good season, but it would be a very nice ending."

"Winning the conference championship is our goal at this point in

time. However, I don't feel we need to get to that point to make it a

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Erie City Council strives to keep college students in area

By Danielle Brown sports editor

Erie City Council is working to make the downtown area a more appealing and livable place for young people.

City Council passed a new zoning resolution on Feb. 21, which will allow the development of taller buildings downtown. The area involved is between 14th Street and the Bayfront Parkway from Peach Street to Holland Street.

Even though there are many higher education options in Erie, some people feel that there aren't many jobs available for students after graduation. City Council woman Jessica Horan-Kunco says she believes that buildings such as condominiums and new businesses might help keep people in Erie.

"The new zoning ordinance will hopefully motivate people to move back into or stay in the downtown area. The resolution may help rebuild the Erie population," says Horan-Kunco.

In 1960, there were 138,000 people living in Erie. Today, the number has decreased to 103,000. Horan-Kunco says she believes this population decline may be fixed by revising buildings downtown and providing new ones. "If the buildings could be more than two stories high, people could live in the upper-half and develop their business in the bottom-half. This could bring more job opportunities to the Erie area," says Horan-

Penn State Behrend senior accounting major Lindsay Ethridge says she believes job opportunities are limited for her in Erie. "I am an accounting major searching for work in my field in Erie," says Ethridge. "There is nothing here with a decent starting salary or benefits that would fit what I am looking for."

Ethridge says she is moving South when she graduates to make the most of her accounting degree. "In North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida, I have found many decent jobs. There are a lot more options is other cities. Erie just isn't what it used to be when it comes to the number of jobs with reasonable salaries,' says Ethridge.

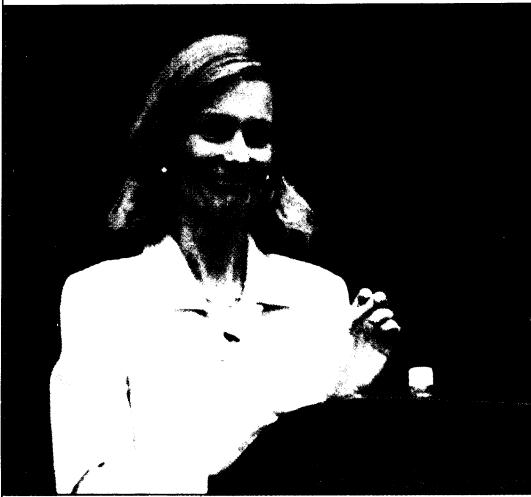
Family is a big part of the reason Ethridge says she would consider staying in the area. "I have lived in Erie my whole life. My whole family is here. If Erie had something to offer, I would definitely take it to stay closer to them."

Ethridge also says she believes that she isn't the only person who would benefit from the new businesses. "Look at how many good colleges are in the area: Behrend, Gannon, Mercyhurst, and Edinboro. There are so many people here with good degrees, but nothing for them. I'm sure many of them have family here, too, and would like to stay. Erie just needs to find a way to keep some of these people here," says Ethridge.

Executive Director of the Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership, Jake Rouch, and his team are working with approximately thirty companies that wish to grow and expand in Erie.

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Minton Beddoes shares a new perspective on U.S. economy



Mike Sharkey/THE BEHREND BEACON

Economic Journalist, Zanny Minton Beddoes spoke at Behrend on Thursday night as part of the Speaker Series held in McGarvey Commons.

By Chris Brown copy editor

Penn State Behrend had the opportunity to hear a world renowned economic journalist when The Economist's Washington editor Zanny Minton Beddoes spoke on Feb. 16. Minton Beddoes addressed the short, medium, and long term prospects of the U.S. economy in her presentation "Fragile Prosperity: The Outlook for the U.S. and World Economy." Her presentation provided a snapshot view of the past, present, and future developments in the

Minton Beddoes had a unique perspective on the outlook of the U.S. economy because of her personal experience; she was born and raised in the United Kingdom, attended graduate school in the United States, and has lived in the U.S. for the past 10 years while working in The Economist's Washington Editorial office. She pointed out that the view of an outsider looking in on the U.S. economy varies greatly compared to someone who has lived in the U.S. their whole. Most outsiders regard the U.S. as a "reckless debtor." Minton Beddoes believes the U.S. economy will remain globally dominant but is fearful of possible long-term protection-

Minton Beddoes began her presentation by describing the four main trends in the current global economy. She said that currently, the global economy is defined by rapid technological expansion, increased globalization, an older population, and the end of inflation in developed economies. All these factors, said Minton Beddoes, have helped establish the sole global power in the world economy. For instance, only the U.S. has been able to take advantage of technology in the form of increased efficiency, and while the baby boomers are shifting demographics to a proportionally older population. this pales in comparison to other countries with lower fertility rates.

