

NEWS

Legendary crocodile hunter and nature enthusiast remembered

By Pat Webster
Managing Editor

Steve Irwin, widely known as "The Crocodile Hunter" around the world, died Monday Sept. 4, while filming wildlife off the Great Barrier Reef.

Irwin was in the area to film the documentary "The Ocean's Deadliest," with Philippe Cousteau, grandson of Jacques Cousteau. When foul weather caused a delay in the filming schedule, Irwin decided to go to the reef and film some calm, docile creatures for his daughter's relatively new wildlife show.

Irwin took his daughter's cameraman and his custom boat, the Croc 1, out to the Great Barrier Reef and set up to film stingrays. While a stingray glided through the water, the cameraman filmed it from

the front while Irwin floated above. The ray froze in the water, then suddenly lanced upward with the poisonous stinger and struck Irwin in the chest, piercing his heart. Irwin struggled briefly, then wrenched the barb out of his chest as his last act before succumbing to the injury.

His film crew, having first caught the whole episode on tape, realized what had happened and retrieved him from the water. The Croc 1 sped

towards a nearby island, a trip that took nearly half an hour to complete, while the crew performed continuous CPR in the hope that Irwin could be revived. A rescue helicopter awaited to take Irwin to a hospital, but all efforts to revive him soon proved futile.

Many friends, colleagues, and wildlife experts expressed surprise at his sudden and unexpected passing.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The late Steve Irwin was instantly killed after being stung by a deadly sting-ray. As the host of "The Crocodile Hunter," Irwin taught many people about nature and animals' affects on their surroundings.

bewildered that after dealing with dozens of highly dangerous and poisonous creatures, a stingray, one of the most docile sea creatures, had caused his death.

"He was as good on the water as he was on land," Stainton said. "He was comfortable anywhere there was wildlife. He'd been diving ten, fifteen years ... I never thought he'd take a hit from a stingray. He was very used to them."

"It's unbelievable, really," Jack Hanna, the host of "Jack Hanna's Animal Adventure" and Director Emeritus of the Columbus Zoo, told CNN

in a televised interview. "You think about Steve Irwin and you think of people who are invincible. Steve really knew what he was doing. He was one of the finest reptile people in the world. He knew more about reptiles than anybody did. He was raised that way."

"We will honor Steve Irwin in whatever way his family wants," said Queensland Premier Peter Beattie. "We will approach the family and we would obviously be keen to honor him in some sort of way from the Queensland Government point of view, from the state's point of view, but we would only do that with the family's approval."

Beattie later offered a full state funeral for Irwin, but his family declined, preferring to keep the ceremony small with only family and friends in attendance. They also allowed, however, that there may also be a public memorial service for all his fans and admirers to attend.

"The state funeral would be refused ... because he's an ordinary guy, he's just an ordinary bloke," Bob Irwin, his father, said at a news conference Wednesday outside the Australia Zoo. "He wants to be remembered as an ordinary bloke. We were good mates. I'll remember Steve as my best mate ever."

Irwin's energetic documentaries will continue to be broadcast in syndication and on the Discovery Network channels. Irwin also ran several charities and trust funds that will continue to operate in his absence.

"You think about Steve Irwin and you think of people who are invincible."

-Jack Hanna

Interested in becoming a writer for the Behrend Beacon? Email Chris LaFuria at csl5005@psu.edu to become part of the Beacon news staff. We are always looking for journalists and photographers to join our staff!

Country on the Mend

continued from page 1

All three of these students knew someone who worked in the World Trade Center, or someone who was near the Pentagon. When McGraw's father arrived at the WTC for work that day, he was met by people who were hurrying to get out of the building. They stopped him from entering, and he was unharmed.

Yong's aunt also worked at the WTC. On that day, however, Yong's cousin was running late for school. This caused Yong's aunt to arrive at work late, and after the planes hit the building.

Coleman says, "I heard so many stories where people were sick or late that day, and didn't make it into work and lived. It's ironic."

Along with feeling the effects of the terrorism that shocked America, many people around the world grieved, as well. In Singapore, Yong recalls flags being at half-mast the day after. She also remembers praying for America while at school, and seeing a large vigil outside of the American Embassy.

In Washington, D.C., Coleman also remembers seeing numerous vigils around the city. McGraw also experienced vigils throughout NYC. There was also a large one held in the church across from where the towers once stood. Many schools in New York City as well as D.C. had moments of silence on each anniversary of 9/11.

"Looking back at it, it's crazy to sit back and reflect on what happened. Seeing it firsthand, I don't think people know what an affect it had on New Yorkers," says McGraw.

One thing that really upset Coleman was footage showed on the news of children in Middle Eastern countries celebrating the destruction that was caused. "What's happening to the world today, when that's funny to people?" Coleman said.

September 11, 2001 was the day that changed America. The events that happened in America were felt around the world. While the towers have not been rebuilt, people have united and have healed.

"Looking back at it, it's crazy to sit back and reflect on what happened."

