

Lend a helping hand

by Michael Yowell
Collegian staff

Are studying, homework and tests dragging everyone down? Then take a break and head on down to the Volunteer Fair.

Now some might be thinking, When is there an opportunity to volunteer my precious time, but by volunteering just a few hours a major difference can be made.

The first Penn State-Behrend Volunteer Fair will be held on Thursday, September 26, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Reed Commons.

Who will be there? Various organizations. Among the non-profit organizations attending will be the American Lung Association, the United Way, and Big Brothers/Sisters. How about becoming an assistant basketball coach for a team of players in wheelchairs, then be sure to check out the Community Resources for Independence display for more details.

Another group has

opportunities for students who want to work alongside physical therapists.

There will be between 25 and 30 local non-profit groups and human agencies present.

Why volunteer?

"Volunteering is the whole concept of give-and-take the volunteers provide a service but, at the same time they should be learning something," said Jason Giersch, assistant to the Dean of Student Affairs.

According to him, students

who volunteer learn and develop valuable skills, which transfer into strong social, spiritual, and emotional attributes that become very useful.

Education is not only a function of books, but a function of experience, said Robert Coles, a professor of Psychiatry at Harvard.

Volunteers are in great demand, so come on down next Thursday; everyone can make a difference.

For more information please contact Giersch at 898-6111.



Homosexuality in the family was the subject on the first open forum sponsored by the Human Resources Programming Council last night. The situations discussed ranged from the morals of homosexual marriage to what it was like for people to come out to their families. The discussion panel consisted of Elanie Sill from Parents, Family, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Mike Mailer, a member of the Erie Gay Community News, Leslie Longo, a clinical psychologist and mother of a homosexual, and Michael Yucha, a Behrend student. The next HRPC forum being planned is *Election '96* with political candidate speakers:

BEHREND BRIEFS

S.G.A. Sponsors free fall leadership retreat

The Student Government Association is once again sponsoring a leadership retreat. The retreat to be held on October 12 and 13 is free to any student, but space is limited. Sign up sheets are available in the Office of Student Activities. Transportation is provided and scheduled to leave Behrend at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday. Participants should arrive back to campus prior to 12:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Adopt-a-school program still looking for tutors

The office of Academic Support Programs is seeking volunteer tutors for the Penn State-Behrend/Diehl Adopt-A School Tutoring Program. Tutors are needed Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 2:30 p.m. to 3:40 p.m. No prior tutoring experience is necessary. Students may volunteer as little as one hour per week. Applications are available in the Student Activities Office and the Provost's Office. Tutoring begins the week of September 16. Contact Mari Trenkle at x6140 for more information.

RU-486 approved for use in US

Conditional approval has been granted by the federal government for the use of RU-486. The pill, which triggers abortion during the early stages of pregnancy, has not yet received criticism from either side of the abortion debate. The final approval of RU-486 rests on resolving concerns about labeling and manufacturing.

Fire suspect set free after killing nine people

A judge ruled that Todd Hall will not be tried for setting a blaze that killed nine people. Hall's brain damage has left him mentally incompetent for trial purposes. Hurt in a skateboarding accident as a teen, Hall had a partial lobotomy in 1987. He allegedly set off firecrackers at a busy fireworks store on July 3 which sparked a blaze that killed four children and five adults. He was charged with involuntary manslaughter and aggravated arson.

US troops deploy headed for Kuwait

A group of 219 soldiers from the First Cavalry Division took off from the nations' largest Army base in central Texas on a commercial jet headed for Kuwait. The first of 3,500 troops to say good-bye to their families, the soldiers began their deployment today as part of an American military buildup in the region of the Persian Gulf. The deployment of American troops is imperative to stop any further aggression by Iraq's Saddam Hussein.

BEHREND BRIEFS

Question of the week: What do you think of the new RUB desk?

"I don't care about the RUB desk because I never use it."
-Steve Logan 05 2 MET

"You can dial zero and get what the RUB desk offers."
-Ben Murphy 03 MIS

"They don't sell anything anymore."
-Jim Queary 03 Comp Sci

"As far as I know, the RUB desk only sells newspapers now."
-Matt Hall 03 ME



Photo Bob Misulich/ Collegian Staff photographer

The RUB desk of days gone by: prior to this semester the RUB desk sold the good stuff

"Without candy it's pointless."
-Brian Hess 05 CheE

"I miss my morning M&Ms"
-Wm. McDonald 03 ME

"There's no point to the RUB desk anymore; they don't do anything."
-Karen Orbnosia 03 ED

"I liked the old RUB desk better!"
-Jessica Scopel 03 Bio

"I think they should have all that they had last year and more."
-Jay Zinchini 03 DUS

"I liked the little snack shop better!"
-Matt Lemmon 03 ME

Responses compiled by Kirsten Wri...