

"I just hope we're getting hot at the right time of the year."

- Paul Henry  
Men's Baseball Catcher  
page 9

"Blue Moon in a cone is what I usually order when I come here. I just love it, but I can't really describe why. I guess I would say that it is citrusy. I actually kind of tastes like Fruit Loops."

RECEIVED - Kim Gowen  
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# The Behrend Beacon



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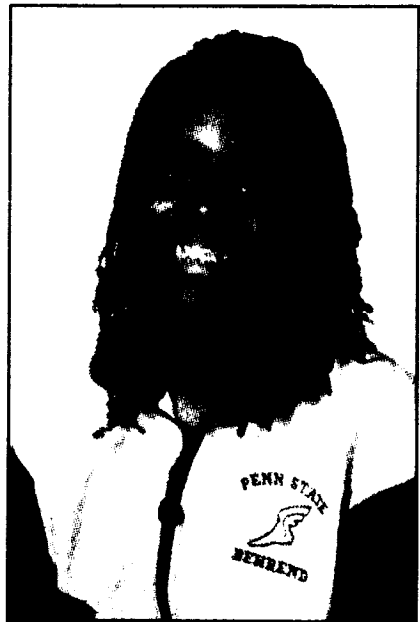


Read about Ben Raymond's exclusive interview with Lewis Black and his performance at Behrend last Saturday.

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Check out "Who's hot and who's not," by Andy McLachlan to see the NFL Draft Outlook.

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Virginia Rodgers-Owens, a track & field member has been named Housing and Food Services Athlete of the Week.

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## Penn State students support Virginia Tech community

By Lenny Smith  
assistant news editor

As with every national tragedy, Americans have come together to provide support for the students and faculty of Virginia Tech. After gunman Cho Seung-Hui shot and killed 32 people on the Blacksburg, Virginia campus, support began to pour out from all across the country, especially from the students at Penn State.

The popular website Facebook.com was a tool used by Virginia Tech students for communication during the massacre because it was so difficult to get cell phone service. Groups like, "Join if you are safe" were formed to help students find their friends. Soon after, Facebook became a place for remembrance. Users' profile pictures were quickly changed from pictures of friends to a maroon and orange ribbon with their school's mascot. New groups were formed to express sympathy and to organize memorial services at schools all across the nation.

Penn State Behrend students did not let the small size of the campus stop them from doing what they could for Virginia Tech. The Lion Entertainment Board (LEB) hung a banner outside of Bruno's and at last Friday's Battle of the Bands for students to sign before it was sent to Virginia Tech. Freshman Adell Coleman commented on the tragedy, "I think the Virginia Tech shootings brought universities all across America together. My cousin goes to Virginia Tech and two of her friends jumped out of windows (in Norris Hall) and by signing the poster, it was my way of showing my support." Behrend also held a prayer service in the Smith Chapel on Tuesday, April 17. Students were given the opportunity to gather together and pray for the deceased and injured.

A record number of attendees at Penn State's annual Blue and White spring football game on Saturday, April 21, showed their support by turning Beaver Stadium into a sea of maroon and orange. Lines formed out the doors of McLanahan's and The Family Clothes Line stores in State College. Both stores sold Penn State shirts in Virginia Tech colors for fans to wear to the game. In stead of Penn State's "S Zone," organizers formed a "VT" as a way to show their support. Fans were not the only people donning maroon and orange during Blue and White weekend. The Penn State cheerleaders, dance team and the Nittany Lion all wore commemorative t-shirts during the game.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Penn State students show their support of Virginia Tech at the annual Blue and White game, while Behrend students signed banners to display their sympathy.

As fans poured into the stadium, an eerie hush fell throughout Beaver Stadium during a moment of silence, followed by the Blue Band performing "Amazing Grace." "I almost started to cry," said freshman Stacey Triplett. "It was very emotional." Freshman Sean Newsham said, "I thought it was pretty touching that Penn State would have that much of a response. Over half of the crowd put away their Penn State gear for the day to show support for their fallen comrades from Virginia Tech. It really showed how classy Penn State University is, showing that much respect for another school."

Freshman Jimmy McCallister said, "Penn State seemed to be a school that really supported Virginia Tech throughout the whole week. It was impressive that you had all the students rally together and just the fact that so many people showed up and showed their support."

## SGA offers new constitution for fall semester

By Toni Charnock  
staff writer

As the end of the spring semester approaches, some revised constitutional amendments for the Student Government Association at Behrend come with it. Proposed by the President, Vice President and President/Vice President elect, the newly amended Constitution was tabled at Wednesday's meeting and is planned to be voted on at the May 2nd meeting. President Meredith Straub, is very pleased with the Constitution's outcome. "I believe that if these changes are passed it will allow for a smoother run organization and an increase in student involvement on campus," said Straub. By putting a lot of thought

and time into the amendments, SGA hopes that the changes will improve the organization as a whole.

