

**BEHREND BRIEFS****Scholarships available from University Libraries**

Undergraduate students considering a career in library and information science may be able to receive financial assistance through a number of scholarships put forth by the University Libraries. The submission deadline for these scholarships is April 27. Interested students may stop by the website, [www.libraries.psu.edu/scholarship/](http://www.libraries.psu.edu/scholarship/), for more information. Also, flyers can be acquired by calling (814) 865-0401 or going to the Library.

**Spring commencement scheduled May 13 in the ARC**

On Saturday, May 13, more than 325 Behrend students and their guests will assemble on the Reed Lawn (ARC in case of inclement weather) at Penn State Behrend at noon for the 2001 spring commencement ceremony.

At 11:30 a.m., staff and faculty will meet in Reed 112, bedecked in their commencement gowns; in the event of uncooperative weather, they will meet in the aerobics room of the ARC. The address will be given by Assistant Professor of Speech Communication Dr. Colleen Kelley.

A reception which will provide faculty, staff, and guests with the opportunity to honor the graduates will take place directly after the event in the Reed Commons or the ARC. Faculty and staff who intend to attend the commencement should call Tracy Greene at x7121.

**Parking on walkways prohibited**

Due to the opening of the ARC parking lot, there is no longer a shortage of parking spaces at Behrend. In light of this increased availability, parking tickets will now be issued to cars parked on the walkway north of the Academic Building.

**Corporate and Adult Learning offers faculty/staff discounts**

Penn State Behrend's Center for Corporate and Adult Learning (CCAL) will be making a discount available to Behrend faculty and staff and their spouses and dependent children. This discount entitles the holders to a 50 percent discount on public programs offered through the CCAL.

This discounted price will be available on a first-come, first-served basis and does not include the cost of books and other supplementary materials required for a particular course. This guideline does not apply to summer camps which are sponsored by College for Kids and Athletics.

Anyone seeking more information should contact the Center for Corporate and Adult Learning at x6103.

**Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowships announced**

The Provost's Office recently announced the recipients of the 2001 Undergraduate Summer Research Fellowships. There were 42 grants totaling \$59,787 that were awarded to students representing all four schools.

Grants funded under this program provide students with resources for travel and materials students need to accomplish their proposed research. The student recipients will work closely with faculty members to complete in-depth projects throughout the summer.

**POLICE AND SAFETY REPORT**

03/28/2001	11:40	Student asked P&S to pick up the nurse and go to the Benson Building, room 76, for a visiting high school student that had passed out. The student was transported to Health and Wellness and his parents were called to pick him up.
03/29/2001	20:30	P&S made a medical assist in the Engineering Complex. E.M.T.s checked the injured party. The injuries did not require transport. The student said that he would seek treatment at a later time on his own.
03/29/2001	09:40	A complainant reported the theft of a data projector remote control and a VGA cable.
03/29/2001	09:40	A complainant reported the repossession of a student's vehicle.
03/30/2001	11:45	A complainant reported that his vehicle had been damaged overnight.
03/30/2001	16:00	A student reported receiving harassing messages over her computer.
03/30/2001	16:55	A student reported that his car was damaged while it was parked in the S Lot.
03/31/2001	22:40	A window was kicked out in the SE side of the Dobbins stairway. Student Chad Bollard admitted to breaking the glass. Statements were also made that Bollard had been drinking prior to the incident. Investigations and prosecution are not yet complete.
04/1/2001	23:55	A complainant reported that he moved his bed outside to sleep as a dare. While he left it unattended someone removed it from the area. P&S located the bed in the woods behind Tigress Hall and informed the complainant of the location.

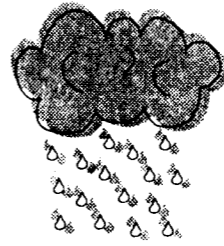
**FOCAL POINT****WERE YOU A HERO?**

PHOTO BY KEVIN BRUNER, OFFICE MANAGER

Be a hero and join the *Beacon* staff in supporting March of Dimes. The *Beacon* will be walking on Sunday, April 29, at Presque Isle. Anyone who would like to join is welcome. Also, we could always use sponsors. Be on the lookout for more candy sales.

