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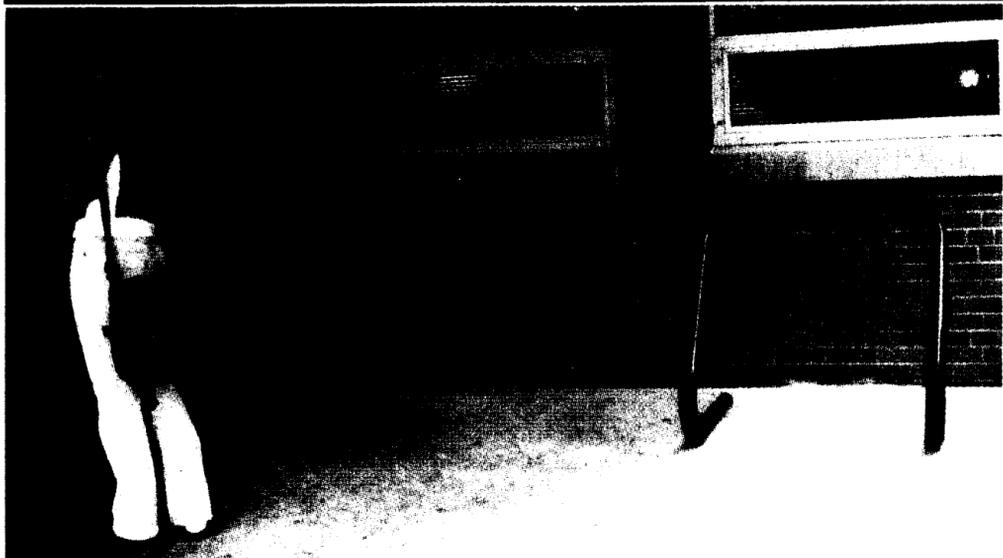
THE BEHREND BEACON

Friday, November 19, 2004

A Penn State Erie Student Publication

NOV 19 2004

Vol. LII No. 13



DANIELLE FAULKNER/BEHREND BEACON

Student stands near one of the new bike racks behind the Reed Union Building. This rack is one of four racks that was purchased with money from SAF.

Bike racks invade campus, funds

By Aaron J. Amendola
Staff Writer

A pair of new bike racks has been purchased for use by students around the campus. Now, if students wish to ride bikes, they have spots to park and lock their bikes in. These racks were not necessarily free, however, a small portion of students' Student Activity Fee will go towards paying for the bike racks around campus.

Approximately \$1,030.00 was granted to Kris Torok of student services for the racks. Torok proposed that four bike racks be supplied near the Reed Union Building and other prominent areas around campus with funds requested in the amount of \$2,060.00. The Student Activity Fee Committee met Torok halfway and agreed to finance the racks, along with the freight charges. After freight charges, each bike rack cost SAF about \$435 and each hold 12 bicycles.

"Many students use bicycles for transportation around campus and with the growth of campus we believe this will continue to be the case," said Torok about why the bike racks were seen as a good idea. "We have seen people chaining

their bikes to trees, railings and other objects. This told us there was obviously a need for more bike racks around campus. It is also a way to promote an environmentally friendly alternative to driving automobiles."

Over \$456,000 in requests were given to the SAF committee while only \$198,900 was available in funds. Deciding to whom and to where the funds would be allocated would be a trying task, but the committee decided to narrow its focus to events happening on or near Behrend.

With the number of bike riders around campus, and an alluring bike path running from the Bayfront Parkway, the racks should be of great service to riders. Not everyone is happy about the new bike racks however.

"I think it's ridiculous," says Shawn Zipay 03 ACCT. "I've only seen one biker since I came here this year."

The general opinion of Behrend students seems to be that since they won't use the bike racks, they shouldn't be paying for them with their Student Activity Fee. "I don't see what good it is putting all that money into them. Especially during the winter," said student Loriel Herist

03 CRIM JUST. Ryan Snell 03 ME said, "That's an awful lot of money to be spending on just bike racks."

"Well, I don't use them, so I think it's a bad idea," said Matt Sigler 03 COMP ENG. "We could have bought a pool table for our hall."

"I suppose it's a good idea, if they last. I think it makes sense, my roommate has a bike," said Dave Irwin 03 ME. Irwin's roommate, Michael Vandever 03 PLAST seems to have the common opinion as everyone else however

"It beats chaining it to a tree but I haven't used mine all year," said Vandever. Even riders on campus seem to be weary of the new additions. "I've seen the same 2 kids ride to class sometimes...I still only use mine when I really need it."

Even though many students may not use the new bike racks, this does not mean the campus will not benefit from them. Whether or not the bike racks will be utilized more has yet to be seen but the campus does have bike riders, visible or not. Those riders have a place to set their bikes aside while in class or in other activities now thanks to Kris Torok and Student Government Association.

Search begins for faculty members Communications and history departments hiring

By Lisa Lamendola
staff writer

Every year Penn State is replacing and adding new positions within the faculty. This year is no different. Both the Communications and Media Studies, and History departments are in the process of seeking new professors at Behrend. Three professors will be hired by, hopefully, no later than early January.

"Programs are growing and there may not be enough faculty to cover the need," said Cathy Mester, senior lecturer of speech communication.

The two spots in Communications and Media Studies are replacement positions and the History position is a reallocation of a slot to an area in particular need. Overall, both departments intend to hire professional, original and inspirational faculty.

