

## FROM FRONT PAGE

## BOMB SCARES

immediately evacuated again. Not only was Reed evacuated, but so was Academic, Erie Hall, the Glenhill Farmhouse, and the Carriage Houses. Everyone was told to reassemble by the tennis courts.

"Police and Safety decided to evacuate people from the Academic Building as a safety procedure," said Burke. There was no suspicious object found outside of that building, but Burke explained that student and faculty safety was top priority.

The Erie City and Millcreek Bomb Squads were contacted immediately.

Many classes were in session at the time of the alarm; students and professors were both engaged in presentations.

"I was giving a presentation on persuasive song lyrics for my SPCOM 230 class, and I was in the middle of a sentence when the alarm went off," said Kevin Fallon, a fifth-semester communications major.

Dr. Dan Frankforter, professor of ancient and medieval studies, was in the middle of a religious studies class. "I wondered why some students left their notebooks behind," chuckled Frankforter.

At approximately 2:00 p.m. the Bomb Squads used their own materials to blow up the device as a precautionary method.

At about 2:15 p.m., students and faculty were admitted back into the buildings and classes resumed almost as usual.



PHOTOS BY NEIL MAKADIA

ABOVE: Administrators enjoy a brief hiatus from the usual afternoon work while they wait to be readmitted to their offices.



LEFT: The 'bomb' turned out to be a student's model submarine used in a class project. At the time, however, the Bomb Squad was not aware of this and blew up the object as a precautionary measure.

## THEFT SUSPECTS

the names of the suspects, though both are Behrend students. Formal charges have not been made yet.

"Charges haven't been filed but will be soon," said Donahue. "[The suspects] will be charged with three of the projector thefts."

On January 2 projectors were stolen from Nick 170 and Witkowski 109. Another projector was stolen from Academic 41 on April 9. One of the projectors was located in New York and is in the process of being recovered by state police there. If convicted, the students will be responsible for an estimated \$15,000 in theft.

"The investigation is being led by Trooper James Brown of P.S.P. He has a very heavy case load and is working very hard on this case even though it's not one of his more high-profile cases," said Donahue.

These crimes were a third degree felony and are part of an alarming trend of rising theft that has hit the campus in the last year or so, Donahue said at the time of the theft. Donahue recalled that he has not seen theft to this degree in all seven years of his tenure at Behrend.

The maximum penalty for a third degree felony in Pennsylvania is a fine of up to \$15,000 and a prison sentence of up to seven years.

In February, as far as possible motives were concerned, Donahue speculated that reasons could range from simple vandalism to resale for profit. The crimes could also involve someone who wanted the equipment for personal use, or who simply didn't want to have class that day.

"The crimes in the past year have been more serious than we normally deal with," stated Donahue.

On April 9 a janitor reported the most recent theft from Academic. The thief bypassed several security measures while removing the projector from its overhead bracket and cutting the wires leading to the computer in front of the classroom. Also, the locked computer stand in the podium at the front of the classroom was broken into in order

to retrieve the remote control for the projector.

"They have a special security kit that are made for computers, projectors, and A/V equipment. They use aircraft grade steel cable and chains. There are also alarms on the projectors," said Mario Loreti, an instructional service specialist with Media and Instructional Support (MISC). "It takes a special tool to remove them as well."

Since the cables leading from the projector to the computer go through the walls it isn't just a simple matter to replace the missing projector. The room will have to be rewired.

The monetary value of the projectors isn't the only concern for administration. "Whoever walked in and took this projector [was also] stealing the ability of the college to provide quality education," said Donahue.

Behrend's MISC is doing everything possible to replace the missing equipment and keep the negative effect it has on classes to a minimum.

"One problem is these projectors are chosen because of their features and ease of use. It seems as soon as we find the perfect model they stop making it," said Loreti. A new model will have to be selected to help replace what has been stolen.

