

BEHREND BEACON

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20 pages - 2 SECTIONS

PENNSSTATE
Erie
FALL 2000

WEATHER
Friday - Showers
High 50
Low 46

Check page 2 for weekend forecast

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ARC

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A look at a crime reports from various campuses around Pennsylvania

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Behrend students experience the ups and downs of this election

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Anne Rice's new novel joins two classic series into a thrilling "embrace"

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Behrend plays in Gettysburg this weekend

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BLAME FLORIDA

Florida holds key to presidency; overseas ballots hold key to Florida

by Jason Snyder
editor-in-chief

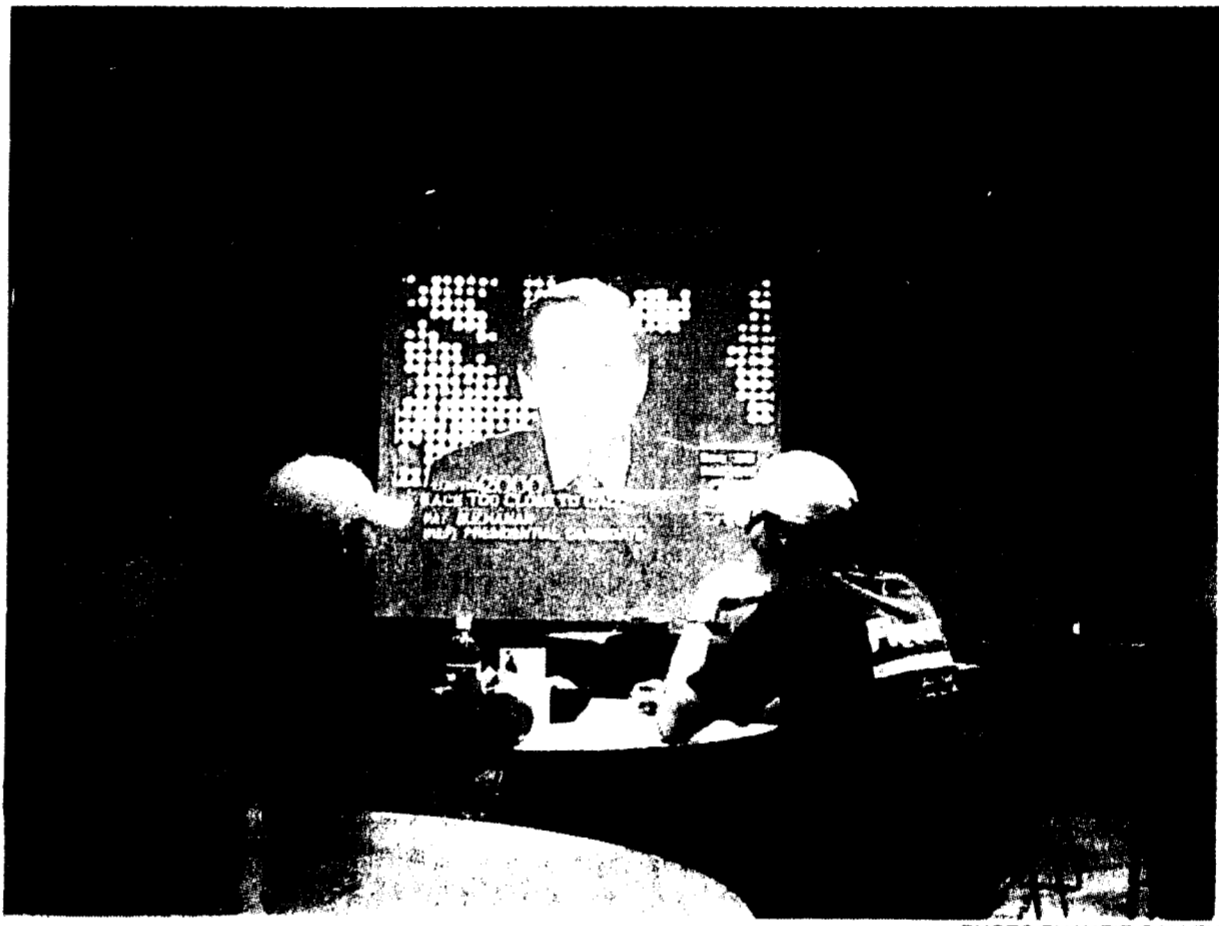
And then there was Florida. After a night of projections and different scenarios that could give the presidency to either Vice President Al Gore or Texas Governor George W. Bush, it has come down to one state; more specifically, about 10,000 overseas absentee ballots. With Gore leading the electoral votes 260-246 with only Florida and the 7 electoral votes of Oregon remaining, a win in Florida would secure a victory for either candidate, putting them over the 270 electoral votes needed to win the presidency.

It wasn't until after two media projections and two media retractions in Florida, and a concession and a retraction of a concession by Gore, that the state of Florida began a recount. The results of the recount brought the race for the presidency even closer. Florida will not pick an official winner until the overseas ballots are counted. This will hold off the results for another ten days.

