

Fun in the Summer Sun

COMMUNICATIONS 001 STUDENTS FIND WAYS TO KEEP IN TOUCH, IN SHAPE AND IN TUNE THIS SUMMER

SPENDING A SPECTACULAR SUMMER IN ERIE

by Mike Nies
staff writer

With April coming to an end, and summer vacation almost here, you may be wondering how you are going to spend all of your free time. If you plan on staying in Erie for the summer, keeping those few precious summer days filled with fun and your evening's action packed might seem like an insurmountable task.

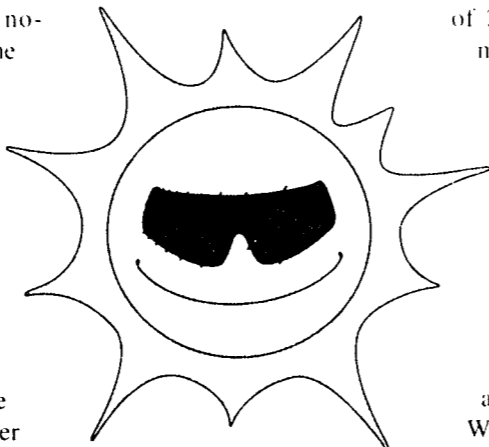
Those beautiful summer days that turn into glorious nights of partying until the sun comes up are a sparse commodity in the great city of "Dreary Erie." I know you're not going to want to waste your long awaited summer vacation sleeping in until noon and sitting in front of the idiot box all day.

So I have a few suggestions to help you make your summer one that for years to come will keep you and your friends saying, "Remember the summer of 2000 when we..."

One unique thing that Erie has to offer is Presque Isle. So take advan-

tage of this beautiful natural resource and all the many things it has to offer. There is a 14-mile long trail that loops around it. The island is great for roller blading, bike riding, running and viewing some very unique wildlife habitats that can be found nowhere else in the world.

Presque Isle also has 6 1/2 miles of sandy beaches, so where the you're looking for a quiet place to relax and catch some rays, or a livelier place to scope for beach babes or guys, you can find it at Presque Isle. Beach 6 has sand volleyball nets, and Bundy Beach (beach 10) has the best aerobic kite flying this side of the lake.



Are you ready for more? On Presque Isle, the fun doesn't stop when the sun goes down. Sarah's Campground is located at the base of Presque Isle, and you can get a beachfront camping spot for less than the cost of 2 tickets to a movie at Tinseltown.

Believe me, in the right company, it will be a night to remember. Right at the top of the hill across from Waldameer Park is Peninsula Drive-In, one of the last drive-in theaters left in the country. Just thinking about it brings memories flooding back to me. I only hope that it isn't torn down this summer to

make way for some new pile of crap that this city doesn't need. Waldameer Water Park is another great little place to escape the hot and sultry days Erie summers have a tendency to bring. If you golf, Erie County has a few excellent public golf courses: Crab Apple Ridge, on Route 19 going toward Waterford; Gospel Hill on Steimer Rd., right across from the Gospel Hill Cemetery on Station Road; Elk Valley, on Van Camp Rd. of Route 98, running through Girard from Erie to Meadville; and by far the most beautiful public course within 100 miles of here, the Upper Course at Peek'n Peak.

This is only a short list of the many wonderful summer activities Erie has to offer. I have lived in Erie for a long time, so believe me when I say this. Although Erie winters start far too early, downright suck while they're here, and never seem to end, the summer is a whole hell of a lot better. Anybody who has lived in Erie for a while will testify to that.

Question of the Season

WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO DOING THIS SUMMER?

"I'm travelling to France for vacation and then working in Colorado for the rest of the summer."

Molly Means, 02, Biology



"I'm going to Wildwood N.J., then Philadelphia. And I'm planning on going to Hershey Park for the Red Hot Chili Peppers and Foo Fighters. I'm also going to see Dave Matthews Band in Pittsburgh."

