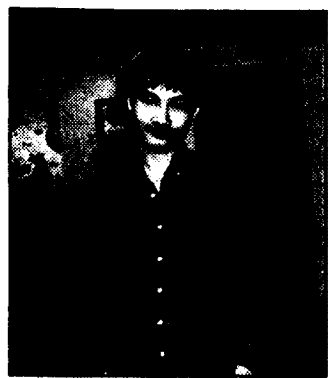


## Question of the Week

by Jen Henderson,  
assistant news editor

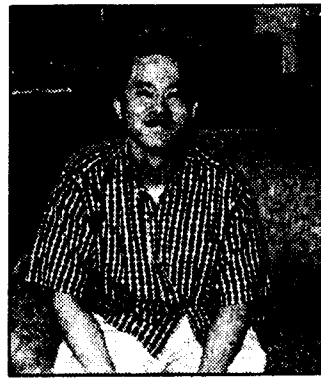
"What is your favorite kind of Easter candy?"



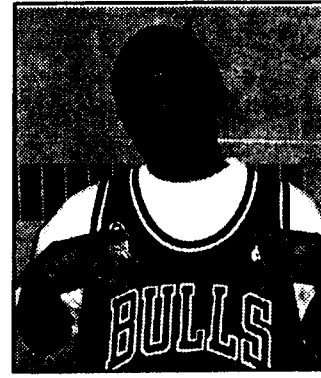
"Carmel Cadbury Eggs."  
Donald Nguyen  
Computer Science, 02



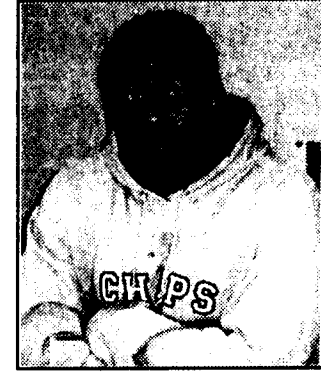
"Peeps."  
Emily Szcwyczkowski  
Psychology, 02



"Swedish Fish."  
Hoang Nguyen  
Computer Science, 02



"Cadbury Eggs."  
Jose Vazquez  
Computer Engineering, 02



"Reese's Eggs."  
Patrick Graham  
Business Management, 02

## Ice Cream social honors Lambda Sigma members

by Tara Pavan  
contributing writer

Behrend's chapter of Lambda Sigma, a National Honor Society for sophomores, said hello to 30 new members and goodbye to 27 current members at an ice cream social Sunday.

During the event in the McGarvey Commons, members also heard their fellow students campaign to become officers and committee chairs. Votes submitted by email will be tallied on April 22.

New members were inducted March 22.

"We hope that the new members will continue the tradition of Lambda Sigma on this campus while learning and having fun," said Lambda Sigma president Ashley Hurst.

"Lambda Sigma is a wonderful

organization to be a part of and offers a student not only leadership development and campus involvement but also lasting friendships," said Lambda Sigma member Adrian Rhodes.

Lambda Sigma is known for community service. Each member completes at least 10 service hours a semester. Upcoming events are the Special Olympics and sending finals week care packages to all students who live on campus. Some of the other services this year included Feed the Need, helping at the Humane Society, and volunteering at Shriners Hospital for Children.

Next year, meetings will be held every other week. E-board members, who are the officers and committee chairs, will also meet alternating weeks.

## War brings reality to home front

by Jennifer Osborne  
contributing writer

Donald Oaks, Jr., 20, of Harborcreek Township became the first Erie County soldier to die serving our country a little after midnight on April 3 in Iraq.

Oaks graduated from Harbor Creek High School in 2000 and was well known by students from Behrend and around the community.

"I can't believe he's really gone," said Jon Anderson, a Behrend student and friend of Oaks. "It seems like just the other day we were hanging out at his house, reminiscing."

Oaks, who would have been 21 on April 26, joined the United States Army like many others to start planning his future. Oaks was a specialist with the Army's 313th field artillery division. The cause

of his death (initially reported as friendly fire) is still under investigation.

Some family members said the Army officers told them he was killed in a Black Hawk helicopter crash. Other family members were told he was killed by friendly fire from an F-15 fighter jet. Whether at the hands of friendly fire or the Iraqi army, his role in the fight against terrorism was important.

Oaks freely chose his path of serving his country and protecting freedoms. Those who know him remember his bravery, determination, and love for his country.

Although Oaks' hopes and dreams will not be fulfilled, those close to him hope that his death did not go unnoticed and unappreciated. As a community mourns the loss of one of its brave ones, many take solace

in the fact that it has had a man who it is proud of.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Harborcreek native Donald Oaks, Jr., was killed while serving in Iraq.

## FROM FRONT PAGE

### DUNKER

enjoyed it, and I think it's going to turn into an annual thing."

Audience members had a chance to get in on some of the action by shooting three-pointers between sets to win donated gift certificates and t-shirts.

The Dunker-at-Junker charity event

raised about \$700 through donations and tickets bought by students at \$2 a head, with a discount price for sorority and fraternity members. Both the participants and the audience had a great time, and judging by the event's great success, everyone will have a great time next year, too.

## Behrend dedicated as arboretum

by Katie Zellars  
staff writer

The Behrend campus will officially be dedicated as an arboretum, a place where trees are grown for scientific and educational purposes, and a member of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta. The ceremony will be on Wednesday at 10:15 a.m. in the Glenhill Circle, in conjunction with Earth Day activities.