Election day proved to be one of the most historic ever with the extreme closeness of the race.

Early Tuesday night, Florida was projected by all three networks to belong to Gore. Shortly after, Bush retreated to his governor's mansion with his immediate family where he told reporters that he didn't believe that the projections were accurate, saying that the absentee ballots (expected to be in favor of Bush) which had accumulated to nearly one million in number, had not been counted.

FLORIDA
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Behrend students Tim Efrig and Ryan Loughlin watch CNN's coverage of the race for Florida. PHOTO BY KATIE GALLEY

No surprises in local elections

by Mike Frawley
managing editor

While the presidential election may still be up in the air, things at the local level went as most people expected them to. Every incumbent that was running for re-election won their race, while one empty seat stayed with the party that held it before it was vacated. One surprising fact at the local level was the low voter turnout for such a close and hard fought election.

The race in Pennsylvania that received the most national attention was the U.S. Senate race, with first term Republican senator Rick Santorum running for re-election against Democrat Ron Klink. With the Republican majority in the Senate being very slim, the Democrats were hoping to recapture control by defeating some freshmen senators like Santorum. Santorum defeated Klink by 330,000 votes to help the Republicans retain Senate control. In the race for U.S. Representative

from the 21st Congressional District which includes Erie, Crawford, and Mercer Counties, incumbent Republican Phil English soundly defeated his Democratic opponent Dr. Mark Flitter by a nearly 20,000 vote margin. This will be English's fourth term in Congress in the same seat that Governor Tom Ridge held before his successful run for governor.

LOCAL RESULTS
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Students silenced by Erie election officials

by Jason Snyder
editor-in-chief

In an election where every vote counted in the presidential election and some local/state races, many Behrend students who filled out forms to register to vote were prevented from voting due to problems in the Erie County voting system.

In an attempt to get Behrend students registered, several Behrend organizations set up voter registration booths on campus, where students could fill out the form and be registered. According to the presidents of College Republicans and College Democrats at Behrend, all forms that were filled out at their respective booths were handed in before the deadline. After every day, the forms that had been filled out were taken directly to the voter registration office in Erie.

The *Beacon*, which set up its booth in a last minute push to get students registered, handed in 100 forms on Tuesday, October 10.

Problems arose when the College Republicans Secretary Rebecca Motter and student Mat Bocian had not received their registration forms as of late last week. Motter contacted the Erie County Voter Registration

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PITCHING IN A NEW ERA



ARC DEDICATED - The Athletics and Recreation Center (ARC) was dedicated on Thursday, November 9, 2000 in front of a crowd filled with students, faculty, staff, and alumni. (L to R) SGA President Jen Miles, Penn State Board of Trustees Chair Edward P. "Ted" Junker, Behrend Provost and Dean John Lilley, Behred Council of Fellows Chair P.C. "Hoop" Roche, and Penn State President Graham Spanier throw commemorative sports balls into the pool. Many officers of other organizations and members of sports teams were also on hand to proclaim their Penn State pride. SGA President Miles led the Penn State cheer. The atmosphere was even more energetic due to the pep band, cheerleaders, and dance team.

Blair receives Behrend's Alumni Fellow Award

by Liz Hayes
news editor

The 2000 Alumni Fellow Award was presented on Thursday, November 9, to Mr. Donald Blair, a 1952 graduate of Penn State. Behrend Provost and Dean Dr. John Lilley and Penn State President Dr. Graham Spanier presented Mr. Blair with the award during a reception in the Wintergarden, which was followed by a private dinner at Logan House with friends of the University and former Alumni Fellow recipients.

The presentation began with an introduction by Dr. Lilley, who identified all the former Fellows in attendance. Awardees included Mr. George Sample ('99), Mr. Robert Metzgar ('96), Mr. Richard Fasenmyer ('91), and Mr. Edward Junker ('87).

After Dr. Lilley's introduction, Dr. Spanier took the stage and further explained the significance of the Alumni Fellow Award. This award is the most prestigious honor given by the Penn State Alumni Association. Since it was first given in 1973, it has honored a select group of alumni who are recognized as leaders in their

professional fields. The University's Board of Trustees has designated the title of Alumni Fellow as permanent and lifelong.

Dr. Spanier also commented on the design of the actual medallion. Dr. John Cook, a professor emeritus of Visual Arts at Penn State, designed the award, which depicts the pillars of Old Main.

The podium was then turned over to Mr. Blair himself. Mr. Blair first joked with the audience, stating that the Council was not yet certain if he had won the award because the absentee votes in Florida had not yet been counted. He also continued the comments Dr. Lilley and Dr. Spanier had made about his difficulty in calling the campus Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, and not The Behrend Center - as it was called when he went to school here. Blair was a member of the first class to attend the College.

Blair also joked that he had spent more time in class on Thursday than he had his whole first year of college. Blair visited three classes throughout

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