Behrend is taking steps to reduce theft of technology equipment on campus. "We are investigating it actively, and the state police have been made aware of the theft," said Donahue. "There have been cameras placed in some of the computer labs to monitor activity. And other security measures are taking place to help reduce theft."

"We are working on a completely different installation method," said Loreti. With these changes to Behrend equipment, Loreti believes theft should be deterred.

"I would encourage anyone with information that would help us resolve the case to get in touch with us at 898-6101 and they can talk with any of the Police service officers or myself," said Donahue.

## University to limit abuse of bandwidth

by Erin McCarty  
associate editor

At the Provost's Advisory Committee meeting which was held on Friday, March 30, Vice Provost for Information Systems J. Gary Auguston spoke with committee members about various computing issues.

One of the largest of these concerns was that a minority of students throughout the University is downloading excessively, slowing down the connection speed of the Penn State community at large. Most of the offenders live in residence halls, which Behrend Network and Information Systems Manager Ron Hoffman notes is true for this campus as well.

"Students have reported how slow the residence hall network is compared to the Computer Center," Hoffman says. "We have our fair

share of abusers."

In order to curb abuse and speed up the connection for the majority of Penn State community members, the University has begun to issue

line," says Student Computer Lab Coordinator Todd Say. "Each faucet that taps a water main diminishes the flow of liquid a little until finally the last water line user has the po-

"Network resources can be envisioned as a water pipeline: each faucet that taps a water main diminishes the flow of liquid a little until finally the last water line user has the potential to have little or no pressure at their tap."

-Todd Say,  
Student Computer Lab Coordinator

warnings to those who use a disproportionate amount of bandwidth.

The 300 most serious offenders have been advised that their service will be reduced if they fail to cut down on their activity.

"Network resources [bandwidth] can be envisioned as a water pipe-

tential to have little or no pressure at their tap." To help ensure a free flow, University Park will begin, starting this fall, to prioritize network resources according to the amount of instructional support for which those computers are used.

Residence halls will receive a low

priority rating, leaving the greatest amount of network capability for instructional support and research. Ideally, each student, faculty, and staff member should have enough bandwidth available to meet his or her academic needs.

University Park's Office of Food and Housing and Office of Telecommunications will impose the guidelines for acceptable usage.

"Real University business on the Internet is being hampered by the excessive use of bandwidth from the residence hall connections," said Hoffman. Say agreed that students need to be made responsible for their use of resources and hopes that the University's plan will be successful.

"It is hoped," Say said, "that these initiatives will combine to provide a stable network that meets the educational needs of all of the University's computer users."

## Slippery Rock speaker presents slide show on Civil War

by Mark Benko  
staff writer

Award-winning author Dr. David Dixon detailed the experiences of the common Civil War soldier from Pennsylvania in a slide-show presentation given last Thursday night. The lecture emphasized the impact of the war in letters, journals, and diaries left behind by those who fought it.

Dr. Dixon, professor of history at Slippery Rock University, has written many books on the Civil War, including *The Hero of Beecher Island: The Life and Military Career of George A. Forsythe*. Dixon has a Ph.D. in American History from Kent State University, and is a Commonwealth Speaker for the Pennsylvania Humanities Council.

"A simple constellation of values" including courage, honor, dignity, and sacrifice, are reflected in the artifacts, declared Dr. Dixon. Haunting depictions of terror, sadness, and even some humor peppered the scenario in which the common Pennsylvania soldier found himself.

The lecture was filled with interesting facts unknown to the general public. Did you know that

the youngest Civil War soldier in the state of Pennsylvania was only 12 years of age? The oldest documented active soldier was 83, and the average age was 22.

Another interesting and somewhat unusual tidbit revealed by Dr. Dixon was the occurrence of women in disguise serving as men. One such example was shown to the audience on the slide projector. The reasons surmised for this phenomenon ranged from women who wanted to remain close to a brother or husband, to transgendered patriotism.

"Drummed out and discharged" was the solution the Union Army applied to these problem volunteers, according to Dr. Dixon. He also stated that he was surprised at how many documented cases of women soldiers the records showed.

