



The BEHREND BEACON



'MIRACLE' REVIEWED
Our A&E staff reviews the latest
Disney movie. See Page 8.

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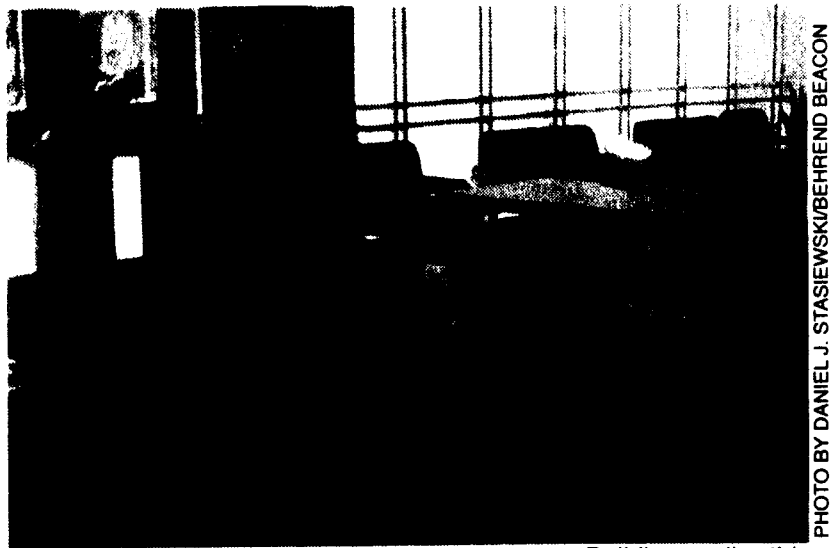


PHOTO BY DANIEL J. STASIEWSKI/BEHREND BEACON

This was the scene in the lobby of the Science Building earlier this week as over 5 feet of water flooded the basement of the building, causing classes to be canceled Monday.

Science building floods

by Daniel J. Stasiewski
managing editor

Students with classes in the Science Building were pleasantly surprised Monday, when a burst water pipe led to the cancellation of classes.

According to John Reem, director of operations, the water pipe was part of the sprinkler system.

In a routine patrol, officers from Police Services discovered water on the floor of the Science Building. Further inspection led to the discovery of 5 feet 2 inches of water in the Science Building basement.

Brookside Volunteer Fire Department was called in to help pump the water from the basement.

Reem said that the damage to the first floor of Science was minimal, but electricity was shut off to the building in order to let the boilers dry out. Four transformers also needed replacing.

The Science Building reopened on Tuesday, and it should be back to its previous condition by sometime next week.

Even with the damages to the building, the students who got out of their classes on Monday were very excited.

"I was thrilled," said Shirelle Evans,

FNC 04. "I had an exam, so I didn't care."

Evans said she used the time off to do some extra studying. "It was a heaven sent."

Lindsay Snyder, MRKTG 06, also missed an accounting exam. While she didn't use the day off for studying, Snyder seemed happy to have an extra 50 minutes for "goofing around."

Not all students were thrilled by simply having a day off. Bill Cutter, EET 06, who didn't have a class in Science

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Lion Cash machines unusable

by Collin McHenry
staff writer

The current system of Lion Cash has proven to be frustrating for most students here at Behrend.

If you want to add money to your Id+ card you have two options: you can either go to the Id+ Office during their hours Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or you can take a chance and go to a Lion Cash machine.

Now none of the Lion Cash machines work. This means people only have the option of going to the Id+ Office to put money on their cards.

Next fall, a new and faster method of adding money to Id+ cards will be put into use. Randy Geering, the Director of Housing and Food Services, took time to explain the new system.

"The Lion Cash system will be

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Inside



Men's basketball remains undefeated

The Behrend Lions remain undefeated in the AMCC with a record of 8-0 and a season record of 18-1. They take on the Frostburg Bobcats this Saturday. **SPORTS, Page 12.**

Flu vaccine available to students again

Students are once again able to get their annual flu shots in the Health and Wellness Center throughout the course of the week, until supplies run out. **NEWS, Page 3.**

Students voice opinions on attendance

Two *Beacon* staff members share their opposing views on attendance policies in this week's Point/Counterpoint. **EDITORIAL, Page 6.**

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PHOTO BY JUSTIN CURRY/BEHREND BEACON

Leacy Sauer, COMBA 04, went for the highest bid of \$150 Tuesday evening at the 8th Annual ASA Date Auction held in the McGarvey Commons. All proceeds from the event go to the sorority's charities, the Special Olympics and the S. June Smith Center.

