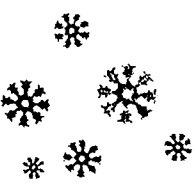
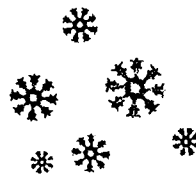



WEEKEND WEATHER

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
		
Shows Likely High: 42° Low: 28°	Chance of Showers High: 35° Low: 25°	Chance of Snow or Rain High: 38° Low: 36°

BEHREND BRIEFS

Behrend freshman appears on 'Crossfire'

Freshman Matthew Nowakowski got the chance of a lifetime during his spring break trip to Washington, D.C. Nowakowski, who plans on being a communications major, was chosen to ask a question to the hosts and panelists on a live edition of the CNN television show "Crossfire" on March 12.

Only two audience members were chosen to ask questions during the broadcast. While asking his question, Nowakowski was asked to stand in the middle of the aisle with the camera focused on him.

The March 12 show centered on the discovery of kidnapped teenager Elizabeth Smart in Utah. Nowakowski prefaced his question with his name and that he was from Erie.

Junker Center hosts Penn Lakes girl scouts

On March 14, the Junker Center hosted a Swim and Gym event for girls from the Penn Lakes Girl Scout Council. The event is the first activity made possible by a \$40,000 grant the council received from the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

According to Lynn Begue, executive director of the Penn Lakes Girl Scout Council, the grant will provide an opportunity for 600 girls living in Erie's public housing communities to learn the critical life skills that Girl Scouting provides, while developing the determination to succeed and grow strong.

Third bi-annual botulism conference April 3

The staff from Pennsylvania Sea Grant will participate in the third annual Bi-National Conference on botulism in Lake Erie on April 3 in Amherst, N.Y. at a location near the University at Buffalo. The session, which will begin with an overview on botulism in Lake Erie by researchers from PA, NY, OH, and Canada, will also cover current research at the biology department of SUNY Fredonia and the Aquatic Animal Health Program at Cornell University.

Thanks for Daffodil Days support

On behalf of the American Cancer Society, Michelle Slagle in the Financial Aid Office sends thanks to everyone who supported Daffodil Days. This year Behrend raised \$385 for the American Cancer society, up from \$178 last year.

Savings Task Force seeks input

The Task Force on University Cost Savings appointed last year by President Graham Spanier will continue to function indefinitely as the University searches for additional opportunities to conserve financial resources. The task force invites faculty and staff to provide assistance in identifying new ways to conserve resources.

These initiatives and changes in operations may result in direct cost savings, the avoidance of future costs, or greater efficiency in the use of resources. Ideas can be referred directly to the Dean's Office at Penn State Behrend or via e-mail to University Park at costsavings@psu.edu

Trustees approve housing rates

Penn State's Board of Trustees approved a modest increase to the University's room and board rates for the 2003-2004 academic year. The new rates are effective for the 2003 fall semester at all of Penn State's residential campuses. The increase reflects a continuing commitment by Penn State to improve safety systems and the quality of life for students in campus residences. It also addresses the annual inflation of food and utilities costs and maintenance expenses, which are expected to increase as much as 6.5 percent in the coming year.

Lady Lions roll into Sweet 16

No. 4 seed Penn State held No. 5 seed South Carolina scoreless for a 6:49 stretch in the first half as it rolled to a 77-67 win in the second round of the NCAA Women's Basketball Tournament.

The victory advances the Lady Lions (26-8) to the Midwest Regional Semifinals for the second consecutive season where they will face No. 1 seed Tennessee (30-4) on Saturday at either noon or 2:30 p.m. (ET). The game will be televised nationally on ESPN. This marks the first time Penn State has advanced to the "Sweet Sixteen" round of the tournament in back-to-back seasons since it turned the trick in 1985 and 1986.

POLICE AND SAFETY

3/20/03	14:40	Complainant reported that someone removed the rear plastic window from his vehicle while it was parked in the F Lot.
3/21/03	21:20	Complainant reported being sexually harrassed by another student.
3/23/03	20:15	Complainant reported someone siphoning gas from a vehicle parked in the Ohio Hall lot.
3/24/03	21:46	Complainant reported while returning from taking the trash out a vehicle tried to hit a complainant in Ohio lot.