Jeff Senita, 02, Computer Science

"Heading to Indiana and visiting family, and then I'm going to be working on the farm at PSU main campus."

Scott Coon, 02, Animal Sciences



"I'm going to stay in Erie and work at the Erie Sports Store. I'm also going to run a lot."

Mark Suroviec, 06, Psychology

"I'm going to work and spend time at my camp in Franklin and work out a lot."

Jay Davids, 06, Accounting



Hot Deals on Summer Health Club Memberships

by Matt Buser
staff writer

American Fitness
1596 W. 38th Street
866-8818

3 months for \$75, no initiation fee. Free weights, cardio machines, hammer strength and cybex machines, and the "best prices in Erie" for weightlifting supplements, according to Mike, the owner.

Family First Fitness Center
8155 Oliver Road
866-5425

3 months for \$139, no initiation fee. Free weights, cardio machines, nautilus, rock climbing, treadmills, hammer strength. Aerobics and spinning classes. Personal

training available.

Nautilus Fitness and Raquet Club
2312 W. 15th Street
459-3033

www.nautilusfitness.com
3 months for \$139, no initiation fee. Free one-day memberships to those considering joining. Free weights, cardio machines, nautilus and hammer strength machines, pool, sauna, track, and racquetball courts. Aerobics and aquatics classes and personal training available.

Pennbriar Athletic Club
190 and Route 97, behind Days Inn
825-8111

May 1 - August 31 for \$134 (individual), no initiation fee.
May 1 - August 31 for \$139 (family - husband, wife, children under 21), no

initiation fee.

Free weights, cardio machines, nautilus and cybex machines, track, indoor pool, and outdoor wave pool. Use of the tennis and racquetball courts is extra. Aerobics and spinning classes and personal training available.

Willie Blank's Learning and Fitness Center
2169 W. 12th Street
454-0975

Per month unlimited use, \$45, no initiation fee. 26 classes held each week, members may attend as many as they like. Facilities include free weights and nautilus machines.

Eastside YMCA 2101 Nagle Road
899-9622
Downtown YMCA 31 W. 10th Street

452-3261

Glenwood Park YMCA 3727 Cherry Street 868-0867
County YMCA 12285 YMCA Drive (Edinboro) 734-5700
At Eastside YMCA, Behrend students with valid ID receive \$20.97 monthly membership with no initiation fee (normally \$80). Membership is valid at all four Erie area YMCAs. Facilities include indoor and outdoor pools.

This, by no means, lists everything that each facility has to offer. Before you consider joining any health club, visit the facility and ask for a tour. Most will be happy to oblige.

Too much music to cram into one article

by Leanne Acklin
staff writer

If you're like me, you can set at least some of your memories to music like a personal soundtrack. When I think back to certain events, I often remember the songs that were popular at the time, different songs that caught my attention, and especially songs that I heard performed live.

From county fairs to sold-out stadium shows, concerts are usually a highlight of summer vacation. With spring here, the summer concert scene is picking up steam, and no matter what your taste, budget, or location, there's a show out there awaiting your arrival (and ticket sale). The local line up is about to turn the sparks of sporadic performances into a blazing hot summer season...hopefully our PA summer will prove to be the same! Check out what's happening in just the next few weeks alone: (Please note: Many acts will be playing numerous concerts in the area. In such cases, only one show has been listed.)

