

Local...

More problems at Polk

Polk- Dr. Hosney Mikhail, a Polk Center staff member, confirmed his resignation Monday, after the most recent controversy. Last Friday, The Polk Center was given a 23-day notice of de-certification as a result of reoccurring problems with the medical care at the center. The latest incident involves the March 7 death of 62 year old Eugene Rozgonyi, a Polk Center resident. Mikhail said that his resignation comes because of health reasons and the stress that comes from his job. The State Department of Public Welfare has launched an internal investigation into the circumstances surrounding the death.

State...

Housing dispute ends in murder

Pittsburgh- The dismembered body of a woman was found in an abandoned row house in Pittsburgh Tuesday. Ann Hoover, 44, was found strangled with her torso cut across the middle, in the home of Roy Kirk. Hoover and Kirk, her next door neighbor, had allegedly been arguing since last summer. Kirk had been doing renovations on his house which shares a roof with Hoover's house. She had complained that these renovations were causing her roof to leak. Kirk's building had been condemned and the city had planned on demolishing it. While Kirk was being transported from the scene and taken to the police station, he managed to use his belt to hang himself in the back of the police van.

National...

Prisoner bursts into flames during execution

Stark, Florida- Pedro Medinos' black leather face mask burst into flames as he was electrocuted Tuesday. Medina, a Cuban refugee, was convicted of stabbing one of his teachers that had befriended him. The attorney general used this case as an example to warn other criminals to stay out of Florida "because we may have a problem with the electric chair." After this execution, the governor said they may need to consider changing the method of execution. He also went on to say that, "the question is really, 'Is this something that is tortuous or painful?'" This is the second time an inmate's mask has burst into flames during a Florida execution.

Bush bails out

Yuma, Arizona- Former President Bush fulfilled a promise to himself yesterday, by parachuting from a plane, "just for the fun of it." Bush made the jump from a civilian plane, 12,500 feet over the Army Yuma Proving Ground. After Bush, 72, touched down, he was asked how he felt about the jump. He gave the thumbs up and said, "like that." Bush's first jump was a half century ago, when he bailed out of a WW II bomber. Bush is the only American president to have parachuted from an airplane.

The common cold may help cure cancer

Reston, Virginia- In an experiment to stop cancer, 27 patients have received a mutant cold virus designed to destroy cancerous cells. The plan is to make the Adreno-virus, a microbe that causes colds and intestinal upsets, seek out and attack the cells that are fueled by bad genes. This strategy was developed by scientists at Onyx Pharmaceuticals of Richmond California. The results of this study will be presented at a conference in May.

History Day Competition

By Colleen Fromknecht
Collegian Staff

The District Competition for History Day will be held at Behrend Saturday, March 29, 1997 starting at 8:30 AM in the Reed Building. The competition is designed for students who are attending grades six through twelve at local area schools. Students who enter the competition prepare a project on a broad theme which is selected annually by the National History Day Committee. Each student or group of students must fashion her or his project in relation to the annual theme, but topics may be picked from any area the student has an interest in researching. This year's theme is Triumph and Tragedy in History. History Day is an opportunity

for younger students to investigate the past using exhibits, performances, media presentations, or papers. This allows the students to gain experience with using primary and secondary sources, research techniques, analytical thinking, and communication skills.

This year's student must show why his or her topic was a triumph or tragedy in history. The student is also encouraged to focus on topics which contrast the possibilities of triumph and tragedy within the same venue.

The Northwestern Pennsylvania District's Competition, which is held at Behrend, is the first step on the rung to advance to the national competition. The first and second place winners in Saturday's competition will advance to the state competition

at University Park in May. The National contest will be held in June at the University of Maryland.

Dr. John Powell, Director of History Day at Behrend, stated that this year is the fourth year Behrend has hosted the event. He believes History Day gives younger students practical opportunity to develop disciplined thinking, to understand the past, and to obtain experience in research skills. Powell stated that invitations were sent to public and parochial schools within a four county area in northwestern Pennsylvania. Winners from previous competitions have advanced to the state competition.

The guest speaker at History Day this year will be Robert D. Metzgar, President of North Penn

Pipe and Supply Incorporated in Warren, Pennsylvania. Metzgar will speak at the awards ceremony which follows the competition.

Judges from the events are chosen from people in the community who enjoy history, historical society members, and professors who teach history. In past years faculty from the Humanities and Social Sciences department have served as judges for History Day.

