



THE BEHREND BEACON

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A Penn State Erie Student Publication

Vol. XLIX No. 5

September 21, 2001

16 Pages — 2 Sections



FALL 2001

WEATHER

Friday's forecast:
Cloudy,
chance of showers



High: 70s°
Low: 50s°

Check page 2A for the weekend weather outlook.

INSIDE

PAGE 5A

National news coverage continues of the terrorist attacks and the country's recovery efforts.

PAGE 9A

The first of a new regular political column that lets the donkeys and the elephants battle it out.

PAGE 12A

A review of the alternative/rock band that pulverized the Tullio Arena Monday.

PAGE 1B

The men's water polo won its first game last week. And we don't mean the first game of the season. Learn how the Lions did it.

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Press '1' to retire



PHOTO BY ROB WYNNNE

Bob Schenker, Behrend's registrar since July 1, 1979, sits between the two most important women in his life (his mom Clara and wife Carolyn) during a farewell gathering in the McGarvey Commons on Wednesday night. Schenker served the Penn State community for 33 years. "I was pleasantly pleased to see all my family and friends, and I loved the comments of the speakers," said Schenker. Major Zangus from ROTC presented Schenker an award for outstanding support of the ROTC program. Other speakers included Dr. Jack Burke, Mike Chiteman, and Dr. James Kurre and his wife Gail.

Roth proposes structural changes

by Erin McCarty
assistant features editor

"Structural engineers will be talking about the engineering part of Tuesday's attacks for years," says David Roth, associate professor of engineering at Penn State Behrend. After receiving his professional engineering license and state certification, Roth began working full-time as a structural engineer in 1970. In 1976, he started teaching at Behrend, and he continues to be actively involved in the field through his scholarly research, which he says helps him to keep his skills and grow professionally.

"You cannot design buildings for all the terrible things that can happen," Roth concedes. "We have already factored in storms so powerful they only occur once every hundred years, hurricane winds, earthquakes, full occupancy, and overloads. You cannot add terrorism to that list." Roth said the World Trade Center was designed to flex so it could withstand wind from the top and earthquakes from the bottom. It was that flexibility that allowed the towers to withstand the initial impact of the airliners, an outcome predicted by the

STRUCTURAL CHANGES
continued on page 3

Panel of professors debates terrorism

by Liz Hayes
news editor

Five professors from the political science and history departments gathered Wednesday night before the Behrend community to discuss last week's terrorist attacks.

The forum, which was sponsored by the History Club, allowed each professor to introduce his views on the ramifications, causes, and possible effects of the attacks before opening the discussion to the audience for comments and questions.

Dr. John Rossi, associate professor of history; Dr. Michael Christofferson, assistant professor of history; Dr. John Gamble, professor of political science; and Dr. Matthew Davies, assistant professor of political science, all presented their arguments, some of which were similar, while Dr. Robert Speel, associate professor of political science, moderated and offered occasional comments.

Rossi began with his "provocative remarks," asking the audience to "wait until the end before making a decision" on his views. Rossi first said, due to the magnitude of the unprecedented loss experienced, Americans have reacted as could be expected. A resolve for revenge has manifested in the country, a resolve President Bush has articulated. Bush deemed the terrorists attacks "acts of war" and has asked the American public for resolve and patience, calling Americans the innocent victims of terrorists.

Americans believe the U.S. was attacked because it supports freedom and democracy. This is a myth,

according to Rossi, who contends the U.S. was attacked because of its foreign policies in the Middle East.

"After World War I and during the Cold War, the United States has been increasingly present in the Middle East," Rossi said. "And we haven't been particular in our allies." Rossi pointed to support of the Shah in Iran, military assistance in Kuwait (which is a monarchy), support of Egypt, and support of Israel (even though Israel occupies Palestinian territories).

"Our foreign policy doesn't necessarily support democracy," Rossi believes oppressed regimes

must therefore resort to terrorism to change our policies.

Rossi also said the U.S. may foster more terrorism and will have more enemies if we blindly attack these regimes. He said we should support justice against those found responsible for the attacks.

"We should put our principles in practice and support freedom and democracy in that region of the world."

Christofferson was second to take the stand. He first remarked on the comparisons between the recent attacks and the attack on Pearl Harbor,

saying there were significant differences between the two, the largest being the United States knew who was responsible for that attack.

"We are at war against who or what?" Christofferson asked. He said we can't defeat terrorists by military means because removing a few won't end the problem; it doesn't take many to form a terrorist group and inflict damage.

Christofferson also said we can't resolve these problems with

PROFESSORS DEBATE

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PHOTO BY JEFF HANKEY

Humanities professors Dr. Matthew Davies, Dr. Michael Christofferson, Dr. John Rossi, Dr. John Gamble, and Dr. Robert Speel discuss terrorism and international relations Wednesday evening with an audience of faculty and students.

Intercollegiate graduate program created

by Liz Hayes
news editor

Penn State Behrend is one of four Penn State campuses participating in a new Intercollegiate Master's of Business Administration program, which is organized through the World Campus.

The iMBA program is an online graduate program geared toward individuals already in the workforce who aren't able to take time off to attend a resident program or don't have a sufficient program in their area, said Dr. Peter Rubba, director of academic programs for the World Campus.

The other involved campuses are Penn State Great Valley, Penn State Harrisburg, and the Smeal College of Business Administration. These four colleges were chosen because they are the only ones currently offering a graduate program in business administration, said Dr. John Fizel, professor of economics and former interim chair of iMBA.

Rubba said the initial plan was to use one of the four programs or a combination of a few of them and put them online. However, those involved decided to develop a unique program that would only be offered online.

The iMBA program will feature 22 courses and 48 credits, which is typical of an MBA program, Rubba said. Students will be grouped into "cohorts" of 30 people, and students will proceed through their courses with that cohort. Student will take four to seven credits a semester and attend

GRADUATE PROGRAM

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