**WEEKEND WEATHER OUTLOOK****SATURDAY**

Showers  
High 69°  
Low 50°

**SUNDAY**

Showers  
High 69°  
Low 48°

**MONDAY**

Mostly Cloudy  
High 64°  
Low 51°

**Before studying abroad . . .**

by Liz Hayes  
news editor

Students planning on studying abroad this summer should be aware of the dangers of international travel. Different laws and customs regarding reckless behavior, drug and alcohol abuse, travel, and more can land an unaware student in a foreign jail. Also, students should be made privy to foreign health and sanitary conditions, travel warnings, and safety considerations.

A recent press release from the U.S. Department of State warns students of reckless behavior and drug abuse in other countries. More than 2,500 Americans are arrested abroad every year, the release states. It adds that about half of these arrests are narcotics-related, often for possession of very small amounts of illegal substances that may be legal in neighboring countries.

The State Department urges travelers to be knowledgeable of substance laws in foreign countries, including but not limited to: public intoxication, underage drinking, drunk driving, what drugs are and are not legal, and the transport of illegal substances.

"It is your responsibility to know what the drug laws are in a foreign country before you go, because 'I didn't know it was illegal' will not get you out of jail," stated a State Department Bureau of Consular Affairs brochure.

The Bureau of Consular Affairs administers to Americans traveling abroad. It supports the American embassies that in turn support overseas Americans. It is the office that issues U.S. passports. It also provides a large amount of literature on foreign travel.

The Bureau provides a large amount of information on its Website at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov). It offers links for travel and terrorist warnings, emergency

and crisis preparedness, student travel tips, passport and visa applications, and informational sheets on most countries.

Ruth Pflueger, the coordinator of Behrend's Learning Resource Center, said that Penn State suspends study abroad programs to areas where the State Department has posted travel warnings.

Pflueger also suggested that students beware of health concerns in other countries. For instance, due to the recent outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in the United Kingdom and other areas of Europe, there are some traveling restrictions within affected countries (though there aren't currently any limitations on entering the countries). The disease rarely affects humans and then only mildly, but the virus can be carried on clothing, footwear, and vehicles and thereby transported to unaffected animals in other areas.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has a Website that students can check to learn more about health concerns, including food, water, vaccinations, infectious diseases, and sanitation. The site is [www.cdc.gov/travel/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/travel/index.htm).

"Knowing as much as you can before you get there will make for a safer and more enjoyable experience," Pflueger said. She encourages students to do some research on their destination before leaving.

Another method she recommended was checking out the Websites of that country's embassy. For instance, if travelling to France, the French Embassy to the United States should be able to provide a wealth of information on traveling to and in the country. A list of Websites for the embassies in Washington, D.C., can be found at [www.embassy.org/embassies](http://www.embassy.org/embassies).

One other source that can provide information of foreign countries is the World Fact Book, which can be found on the Internet at [www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html](http://www.odci.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html).

**A few warnings before you go:**

- A number of countries have enacted more stringent drug laws which impose mandatory jail sentences for individuals convicted of possessing even small amounts of marijuana or cocaine for personal use.
- Once you leave the U.S., you are not covered by U.S. laws and constitutional rights.
- Bail is not granted in many countries when drugs are involved.
- The burden of proof in many countries lies on the accused to prove his or her innocence.
- In some countries, evidence obtained illegally by local authorities may be admissible in court.
- Few countries offer drug offenders jury trials or even require the prisoner's presence at his/her trial.
- Many countries have mandatory prison sentences of seven years or life, without the possibility of parole, for drug violations.

*This information is taken from U.S. State Department Bureau of Consular Affairs literature.*