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NEWS BRIEFS

Marijuana for compassion?

The cookie tin arrives once a month. Inside no cookies will be found. Instead of cookies, 300 tightly rolled joints are inside.

The supplier: our own US government. The marijuana is supplied to patients under its long-standing "compassionate use" program. This program, run by the same health and drug agencies that condemn marijuana in the national war on drugs, was started in the 1970s. Halted in 1992 because of a surge of applications from AIDS patients, the program continued for the 13 people who had already been receiving the shipments. Five of them have died, while the rest continue to be supplied at the taxpayers' expense.

Those supplied suffer from cancer, glaucoma, multiple sclerosis, and rare genetic diseases. They claim the marijuana helps to control nausea and muscle spasms, eases eye pressure and pain, and stimulates their appetites. Patients have said that it works better than any other drugs.

New coach for Notre Dame

Lou Holtz, the football coach for Notre Dame for the past 11 years announced Tuesday that he will resign after this year's college football season.

Shuttle lift off

Tuesday afternoon the space shuttle Columbia lifted off on a sixteen day mission into space. The shuttle will be releasing an ultraviolet telescope to observe newborn and dying stars, the moon's atmosphere, and the northern and southern lights of Jupiter. Columbia is also planning to release a saucer shaped spacecraft on which scientists will try to grow semiconductor film that is just one tenth the width of a human hair for potential use in transistors.

Kato reveals famous thumps

On Tuesday, Kato Kaelin admitted for the first time that the "3 famous thumps" he heard on his wall the night of the murder of Ron Goldman and Nicole Brown Simpson sounded like someone falling back behind my bedroom wall.

Recreation of ValuJet crash

Investigators searching for the answer to the mysterious crash of ValuJet flight 592 recreated what they believed happened to the jetliner May 11. They triggered an oxygen generator to start a fire in an old plane and then video taped the recreation.

Temperatures soared as the flames burned a white-hot 3,000 degrees. Two ValuJet ramp agents testified that they found nothing unusual about the planes cargo. Neither knew that oxygen generators were hazardous, but testified that they would not have allowed them on board had they known.

Maintenance manuals state that caps should be installed to disable the generators when they are shipped. The safety caps were neither ordered nor available.

Recycle phone books

Janitorial staff will be collecting outdated Penn State Faculty/Staff phone books for recycling. Please place your old phone directories next to your waste basket or next to any of the paper recycling containers located near all copiers and offices.

The books will be recycled into "new insulation" by Erie Energy Products. The Second Harvest Food Bank will receive the revenue from the recycling of the collected books.

Businessmen named fellows

The Council of Fellows has four new members. Joseph A. Benacci, CEO of Transportation Services, Inc.; Jack Fatica, CEO of AXS Solutions Corporation including Champion Bolt; Stephen Milne, president and CEO of Erie Insurance Group; and Robert F. Womack, president and CEO of Zum Industries, Inc. have all been named to Penn State Behrend's Council of Fellows. Members of the Council of Fellows meet four times annually to advise the provost on matters of strategic planning and to assist the University in the direction of the development of resources for those plans.

THE WEEKEND FORECAST with Joey Stevens

THURSDAY: Some cloudy, cool but not very windy, low 32°

FRIDAY: Windy and overcast, moderate clouds and fog, high 32°

SATURDAY: A mix of clouds and sun, cold, some light snow, some showers possible, high 31°

SUNDAY: Clouds, some sun, cool, flurry possible, high 32°

In the Spirit of Thanksgiving

by Doreen Foutz
News Editor

In the spirit of Thanksgiving, several Behrend clubs have been honored for their efforts in combating hunger.

The Panhellenic Council, Delta Chi fraternity, Knights of Columbus, Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity and Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity have been named to the Second Harvest Food Bank's "Bread Board of Honor Roll."

Tau Kappa Epsilon annually holds an event they call the "barrel roll." The brothers are required to raise a certain amount in pledges based on donations per mile. There are five different teams and each rolls the barrel for twenty miles.

All donations raised go exclusively to the Second Harvest Food Bank. This event will take place Friday and Saturday.

"Please show your support by donating to Tau Kappa Epsilon's barrel roll," said Dave Myslinski, vice president of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

Annually, Delta Chi fraternity holds a Bowl-a-Thon with all

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- David Stoehr, president ΔΧ

donations benefiting the Second Harvest Food Bank. The Bowl-a-

Thon, to be held next semester, is a local tradition began many years ago.

"It's a tradition started by the local fraternity that was here before Delta Chi. It's a nice way that our fraternity can give back to the community annually," said David Stoehr, president of Delta Chi.

According to the Food Bank one in every ten people in Erie receives food stamps.

To help those who are less fortunate, Delta Chi and Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternities, along with Panhellenic Council, Knights of Columbus, Tau Kappa Epsilon

fraternity, and Alpha Phi Omega fraternity, all volunteer their time to collect donations of food and money.

