



Green Day steals the show at VMAs, see page 8

Sand Volleyball played at Behrend, see page 10



THE BEHREND BEACON

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Alternative housing available soon

By J. William McConnell
staff writer

This month, construction will begin on the 78,000 square foot, \$6.3 million apartment complex across from the entrance to campus, which is specifically targeted at Behrend students. Fifty-nine fully furnished three- and four-bedroom units are planned, each with two bathrooms, a tiled kitchen, and full sets of sturdy, stackable furniture. The developer of the project, Jack Gordon, has been constructing student housing apartments since 1981, with similar complexes in Shippensburg, PA and Edinboro, PA.

Some of the more attractive features of the apartments are the pricing and the convenience. Rent is paid at the beginning of the first semester and at the beginning of the second semester. It will amount to about \$2,000 per student, with a \$150 security deposit. The lease is separated into two parts: a nine-month lease for when classes are in session and a separate three-month lease for the summer. The leases will be the responsibility of the tenant only; no parents or guardians will be involved. Simply by the nature of privately owned apartments, there will be no mandatory meal plans to purchase and parking will be free.

High-speed Internet connections will be available in every room and will be split from the two



A computer generated image gives students a glimpse of the new apartment buildings soon to be erected.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

T3 connections across the entire complex. Connection usage will be monitored in order to prevent abuse, but there will be no set limit on the amount each tenant can use it per week. All of this

is included in the rent, along with the maintenance costs, sewage costs and other related costs. The only separate payment will be the electric bill, which will vary according to use.

works. The apartments should be a lasting addition to the community.

On-site managers will be available at all times, which will ensure that if any problems or questions arise, assistance will be close at hand. A 24-hour emergency maintenance service is also included. Summer and part-time jobs will also be available, for positions such as monitoring the complex. The spacious parking lot will be out in the open and well lit to help reduce any type of vandalism or property damage.

One of the less direct effects of these apartments is the fact that it will create around 200 on-campus occupancies for students. Behrend's housing policy gives on-campus housing consideration to upper-classmen first and freshmen get the remaining spots, theoretically leaving some freshmen without on-campus housing. Since the new apartments are mainly targeting upper-classmen, this should open 200 on-campus living spaces directly for freshmen.

These apartments are a welcome housing option for students and, with approximately \$110,000 put into each unit, should prove quite comfortable. They're expected to be well kept and, with possible wireless internet in

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Heaven Can Wait can't wait for performers

By Zack Mentz
cartoonist

This Tuesday, September 6th auditions will be held for *Heaven Can Wait* in the studio theater from 7 p.m. – 11 p.m. *Heaven Can Wait* is a comedic play directed by Dr. Christine Mangone, director of past Behrend plays such as *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Perspectives*, and most recently, *Working*.

Heaven Can Wait is centered on a boxer named Joe Pendleton. Joe has a near-death accident in a plane crash. In the afterlife, he discovers he has moved on before it was his time to die.

Unfortunately, the anxious guardian angel who saved him has no body for Joe to return to since the one Joe left behind was cremated. Joe eventually, returns to earth—however this time in the body of a millionaire who was almost murdered by his wife and lover.

Joe finds that he is more than his old body led him to believe he could be. He tries to make the best of his second chance by doing good in the world.

Despite the millionaire's friends thinking he's crazy (Joe talks to himself and speaks to "imaginary" people), Joe manages to fall in love.

Dr. Mangone is looking for eleven students to fill the roles within *Heaven Can Wait*. All actors have the option to earn three credits, if cast. Casting times are 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. The show is scheduled to be performed Nov. 11-13, 16-20.



Penn State Behrend's Studio Theater, where *Heaven Can Wait* will be performed this fall.

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- There are eleven roles to fill:
 - Joe Pendleton: MALE. A boxer who has tons of energy and loves life.
 - Messenger 7013: MALE or FEMALE. A "nerdy" angel gifted with comedic timing but plagued with insecurities. "Brings" people to Heaven.
 - Jordan: MALE or FEMALE. The one in charge of "entering" humans to Heaven. This is an authoritative figure with a dry humor.

- Julia Fansworth: FEMALE. Julia attempted to murder her husband. She feels guilty and has a nervous energy.
- Tony Abbott: MALE. Julia's Co-conspirator who helped to plot Joe's death. Tony is calm, collected, and stuffy.
- Bette Logan: FEMALE. As Joe's love interest Bette is earnest, determined, and falls in love.
- Max Levine: MALE. Joe's boxing manager. Comedic, shrewd, pugnacious
- Lefty: MALE. Lefty is a fight manager. He has a good sense of humor. He's also panicky, nervous and freaked out.
- Williams: MALE or FEMALE. Williams is the police inspector. He/She is down to business and trying to get to the bottom of a crazy situation.
- Mrs. Ames: FEMALE. She is Joe's housekeeper. She is very

- maternal.
- Messenger: MALE OR FEMALE. A quirky and comedic character.

The play is suitable for a diverse cast. Any student who is interested in any aspect of theater is encouraged to attend the tryouts. If you have any question regarding *Heaven Can Wait* or wish to find more information on theater here at Behrend, get in contact with Dr. Christine Mangone at cbm11@psu.edu.

Club Rush to initiate students

By KJ Margraff Jr.
staff writer

Club Rush is scheduled for Thursday, September 8 on the front lawn outside of the Reed Union Building from 2 p.m. – 6 p.m., the rain site is inside McGarvey Commons. At Club Rush, students have the opportunity to meet more than 70 campus clubs and organizations. Some of the many groups participating will include Behrend's Greek Life, the Auto Club, the Multi-Cultural Counsel (MCC), the Lacrosse team (LAX), Trigon and many more.

Students should not miss this opportunity. Freshman Brandon Bufalini, a civil engineering major, said, "I'm going [to Club Rush] so I can see some good clubs that I might want to join."

There will be plenty for Bufalini and all other students, including freshmen and upperclassmen alike, to check out. There will be organizations from every walk of life, so students will be sure to find something in which they will be interested.

The social fraternities and sororities are especially excited for Club Rush. "It's a great way to meet everybody and all the organizations on campus," said Gitta Pfishner (07, Biology) from the Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority.

Tae Kim, (05, Finance), from the Delta Chi Fraternity said, "Most of last semester's pledge class was a result from Club Rush."

Along with the Greeks, the Irish American Society (IAS) hopes to have a great turnout from this event. Their main objective for this semester is growth. IAS

Club president Chrissey Lambert (05, Psychology) said, "You don't have to be Irish to join our club." The group also looks to generate as much interest as possible in their trip to Dublin, Ireland, which is in the works for this Spring 2006.

Among all the clubs that will be present at Club Rush, the Auto Club hopes to accomplish the most this year. Mike Mahalik (07, Management Information Technology), Auto Club president, explained that the club needs to have a "change of direction...and establish more of a dedicated base of members." He said that the group is "looking for more imports," and that people can still join even if they do not have a car. At the end of September, the club is holding its annual fall car show.

Webmaster of the Auto Club, Eugene Ho (07, Finance) hopes (weather permitting) to see "at least 50 to 75 cars show up."

In the past, the club has held many successful car shows and during the spring 2005 semester, they held a nationally sponsored autocross on campus. For this event, they were able to clear out the lower Reed parking lot to set up a gigantic obstacle course style racetrack.

The Student Activities Office, along with the support of the Student Government Association (SGA) and the Student Activities Fund (SAF), designed Club Rush to give Behrend students an easy way to discover the variety of student run organizations available on campus. This event also features a lottery drawing, which allows the new freshmen class to turn in the tickets earned from orientation weekend for chances to win prizes.