- Buzz Poets: April 22, Gateway Clipper, Pittsburgh, PA
- Bruce Springsteen/E St. Band: April 25, Mellon Arena, Pittsburgh, PA
- Oasis: April 25, A J Palumbo Center, Pittsburgh, PA
- Arthur: April 25, Benedum, Pittsburgh, PA
- Our Lady Peace: April 26, Gannon Univ., Erie, PA
- Veruca Salt: May 6, Club Laga, Pittsburgh, PA
- Clarks: May 6, Ohio Northern Univ., Pittsburgh, PA
- Violinist Andres Cardenes: May 6, Heinz Hall, Pittsburgh, PA
- Mad Professor: May 6, Carnegie Mellon Univ., Pittsburgh, PA
- Craig Karges: May 6, Three Rivers Stadium, Pittsburgh, PA
- Train: May 9, Metropol, Pittsburgh, PA
- The Gas Giants: May 9, Metropol, Pittsburgh, PA
- Quiet Riot: May 10, Banana Joe's, Pittsburgh, PA
- LFO: May 11, Stambaugh Auditorium, Youngstown, OH
- Reba McEntire: May 12, Starlark Amp, Burgettstown, PA
- Live: May 14, Warner Theatre, Erie, PA
- Vertical Horizon: Sunday, May 14, Metropol, Pittsburgh, PA
- Jerry the Iceman Butler: May 16, Benedum Center, Pittsburgh, PA

This truly is only the tip of the concert iceberg for the immediate area. Many very popular and very talented (one does not imply the other...) performers and artists will be making their rounds this summer, and huge events from X-Fest to Ozzfest are sure to be a smash. Keep your eyes open to the music scene for more information, and visit websites that keep you updated, such as <http://guide.yahoo.com/tg/metros.html?majorcat=Music> and <http://www.theconcertweb.com/pa.html>

I suggest you take a chance by going to some unfamiliar concerts as well. You may just stumble across something you really enjoy, and catch a brand new group on their way to superstardom. Remember, they all started somewhere.

New friends and old: staying in touch this summer

by Kristin Grudowski
staff writer

As the end of the semester approaches, students have more on their minds than final exams and boxing belongings. Saying good-bye to the friends you spend basically every waking second with can get messy, and it's all going to go down in less than a month.

Experienced students know the difficulty, or perhaps the relief, of leaving friends they are surrounded by on a day to day basis. First-year students, on the other hand, must prepare to weep and wallow in grief and self-pity on account of the heartfelt separations that will occur during the first weekend of May.

So how will Behrend students deal with the emptiness that will follow their return to home? And what about adjusting to friends from high school who have been absent from much of their lives the past eight months?

Emily Wyman (Psy, 02) met her best friends in her dorm, Perry Hall, within her first week of school at Behrend. "I had my best friends from high school, but because I was living with these girls, we became so much closer than I was

with my group from home. These girls see me laugh, cry; they are with me on my good days and my bad days," Wyman commented. "We're all going to be busy this summer, but we are planning to visit each others' hometowns and meet in Erie a few times too."

Many students feel optimistic about the duration of their new-found friendships, but some are more concerned with re-establishing their high school friendships back home.

Lauren Eisenhuth, (MET, 02) will be busy this summer becoming reacquainted with friends from high school. "I'm not worried about losing the friendships I have made this year. We're all going to go home and be with our other friends, but no one will forget about each other."

Experienced students have been able to find a balance between rejoining high school cliques and maintaining the new friendships established through college. Adam Skrzypek

(BUS, 06) now lives in Erie during the summer to work and keep in touch with friends he has met at Behrend. "A lot of my friends stay in the area over the summer, and those who don't stay around come and visit," said Skrzypek. "As you get older, you see less and less of your high school friends. The friends that you still see after you've been in school for a few years are people who will be with you the rest of your life."

First-year students have no reason

to fret. There are a number of ways to keep in touch with and visit new friends, and re-establishing high school friendships can't exactly be classified as an excruciating task. The childhood song: "Make new friends, and keep the old. One is silver and the other's gold," makes this situation sound so simple, but it really isn't. To make the process a little easier on yourself, remember you can e-mail or phone your friends as often as you deem necessary. You could have your friends visit your town or venture to their's. If transportation is a problem, jump on the Greyhound. Although the differences in atmosphere and in friends may not seem common at first, you will adjust just as students before you have.



PHOTO BY KRISTIN GRUDOWSKI

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