

ZBT takes charitable walk to Pittsburgh



PHOTO BY DOUG SMITH

The brothers of Behrend's chapter of ZBT go the extra mile for a good cause. On April 7, 8 and 9, the brothers walked from Erie to Point State Park in Pittsburgh to raise money for the Arthritis Foundation. They are shown here in front of Point State Park fountain, the final destination of their annual walk.

Wish-a-thon Behrend students have 'dubious taste' begins tonight in Commons

by Becky Weindorf
associate editor

Commuter Council needs help from the Behrend community — it's that time of year again! Commuter Council and the Make-A-Wish foundation is sponsoring the 12 hour Wish-A-Thon dance all night for proceeds to benefit a child's last wish in the Erie Area.

It's still not too late to help out this worthy cause. Commuter Council needs all of the students, faculty, friends, and anyone who can help dance for this little boy.

Even if you did not choose to pick up a pledge form near the beginning of the semester, you can get in the door for only \$3 to dance the night away. The dance is open to anyone who can pay the three dollars and dance. Commuter Council is asking for a big turnout the night of the dance — all walk-ins are welcome.

"We are really excited and thankful about all those who decided to participate: LEB, Alpha Phi Omega, Lambda Sigma, Alpha Sigma Tau, and the RUB Desk," said Karl Gressley, president of Commuter Council.

The Wish-A-Thon will be held in the Reed Union Building Commons beginning at 8 pm on Friday, April 14. The dance will go on all night and end at 8 am on Saturday, April 15. Commuter Council is asking that all participants who signed up to gather pledges to be registered by 8:30 p.m. on April 14 where they will pick up their marathon materials. Walk-ins are being asked to come in by midnight for the dance.

The proceeds benefit a seven-year-old boy who is dying of a brain tumor. His last wish was to take a cruise on the Big Red Boat (a part of the Disney cruises) to the Bahamas for a couple of days, and then visit Disney World for another two or three days.

The dance will not only have DJ Titan playing the tunes all night, but a live band (Gasmic Rhythms) from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m., free food and snacks provided through the night, give-aways, prizes, and games. A Human Dart set-up has also been planned for the night.

So far, about \$1,100 has been raised in pledges and over \$20 in donations. The goal for the little boy is set at \$2,400.

Donations are gladly being accepted all week. You can donate at the Commuter Council/Wish-A-Thon table set up in front of Bruno's or at the door during the dance.

Rules/regulations of the 12-hour Wish-A-Thon are available at the RUB desk, or you can call the Commuter Council office at x6452.

Behrend's Roundtable Society held its annual "Evening of Dubious Taste" on Monday, April 10, in the Studio Theatre. Students and faculty took the stage to regale the campus with humorous presentations of literature and drama.

This event has been held at Behrend for several years now, though Dr. Dean Baldwin, assistant division head of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences and the emcee for the event, isn't sure exactly when it was started. "We've lost count, but that is how we English majors work," Baldwin joked with the crowd. Baldwin believes the event began sometime in the mid-80s.

Baldwin started the event in response to the usually serious poetry readings. "I wanted to do something just for fun," he stated.

Some of this year's event highlights included the traditional reading of "The Flash of the Knife," which was originally read by Dr. Jim Davis, a former professor at Behrend. This year it was read by Dr. Morris. "The Flash of the Knife" is a short, horror story of questionable taste.

Another tradition that has popped up through the years was the "Chaucer Rap," originally performed by Baldwin and Morris. This year it was performed by a student, Susan Rohde. Other performances included



PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

A Behrend student reads at the Evening of Dubious Taste

"Dubious Jeopardy," during which student contestants — contestants who were suspiciously similar to some of Behrend's English faculty — tested their knowledge of English trivia.

Dr. Champagne had the audience of more than 30 students and faculty rolling with his rendition of "Shakespearean Aerobics."

Baldwin is the "one to blame" for starting the event, but the Roundtable Society has always been involved as

well. Dr. Gregory Morris, professor of American Literature, has also been a key participant. Other faculty members that are regularly involved include Dr. Steven DeHart, associate professor of German and humanities; Dr. John Champagne, assistant professor of English; Dr. Diana Hume George, professor of English and Women's Studies; Dr. Archie Loss, professor of English and American studies; and Ms. Marjorie Podolsky, lecturer in English.

