

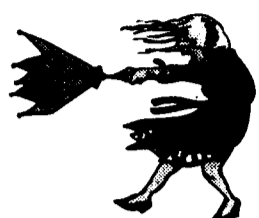
WEEKEND WEATHER OUTLOOK

SATURDAY



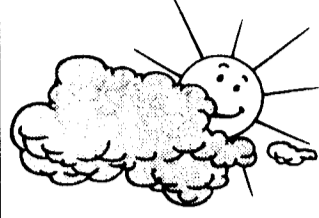
Rain Likely
High: 48°
Low: 35°

SUNDAY



Windy
High: 58°
Low: 41°

MONDAY



Partly Cloudy
High: 58°
Low: 38°

BEHREND BRIEFS

Provost search on hold

The search for a new provost has officially been suspended until the fall semester. Among the four final candidates, no one stood out enough for the committee to come to a clear decision. Another candidate came to consider the campus but opted not to pursue his candidacy for geographical reasons.

The search will begin anew in the fall, and the committee hopes to have the new provost in place sometime during the spring of 2003. Dr. Jack Burke will retain his post as Interim Provost and Dean until that time.

Young Democrats arrive in Erie County

If you are tired of just following along with local politics on television, here is your chance to get involved. The Erie County Democratic Party, in cooperation with area college student organizations, has organized the first Erie County chapter of the Young Democrats (YDEC).

The inaugural gathering of the Young Democrats will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. on Saturday at The Metropolitan, 144 W. 13th St. in Erie. The evening, which is free and open to all who are interested, will include refreshments, information about the new chapter and an opportunity to meet with local elected officials and 2002 Democratic candidates.

The Erie County chapter, the newest in Pennsylvania's network of Young Democrats organizations, is being developed by the Erie Democratic Party and Young Democrats from Mercyhurst, Gannon, Edinboro, and Penn State Erie.

Young Democrats are open to anyone under the age of 40. The chapter's first business meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wednesday at the Erie County Democratic Headquarters, 900 State St., Suite 100. All interested are invited to attend.

For more information, please contact Casey Kilroy, Northwest region director for the Pennsylvania Young Democrats, at 824-2839.

Mentors make a difference

Would you like to make a difference in the life of a young person? Mentor a Roosevelt Middle School student in the highly successful Penn State - Ophelia Project program next year on Wednesday afternoons. Sign up with Dr. Charisse Nixon, the School of Humanities, Psychology Dept., for the fall 2002 term. She can be contacted by phone at x6082 or e-mail at cin5@psu.edu.

Project organizers (and more importantly, the kids) need your commitment for the semester. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience a meaningful relationship with a middle school student, enjoy the camaraderie of other Behrend students, and change a life forever.

Spanier announces academic calendar changes

Two years debate over Penn State's academic year calendar have resulted a new schedule starting fall 2003.

President Graham Spanier decided to eliminate the fall break as it is now and creating a 16-week schedule with five days of no classes.

Venango County woman in 4-H Hall of Fame

One hundred people who have had a significant impact on 4-H at the local, state or national levels have been inducted into a new Internet-based national 4-H Hall of Fame. Among the honorees is a long-time supporter of 4-H programs in Venango County, retired Penn State Cooperative Extension agent Urania Bell "Rainy" Linn. Active in 4-H programs since her days as a youth member, Linn currently serves the Venango County 4-H Program as a 4-H fair board director and as treasurer of the 4-H Fair Inc. The hall of fame exists exclusively in cyberspace at <http://www.nae4ha.org/hof>. Each inductee has his or her own web page that includes a photograph, brief biography and a quote.

Monitor predicts battery lifespan to the minute

A prompt on a laptop that tells how many minutes are left before its battery runs down and how many times the battery can be recharged before it needs replacement is only one possible application of a new multi-functional battery monitor developed by Penn State Applied Research Laboratory (ARL) engineers. James Kozlowski, ARL research assistant and doctoral candidate in electrical engineering, led the development team.

Kozlowski says, "The new monitor is not limited to computer batteries but can be used in other battery-powered cordless or portable devices. It can monitor new or used, rechargeable or non-rechargeable, large or small batteries. It takes only 10 seconds to provide a reading and can be run off the power left in the battery you're testing." The current prototype was built with off-the-shelf components and costs about \$150. Kozlowski says another version, currently on the drawing board, will be about the size of a deck of cards and probably will cost even less.

POLICE AND SAFETY REPORT

- 4/19/02 22:05 A caller told ECC that her RA advised her to call Police and Safety for a recommendation.
- 4/20/02 01:00 A student standing in the apartment quad holding a bottle of beer was found to be intoxicated and was under 21. The student was arrested for violation of section 6308(A).
- 4/20/02 01:10 Three underage students were found drinking in the apartment quad. All three were arrested.
- 4/23/02 17:40 A complainant said her roommate threatened to call Police and Safety on her.
- 4/24/02 07:40 Lights were found broken on Behrend fields.