CLASSIFIED

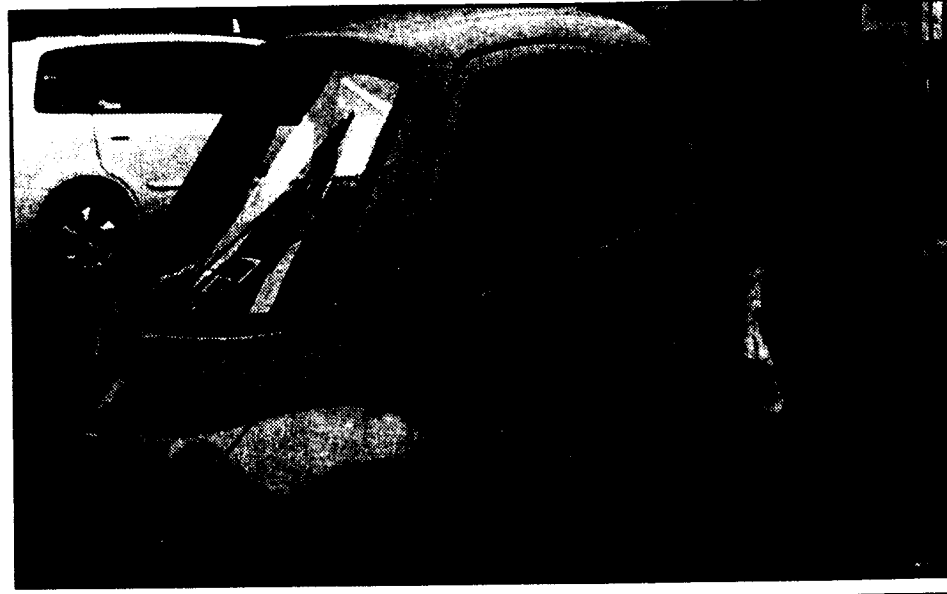
"Intellectual virtue, in the main, owes its birth and growth to teaching while moral virtue comes about as a result of practice."
- Aristotle

Janet Neff Sample Center
for Manners & Civility



FOCAL POINT

The strongest man in Italy



Behrend student and choir member Tony DiPlacido takes a break from singing to test his strength on an unsuspecting Italian car. While in Italy, DiPlacido and other choir members had plenty of time to peruse Italian culture.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

FROM FRONT PAGE

SGA

in a great deal of time in practices and games that they should either be given at least three credits for their varsity sport, or allowed to take one, repeatable credit."

Director of Student Affairs and SGA Advisor Ken Miller was pleased with the candidates' responses.

"I think Scott and Jen will bring a great deal of enthusiasm and dedication

to their positions next year. They have the best interests of the students at heart and are keenly aware of the influence students can have on the life of the college. I think they've done a good job outlining their goals for next year. They will need to work with the new Senate to develop actions plans for accomplishing them," said Miller.

Soltis said he ran for president because

he "honestly cares about SGA." He chose Jenn Sutter as his running-mate because "she is an excellent senator and her dedication to THON shows that she's very capable and enthusiastic about what she does." Sutter also received the "best senator award" this past year from SGA.

Next week, the Beacon will highlight the Senators running for SGA. Elections are April 8 and 9 outside of Bruno's.

Student video wins Penn Dot award

by Kevin Fallon
editor-in-chief

Lights. Camera. Action. A group of Behrend students recently won an award from the Northwest Regional Highway Safety Network for a 30-second public service announcement. Erika Dauber, Keenan Hansen, and Andrea Rodriguez produced the commercial as part of their

Advanced Video Production class taught by John Kerwin, assistant professor of communication.

The students created the video titled "Set the Example" for the network's Drunk and Drugged Driving Awareness campaign, which educates people on the dangers of impaired driving. The video will air on television in the near future.

"I felt honored," said Rodriguez. "I

was really surprised we won."

The winning group said it wanted to reach the audience on an emotional level. The video portrays a girl whose mother gets killed by a drunk driver. Both the students and the sponsor hope the commercial will encourage people to take a stand against drunk driving.

"I think it's more of a message to young people. Maybe they will think twice about getting behind the wheel when they are drunk."

The group beat out entries from 16 campuses in northwestern Pa. The other entries from Behrend placed second and third in the contest, winning awards for technical merit and editorial content.

Kerwin said that real-world experience provided by this contest is important for students interested in video production.

"You can teach it, but until you go out and do it, you don't know what it's like," said Kerwin. "The fact that all the students were successful speaks well for the students and the (communications) program."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

(L-R) Behrend students Erika Dauber, Keenan Hansen, Northwest Regional Highway Safety Network director Holly Miller, and Andrea Rodriguez stand with their awards.

Pageant crowns Miss and Mr. Behrend

by Jen Henderson
assistant news editor

Here they come, the new Miss and Mr. Behrend!