The prospects for the U.S. economy look good but weaknesses do exist. Minton Beddoes was positive about the short and mid-term prospects for the U.S. economy. She expressed her feelings that foreign investors are not likely to risk damaging U.S. dollar value by selling U.S. bonds, because they have invested so much in it already. Minton Beddoes said she thought

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Dr. Aquila honored

By Scott Muska student life editor

Penn State Behrend's own Dr. Richard Aquila is deeply involved in making a name for the university through his own individual performance as a talented professor and lecturer. On Feb. 12, the director of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences was invited to serve as an Organization of American Historians Distinguished Lecturer.

Aquila is accepting this honor from the OAH Distinguished Lectureship program for the second consecutive time, and he will be serving his second term as a Lecturer. Aquila stated that "The fact that they've invited me back for a second term is an honor not just for me, but also for Penn State Behrend."

To put into perspective the magnitude of such an honor, since the creation of the Lectureship Program in 1981, statistically, about one percent of the nation's certified historians are invited to become one of the Distinguished Lecturers. Most of these historians are only invited to serve one three-year term, whereas Aquila will be serving his second three-year term, a feat that is almost unheard

Aquila's lecture specialties center on U.S. social and cultural history, and he has researched mainly recent American culture, the American West, American Indians, and American popular culture. He has written four books titled "Home Front Soldier: The Story of a G. I." and "His Italian-American Family During World War II", "Wanted Dead or Alive: The American West in Popular Culture", "That Old Time Rock and Roll: A Chronicle of An Era, 1954-63", and finally "The Iroquois Restoration: Iroquois Diplomacy on the Colonial Frontier, 1701-1754." He is currently working on his latest book called, "Crazy, Man, Crazy: The Birth of Rock & Roll and 1950's America," and expects to finish it this summer.

Aquila's expertise of various types of history do not stop at his passion for writing, as he has also been involved in the production of numerous documentaries that have aired on NPR. He has written, produced, and hosted these shows, and from 1998 to 2000 he engineered the public history series "Rock and Roll America," which was nominated for the illustrious Peabody award. It was aired on NPR and NPR Worldwide.

As part of his title as an OAH Distinguished Lecturer, Aquila has the opportunity to travel the country and give public speeches at many universities. He has lectured on subjects that include, but are not limited to, the American West, Native American History, rock and roll as history, and the role of music in the public memory of the tragedies of Sep. 11, 2001.

Aquila received his prior education from Bowling Green State University and Ohio State University, and now provides Behrend with quality lectures and education. By receiving this honor for a second time, he helps to show the adeptness of the Behrend teaching staff and the potency that the college has academically.

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Our offices are located downstairs in the Reed Union Building.

Behrend students participate in TH

By Lenny Smith assistant news editor

Interfraternity Penn State's Council/Panhellenic Dance Marathon came to a close Sunday in the Bryce Jordan Center. The largest student-run philanthropy in the world raised a record \$5,240,385.17 this year for The Four Diamonds Fund.

According to the official THON website, 'The mission of the Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon is to conquer pediatric cancer by providing outstanding emotional and financial support to the children, families, researchers, and staff of The Four Diamonds Fund."

Since 1972, The Four Diamonds Fund has helped children who were diagnosed with pediatric cancer at the Penn State Children's Hospital in Hershey, PA. About 90 new families are added annually to the 2000+ families that have already been helped by The Four Charles and Irma Millard. They established

The Four Diamonds Fund after their son, Chirstopher, was diagnosed with cancer at the age of



Diamond Fund. The fund was established by THON directors show the record-breaking total of \$5,240,385.17.

For 35 years, the students affiliated with THON have raised over \$46 million for children and families to help their fight against pediatric cancer. Students

fundraise throughout the entire year. The final amount fundraised is announced at the end of THON Weekend, a two day event where participants neither sleep nor eat, just dance. During the 46-hour event, organizers have numerous activities for the dancers to keep them busy and their minds off of sleeping. Activities include themed hours, live bands, pep rallies with the Penn State football team, and guest speakers like PSU alum and Miss Pennsylvania, Emily Wills.

Freshman Student Government Association Senator, Mike Mclean, was a dancer at THON this year. "I first became involved in THON when I was elected as an SGA Senator. You have to be involved with two committees and there was a THON committee.'

A selection process was held at CONTRIBUTED PHOTO Behrend to choose who would represent the campus. Behrend's dancers included Juniors, Erin Kiesel and Daniel Frankel and Freshmen, Mclean and Vicky Straub.

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