One of the major changes includes the addition of a freshman senate seat. This gives more first-year students a chance to be actively involved in SGA and to begin learning about the organization from a more in-depth perspective. It also would help set a strong base for SGA's future. The freshmen election process was also modified, splitting up the procedure, having two separate freshmen senate elections. The first election is within the first five weeks of the fall semester to elect three freshmen senators and the other during the first week of November to elect two more for a total of five freshmen senators. This allows for change of assignment and transfer students to have a chance to

run for Senate.

Straub is very excited and looks forward to seeing the new constitution passed and in action. "I feel very positive about the proposed constitutional amendments," Straub said. She has been active in the SGA for the past three years and is the President for the 2006-2007 academic year. A few other adjustments consist of allowing clubs to have four inactive consecutive semesters before they no longer are recognized as a club on campus in stead of two. Also, in the Bylaws of the Constitution, a club can use their non-allocated funds for any activity as long as it is in accordance with all college and university policies.

Continued on page 2.

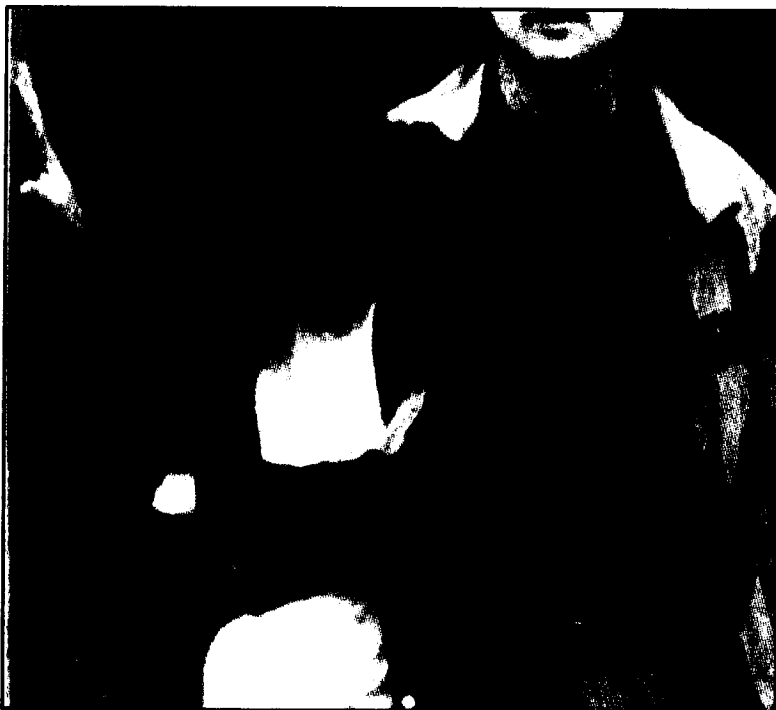
## Gannon threat tests response teams in Erie schools

By Ashley Bressler  
news editor

Life on the campus of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University is slowly getting back to normal as the students and faculty are healing after the largest school shooting in history occurred on Monday, April 16. After Seung-Hui Cho, 23, a senior English major at Virginia Tech, killed 32 people and then took his own life, college students across the United States feared others would try to repeat the same horrendous act.

This fear nearly became a reality for the students of Gannon University in Erie, PA. According to Erie City police, at 12:50 a.m. on Wednesday, April 25, a Gannon student received a phone call from Valerie Cantu, 19, a former Gannon student, who said, "Don't go to school tomorrow...there's going to be another massacre." The Gannon student believed the threat was serious and immediately contacted the Campus Police and Safety office. In light of the situation, Erie County District Attorney Brad Foulk said, "No one is going to take these types of threats in this climate lightly."

Cantu is currently being held in the Erie City Prison on charges of harassment and making terroristic



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Valeria Cantu is shown being escorted into police custody on Wednesday after making a threatening phone call to a Gannon student.

threats. Erie City police said Cantu admitted to making the phone call, and she will remain in holding until further legal decisions are decided.

Despite the threats, Gannon remained open as normal on Wednesday, but students were informed of the

incident through a campus-wide email. Jennifer Mailey, Gannon spokeswoman, said six Erie City police officers and Gannon's entire police and safety unit were on patrol all day, going in and out of the buildings to ensure the safety of students and faculty.

Gannon's quick response to possible threats has encouraged other Erie colleges to strongly reinforce their own defense systems. Like Virginia Tech's newly issued text messaging alert policy, Penn State Behrend has also set up a system for students and faculty to receive text messages on their cellular phone in case of an extreme emergency. Penn State Behrend Chancellor, Jack Burke said, "The horrible events at Virginia Tech have highlighted the importance of rapid and accurate communication during emergencies. This addition of cell phone text messaging to relay important information is a valuable communication tool for the college."

Behrend officials said the text messaging system will be used to deliver emergency notices only about Penn State Behrend, such as college closures, class delays and life-threatening situations. Along with all Penn State campuses, Behrend will begin using the PSUTXT system in late August.

All students are strongly encouraged to sign up for the text messaging alert system by going to <http://news-wires.psu.edu>.