remains the same.

As the campus continues to increase, the lack of Police personnel in proportion to the size of the student body, faculty, as well as the size of the Behrend campus overall, could become an issue of concern for the nearly 1,500 full-time resident students as well as their parents.

The campus at Penn State Behrend employs six full time Police Officers. The Police staff consists of one sworn

manager, five sworn police officers, and two property protection guards who all rotate shifts, but are on duty twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

All of these police officers are trained and certified through the state, giving them the same authority as the municipal police. These officers are also given in-service training to maintain their certification.

James Amann, the head of the Police and Securities services at Penn State Behrend, has been aware of the growing size of the Behrend campus and the steps the Police and Securities services, as well as the administration, are going to have to take to compensate for the continuing growth and expansion.

When asked if he thought the Police and Securities Services were at a staff shortage due to the size of the Behrend campus and student body, he said, "I think you could always use some more officers, but due to the restraints in the budget, it is just not possible right now. All the needs [of Behrend] have to be balanced out, and when the money becomes available to us, it will happen."

When asked if the administration was concerned about this matter, and what the plans were, if any, to increase the Police and Securities Service's staff, Amann said, "The administration is very aware of this situation and they are supportive of the staff increase."

"Hiring has been discussed, but due to the budget it, just can't happen right now."

For now Amann and his officers are pleased with the improvements that have been made to the campus, such as the newer Police and Securities Service's facility in Erie Hall.

Behrend students seem to feel generally at ease on campus. Engineering student and resident, Jeremy Craig said, "You constantly see the campus police driving around and it makes you feel good about the safety on campus."

While the Penn State Behrend campus has an excellent security staff for now, something must be done to prepare itself for the future. In this time of uncertainty about our safety, measures should be taken now, and at any cost, so the safety of the students and faculty at Behrend is not jeopardized.

Can you hear me now?

By Leah Burfield
contributing writer

So you just bought a new cell phone a few months ago from Cellular One. You signed a two year contract and love your phone. Only you find out that they are switching their towers to a new line of service which will only be offered on updated phones which sell for more. Sound familiar? Welcome to the world of technology!

Recently, many people have been complaining of horrible cell phone services, not just here on campus, but all over the city of Erie.

Many situations involve not being able to dial out or hear the person on the other end even if your phone displays full reception. Checking voicemail and receiving calls are just other inconveniences added. So what is going on?

We introduce you to GSM; a new Cellular One Plan which is supposed to be the best that's yet to come. It offers everything the other plans don't along the lines of updated free call waiting, mobile to mobile, roadside assistance, and now the wireless internet. In English, the phone has a lot of things on it, as it did before, but has additional fun.

However, there is a downfall to this so-called happy story. The old services stink and to get the new plan means you will need to open the root of all evils: your wallet.

"In order to get the new GSM plan, you will need to purchase a new phone which is already updated with the network," said an employee of Cellular One. They have asked to have their name unmentioned. "I knew in the beginning that it would upset people and create problems but knew I would have to deal with it. This is my job."

Working at a cell phone company may not be the easiest thing to do especially when it comes to an event like this.

"I have been called every name in the book that I think is known to mankind. People get upset because their phone service is horrible. We understand everyone's concern which is why we are switching towers."

That so called tower has to do with Dobson Tower Company. As a leading telecommunications tower management company, Dobson Tower works to help expand wireless broadcast signals in a cost efficient and productive manner although some customers, if not all, may disagree.

There are 600 tower locations across the United States. The fact that the towers are now being switched over to GSM interferes with the old networks which then create the problems that people have been witnessing with their phones. Companies such as Nextel, T-Mobile, Cingular, AT&T Wireless work with the Dobson Tower which may also explain why other cell phone providers such as these have been having the same issues.

"People complained before about the past services, which is why we are trying to put a stop to it by switching over to a better line of service," said the employee. "You have to realize that technology grows more and more everyday and to keep updated with it you have to accept the challenge of changing with it. Technology may change but either way we are always here to help our customers in any way possible."

Creative Writer Series starts with Evenson

First author of three at the Smith Chapel

By Brian Mitchell
staff writer

Slow but steady wins the race. Many people have heard this from Aesop, a famous storyteller in the ancient time.

Now Brain Evenson teaches us moral values in his writings. Evenson, however, writes for adults rather than kids, with lots of humor, violence and darkness.

Evenson, the author of seven books including "Wavering Knight," will open the Creative Writer Speaker Series by reading from his works on Thursday at 6 p.m. The event will be held in the Smith Chapel, and it's one George Looney, assistant professor of creative writing, is looking forward to.

"I have seen him present before, and he has done it very well," said Looney. "He is the kind of figure who embodies his work."

Evenson will not only read from his own works but also explain how he sees the evolution of his short stories as a form and medium of what things can be done that have not been done before and shed boundaries in terms of expectations.

"I am hoping he reads something new because I like it when writers speak about something that no one was able to read," said Looney.

Looney believes people will learn about the way they view things; they will probably think they did not have the complete take on things before the reading.

"His stories make you see things that are around you all the time that you do not know," said Looney.

According to Looney, Evenson's works are not only entertaining, but he presents them very well and thoroughly. One of his stories, "Barco Jesus," deals with guys who are slightly "off" and take fundamentals of Christian beliefs and use it to their advantage. This results in blowing up Wal-Mart to prevent Christians from spreading the word.

"His stories are literally laugh-out-loud, fall-down-to-your-knees funny but at the same time disturbing due to the violence," said Looney.

Evenson is an ex-communicated Mormon due to the violence in his writings and the recent divorce of his wife.

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