

Question of the Week

by Jen Henderson,
assistant news editor

"What is the best concert you have ever been to?"



"Dave Matthews."
Bill Slowik
Computer Engineering, 02



"Britney Spears."
Jeffrey Lee
DUS, 02



"Mary J. Blige."
Lisa Miller
Psychology, 04



"50 Cent at the CSU Convocation Center in Cleveland."
Ryan Herhold
ME, 02



"Coldplay concert in Pittsburgh."
Sara Kelly
DUS, 02

Bruno's ready to rock

"I'm always one step behind being cool... or three steps."

- Matt Nathanson



PHOTO: MATTNATHANSON.COM

Acoustic guitarist Matt Nathanson will play Bruno's tonight at 8.

Seniors halfway to goal for Senior Class Gift

by Christine Kleck
advertising manager

A lion statue for the Behrend community is on the prowl and making its way toward campus, thanks to pledges made by the graduating seniors from the class of 2003.

After Monday and Tuesday's Senior Salute Days the committee announced that pledge amounts show the class is more than halfway to reaching its goal of \$10,000 to purchase the lion statue. So far, \$5,182 has been raised.

Around 20 percent, or 121 of the more than 400 members of the graduating class of 2003, have pledged money towards the project. Pledges will continue to be accepted until spring commencement. Following spring commencement, the December 2003 graduating class will take the project over, as it will continue fundraising efforts to bring the lion home.

Seniors stopping by the pledge table at Senior Salute days this past Monday and Tuesday received a wide variety of free Penn State Alumni merchandise. Those who pledged money by 5 p.m. Tuesday were placed in a drawing for a \$50 gift certificate to the Millcreek Mall or a \$25 gift certificate to the Olive Garden. Jeffery A. Reed won the Olive Garden gift certificate and William J. Diplacido won the Millcreek Mall gift certificate.

The Senior Class Gift committee is beginning the second half of the

campaign for the lion statue. Anyone who is interested in the committee, the statue or making a pledge toward the gift is asked to contact Kevin Moore, director of alumni relations at 898-6475 or kem7@psu.edu.

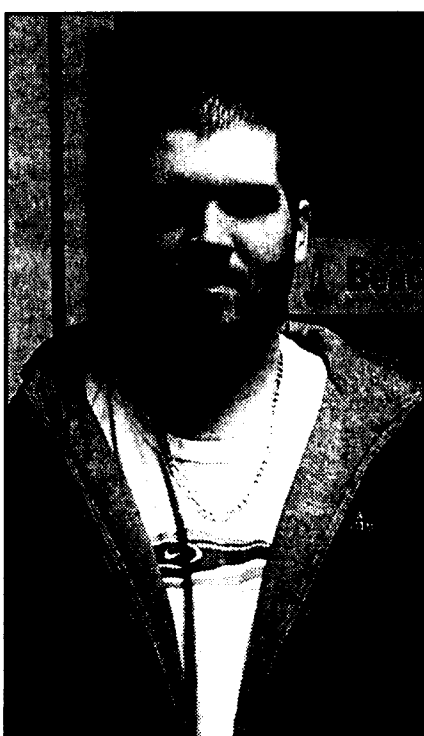


PHOTO BY ROB WYNNE / BEHREND BEACON

Behrend student Jeff Reed receives a \$25 gift certificate to the Olive Garden after winning the Senior Class Gift drawing. Not pictured is William Diplacido, who won a \$50 gift certificate to the mall in the drawing. Students who donated to the Senior Class Gift last week were eligible for prizes.

Amy Hempel to present lyrical prose

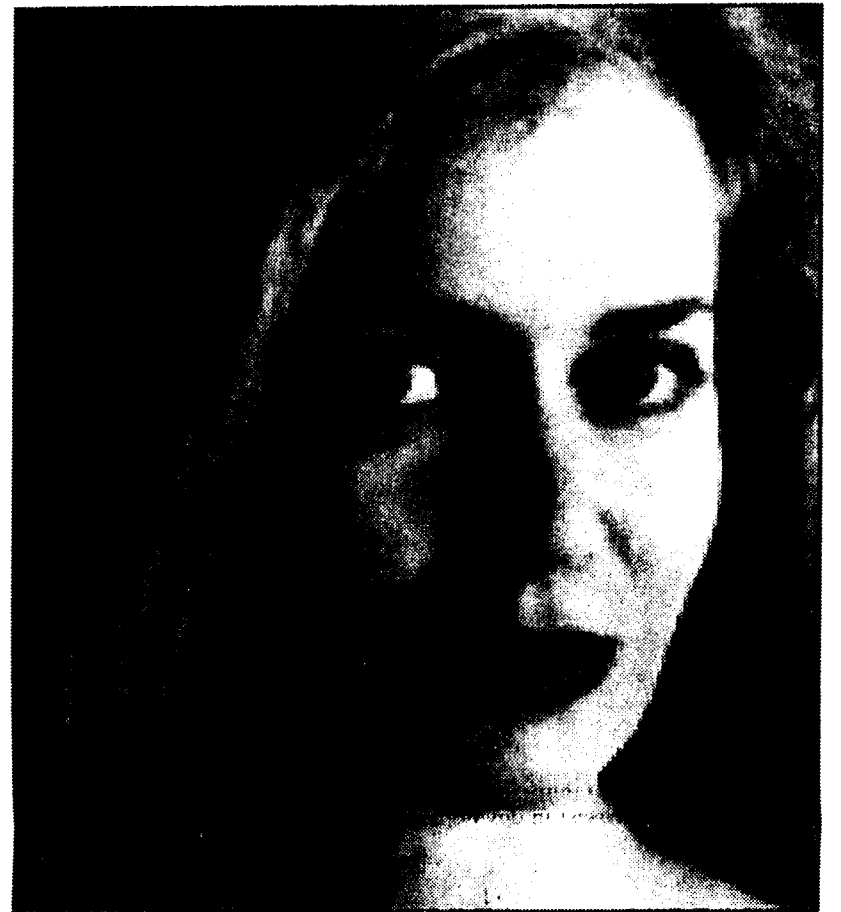
Writer Amy Hempel will read at Behrend on Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Reed Lecture Hall. The event is free and open to the public.

