

News Briefs

Federal government ordered to shutdown

Budget deadlock between President Clinton and the Republican Congress has forced hundreds of thousands of government employees to be sent home from work Tuesday.

"Our government shutdown is now under way," said White House press secretary Mike McCurry.

The government's spending authority ran out Tuesday at midnight as both sides insisted on compromise from each other. The major sticking point appeared to be a provision in an emergency spending bill that would raise Medicare premiums. A temporary spending resolution would have kept the government functioning, but Congress gave no indication of approving such a bill. Clinton had vetoed emergency spending legislation that the Senate had sent to him earlier Monday evening.

About 40 percent of the federal government's workforce has been sent home from work. This includes national museum and monument employees and the IRS and Social Security hotline operators. Government workers deemed essential for public health, safety or defense remain on the job.

High-speed police chase ends in apprehension of suspected serial killer

After racing at speeds of 100 mph, a 33-year old man suspected of killing at least four women and an elderly Ohio man was arrested following a crash near rural Waco, Kentucky.

Glen Rogers, formally of Ohio, was sipping a beer in a car belonging to one of the women he allegedly murdered when a police officer in an unmarked car spotted him. The smooth-talking drifter tossed the beer aside and the chase began.

Police were led through two towns and around a roadblock Monday afternoon by Rogers. One of the half dozen police cars chasing Rogers forced him off the highway into a field, where he crashed and was arrested.

The police had acted on a tip—reportedly from Rogers' cousin—that the fugitive was in town. Following three hours of interrogation, Rogers was taken to jail in Richmond.

Rogers is suspected of strangling or stabbing at least four women in California, Louisiana, Mississippi and Florida in the last two months. Authorities also believe he may have committed three other killings in California. Rogers is also wanted for questioning in the death of a 73-year old Ohio man, who had been his former roommate.

Rogers is said to have been able to talk anybody into anything: a ride home from a bar, a place to crash for a few days or weeks, a woman's affections.

Dorm fire at Edinboro University

A suspected arson fire caused 300 to 400 Edinboro University students to flee from their residence hall early Tuesday morning.

According to Bill Reed, university spokesperson, no injuries were reported as a result of the 4 a.m. blaze in Lawrence Towers B, the men's tower of the eight-story, twin-tower complex. Occupants of both towers were evacuated. "A" tower houses women, and is connected to the "B" tower at ground level.

The fire started in a stairwell near a maintenance room on the building's eighth floor, Reed said. Firefighters found rags on top of machine cans at the sight of the fire.

Volunteer firefighters from Edinboro, McKean, Cambridge Springs, and Saegertown responded to the alarm, according to a West County Fire Control dispatcher.

Hate crimes decline in 1994

Associated Press-The FBI says hate crimes reported to police declined in 1994, with the number of hate-related murders dropping from 20 to 13.

The bureau said Monday that 5,852 hate crime incidents were reported during 1994, compared with 7,684 incidents in 1993. But officials cautioned against precise year-to-year comparisons because not all the police departments which reported in 1993 did so again in 1994.

Detachable penis

CAIRO (Reuters)-An Egyptian college student sliced off his penis because he was convinced it was an impure organ that impeded religious activity, an Egyptian newspaper reports.

The daily *Akhbar al-Youm* quoted the unnamed student's mother as saying her son had lately been praying rigorously and repeating orthodox ideas about the cleanliness of male sex organs.

Muslims must perform ritual washing before each of the five daily prayers to clean their bodies. The paper said the boy, who cut his penis off on Friday was in a serious condition.

Behrend student gets in on Letterman's antics

Scott and Mike go to NYC, get to hang with Mujibir and Rupert G. at the Hello Deli

by Ericha Hagenbuch
Collegian Staff

On Friday November 3, Behrend student Scott Warofka sat in the at the David Letterman Show never guessing that he would ever get to talk to Letterman. That all changed when, during the host's monologue, Warofka was spotted and called on stage.

Through an interesting chain of events, Warofka and his travel companion, Behrend student Mike Woycheck, got second row seats, in the middle section of the Ed Sullivan Theater.

"I've loved Letterman since I was a kid!" said Warofka. "The

best thing about sleeping out in a tent when I was young was staying up and watching Letterman."

A true Letterman fan, Warofka was surprised at how relaxed he felt when Letterman called him out of the crowd and asked Warofka to join in his antics in front of the audience and the rest of America.

"I was just clowning around," said Warofka, "but when I got back to my seat I thought 'oh wow' and couldn't believe it."