In addition to the competition, a Civil War reenactment group, Weidrich I Battery, will set up a Civil War encampment on the grounds. The Battery is an artillery unit which is based in Waterford, Pennsylvania.

Behrend's History Club, Respicimus, will also have an exhibit of artifacts which have historical interest.

Hale-Bopp...

Comet sighting

BEHREND: Astronomers around the world are closely watching Comet Hale-Bopp, which will make a spectacular appearance in the evening sky during March and April. As part of the Open House Nights in Astronomy Series at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, Dr. Roger Knacke, head of the Division of Science, will present a lecture on Comet Hale-Bopp Thursday, March 27, at 7:30 p.m. in room 101 of the Behrend Science Building.

Knacke is a NASA-funded scientist who has written extensively in the fields of planetary science, interstellar matter, and star and planet formation. He will discuss the nature of comets, where they come from, and their significance to the origin of the solar system. His

lecture will be illustrated by slides and videotapes of comets.

Comet Hale-Bopp, which is named for its two discoverers, Alan Hale and Thomas Bopp, is an unusually large one, and astronomers predict it will be one of the brightest of the twentieth century as it sweeps through the inner solar system. Telescope observations of Comet Hale-Bopp are already giving scientists new insights into the gasses and dust out of which the Earth and planets formed.

Knacke's lecture is free of charge and open to the public. Astronomical observing of Comet Hale-Bopp will follow the lecture, weather permitting. For more information, contact the Division of Science at 898-6105.



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ACTION NEWS 24 Weekend Weather with Joey Stevens

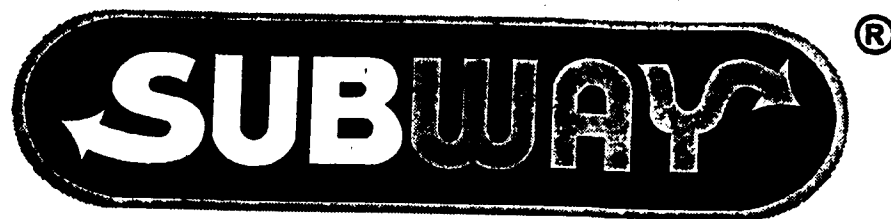
Thursday: Partly to mostly sunny, breezy and milder. High 54 degrees.

Thursday night: Patchy clouds, chilly. Low 40 degrees.

Friday: Becoming cloudy, breezy and mild with a shower late in the day. High 58 degrees.

Saturday: Cloudy and breezy with a shower early. The clouds will linger and it will be colder. High 54 degrees.

Sunday: Brisk and chilly. Clouds will mix with some sun. High 46 degrees.



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| Turkey Breast | 7.7oz (218.7g) | 276 | 4.4 | 97.9 |
| Turkey Breast & Ham | 7.7oz (218.7g) | 275 | 4.4 | 97.9 |
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UP controversy...

STRAIGHT wins charter

proves the University's system works," he said. When STRAIGHT's charter was first voted down Gildea said he was pleased because at the time he had reason to believe STRAIGHT would foster violent attitudes. "I don't believe that anymore," he said. "They've said publicly that they're not going to act violently and I have to trust them. They're innocent until proven guilty." One of STRAIGHT's well-known goals is to abolish the student activity fee, Gildea said. "But they're supposed to be a (heterosexual) political entity," Shive said. "It seems that's outside of the 'heterosexuality' realm." Gildea also said STRAIGHT plans to eliminate "sexual orientation" from the University's

nondiscrimination policy and fight any move toward domestic partner benefits. "It seems silly to me," Shive said. "All of their agendas seem to be crumbling to nothing. It just constantly changes." If the agenda STRAIGHT follows interferes with LGBSA's, the alliance is ready. "We're prepared to battle them on the political front," Gildea said. "But LGBSA exists whether STRAIGHT exists or not. We'll just be vigilant." Gildea said he did not anticipate LGBSA appealing STRAIGHT's charter. "We have better things to do," he said. STRAIGHT's first goal was decided at its first meeting on Tuesday night. Loccarini said the group should raise awareness about the goals

homosexuals are working toward, such as same sex partner benefits and homosexual issue integration into school curriculums. "We're so caught up in defending our innocence, we haven't had time to do anything," Loccarini said. There has been speculation Loccarini is only a media hound looking for attention, but he said he is relieved the case is not going to court. "If anybody could see what I'm going through, and how much this is stressing me out, they wouldn't say that," he said. "Yeah -- it's cool to have your name and picture in the paper and be popular, but popularity goes two ways. I'm very unpopular, too."