'Novel' idea helps launch writing careers

by Libbie Johnson
associate editor

Behrend students in Dr. Jim O'Loughlin's Liberal Arts 283 class have a "novel" opportunity this semester. LA 283 is a survey of the literature that has been published with non-commercial presses over the century, while teaching students how to use Desktop Publishing Software. Seven students have written and published their own books. O'Loughlin said that publishing these books encourages students to pay more attention to detail. "People write better when they envision actual readers. Publishing ensures a readership and causes people to craft their prose with more care."

Jason Freed, a second semester MIS major, confirms that publishing "gives you a little more of an incentive to make [the story] seem interesting." Freed wrote his book on the financial problems of major league

baseball and the disparities between large market and small market teams. "I've always had an interest in writing...I've had short stories published before, but this is a lot harder because...this involves more research."

O'Loughlin said the genres the books encompass include fiction, memoir, history, and essay. The official publication date will be on Saturday, April 15, when the students will participate in a reading and reception from 2 to 4 pm. The Mary Behrend Cultural Fund is donating the money for this event, which will take place at the Erie Book Store, located at 137 E. 13th St. in Lovell Place. Students will read and autograph their books and discuss their projects. The books will be available at the Erie Book Store through May. Each book is priced at two dollars. O'Loughlin said, "...this event is a nice way of recognizing all the work students put in to a project like this."

Students have say in faculty hiring process

by Ryan Flaherty
staff writer

While the spring semester winds down to summer, new faculty for next fall in the School of Science are being hired. Hiring new staff may not seem significant to some, but to others it's a chance to voice an opinion on whom might teach classes next year.

Every year, more professors are being added to the faculty to compensate for Behrend's growing student population. Each candidate goes through an interviewing process that includes giving a seminar available to anyone who wishes to attend. By attending a seminar, students can learn about the candidate's field of study and also see how well the professors present their material. After attending a seminar, a Candidate Evaluation Form can be filled out so that administrators can get an impression of how students feel about a candidate's performance. The Candidate Evaluation Form will ask about general impressions of the candidate, how much they are recommended, and additional comments on what students think.

Seminars are just about done for this semester, but more can be expected in the upcoming school year. A list of upcoming seminars for the School of Science can be viewed at www.pserie.psu.edu/

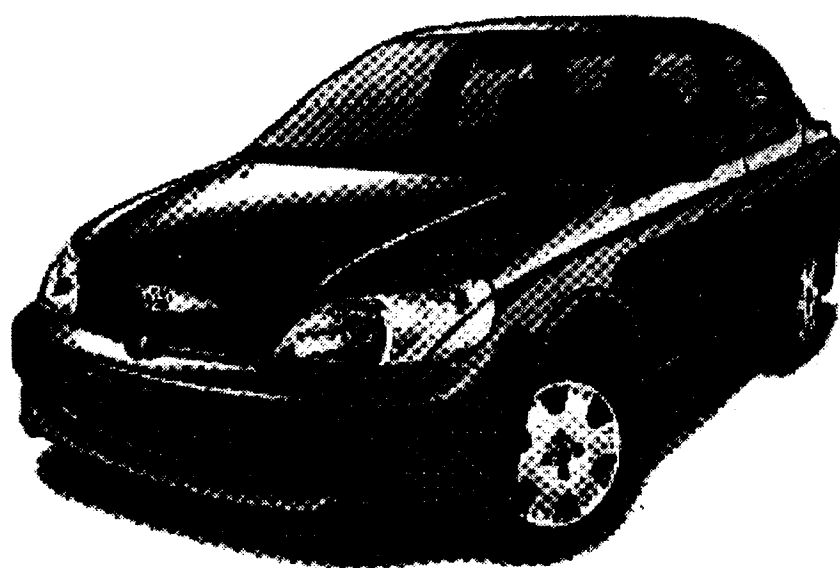
[science/Seminars.htm](http://www.pserie.psu.edu/science/Seminars.htm). A table of seminars will be listed along with who is giving them, what it is about, and when it is. If a time is not listed next to a particular seminar, a professor in the same department that the candidate is trying out for should be able to fill in details. Faculty usually receive a note of potential candidates in their department that lists respective dates and times.

Candidate Evaluation Forms can be picked up in the School of Science office next to the lobby in the Science Building. Once the form is completed, it may then be returned to Dr. Roger Knacke, director of the School of Science and professor of physics, in the School of Science office.

Although this form of feedback is available to anyone, "Not many students as could take advantage of it," Knacke stated. More students are encouraged to get involved in the evaluation process.

Currently, five new faculty members have been hired in the School of Science. Two assistant professors and one lecturer have been introduced in the math department. In physics, one assistant professor has been hired, and one lecturer in biology has been added as well. One assistant professor position is still being considered in computer science, but is rapidly being decided.

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