"The School of Humanities and Social Sciences is setting the bar very high," said Richard Aquila, director of the school of humanities and social sciences. "We plan to hire individuals who are excellent teachers and outstanding scholars and who can contribute professional service and outreach."

The interview process is extensive. It starts with an advertisement being placed in literary journals, etc. Next, a four-person hiring committee is appointed to

have a say in the candidates chosen. After several candidates are picked, telephone interviews are conducted and the committee narrows the choices to three. Next, the candidate visits the Behrend campus, meets administrators, teaches a class to students and does a research presentation for the faculty.

"The interview process is as thorough as we can make it," said Aquila.

Also, Behrend's executive officer and associate dean, Jack Burke, interviews candidates. Students have the chance to talk to the candidates as well.

"The candidates also have an opportunity to interact with students without the faculty around," said Mester.

The first responsibility of each new professor is to cover core classes in their areas of expertise. After that, there is freedom for specialty classes to be offered in the professors' respective fields.

"Students could see a variation in staff members and classes," says Mester.

The new professors are important to Behrend as a whole. Students enrolled in Humanities and Social Sciences will have the opportunity to work directly with the new professors in the near future.

"Excellent teachers and outstanding scholars contribute tremendously to the quality of education at Penn State Behrend," said Aquila.

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Our offices are located downstairs in the Reed Union Building.

Campus cameras carry large price tag Parking lot surveillance out of the question

By Bradley Stewart and Lacy Buzard
news editor and copy editor

Cars in the Behrend lots are at risk. Over the course of four weeks 12 incidents of vehicle crime were reported. Broken down, approximately three cars per week are targeted for vandalism and theft on campus, racking up thousands of dollars worth of property damage.

Police and Safety have officers, property protection guards and a student auxiliary who patrol the parking lots. There cannot be someone in the lots at all times, however.

"If you have that many cars parked during the nighttime hours, anywhere, there's a certain percentage of them that are going to get broken into," said James Amann, director of Police and Safety Services.

Car criminals usually break into cars for valuables such as CDs and stereo equipment. Amann suggests that students lock their vehicles and keep costly items out of sight.

There are surveillance cameras in all residence halls, except the apartments, and in Bruno's, but none in the parking lots. The cameras were installed to deter and convict delinquent individuals caught on camera. Why not use them in the parking lots?

Cameras that would be needed in the parking lots would have to be more advanced than the \$200 cameras used in the residence halls. They would have to have special zoom capabilities and the ability to be controlled manually.

Other obstacles include not having a large enough workforce to monitor cameras 24 hours per day and not having

room to build the needed facilities. Amann does not anticipate any additional space once the REDC is completed.

Amann explained that the command center that would be needed to monitor parking lot cameras would have to be

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DAVID GRECO/CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A cardboard pirate ship complete with pyrotechnics, made by Lawrence Hall students, participated in Cardboard City. Cardboard City ran from Tuesday to Wednesday and raised money for the United Way campaign.

United Way still seeking donations Student and staff participation desired

By Brian Battin
staff writer

So far this year the total raised, as of Nov. 10 by the faculty, was \$17,610.

Many events have been going on around campus to help raise money. The helping hands auction took place in the McGarvey Commons on Oct. 28. Events have also been organized to help the students reach their goals. On Oct. 29 there was a haunted house in Senat Hall that benefited United Way.

Another event that helped raise money was the Cardboard City fundraiser. On Nov. 16 many groups and organizations built cardboard houses and stayed in them overnight to help raise money for various non profit organizations. Lawrence Hall had their donations go to United Way.

"The agencies here really do serve the Erie community," said Rizzo. "I think it's very easy, in a review, that looking at some of them, that if you're from the Erie area, or going to school here, you can see someone that you know that was supported by these agencies."

Any student who wants to donate money and does not belong to an organization can do so. "A letter went out to all student organizations and students in general if they want to contribute," said Rizzo. "We set up a fund through the RUB desk where organizations and students can donate money."

The United Way campaign here at Behrend is getting closer to its fundraising goal for the year. Many individuals and groups are participating in raising money for the organization

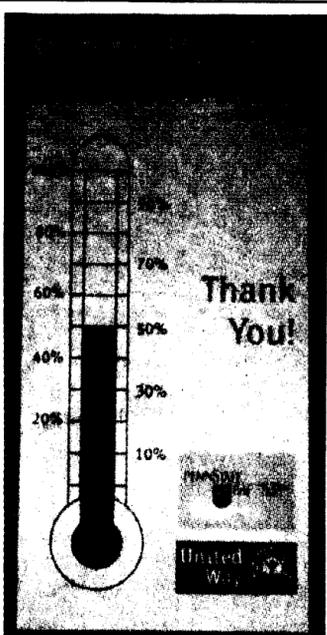
The United Way of Erie is celebrating 90 years of service to the Erie community. It benefits many local non profit organizations such as the YMCA of Greater Erie, Meals on Wheels and the Salvation Army of Greater Erie.

"Penn State is the only approved university wide philanthropy with the united way," said Chris Rizzo, director of student activities. "This is the one community service event that the university does as a whole on a yearly basis."

Here at Behrend the donation goal is set at \$50,000. The faculty has a goal of \$47,000, and the students have a goal of \$3,000. With over 3,000 students on campus each student would have to do very little to achieve the goal.

"If each student could donate one dollar at the RUB desk the goal would even be exceeded," said campaign coordinator Judy Glembocki

The campus as a whole reached its goal last year and raised over \$50,000.



The United Way meter has reached its half way mark. Last year more than \$50,000 were raised, staff hopes to go higher.