In return, they have been named to the "Bread Board of Honor Roll."

"We're glad that we can give back to their community," said Theresa Freeman, president of Panhellenic Council.

"It's a small thing that we can do to help people who are really thankful for the things they receive from the Food Bank," said Stoehr.

The Second Harvest Food Bank appreciates donations of any amount.

Continuous Quality Improvement

Adult students at Behrend may seem some positive changes in future semesters

A Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Team has been looking into the concerns of adult students at Penn State-Behrend.

A total of 595 Penn State-Behrend students, almost 20 percent of out total enrollment, are 24 years of older this fall.

A survey was distributed at the beginning of fall semester and focus groups were held. The results were combined with findings of a focus conducted two years ago by the Office of Student Affairs with members of Returning Adult Student Organization.

The top areas of concern for adult students are:

1. Parking- parking is a College-wide issue.
2. Scheduling and availability of course/programs, i.e. students going from a two-year to four-year program have problems finding appropriate evening courses; also, provisional students at the end of advance registration.
3. Finance and Financial Aid office hours.
4. Bookstore- cost of textbooks.
5. Computer training- computer literacy concern for adult students.

Improvements being considered, or in place:

Provisional students can now register at the same time as those having 18 credits. This should alleviate scheduling problems for

adult students, many of whom are provisional and often have difficulty scheduling classes with the competing demands of work and family.

Fewer students will be provisional because SAT scores are no longer required for admission to Penn State adult students who have been away from school for four years with military experience, for five years without.

Many offices now have evening hours or extended hours to accomplish the increasing numbers of students who cannot take care of business in an 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. time frame.

Implementation procedures regarding credit for life experiences are currently being studied.

The associate degree programs in electrical, mechanical and plastics engineering technology and baccalaureate degrees in accounting and management can now be completed in an evening/weekend time frames.

The CQI team will be making the following additional recommendations to the administration for considerations and appropriate action:

Hold an additional adult student orientation on an evening and/or weekend at the beginning of the semester.

Find ways to improve communication of services that already exist for adult students.

Raise faculty awareness of how adult student responsibilities at home and/or work may impact their



Enjoying the weather: Last week's snow brought out the young and old to enjoy snowball fights and sled riding. More snow is in the near future.

ability to attend class.

Propose how an adult student center may better serve the needs of the adult student at Penn State-Behrend, including budgeting and staffing requirements.

Ask the Computer Center to extend their computer training period from the first 14 days of classes to the first 4-6 weeks of classes and to improve their training of workshop presenters.

Propose an introductory computer literacy course for adult students.

Propose an introductory "academic success"-type course for adult students.

Ask the Finance Office and Financial Aid Office to consider evening hours during the first 10 days of classes.

Recommend that other offices consider flextime to add evening/weekend hours as needed.

Continue looking at the availability of baccalaureate degree programs that can be completed in an evening/weekend time frame.

The CQI team welcomes other suggestion from students, faculty and staff. Those with additional concerns for the CQI committee should contact Mike McDavid at 898-6103.

Activity fee assessed

By Jennifer Strawser
Collegian Staff Writer

When the \$25 student activity fee money was used to partially pay for psychological services at the Wilkes-Barre Campus, the campus was grateful just to have them.

But now some at the campus are wondering if money for counseling should come out of students' pockets.

John Murphy, director of student affairs at the campus, said that when the activity fee committee members voted to allot \$6,800 to help pay for personal counseling at the campus, they were happy to

help make the service more available to students.

However, they later questioned the need for students to help supplement the service.

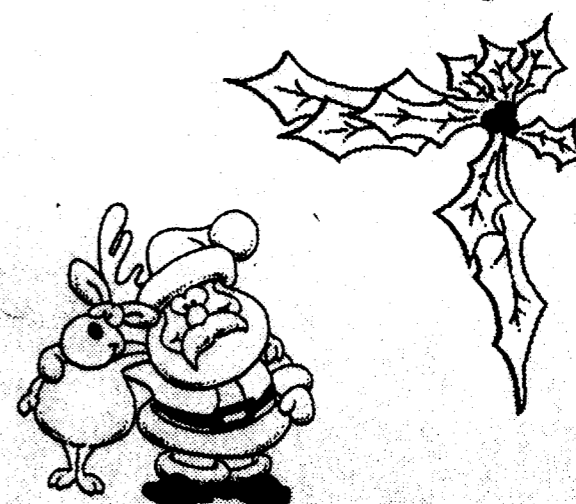
"It wasn't until after, that an issue was raised," he said.

The fee money went toward extending the hours of a certified personal counselor and a counselor who deals with academic support and support for minority students at the campus.

Psychological services at University Park are provided for out

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Happy Holidays from the Collegian!



See you next semester!