AΣAs unmask their love

by Erika Jarvis
a&e editor

Alpha Sigma Alpha held their eighth annual date auction Tuesday night from 9 to 11 p.m. in McGarvey Commons and invited students to come out and "unmask true love."

The sisters raised \$892 for their two philanthropies, the Special Olympics and the S. June Smith Center. The S. June Smith Center was founded by an ASA sister and is a special school near Lancaster for handicapped children.

As Guy Reschenthaler emceed the event, students from all sorts of Behrend organizations such as MCC, Greek Life and Behrend Athletics took to the catwalk to help ASA raise money.

Bidding started at \$15 and made its way to as high as \$150 for Leacy Sauer from the Behrend softball team. *Beacon's* own news editor, Justin Curry,

even got a chance to strut his stuff and bring a sizable contribution to the auction's fund.

Loud cheers could be heard as students fought over the students being auctioned.

"I didn't bid on anyone to buy them, I just had a great time helping raise the bids so the ASAs could make more money for their charities," said Ryan Rodemoyer, CMPBD 04.

The date auction got a positive crowd response, which helped raise spirits and open wallets to bring in a few more bids throughout the night. Students who won the bidding also won a date package including coupons to local businesses. Some date packages included gift certificates to Fridays, Smokey Bones and even bowling passes. The highest bidder won two-week passes to Nautilus.

Sisters of ASA spent the past few months preparing and asking local

businesses for donations and gifts to raffle off through out the night.

"I think that this was a great way to raise money for charity," said Jeff Wemmell, DUS 02.

Many organizations even came out in support of their own being auctioned off. Tau Kappa Epsilon's own sweetheart, Cayla Javor, was bought by TKE brother Andy "Chuck" Law for over \$100.

"I would like to thank the organizations on campus for coming out, especially the greeks like AST, DC, TKE and STG. Without them it would not have been as successful," said Dee Nowacinski, ASA President. PSYCH 08.

If you missed this year's date auction

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Online contracting lottery under way

by Ryan Russell
advertising manager

Housing at Behrend has always been an issue for students. Some students can't tolerate small rooms. Others can't tolerate the walk from the apartments to classes in Erie weather. Students also complain about the way housing contracts are issued, but few seem to know how easy it is to get a contract, and just how bad the old ways used to be.

"Right now, you don't have to go out of your room to get a contract for housing at Penn State Behrend, or at Penn State University," said Randy Geering, director of Housing and Food Services.

The new online system of requesting a housing contract began last year.

Students received e-mails, brochures and voicemail messages alerting them to the new online system, yet there were still some problems with the changeover. "We designed detailed brochures," Geering said, "that take you through the process from step by step. It tells you everything you need to know about the online system, and gives you detailed dates, times and everything."

The main problem is that students did not read the brochure, or immediately deleted any voicemails that came from Housing and Food Service, and therefore didn't know what to do when the time came to request an online contract.

The steps to requesting a contract are found on the Online Contract System website at www.hfs.psu.edu/contract.

Phase one required students to apply for their housing contract, selecting the campus they will be attending, taking a short quiz, entering a roommate selection, and then submitting a request for a contract.

Phase two is actually submitting a contract offer. This is the phase where students encountered some problems. "What happened was, students got an e-mail that said 'You've been offered a contract,' and didn't read the rest of the e-mail," said Geering. "The rest of the e-mail said 'You now need to submit your contract offer.' It says 'You've been

offered a contract', not 'You have a contract.'" In order to actually agree to that contract, students had to go to the Online Contract System website and submit a contract, and then a confirmation page will appear.

"This is something I am dedicating my life to: teaching students to print out the confirmation page," said Geering. If the confirmation page is printed out, you can go to Housing and Food Services and show them a hard copy of the computer's error. The biggest problem that students run into is forgetting to click on the "submit" button during phase two and

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