Most Pennsylvania soldiers worked on farms, in factories, or in mines. The vast majority had no military experience. Card playing and talking about home helped to counter the boredom and loneliness that accompanied basic training, but once the fighting started matters of survival seemed to take prominence.

In many battles it is

documented that as many as 7,000 men were killed in the first 20 minutes of fighting, but even more men were killed by disease than by bullets. Dr. Dixon relayed touching stories of dying men struggling to write one last letter home before the inevitable occurred. He read aloud from some of these poignant artifacts, which brought home the horror of war.

Dr. Dixon described makeshift and unsanitary hospital conditions, amputations due to gangrene, and lack of antibiotics as major obstacles for the men. He included these descriptions in his portrayal of the battle of Gettysburg. He also showed how these conditions helped people move up in rank rather quickly, due to such a high casualty rate.

There were 350,000 men from Pennsylvania who fought in the Civil War. No other war in American history claimed as many lives. 2% of the U.S. population was killed, and yet men continued to re-enlist.

Dr. Dixon informed the audience that most of the men feared being conscripted again after their three-year term had been completed. Rather than fight along side recruits they did not

know, they would quickly re-enlist as a matter of survival. Such was the strength of the bond formed between men whose lives depended on one another.

Dr. Dixon was asked what the letters revealed about the common soldier's attitude toward slavery. He answered the inquiry by stating that there was little or no concern in the beginning of the war, and that most documents show the preservation of the Union as the primary concern of the soldiers. It was only after the Emancipation Proclamation that mention of the moral crusade appeared, although comradeship and mere survival was foremost in the minds of the men, not high ideals.

Dr. Dixon concluded his remarks by reading from a letter that was written by a soldier shortly before his death in battle. It spoke of the willingness to die for the right to maintain a government by the people and for the people, and maintained that this was the legacy of the struggle.

In recounting the horrors of the conflict he stated that if we forget this legacy of the Civil War, it could still be lost.

## BEACON CHANGES

easily accomplished.

Wynne would also like to continue to promote the *Beacon* and Behrend by participating in community service projects and working with local high school students. Under Snyder's guidance the *Beacon* made a concerted effort this last year to become more involved on campus and in the community. Some projects included visiting the elderly at Breverly Village, working with March of Dimes, and supporting campus activities, like Feed the Need, spirit stations, the Student Government Association, and political events like the debates sponsored by the College Republicans.

Dr. Speel, who will be on sabbatical next spring, has been an adviser to the *Beacon* for the past five years. Mr. John Kerwin, a new addition to the communications department, will be taking over.

Other staff leaving the paper include: Katie Galley, editorial page editor; Jermaine Hardy, features editor; Deanna Symoski, arts and entertainment editor; Christine Kleck, associate editor; Amortya Sinha, money page editor; Kristine

Harakal, business manager; Ainslie Ulmer, public relations manager; Doug Smith, distribution manager.

As it now stands, next year's staff will consist of the following: Rob Wynne, editor-in-chief; Jeff Miller, managing editor; Paige Miles, assistant managing editor; Liz Hayes, news editor; Mike Bello, sports editor; Kate Levdankys Petrikis, assistant sports editor; Karl Benacci, features editor; Erin McCarty, assistant features editor; Abby Long, editorial page editor; Emilie Mague, wire service editor; Jeanine Noce, arts and entertainment editor; Kelly Walsh and Kristin Rodgers, photo editors; Becky Weindorf, copy editor; Joshua Hilewick, associate editor; Sarah Orr, health page editor; Ann Marie Havey, advertising manager; Neil Makadia, business manager; Jason Alward, office manager; Jon McLaughlin, website editor; Doug Butterworth, tech support.

There are still openings on the *Beacon* staff for the fall. Positions available include editors, editorial columnists, and staff writers. Those interested should contact the *Beacon* at x6488 or behrcoll5@aol.com.

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