

Behrend students starve themselves for charity

by Andrea Bolton
staff writer

Fasting times 30 times 30 equals over \$12,000 for a great cause. Thirty Behrend students willingly "starved themselves" for 30 hours on February 23 and 24 to raise money for World Vision's 30-Hour Famine in support of humanitarian efforts around the globe. Starting at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, February 23, 30 Penn State Behrend students began fasting until 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 24. The students raised \$12,092 for less fortunate individuals.

The clan stuck together throughout their 30 hours of fasting. At 5:00 p.m., all 30 students met at the R.U.B. Desk and proceeded to the Mary Vale House, home of Sister Mary Drexler, advisor for the Catholic Campus Ministry. There the activities began. Some of the evening events included ice-breaking activities to encourage the students to get to know one another, tie-dyeing T-shirts, games, and guest speakers. The students listened attentively to one of the Sisters of St. Joseph while she spoke of her experience as a missionary in El Salvador. They also heard from Father Jeff Lucas, the catholic priest at Behrend, and Pastor Wertz, pastor of Faith Lutheran Church, both of whom detailed why individuals should fast, and informed them of the benefits of this forgotten practice.

On Saturday the students started the day off with a walk on Presque Isle, and a short prayer. After their wake-up activities, the students separated into groups and proceeded to take part in several service projects. One of the projects was at Health South, a rehabilitation hospital, where students visited with patients and handed out carnations. The second service project was an afternoon of crafts with residents of Saint Mary's Nursing Home.

Some students spent the morning with the Neighborhood Network, cleaning elderly people's homes. Another service project was completed at the Flourance Crittendon Home, which is a home for women and children. There, students scrubbed walls and spring-cleaned the home. Many students went to the Bethany House, which is owned by Sisters of St. Joseph, and painted the walls of the home to add a fresh new air to the rooms.

At the close of the famine, the 30 Behrend students went to Old Country Buffet, who donated meals for all 30 starving students to fill their stomachs at the end of 30 hours without food.

Those hard-earned dollars for the 30-Hour Famine went to "Change Your World!," the theme for this year's famine. Behrend's chapter of the 30-Hour Famine was part of a world-wide event sponsored by World Vision. World Vision is a non-profit organization dedicated to bettering the lives of people around the globe. They are a Christian organization supplying disaster relief in many nations around the world.

The money from the famine supports some of World Vision's humanitarian efforts around the world. According to World Vision, "\$3 can help provide a school meal to a student in Kenya, \$10 will help provide a Bible to a Christian in Mozambique, \$24 can provide an education for three children in Mongolia for one month, \$50 can help provide an education for three children in Mongolia for one month, \$50 can help provide a dairy goat for a child-headed household in Rwanda, Burundi, or Uganda, and \$80 will provide school materials for five students in Peru."

Behrend the recipient of community's generosity

by Breanna Bush
staff writer

Many students at Penn State Behrend are able to attend college due to the scholarships that are given to them by the college. But where do these monies come from? Who makes these students' dreams of higher education possible? The answer is the generosity of others: individuals, companies, and foundations that have donated money to Behrend.

At Behrend, thirty-five percent of students come from families with incomes of less than \$35,000 and of the nearly 4,000 students who attend, approximately 80 percent are eligible for financial aid. Behrend students face an average unmet financial need of \$2,500 each year and many of the students must work 20 to 40 hours per week to finance their education, thus taking away available time for their academic studies. This is noticed, and help is out there for those who qualify. Behrend students can receive support varying from scholarships, gifts, awards, or endowments.

The family of the late Ernie Fryer, who had a 35-year career at Behrend, has created two endowments in his honor: The Ernest and Bernice Fryer and Family Psychology Award Fund and the Ernest Fryer Division of Undergraduate Studies Award Fund.

The Ernest and Bernice Fryer and Family Psychology Award Fund was created by Ernest Fryer's wife, Bernice, and his daughter, Linda Surovic. This Award Fund recognizes achievement by a Behrend student in the psychology program. It has a provision to consider students with vision, speech, hearing and motor impairments.

Ernest Fryer's nephew, Charles Fryer, his wife, Irene, and his mother, Mary, established the Ernest Fryer Division of Undergraduate Studies Award Fund. This award recognizes outstanding achievement by a freshman or sophomore in the Division of Undergraduate Studies.

In 1998, Donald Blair, a member of Behrend's first class in 1948 and the first editor of the *Nittany Club*, Behrend's first student newspaper, established the Donald R. Blair Scholarship. He has now increased the size of his scholarship endowment. This scholarship is for outstanding students with financial need. Mr. Blair was honored as a

Penn State Alumni Fellow in November of 2000.