-Brandon McGraw

Myth Busters

continued from page 1

Many people wonder if flatulence could actually light on fire, so a special chair was built and Savage waited patiently to pass

gas so he could "light the emission." Confirmed. Flatulence can produce a flame, but kids: don't try this at home.

And as all good things must come to an end, the Mythbusters were given a standing ovation

while leaving the Junker Center. Raechul Bowser, sophomore, thought "it was great to see Ben Stein but it was even better to see Mythbusters." Also, sophomore Josh Iwlnski was "surprised that they [Behrend] were able to get

such incredibly famous people" to speak at our Penn State campus. For more information, watch the Discovery Channel Wednesdays at 9 p.m. or visit their website at www.discoverychannel.com.

New shrine to be dedicated this week

By Jordan Gilmore
Copy Editor

Penn State Behrend is set to dedicate the new shrine built as a permanent home for the Nittany Lion statue next Thursday. The statue is now located just across the walkway outside the entrance to the Junker Center from where it has been sitting since it was presented to the college a year and a half ago.

The new site is midway between the Junker Center and Smith Chapel, where a sidewalk splits off that leads to the new Research and Economic Development Center (REDC). The location allows the statue to be seen by more people, and that was one of the reasons it was selected. "We wanted a high-traffic site that would allow the Lion to be visible to the greatest number of students, alumni and visitors. The fall commencement ceremony takes place at the Junker



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The new shrine is to be dedicated on Sept 14, 2006 at 5:15 p.m.

Center, weddings are held at the Smith Chapel, and the REDC will see a record number of students on any given day," said Kevin Moore, associate director of development.

The Lion statue at Behrend is a 75 percent scale replica of the Nittany Lion shrine at University Park, and sits at the same 7.5 degree as the original. Constructed of reinforced fiberglass, which is as resilient as concrete, according to Moore, the statue weighs close to one ton.

According to a University news release, several groups and individuals helped make the statue and plaza possible. Penn State Behrend's graduating classes of 2003 and 2004, University Trustee Ted Junker, Council of Fellows member Michael Woods, the Lake Erie Chapter of the Penn State Alumni Association and the Penn State Behrend Alumni Society, the college's athletics department, and student activity fee committee all donated funding used to finance the project.

The new shrine will be dedicated Thursday September 14, at 5:15p.m.

New electronic event management available to students

By Chris LaFuria
News Editor

Everyone on the campus of Penn State Behrend is joining in the paperless revolution, making old-fashioned methods of seemingly time-consuming procedures effortless. Among these procedures are student tuition bills, which can now only be found online, and the newest member of the paperless troop, Event Management System, or EMS. The new system of event scheduling allows students who are a part of a registered club or organization to request meetings on their own.

EMS replaces the obsolescent method that involved up to seven pages of paperwork, communication by email, and a face-to-face meeting with the directors. With the new system, not only is it easier to simply view the schedule of on-campus activities, but also to request space without the hassle of such arduous processes. Christa Morris, staff assistant for Student Services, says, "We are trying to make it so that students are able to request space for their activities from their rooms."

In order to begin requesting space for a registered club or organization, a student from the particular group must set up an account through the EMS website. This can be done by using Penn State Behrend's homepage. Under the heading "News and Calendars," students can locate the virtual calendar that is an updated and newly constructed calendar, and has been modified to be easier to access and follow.

Although every student can easily access the calendar, an account must be set up to begin requesting space. The process to do so is at the top of the virtual calendar. By following the website and contacting staff assistant Diana Morris for approval, students can set up accounts and begin their requests.

There are a few stipulations to follow for certain events. Any special event, such as a pig roast, that needs to go through Support Services, MISC, maintenance, or Police and Safety must be approved by a meeting with Diana Morris. Also, any group requesting a band must schedule a meeting with Chris Fox after documenting the program. Furthermore, any scheduled event must be passed through a group of directors for approval.

Diana and Christa Morris stress that the request for on-campus space is only for registered groups and organizations. A registered group is one that is currently recognized by SGA, has an executive board, member roster, and treasury training, and has no negative balance in their account. There are currently approximately 100 registered groups on campus.

The newly modified calendar contains more information than was previously available to the students. Currently, students can view detailed information about an event along with contact information, a list of people in charge, times of the events, and ticket prices. This is an addition to the former calendar, which did not contain as much information.

Although the website has been created to make these processes easier to the students, many new alterations are being considered. "Our website is still under construction," Diana Morris says. "We are in the process of adding pictures to give a better description of the location."

Event Management System is already available for students to utilize. By following the guidelines and setting up accounts on the website, students have easier access to scheduling on-campus events. With the revisions still taking place, students will be able to schedule events without leaving their dorm rooms.

Quote on Civility

"I take it that what all men are really after is some form of, perhaps only some formula of, peace."

— Joseph Conrad, English novelist (1857-1924)

Janet Neff Sample Center
for Manners & Civility