Amy Hempel's lyrical prose has been called "deeply affecting," with "a taut and slangy conversational verve that generates its own energy." "What one cherishes in Amy Hempel," Robert Towers wrote in The New York Times Book Review, "are her quirky sensibility and beautifully honed verbal craft."

Hempel has published three collections of fiction, "Reasons to Live" (1985) and "At the Gates of the Animal Kingdom" (1990), both from Knopf, and "Tumble Home" (1997) from Scribner. She has published fiction and nonfiction in such prestigious venues as "Best American Short Stories," "Esquire," "Vogue," "New York Times Magazine," "Vanity Fair," "Harper's," "The Quarterly," "The Norton Anthology of Short Fiction," and many others. She also co-edited the poetry anthology "Unleashed" (1997) from Crown Press, and was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2000.

She teaches in the Graduate Writing Program at Bennington College. She has also taught at New York University, The New School in New York City, Washington University in St. Louis, Duke University, and Beloit College.

A reception will be held Thursday at 4 p.m. at the Logan House. The event is sponsored by the Clarence A. Smith and Eugenie Bauman Smith fund.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Amy Hempel has published fiction and nonfiction. She will read in Reed on Thursday at 7 p.m.

New pattern improves traffic flow

by Erin Linn
contributing writer

Construction began before the 2002-03 school year on a traffic pattern that would improve traffic flow at Behrend's entrance and eliminate congestion. With enrollment at an all-time high and increasing, the amount of traffic is increasing as well, causing the need for a better system.

Prior to this school year, a one-way stop sign was in place at the only entrance to the University. The stop sign was off the only road leading to the Interstate for two miles, leaving the road as an extremely high volume area. It was clear that a change was needed, as many were forced

to sit at that stop sign for up to five minutes before getting a chance to go.

"I like the new stop light because you do not have to wait for traffic in order to pull out," said Lyndsey Boor, a Communication and Media Studies major and senior at Behrend. Boor, who resides on campus, knew all too well the frustrations of driving from the University. She said it was always a headache to go anywhere.

During peak times, Police and Safety helped out tremendously by controlling traffic to eliminate the congestion, but it still was not working. There was just too much traffic.

Construction began in the summer and was nearly finished by the first snowfall.

Construction workers had successfully re-routed the road, installed a new traffic light and started expanding the exterior road. The traffic light was put in place in an attempt to improve the situation, but what do students think?

"It does help relieve some of the congestion, but it is confusing, especially to those who do not usually drive to Behrend," said Erika Dauber, a senior in Communication and Media Studies.

Dauber believes that it has eliminated some traffic, but during peak times there is still a lot of congestion. Dauber, a commuter student, understands like all other students that the congestion will not disappear though, due to the increasing number of students enrolling at Behrend.

Demonstrators, Red Cross show support for troops

by Jesse Anderson
contributing writer

The war on Iraq is one topic that every type of media has covered in the past several weeks. Many individuals are against this war. They feel that the casualties caused by fighting are not worth it. Others support it.

No matter your personal opinion regarding this issue, many people die for this country. Thousands of men, women, grandchildren, nieces and nephews fight for America's freedom. Thousands of people here in the states support those overseas in Iraq, with rallies, protests, or simply placing an American flag outside their home.

In Harrisburg last Saturday, thousands of flag-waving demonstrators filled the steps of the Pennsylvania State Capitol building. The demonstrators spoke out as much

against anti-war groups as they were to support U.S. troops in the Persian Gulf.

The rally was organized by a conservative radio station in Harrisburg. The rally had a noisy and even festive atmosphere as the people chanted and sang patriotic songs to support Americans in Iraq.

Demonstrators say the media covers the anti-war participants, rather than writing about those who support the men and women overseas. The point of the rally was to let troops know that plenty of people in the U.S. support them, even if they are outnumbered by anti-war protesters. A police officer, John Capps, said he hopes that the rally sends a message to troops that "we really are supporting their efforts."

This is a brief example of what thousands of Americans are doing all over the United States. In Erie, the local American Red Cross is helping

aid the troops and their families that remain in the Erie region. John Furman, C.E.O. of the Red Cross, says they have sent more than 40 qualified Red Cross workers overseas. The workers tend to the needs of troops 24 hours a day.

The American Red Cross is also partners with American Armed Forces, which sends emergency information directly to the Red Cross. Furman suggests to family members of troops to send letters through the federal mail or email, because it is very difficult to get anything to the troops with such high security surrounding them. For further information regarding the American Red Cross, call 833-0942 and ask for Furman.