A number of little girls dream of one day being the next Miss America or Miss USA. Who would ever think that this dream might be fulfilled during their college careers at Behrend? On Wednesday night both male and female students got to strut their stuff to find out how they would measure up in a comparable competition to the famous pageants that occur all over the world.

The first ever Mr. and Miss Behrend Pageant was held in the McGarvey Commons. The event was sponsored by the sisters of Alpha Sigma Tau. Judges for the event were Chris Fox, Brenda Horvath, Jill Parker, and Linda Lewis. However, these women were not the only ones who could vote. Everyone could take part in the action by putting change in the various cups for each of the contestants that were located at the event.

Seven girls and seven guys participated. The contestants were: Erin Strayer, Jessica Dearolf, Stacey Frazier, Sara Grant, Erinn Hansen, Andrea Rodriguez, Adrienne Schermer, Mark Bryner, Bill Hogan, Greg Keller, Ryan Maddock, Dave Masilunas, Brian Valor, and Erik Woods.

Beach, evening, and casual wear were worn. Two intriguing questions were also asked to test each contestant's personality. The first question was, "What do you plan on doing after leaving Penn State?" Answers ranged from funny to serious as some stated "make lots of money" to "hopefully get a job, but I like to leave my options open."

The second question was, "If you had to pick three items to place in a time

capsule that would be opened in 50 years, what would they be?" Masilunas concluded his answer by saying, "a twinkie to see if they last forever."

"My New Kids on the Block comforter...my Rock Star clothes, so I won't have to go back to the Salvation Army to buy more...and a picture of all my sisters from Theta Phi Alpha," said Dearolf.

There were many door prizes given away to the audience throughout the evening. Prizes came from such generous businesses as: A Total Tan, Tinseltown, All Seasons Tanning, On the Avenue, A Tan Above, Eat 'N Park, Country Fair, Outback Steakhouse, Dairy Queen, Longhorn Steakhouse, and Max & Erma's.

The evening was filled with good music, ranging from rap to country. Each contestant had a different song blaring behind them as they made their distinctive mark on the brightly lit runway. Some chose to throw in a few dance moves, while others simply held their heads high and did their thing.

The night concluded with Dave Masilunas and Adrienne Schermer being crowned Mr. and Miss Behrend. They were awarded their crowns and paraded down the runway for a few final photographs to capture the memory.

"I had a lot of fun and hope this becomes a Behrend tradition. The girls of AZT did a wonderful job," said Schermer.

"It was definitely a lot of fun and I met a couple of new people," Masilunas said. "I hope in the future there is a larger turnout. And thanks to the girls of AZT who made me do it!"

Other contestants could not say enough good things about the event.

"I thought it was a good experience and a lot of fun. Good job to all who participated," said Hansen.

"I was a little nervous going into the pageant because I was one of the few not GREEK, but everyone was so nice and I made some new friends," Rodriguez said. "It wasn't all about winning the pageant at all. I was happily being involved in a Behrend event."

After the reasonable turnout and enthusiasm by the participants, it looks as if the students at Behrend would like to see more events of this nature. The sisters of Alpha Sigma Tau planned a fun evening for all who were lucky enough to attend.

"The pageant was a lot fun, everyone was friendly and was just there to have a good time," Grant said. "The sisters of Alpha Sigma Tau did a wonderful job of putting it together. I look forward to seeing it become an annual event."

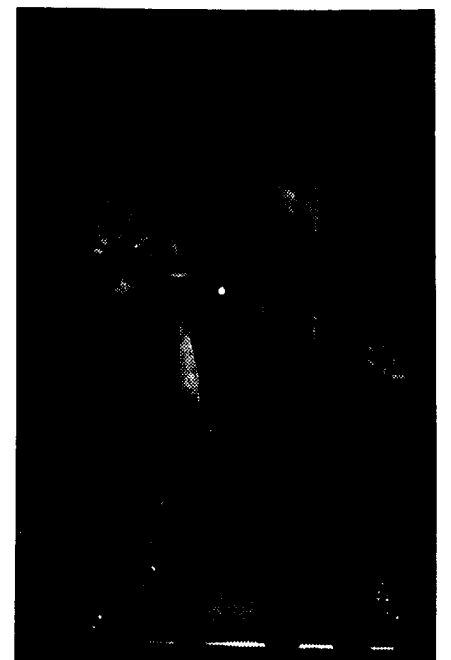


PHOTO BY JEN HENDERON / BEHREND BEACON

Adrienne Schermer and Dave Masilunas take the crowns of Miss and Mr. Behrend.