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# **FOCAL POINT**

## 'HOME ALONE' AT COLLEGE FOR KIDS?



PHOTO BY KEVIN FALLON / BEHREND BEACON

"Arghhhhhhh!!!!!" Most of the sixth-graders who visited Behrend on Tuesday seemed to relish the thought of attending college, but something about the experience apparently was a little too much for this student. What sort of horror stories were those older and wiser students telling him? We can only imagine...

## The Health and Wellness Center: a hidden resource on campus



#### by Nicky Galloway staff writer

The Health and Wellness Center is located in the Carriage House and offers both commuters and residents affordable health care. The center is staffed by Patty McMahon, a full-time nurse practitioner and director, two full-time college nurses, and three part-time physicians including one certified sports media and Dr Gilbert, a certified obstetrician/gynecologist. The center treats just about everything from colds to prenatal care to emergencies. It also provides immunizations for both everyday health and foreign travel, physical exams, and a variety of educational programming. The Health and Wellness Center provides both nonprescription and prescription drugs at a minimal charge to students, and there is only a \$10 office charge to see the nurse practitioner or a doctor. This charge can be billed directly to the student account or paid on site. The center provides students with an itemized receipt that



#### The Behrend Beacon

#### WEEKEND WEATHER OUTLOOK SATURDAY **SUNDAY** MONDAY \* \* \* Mostly Cloudy Partly Cloudy Snow High: 30° High: 35° High: 33° Low: 21° Low: 17° Low: 18° **BEHREND BRIEFS**

# Chapel available for weddings

The intimate setting of the Larry and Kathryn Smith Chapel is available for weddings of engaged couples who are Penn State alumni or have an association with Penn State. The cos to use the chapel for a wedding ceremony is \$250.

According to Kelly Shrout, chapel coordinator, two weddings are currently booked, and two more are in the planning stages. The chapel is not available for weddings during the weekend of the Alumni Reunion, June 14-16.

To schedule a wedding or to learn more about the Smith Chapel wedding policies, call Shrout at x6609.

# **ROTC:** A semester in review

The Pride of Pennsylvania ROTC Battalion finished out another successful fall semester in 2001. Cadets from Behrend, Mercyhurst, and Gannon learned the technique of rappelling and obtained a basic overview of what water survival is like in the Army.

The final Saturday lab was based on water survival and was conducted at the Gannon University pool. Cadets participated in events that evaluated their swimming ability, challenged them to quickly take off their Load Bearing Equipment (LBE) under water, and showed them how to make flotation devices out of their pants.

However, the main event of the lab was the diving board jump. During this event cadets jumped from the three-meter diving board with their rifle in hand. At this particular station cadets were blindfolded, which made the jump even more difficult, because it simulated an unexpected entry into the water. Every cadet who participated in the day's training improved their skills in water survival and completed all the day's events.

The ROTC cadets, just like the regular Army troops, follow strict safety procedures when conducting any type of training. Ryan Shirley, a certified lifeguard attending Gannon University, was present for all the day's events, which helped maintain safety for all that participated.

If this sounds like fun to you, then sign up for next semester's ROTC freshmen class There is absolutely no military obligation and it looks great on a resume that you participated in some ROTC training.

The big upcoming events for the spring semester of 2002 include a Military Ball, Field Training Exercise (FTX), and Basic Rifle Marksmanship (BRM). The Military Ball is an event where military cadre and cadets look back on the year's events. This event includes a catered meal, a guest speaker, and dancing. The FTX is designed to focus on preparation for the junior cadets who are preparing to showcase their skills during the summer of 2002 while attending the National Advanced Leadership Training Course (NALTC) at Fort Lewis, Wash.

The event will include battle simulations, land navigation preparation, and learning how to live in the field. The BRM will also be conducted with this year's FTX. The BRM will teach cadets how to properly fire the M16 rifle, which is a necessary skill for those attending the 2002 NALTC. So don't miss out on some serious fun this semester, and do not forget ROTC credits are free, so sign up today. It's not too late.

~ by Cadet Dunkleberger of Gannon University

## **POLICE AND SAFETY** REPORT

- A complainant reported that her vehicle had been struck by another vehicle 1/27/02 21:54 within the past eight days.
- A complainant reported that others were spreading rumors about him on the 1/28/02 17:00 computer.
- 1/29/02 15:40 A staff member reported the theft of a VHS tape from the mail room of the SGA Office area.
- 1/30/02 09:20 Gannon University police requested information on an individual they thought might be a current Behrend student. The individual was not a current student.

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

### Fraternities \* Sororities \* **Clubs \* Student Groups**

Earn \$1,000-\$2,000 with the easy Campusfundraiser.com three hour fundraising event. Does not involve credit card applications. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so call today! Contact Campusfundraiser.com at (888) 923-3238, or visit www.campusfundraiser.com

### **KEEP YOUR RESOLUTION!**

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#### **School Sisters of St. Francis**

February 10, 2002

Time: 1 p.m. -- 3 p.m. Place: 629 Hess Avenue, Erie, PA 16503 Guests are invited to storytelling, prayer and refreshments For more information or to make a reservation call Sr. Rose Kuzma -- 454-5567 e-mail: kuzhome@iuno.com

PHOTO BY JEFF HANKEY / BEHREND BEACON

Patty McMahon, a nurse practitioner, is the director of the Health and Wellness Center. Other staff include two full-time nurses and three part-time physicians.





PHOTO BY JEFF HANKEY / BEHREND BEACON The Health and Welless Center stands ready for students to enter. The Center provides low-cost health care to students suffering from a variety of maladies.

> can be sent to insurance companies, so some of the money the student paid can be refunded. The center has a real "commitment to keep costs as low as possible so students with or without health insurance can afford the care," said McMahon.

As the director of the center, McMahon controls day-to-day operations. She is in charge of the budget, hiring, and inventories. As a nurse practitioner, she does what most family doctors do. She sees patients, diagnoses them, and prescribes treatments. McMahon aids students with colds, flus, stomach problems, abdominal problems, STD screening and treating, female concerns, acute injuries, allergy injections, mono, strep throat, blood pressure problems, weight management problems, chronic illnesses such as diabetes and seizure disorders, and on-site testing for a variety of illnesses. The center can treat most student concerns, but for the illnesses that McMahon and her staff can't treat, the center can stabilize patients until they can be transported off campus to get the help they need.

McMahon said the center is convenient and user friendly. Students are seen by appointment or as a walk-in. But McMahon warned that students just walking in may have to wait awhile to see her or one of the other doctors.

"We like to see them [students] as soon as they can come," McMahon said. That way, the students won't be off their feet with an illness or injury any longer than necessary. The sooner something gets treated, the better it is.

As an additional aid to the student, the center can fill out a slip of paper that states the student was seen at the Health and Wellness Center and what was recommended for treatment. This is something the students can take to their professors to inform them of what is going on.

One of the biggest things that the center is involved in is post-sexual assault care and treatment. This is at no cost to the student, completely confidential and includes a forensic exam as well as a medical exam and oftentimes counseling. The medical exam includes treatment of any physical problems and lab tests for sexually transmitted diseases.

For more information about the Health and Wellness Center, call 898-6217 or stop by the Carriage House Monday through Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.