CLASSIFIEDS

Campus Fundraiser

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

FOCAL POINT

NOT A CARE IN THE WORLD...



PHOTOS BY MIKE BELLO / BEHREND BEACON

A mid-afternoon snooze is just the thing this student needs to get his mind off his impending finals. These girls, meanwhile, won't have to worry about finals for a long time. In either case, summertime is just around the corner, and school will be out of sight and out of mind until August.

Behrend pool overflows with memories

by Erin McCarty
news editor

You've probably passed it a hundred times on your way to class. Perhaps you never noticed it because it's such a fixed part of the campus. Or perhaps you stopped to stare longingly at it when the temperature climbed up to 90 degrees.

For most Behrend students, the in-ground pool nestled next to the Glenhill Farmhouse is nothing more than a simple, if rather enigmatic, part of the Behrend landscape. But for those who have been a part of the Behrend community for longer than a decade, that swimming pool is a treasure trove of memories.

"Quite a few of the staff all used to go over there at lunchtime," said Lisa Harrington, administrative assistant in the School of Science. "It was one big, happy, family party."

When Harrington joined the Behrend staff in 1976, there were no air conditioners in the offices. This uncomfortable situation made the pool the perfect lunch hour hangout. At this time, Behrend was much smaller, which meant a greater opportunity for faculty and staff from different disciplines to intermingle.

"It was how everybody got to know everybody," Harrington said.

"Going to the pool was always a big deal," said Dr. Zachary Irwin, associate professor of political science. "Here was a place where we could meet people whom we knew." Like many faculty and staff members at Behrend, Irwin brought his daughter to the pool.

"I always have a theory that kids are the best means for parents to get to know one another," Irwin said. As the children of various members of the Behrend community, from maintenance workers to faculty to administrators, played together, their parents spent time talking with one another. "Those kind of friendships tend to be fairly durable," he said.

"It added another dimension to our relationship as colleagues," said Cathy Mester, senior lecturer of speech communications.

Not only was the pool a place for faculty, staff, and their families to get to know one another, it was a popular spot for students. "The spring semester used to end later," Mester recalled. When the weather became hot, students would gather around the pool to study or go for a dip between classes.

"Many romances started at that pool," said retired professor Bill Patterson. When Patterson arrived in 1953, the Glenhill Farmhouse served as the girls' dormitory, as well as the administration building and the cafeteria. "It was the center of activity," Patterson said.

The small heated pool also housed swimming classes, and neighborhood children flocked to it in the summer.

"Pools were a rarity," he said, noting that access to the pool was free and unrestricted. The fence did not come in until much later. "The kids would all make up some connection to Behrend, just in case they were questioned," he laughed. Indeed, the pool served as an introduction to the water for many children.

"When my oldest daughter Sarah was between two and four, we used to take her there fairly often," said computer science instructor Charles Burchard. "It's where she learned to swim." Carol Tobin, staff assistant in the School of Engineering, related that her sister also learned to swim at the pool, aided by then-Dean Irv Kochel.

The pool sometimes provided an introduction to other things, as well. Irwin vividly recalled an instance in which a milk snake made its way to the edge of the pool with a frog in its mouth.

"My daughter saw this, and we had never explained to Sarah that snakes eat frogs," he said, looking on the incident as a unique learning experience. The snake, he speculated, had probably emerged from the wall of the adjacent pump house, a tiny structure made of fieldstone. "Fieldstone construction seems a lost art," Irwin lamented, pointing out that the style peaked in

popularity around the 1920s. "The construction of that pump house was really exceptional."

When the pool was completed in 1932, it received its water via the pump house and a dam. Despite the presence of the creek, access to water was limited, and the pool provided a reservoir in case the Behrend estate should ever catch fire.

"I don't know if that factored into Behrend's decision to build it," Patterson said. "Ernst Behrend was supposed to exercise every day. He didn't care much for exercise but he did like to swim, so he built the pool." He met regularly with his swimming instructor, "Doc" Ainsworth from the YMCA, perfecting various swimming styles and refusing to be defeated by meteorological mishaps.

"He celebrated his birthday each year by swimming a mile (80 laps)," wrote professor emeritus Benjamin Lane in his book "Behrend Remembered." "This was not usually easy, for his birthday fell in March when snow and cold temperatures are not uncommon in Erie. One of his swimming companions remembered a particularly cold and snowy birthday when Ernst arrived at the pool for his celebratory swim clad in a raccoon coat."

After Behrend died, the pool was no longer heated in the winter, but regular maintenance continued. Two or three logs set afloat in the winter kept the water from freezing, and the pool had a yearly tune-up to keep it in top condition.

