

Beacon

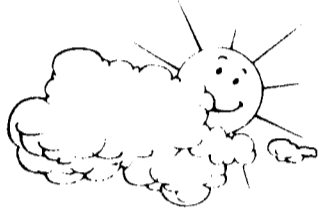
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WEATHER

Friday's forecast:
Partly sunny



High: 28°
Low: 15°

Check page 2 for the weekend weather outlook.

INSIDE

NEWS

CATCH A BUZZ WITH THE BUZZ POETS

The Buzz Poets, one of Pittsburgh's wildest rock bands will play at Bruno's Friday. Turn to page 3 for a preview of the show. CROSS THIS BRIDGE Sophomore Business Bridge seminar coming soon. See page 2.

SPORTS

RECORD-BREAKER

Erin Phillips is on the verge of breaking the record for the most career points in women's basketball. Find out how close she is on page 10.



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Celebrating King's legacy



PHOTO BY KEVIN FALLON / BEHREND BEACON

Visiting elementary school students show their true colors in the McGarvey Commons on Tuesday, the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., 200 first- and second-grade students participated in artistic activities relating to King as a part of Behrend's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration.

Local school children live King's dream

by Kevin Fallon
assistant news editor

In 1963, Martin Luther King told the world he had a dream.

"I have a dream...where little black boys and black girls will be able to join hands with little white boys and white girls and walk together as sisters and brothers," said King in his famous "I Have A Dream" speech.

On Thursday, there was evidence of progress toward King's dream as 200 first- and second-graders of many races celebrated King's birthday at Behrend.

Behrend kicked off its celebration of Martin Luther King Day on Tuesday by inviting four elementary schools to campus to participate in activities honoring Dr. King. The students from Burton Elementary, GECAC Community Charter School, Edison Elementary, and Diehl Elementary sang, danced, and made arts and crafts to learn about Martin Luther King.

"We were pleased because [our principal] chose our classroom to attend," said Lucy Durkin, a second-grade teacher from GECAC. "It is a very big thing for the charter school to celebrate Martin Luther King. (I teach) the message he was trying to get across, and that is all people

KING KIDS

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Sugar Ray will play at Behrend

by Kevin Fallon
assistant news editor



Penn State Behrend welcomes Sugar Ray to the Junker Center on March 19.

Sugar Ray will rock Behrend March 19. The Behrend Concert Committee has just announced that the Atlantic recording artist will play at the Junker Center. Tickets will go on sale Feb. 20 for students and will cost \$20. Tickets for the general public will be available Feb. 21 for \$24.

"I think that the concert will be a sellout," said Andrea Rodriguez, publicity chairperson of the concert committee. "Everybody loves Sugar Ray, or enjoys one of their songs. We've seen them on TV and they seem to share a common bond with their fans and care about the music."

Sugar Ray mixes elements of pop, punk, hip-hop, reggae, and rock 'n' roll. The band is best known for '99's triple-platinum selling record "14:59" and '97's multi-platinum "Floored." Students may recognize Sugar Ray's radio hits such as "Fly,"

SUGAR RAY

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King Convocation features Rt. Rev. Vashti Murphy McKenzie, St. James Mass Choir

by Erin McCarty
news editor

On Tuesday, members of the Behrend and the greater Erie community came together in the McGarvey Commons for the Martin Luther King Convocation, featuring keynote speaker Rt. Rev. Vashti Murphy McKenzie. McKenzie, the presiding bishop over the 18th Episcopal district in the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, was hindered by snowy winds and icy roads, but once she arrived her presence filled the room.

The program itself began shortly before 7:30 p.m. with an opening prayer, followed by a brief statement of welcome by Interim Provost and Dean Dr. Jack Burke. Burke acknowledged the artistic contributions of the first- and second-graders who had spent several hours earlier creating King-related art

projects and gave a hearty welcome to both McKenzie and the St. James A.M.E. Church Mass Choir.

Next, SGA president Brandi Hovis reminded those present that the SGA represents all students and is a strong supporter of diversity-focused and multi-cultural events. She urged students to use Martin Luther King Day as an opportunity to reflect on ways to ensure that the campus is a welcome environment for one and all.

After Hovis finished speaking, student Adrienne Abney, the emcee, introduced the 18-member St. James choir before the singers performed three songs. The first was a solemn song about worshipping God, the second was a jazzy tune about taking the first step in a situation and allowing God to do the rest, and the third was a jubilant expression of gratitude for all of the gifts given by God.

The program shifted gears when



PHOTO BY JEFF HANKEY / BEHREND BEACON

The St. James A.M.E. Mass Choir sings, preceding Bishop McKenzie's address. Their music soothed the assembly until McKenzie arrived.

student Asia Horton took the stage. She performed a passionate mime dance to a powerful gospel song about resisting temptation and holding on to Jesus. This performance was extremely well-received; the audience rewarded it with a standing ovation. The St. James Choir then sang an energetic praise song and a soulful ode to God's amazing grace before concluding with an exuberant melody praising Jesus. The audience was then treated to a final solo musical performance before Mila P. Cooper, director of Educational Equity Programs, rose to introduce McKenzie.

"Bishop McKenzie embodies the qualities that King did," said Cooper. She went on to discuss many of McKenzie's accomplishments. McKenzie was elected in June 2000 to the position of bishop over the

Eighteenth Episcopal District of the A.M.E. Church, becoming the first woman to ever hold that role. Seventy percent of the 214-year-old denomination's 2.3 million members are women. She presides over 10,000 members located in 200 churches throughout Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, and Swaziland. The membership of Baltimore's Payne Memorial AME Church rose from 300 to 1,700 parishioners under her pastorate. She also created a nonprofit organization to serve the community and has served as national chaplain for Delta Sigma Theta, a sorority which her grandmother helped form at Howard University.

MCKENZIE

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The Rt. Rev. Vashti Murphy McKenzie speaks on the subject "What Has Happened to the American Dream?" during the Martin Luther King Convocation on Tuesday.