Craig McClelland, former Hammernill CEO, and his wife, Alice, have created a \$500,000 estate gift that will create the W. Craig and Alice G. McClelland Leadership Scholarship. This gift will be made through their future estate and it will assist undergraduates with financial need. The eligible students must demonstrate leadership abilities through their involvement in campus organizations and activities.

The Erie Insurance Group pledged \$300,000 to endow the Erie Insurance Group Leadership Scholarship at Behrend. Eligible to apply for this scholarship are outstanding undergraduates who are currently enrolled or are planning to enroll in the management information systems program or the mathematics programs. The Erie Insurance Group endowed this scholarship for students who have achieved superior academic records or those who show promise of outstanding academic success. This scholarship will be given for the first time this spring and first preference for the scholarship will be given to children of Erie Insurance Group employees.

To create the Thomas Lord Scholarship at Behrend, officials of the Lord Corporation have pledged \$200,000. The scholarship is named for Thomas Lord, former chairman of the Lord Corporation board of directors. Lord was a leader in developing the Lord Corporation as a technology-based corporation. This scholarship will be used to attract and retain top academic students enrolled in four-year programs in the School of Science or the School of Engineering and Engineering Technology. First preference for the scholarship will be given to the children of Lord Corporation employees. Two-thirds of the annual scholarship will be awarded to students in Engineering and Engineering Technology and Science. Finally, one-third will go to students in any other major offered at Behrend.

Gifts of money, in whatever form, help those who want to make their future a better one and help the region. Penn State receives the lowest appropriation per student of any public university in the Commonwealth, and Pennsylvania ranks 48th in the nation in support for public higher education.

Science professor explains the universe

by Mike Francis
staff writer

February 22's cloudy and snowy night made it impossible to use the new observatory, but the weather didn't keep people away from Dr. Roger Knacke's lecture on the "Evolution of the Universe." The lecture hall in the 101 Otto Science building was packed with people interested in outer space.

Dr. Knacke, professor of physics and astronomy and director of the School of Science, opened with pictures taken by the Hubble Space Telescope of different nebulae and discussed how stars are formed. A cluster of matter called a Globular is the oldest mass in space known to man. It is approximately fourteen billion years old—three times older than the Earth.

Next, he explained how the universe wasn't ready for life yet, and how stars played an important part by making energy and changing the elements. When a star evolves it makes the basic elements, carbon, nitrogen, and oxygen. These are the necessary elements for life. The materials that make up people came from stars many years ago.

The next part of Dr. Knacke's lecture

was on early Earth and how an intense bombardment of comets helped form the Earth. The oceans are believed to have been formed from comets, since comets are primarily made of ice. The comet would crash, melting the ice and leaving the water on the surface.

The lecture continued with the question about the formation of life on Earth. Simple single-celled organisms formed in hot pools, and about 500 million years ago multi-celled organisms appeared.

The study of life on Earth also assists in the search for life elsewhere. Life began in water, so scientists know to look for places with similar conditions. Europa, a moon of Jupiter, has ice that moves, which suggests that there might be water underneath it. Another place to search for life is on Mars. Mars has polar ice caps and old waterways, similar to rivers, which could suggest that life could form on Mars or has in the past.

The search for new life and planets is an ongoing process; right now scientists have discovered over 40 new planets outside our solar system. In 2015, NASA hopes to launch a new telescope to find Earth-like planets that will receive better pictures than the Hubble.

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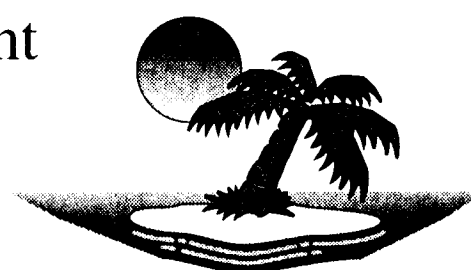
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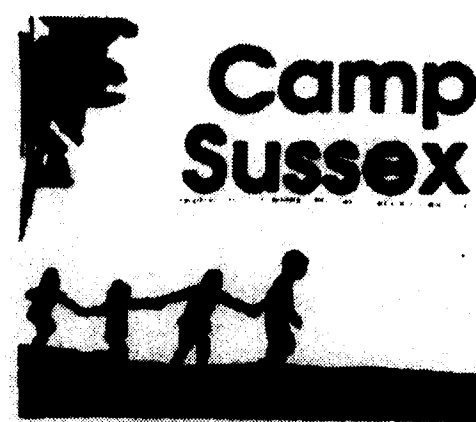


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