

Question of the Week

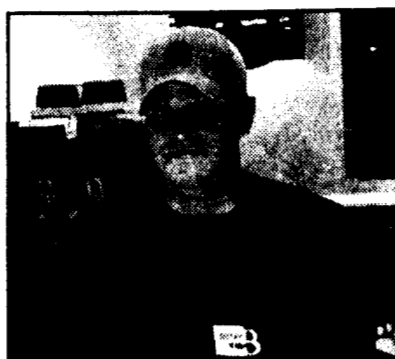
asked by Kelly Walsh

"What would you do to be on 'The Bachelor?'"

"Nothing, I am with the person I love."
Jill Page
Biology, 10



"I would sell my soul to the devil (just kidding)."
Lamar Jefferson
Communications, 07



"Smile."
Rick Myers
Electrical Engineering, 06



"Offer up a threesome."
Bethanie Falleta; Dee Nowacinski; Carmen Cole
El. Ed. 04; Psych, 04; Eng 08



"I would run around the campus butt naked."
D. Diddy
Computer Engineering, 06

FROM FRONT PAGE

CONVOCAION

from the moderator and audience. The sessions began prior to the mayor's address and concluded after he had finished speaking. Mengine introduced Filippi, who focused his remarks on his efforts to improve mayoral communications with the general public and to bring change to Erie.

"Change brings conflict and controversy," Filippi said, noting that his first month of office was fraught with bad press. But he related his dedication to maintaining an open-door policy with local media and explained that Mengine's position was created in order to increase public awareness of his activities. He also mentioned the effectiveness of pub-

lic access television and said he would be using this avenue, as well as radio interviews, school visits, and Breakfasts with the Mayor in order to inform the public of his activities.

"Believe it or not, people do watch that station," he said.

Another important area for him is the city's web site. This is used for fostering economic development and tourist appeal. He stressed the importance of creating a culture of entrepreneurship in Erie, thus moving the city into a modern economy and raising the quality of life for all Erie residents. This would include such projects as developing the bayfront and increasing the number of hotels in the area.

He noted that the county executive is also committed to this vision, and the difficulty is finding the middle ground between their desire for progress and the city council's satisfaction with the status quo.

"I enjoyed hearing the mayor speak about his vision for Erie," said Libbie Johnson, Communications 08. "He made me feel hopeful about Erie's future by describing his ideas to restore Erie's economy."

The convocation drew a sizable crowd, and attendees left with a greater sense of the opportunities available for students interested in a communications career in Erie.

KENNEDY

prosperity and polluters abuse democracy and the free-market system.

"Polluters make themselves rich by making everyone else poor," Kennedy said. "They're a bunch of cry babies. You hear them whining when you pull the federal nipple out of their mouth."

Kennedy argued that a true free market economy is the best thing for the environment. He pointed out environmental disasters that occurred in non-democratic countries such as Russia and China. He said the problem with

the U.S. is that "fat cats are using political clout to escape the free market system." Kennedy argued we should "avoid the seduction of short-term gain."

"We shouldn't recruit filthy industries in return for a few years of prosperity," he said.

He also responded to a question about oil drilling and said the U.S. should not drill in Alaska but should focus on a national energy policy to develop hydrogen fuel cells to eliminate the need for Mideast oil.

"The choices we make on energy are

historical," said Kennedy. "The World Trade Towers would still be standing today if we didn't depend on oil."

Kennedy's message was well received by several Behrend students.

"I agree with most of his politics," said senior Miles Dinnen. "You don't have to be an extremist to be an environmentalist. He was a good speaker and storyteller."

Kennedy ended his speech with a proverb from the Dakota Indians: "We didn't inherit this land from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children."

YEUNG

thousands of strings, and four forces to simulate, each simulated billionth of a second "only involves the execution of a few trillion instructions or so."

A major focus of Yeung's research involves the study of ways to facilitate the creation of "polymer blends", mixing polymers with different structures (and therefore different properties) to form mixtures with better properties. Yeung's simulations seek to provide insights into the creation of polymer blends using a technique called reactive compatibilization. That promotes the forming of successful blends by reducing surface tension along the "interface" where the two kinds of polymers line up and react with each other. One of the practical results of computer simulations is to provide a test of prevailing theo-

retical models. Yeung's work has served to test the theory of Fredrickson, Milner and O'Shaughnessy regarding reactive compatibilization. The simulation helps to provide insights which serve to refine the theories, while the theoretical results provide a check on the "realness" of the simulation.

The results of his simulation correspond in part with the theory but differ significantly enough to warrant examining the data to discover the discrepancy. This is something he has not done yet but would like to do in the future. Yeung concluded his presentation by thanking Kim Herrmann, Scott Smith, Jerry McGraw, and the National Science Foundation for their assistance in conducting and presenting the research. A reception followed in Reed 113.