"It formalizes and recognizes a lot of the good things we've done already," said Dr. Thomas Wortman, special projects assistant to the dean and head of the Greener Behrend Task Force. "It also gives us some pretty dramatic opportunities for education and research."

The campus prides itself that at least one state tree from every state is located on its 725 acres.

Dr. Jack Burke and the Greener Behrend Task Force will host the ceremony. Speakers will include Wortman; Dr. Zachary Irwin, associate professor of political science and Landscape Committee member; and Donna Mindek, Harborcreek Supervisor and member of the township's Bicentennial Committee.

Community members and Klein Elementary third graders, who will participate in activities before the ceremony, will attend the dedication. Refreshments will be served afterwards and tree guides will be given.

Students and professors think the campus becoming an arboretum is a

great thing and agree that the campus is really a beautiful one. Sophomore Mindy Schwartz thinks that the arboretum will be great for education.

"It gives you a chance to learn about trees that are in your own backyard," said Schwartz.

"I think it's really good that we're doing it," said ecology professor Pamela Silver. "A lot of people have worked really long and hard to achieve that status."

The goal of establishing the campus as a national arboretum has been going on for only a year but the college has been dedicated to preserving and expanding its natural library for years.

Even before Mary Behrend donated the original 400 acres to Penn State, the Behrends added East Asian and other exotic trees into the native landscape.

Wortman says at least 300 species and subspecies of trees are on campus. It would be nearly impossible to categorize all the different kinds of trees with all the hybrids that have developed but it is one of their goals, which will be included into class curriculum.

Other goals for the arboretum include research and grant funding. It will also highly involve the community.

"We are part of a group of education institutions around us and we live in a region, state, country, and a world that we cannot ignore," says Wortman. "An arboretum is part of that thinking."

## Students protest war protests

by Susie Szafran  
contributing writer

The first question that comes to most people when discussing the war is whether you are pro or anti-war. But have you ever considered anti-anti war?

The idea for anti-anti war was started by a group of Behrend students; mainly Tom Gatesman, Jim Wascak and Dan LaBorde. The popularity of anti-anti war quickly spread to other Behrend students, and they also have found support at Westpoint, Baldwin Wallace and Penn State University Park.

The idea of anti-anti war came about because they feel that Americans do not have enough information to make an intelligent decision whether to be pro or anti-war.

"We are shown selected images, selected stories, and given selected opinions. You just can't base an opinion on an issue this big on what the media portrays to you," Wascak said.

"I think some anti-war protesters are simply protesting because Hollywood's protesting" said Erin Welden, supporter of anti-anti war.

"We support democracy...our country

is a democracy so people have a right to protest but we feel that protesting during the war is pointless and is not supportive of our nation or our troops," Wascak said.

"This is a way for people to support our troops but it doesn't necessarily mean you have to agree with the war," Gatesman said.

Gatesman wants to stress that "we are not trying to push our opinions or ideas on anyone as some media and protesters are, but we are just trying to give a different perspective on the war for people to contemplate."

## Student Merrill discusses importance of Christ in his life

by Courtney Straub  
health page editor

On Thursday, Soup for the Soul held its last session. The guest speaker was Steve Merrill, a senior at Penn State Behrend. Merrill is very active in the Protestant Campus Ministry as a peer minister.

"I think the peer minister position has helped him a lot. One of the things I've noticed is that students are reaching out to him because they see him as a role model," said Lynn McNeil, PCM Coordinator.

Merrill grew up in a Christian home and attended a Presbyterian Church. At an early age, Christ caught his heart. Slowly, Merrill began his Christian journey.

"I call my testimony a baby step journey," said Merrill.

One of the first ways that Christ touched his life was by changing the way Merrill thought of himself. Throughout high school and college he would work out for four to five hours a day. As hard as it is for him to admit it, he enjoyed working out because he liked the reaction he got from girls. Now, Merrill works out for Christ and not to see the reaction he can get from others.

When driving down the highway, many people get disgusted with the trash

they see lying around. But how often do they stop and clean it up? Merrill is one of the few that pulls his car over and picks up the trash.

"The first couple times I did it, I thought, 'This is crazy,'" said Merrill.

He continues this task because he feels God is calling him to do it.

Merrill never had a lot of close friends in his life. However, he always enjoyed being alone and talking with God.

"I have what I feel is the ultimate friend," said Merrill.

One struggle that Merrill has had in his life is being open with his faith. He was afraid that if people knew how close he was with God, they would find him weird. God has been helping Merrill with this problem and last Thursday he had an interesting conversation with an atheist.

"The fact that we were able to talk together was cool," said Merrill.

To become closer with God, Merrill sets aside Sundays for rest.

"I allow him to show himself to me," said Merrill.

On Sundays, he goes for walks, relaxes and does absolutely no school work. He challenges everyone to take Sundays off. He also encourages people to continually become closer with Christ.

"I'm glad we have the opportunity to hear someone who really lives what

Christ talks about," said Sister Mary Drexler, CCM Coordinator.

Next year there will be more speaker series. The fall theme has not been decided but the spring theme will be Soup for the Soul.

"We're very satisfied with this year," said McNeil.

Attendance from last semester increased this semester.

"Almost half of every audience was students," said Drexler.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Student Steve Merrill concludes the Lenten Soup for the Soul series.