

# Students give til it hurts

by Priya Daugherty  
Collegian Staff

Penn State-Behrend's Health and Wellness Center worked with the Community Blood Bank of Erie County to save lives at Wednesday's blood drive. The blood drive was held in the Wintergarden from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity and the Theta Phi Alpha sorority co-sponsored the event, as they do annually. This year many other groups participated also. Members of Zeta Beta Tau, Sigma Tau Gamma, Alpha Sigma Alpha, Alpha Sigma Theta, Organization of Latin American Students, BACCHUS, Women Today, the Biology Club, and Behrend Knights contributed to event by donating blood.

"Penn State-Behrend is recognized yearly for being number one among local colleges and universities [for blood drives]," said Patty Pasky McMahon, Director of the Health and Wellness Center.

All donors got to sign a leaf on the "Tree of Life" which will later be displayed on campus. Participating organizations received a certificate of appreciation from the Community Blood Bank.

The three organizations with the highest levels of participation

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-Patty Pasky McMahon*

received a plaque and a representative from those organizations will appear in a feature photo in the Erie Daily Times "Morning News."

Adam Rapp, a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, said, "I think it's a really good thing for community service because it helps decrease the blood shortage that we have right now."

Everyday, Erie's hospitals use 40 to 100 units. When the need for blood is greater than the allocated supply, the only way to immediately solve this is to appeal to the general public. Blood drives bring in large amounts of blood at a given time which help prevent these shortages.

"What's good about this blood drive," said McMahon, "is that all the blood stays here in Erie and more students are participating then ever before."

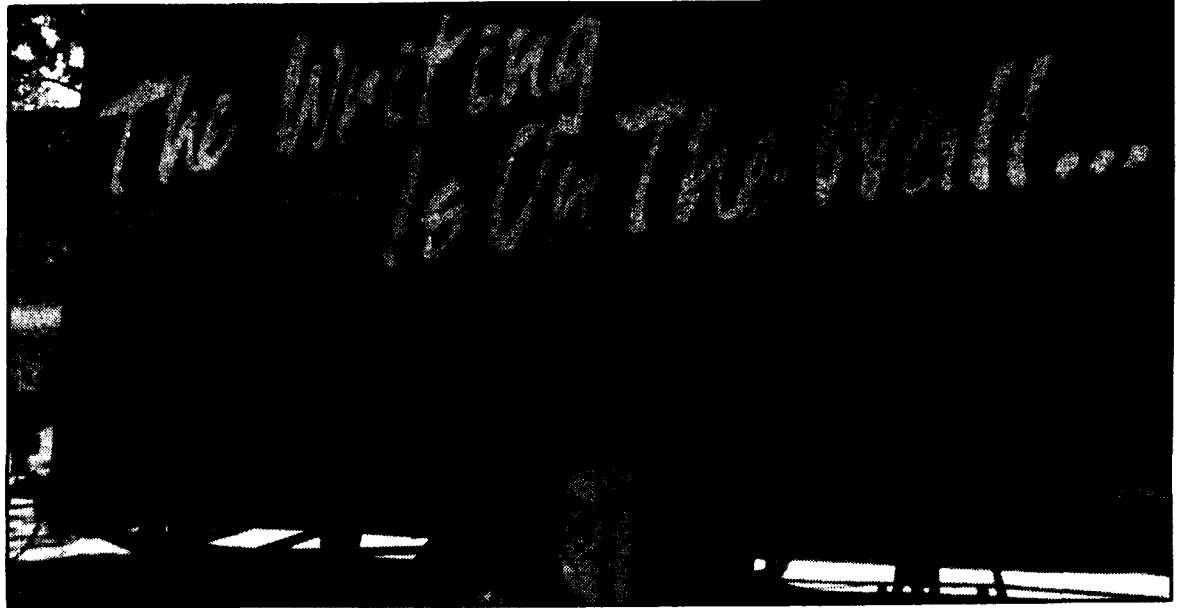


Photo by Jeremiah Bull/ Collegian Advertising Manager

**Drug and alcohol awareness:** Students sign the traveling wall against drug and alcohol abuse. The wall has been to many sites throughout Erie.

## Students participate in Alcohol Awareness Week from Mocktails on page 1

Some students agree. Vinny Kruse, 02 DUS, thinks alcohol awareness week is effective. "It has made me aware of the dangers and risks of consuming alcoholic beverages. And, foremost, it has opened my eyes to the reality of what alcohol will do to your future."

Kruse also was supportive of the mocktail idea on Monday. "The mocktails contained a delicious flavor, and to be quite honest, I would rather choose a mocktail over a cocktail," said Kruse.

Some students feel differently and do not see alcohol awareness support for the responsible use of alcohol. Free non-alcoholic beer and seltzer will be available.

week as effective. "Although it's a good idea, I don't feel it has been effective because people are still going to drink. Some kids in college just don't care," Lourdes Tirado said.

Jessica Schwab, 01 Math, feels similarly, "I don't feel it was very effective because it wasn't promoted enough. I didn't even know about it."

The Club and Organization Blood Drive Competition took place on Wednesday, and was successful.

Thursday's event takes place in the Reed building from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Penn State-Behrend students will be building their own brick wall to show their



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