Banquet honors graduating English majors

by Nicole Galloway
assistant news editor

This year's English banquet will be held in the banquet room at the Marketplace Grill on Monday at 6 p.m. The banquet has been a yearly tradition for English majors for at least the last 15 years. For the last six years, it has been held at the Marketplace Grill. Everyone is invited, including family and friends, and the banquet averages anywhere between 30 and 40 attendees.

The main cause for the banquet is to celebrate and honor the accomplishments of the graduating seniors. The seniors, as the honored guests, do not have to pay for their dinner. An anonymous donor covers the cost for their dinner. The seniors are presented with gifts and are given the chance to read from or talk about their theses. The banquet also acknowledges all of the English majors and marks the end of another year.

The meal is followed by presentations. Each faculty member who aided a student with his or her senior thesis, will introduce the student

and then the student will present their thesis.

Thirteen seniors are graduating this year, but not all of them will attend the banquet. The presenters at this year's banquet will include Creative Writing majors Carmen C. Cole, winner of last year's Sonnenberg Poetry Award; Andy Sydlak, one of the marshals at graduation; Miles Dinnen; Tricia Cox; Ron Vandenberg; Beth Knafel; and Jeanne DeForce. The literature majors who will be presenting include Joanne Kloc and Tina Fiero.

The banquet usually includes a lot of socializing and great conversation, and it is a terrific way to relax and celebrate the completion of another year of hard work. It's also a great occasion for all the English majors to get together one last time.

Every year, the banquet is organized by the Program Chair of the English Department. This year, the Program Chair is Dr. Greg Morris. Those interested in attending next year's banquet should contact Dr. Morris at extension 6205, or e-mail him at glm6@psu.edu.

KDR sponsors alarm clock drive

The Kappa Delta Rho fraternity will sponsor an alarm clock drive April 15 to April 26. The alarm clocks will all be donated to the Diehl Elementary School in Erie.

The students who attend Diehl are considered impoverished. Most of the students are raised by either a single mother or a grandparent. Many of them come from homes that care little about education and its benefits. Therefore, the students are not encouraged or helped out of bed in the morning. If they had their own alarm clock, which can be relatively cheap, at around the second or third grade level, they will become responsible for getting up and going to school.

The Diehl Elementary School is sponsored by Behrend as an "adopted school." Activities are coordinated between the school and the college. For example, earlier this semester, the Behrend band visited and played there. Kappa Delta Rho has been working with the Office of Student Activities and the Diehl School to find ways it can help out in the community.

"It's always especially cool when we are able to do things that help out kids," said one member. "Since I am always rushing to class, I can appreciate the need for an alarm clock."

Anyone interested in donating a clock can leave it in a box in the Office of Student Activities, the Office of Engineering, or the Humanities and Social Sciences Office. Anyone with questions or interested in making a financial donation towards the purchase of more clocks should contact Dr. Gregory W. Fowler in Academic 146, x6072.

RASO supports Butterflies for Kids

by Kelly Walsh
public relations manager

If you missed the chance to win prizes from Cellular One, The Fireside Gallery and Custom Audio while donating to RASO (Returning Adult Student Organization) and Butterflies for Kids, don't worry. You have another chance.

On April 22 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. there will be a table outside of Bruno's to find out more about Butterflies for Kids at a fundraiser sponsored by RASO. Butterflies for Kids is a Children's Garden where special needs children get one-on-one attention with a volunteer to plant their own plant, go fishing in the ecopond and plant a pumpkin in the pumpkin patch. Resident squirrel Sherwin even reads the children a story. The children who go to the gardens leave feeling special and knowing the most important thing is their imagination.



PHOTO BY KELLY WALSH/BEHREND BEACON
Sherwin the Squirrel poses with some friends. Sherwin is a popular character at the Butterflies for Kids Garden, where he reads stories to children.

"What you can see you can be" is a favorite saying at the Gardens.

Behrend student Dianne Esser started the organization after seeing how one couple gave their son life-long skills through gardening.

"He flourished as his parents worked with him," Esser said. She emphasizes the need for these children to have one on one contact. "When volunteers come in we tell them the most important thing is to use the child's name constantly."

In the spring Esser goes to various businesses looking for donations, and now it is Behrend's turn to help. Many college students don't have the luxury to donate money, but if everyone donated just 50 cents there would be enough money to buy the much-needed seeds and soil.

This organization is purely nonprofit; the only overhead is the water bill to keep the flowers blooming. Every penny gathered goes directly to the gardens. And for that donation a ticket can be entered to win a cellular phone with a one-month contract and accessories from Cellular One; a Penn State Behrend diploma frame, donated by the Fireside Gallerie; or a \$50 gift certificate from Custom Audio.

For more information, stop by the table on April 22. Those who will be in Erie this summer can find out about volunteering. The organization said it is a success so far only because people have given their time and money.

ZBTs walk for charity



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of Behrend's Zeta Beta Tau fraternity celebrate a successful walk for charity. They walked 103 miles around Erie County, ending in Perry Square on April 7. Proceeds from the walk will benefit the Second Harvest Food Bank and the Mercy Center for Women.