"In the spring we used to have a work day with no classes," Patterson said. "Everybody cleaned up the campus." One of these jobs was to drain, clean, and refill the pool. In many cases, a new paint job was also in order. The process often took several days and was sometimes hindered by unwelcome guests.

"We were just getting ready to fill the pool back up when a chipmunk got in there," said Patty McClellan, staff assistant in the Registrar's Office, whose daughter was a lifeguard at the pool. "We ran around for 45 minutes trying to catch that thing before we finally swiped him with the net."

Despite the tender loving care poured into

it, the passage of years took its toll on the pool. Not only did the pool become weathered, but insurance policies became more strict. Additional safety precautions included adding a fence around the pool and removing the diving board, but eventually a larger problem had to be addressed.

"There was something called the University Futures Process in the early '90s," said Interim Provost and Dean Dr. Jack Burke. "There were big cost reductions."

As administrators examined ways to cut spending, they discovered that the deck of the Behrend pool had heaved gradually over the decades, causing an unsafe situation. In order to make it safe, each stone in the deck would have to be reset. This considerable expense was unwarranted during a time when money was so tight, particularly because administrators knew that the Junker Center was on its way. The Behrend pool closed its gate in the summer of 1992.

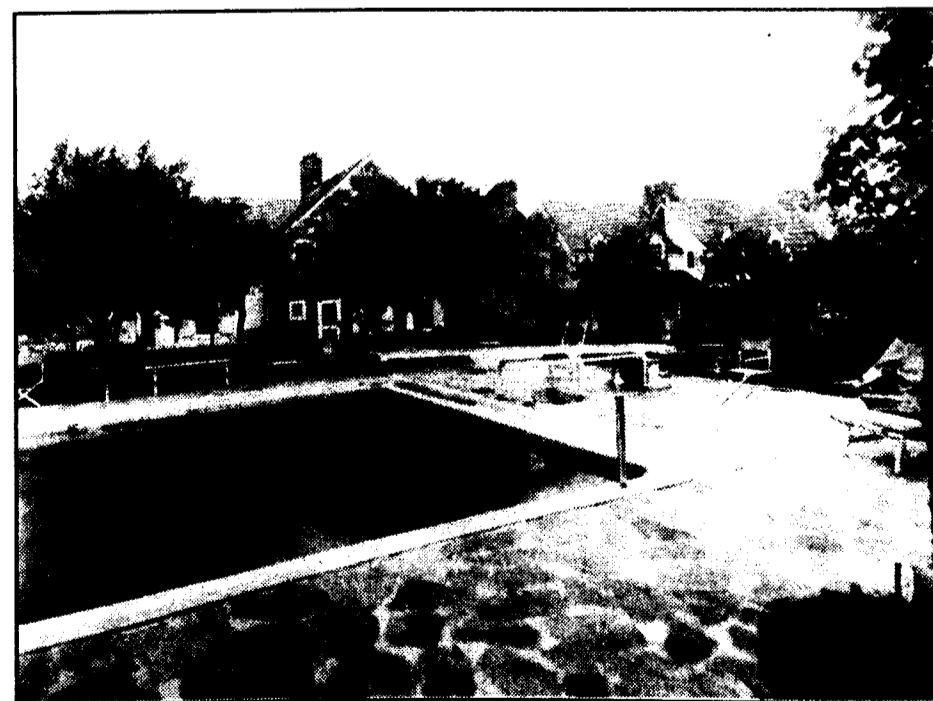
"I was very disappointed when it was closed," said Loretta May, administrative specialist in the School of Engineering. "Chuck Burchard and I collected a lot of signatures to keep it open." May commented that there was a big difference between that pool and the Junker pool because it had such a long history and because it was situated outside.

"It always really smelled good," McClellan said, remembering the shrubs and flowers surrounding the pool.

"It was a very mellow place to be," Mester said. "There was lots of shade."

"It was nice while it lasted," said Burke, who frequented the pool himself. "We're just trying to maintain it now so it's not an eyesore. There has been talk of turning it into a garden." But no one seems to be in any hurry to get rid of this emblem of Behrend's past, even if it does tend to taunt on 90-degree days.

"It's a reminder that this was something other than a school," Irwin remarked. "This was someone's home. I think that's important to remember."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A view of the Behrend family pool in days of yore. Even those who didn't swim much enjoyed relaxing in the chairs by the pool.

Behrend College Library Extended Hours for Finals

April 19 & 26	Fri.	8 a.m. - 10 p.m.
April 20 & 27	Sat.	10 a.m. - 10 p.m.
April 21 & 28	Sun.	Noon - 1 a.m.
April 22 - 25	Mon. - Thurs.	8 a.m. - 1 a.m.
April 29 - May 2	Mon. - Thurs.	8 a.m. - 1 a.m.
May 3	Fri.	8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
May 4 - 5	Sat. - Sun.	CLOSED