The camera focused on Warofka right before Letterman called him up on stage, then again several times after the incident.

Before the show, Warofka and Woycheck made it a point to visit two of Letterman's favorite New York businesses.

Mujibir & Sirajul's, the only shop licensed to sell Late Show memorabilia, is next door to the Ed Sullivan Theater. "When we went in to buy some stuff, Mujibir was there," said Warofka. "Once we got talking, he told us that we had to go and get our tickets numbered early or there wouldn't be seats left for us."

Without pre-numbered tickets

Warofka and Woycheck would not have gotten the second row seats, and probably wouldn't have been noticed by Letterman. The page who numbered their tickets was a Penn State alum, who graduated last spring.

"It was cool experience," said Warofka. "I got a picture of myself with Rupert G. from the Hello Deli where Dave likes to go."

Warofka stood right next to Letterman's stage hands (who's names and faces he now knows) at the deli and almost got a picture of Letterman himself. While at the deli, Warofka and Woycheck caught a glimpse of Letterman as he passed by the picture window.

Since Warofka and Woycheck were sitting in the second row they were almost the last to leave. "I got a chance to talk to some of the pages who are college interns," said Warofka. "I asked them if I could get the name of someone in charge of internships; they were really cool about it."

Since the November 3 incident Warofka has been guaranteed an internship interview.

"It was a great experience, Dave was just as loopy as I thought and the band was better," said Warofka.

Warofka has received a lot of recognition from classmates and old friends. "Someone stopped me on Sunday at the gas station and asked me if I was that guy on Letterman," said Warofka. "I said 'Yup, that was me.'"

Campus Ministry food drive

by John Rossomando
Collegian Staff

Penn State Behrend's Campus Ministry organizations have gotten into the Thanksgiving mood by collecting food donations for the Second Harvest Food Bank in Erie County. Remaining food will be donated to the Mercy Center for battered women.

On Sunday, November 12, the Behrend Knights of Columbus, a Catholic fraternity, collected 160 bags of non-perishable food from the local neighborhood. The Knights are conducting this food drive in the local community while the Newman Association, a Christian organization, is collecting food on campus.

This project has been in the works since September and represents Behrend's Campus Ministry organizations' commitment to the poor.

Grand Knight of the Knights of Columbus, Brian Loshelder, confirmed this sentiment when he said, "It helps me learn to practice [being Catholic] by learning to serve others."

The food collection is being split between both Newman and the Knights. Loshelder said, "The most rewarding thing is helping those who are most in need, virtually all of the food is going to the Second Harvest Food Bank and all that is left over will go to the Mercy Center for battered women."

Newman and the Knights of Columbus invite the campus community to get involved and contribute to the food drive. Loshelder said, "The campus community could help by dropping off non-perishable food on Sunday before the 8:00 p.m. Mass in the Commons."

SGA Report

by Sean Siekkinen
Collegian Staff

The Student Government Association holds its weekly meeting every Wednesday at 5:15 in Reed conference room 114.

Vice President Dave Miller presided over last night's meeting, filling in for Tim Mallon.

In the President's report, Miller addressed the reorganization of Penn State's Commonwealth Education System. Although discussion of links and merges between various CES campuses is still only in a preliminary stage, early proposals have either the DuBois or Shenango campus becoming part of the Behrend College. According to Dean of Student Affairs, Dr. Chris Reber, a link with DuBois does not appear fruitful, partly because of the distance separating the two schools. It is more likely that Behrend would form an alliance with its closer neighbor, Shenango.

Commuter Senator Mike Woycheck's public relations committee is continuing the effort to publicize the student governing organization. The next step in SGA's media campaign will be the posting of flyers with e-mail addresses of senators across campus.

The deadline for petitions against cuts in state funded student aid that senators are circulating across campus has been extended to December 1.

Commuter Council President Steve Landon motioned to reconsider SGA's decision to allocate \$75 for an answering machine. SGA passed the motion last week, unaware of the new voice mail phone system which is soon to be installed in the Reed building.

A request from a member of the National Society of Black Engineers for reimbursement to cover out of pocket club expenses became a topic of debate when SGA's right to provide retroactive funding was raised. Landon argued that the allocation would be, in effect, retroactive funding, and that SGA guidelines prohibit such allocations. Despite his objections to the principle of retroactive funding, Landon grudgingly voted in favor of the allocation, with a promise never to support such funding again.

Last Wednesday, the Commuter Council held its long awaited meeting to deal with traffic and parking issues. The council recommended that Behrend's traffic committee be convened to set and update policies.