

“Armed with sticks, determination and confidence, we are looking to improve last year’s record of 5-3.”

-Heidi Brackbill  
Lacrosse co-captain

Things were hectic and busy. Inevitably, there is the chance that **RECEIVED** can go wrong,” Kelecseny said. “Something was overlooked...it was an honest mistake.” **MAY 04 2007**

-Kate Kelecseny  
Lion Ambassadors President

# The Behrend Beacon

2006 YEAR IN REVIEW 2007

Friday, May 4, 2007 A Penn State Behrend Student Publication Vol. LIII No. XXVI

## Local bar serves underage student

By Janet Niedenberger  
opinion editor  
10/27/07

Erie is a college town. With four major colleges within 20 miles of the heart of the city, it's no surprise that Erie is also a town which is chock full of bars. There are dozens upon dozens of alcohol-serving businesses, and it goes unsaid that there is underage drinking as well.

This past Tuesday, 20-year-old Chris Brown and I decided to do a little investigating. Our purpose was to go to a handful of bars, and see if any of them would serve us. We picked four bars to try this at: Irish Cousins, located at 3924 Main Street in Lawrence Park; Jimmy Z's Time Out Tavern, located at 3406 Buffalo Road in Wesleyville; Calamari's Squid Row, located at 1317 State Street; and Docksider Tavern, located at 1015 State Street.

Irish Cousins was the first bar that we visited. We were not carded at the door, so we proceeded to sit down at the bar. After speaking with the bartender for a few minutes, we each ordered a beer. As she was turning to get the beers, she asked for our IDs. Chris told her he didn't have his on him, so we left.

The next stop was Jimmy Z's, a bar which is often visited by Penn State Behrend students. Again, upon entering the bar, we were not stopped or carded. Once reaching the bar, we acted interested in the night's specials. After a few minutes of small talk, we each ordered a beer. The bartender immediately asked for our IDs, and again, Chris acted like he had left it in the car, so we left, another bar passing the test.

We then drove downtown and stopped first at Calamari's. This time, we had worked out a more detailed plan of action. Again, we weren't carded at the door. After approaching and then sitting down at the bar, we inquired about the specials for the night. We chatted with the bartender about what we wanted to drink, but as soon as we ordered, we were carded. Just like the other two bars, Chris pretended to searched for his ID, and we headed out once again. We were three for three.

Our last stop of the night was Docksider. The bar probably had about 20 patrons. We approached the bar, and after asking about the specials, we each ordered a beer. The bartender began preparing our drinks, asked us for the \$3.00, and after we paid, he walked off to serve another customer. Yes, Chris, who is only 20, was served. We didn't touch the beers, but instead sat there for a few minutes. I then waved the bartender back over to us. I introduced myself, and explained what had happened. He had little to say.

The next day, I called the bars we visited. I first called Docksider, and spoke to the manager. He refused to give me his name, but he was willing to talk about what happened.

Continued on page 3.

## Behrend student arrested on multiple child pornography charges

By Christopher LaFuria  
editor in chief  
11/10/06

A Penn State Behrend student is in prison tonight after being arrested and charged with possession of child pornography. Jonathan Demerecz, 23, of 2713 Shannon Road was arraigned in North East and sent to jail after authorities discovered 80 movies and over 600 images of children as young as five years old involved in sexual activity on his personal computer. After an investigation by Wesleyville Police and the Erie County District Attorney's Office, Demerecz was charged with 22 counts of child pornography.

According to his housemates, Demerecz's computer was seized three weeks ago by authorities. A warrant was left in place of the computer, saying that Demerecz was under investigation of child pornography. "It was about three weeks ago when they took his computer and told him they were looking for child pornography," said Show Zhu, one of Demerecz's housemates.

Other housemates of Demerecz said that they were not surprised with the arrest. "He always acted strange about kids," said Chris Neville, another housemate of Demerecz. "It was kind of weird how he always dressed up like Santa every year. This year, he said he stood outside for two hours to hand out candy to kids on Halloween." Neville adds, "I wasn't surprised he got arrested after they took his computer."

Demerecz's housemates noted that at the time of the seizure of his computer, Demerecz acted erratically. "He was taken to the [Emergency Room around the time] his computer was taken," Neville said. "When he came back it seemed like he had a mental breakdown. He couldn't speak and was shaking. We didn't know what was going on."

As a student, Demerecz, a physics major, was highly active in extra-curricular activities. He was on schedule to graduate in the spring of 2007. He was active in Matchbox Players, the theater and improv club. Also, he was the vice-president of the Gamers Club. Demerecz, who is from Butler, PA, surprised many close friends with his recent arrest. Journalism major Jerry Pohl was one of his friends that first heard about the arrest. "I found out through phone calls from several friends about [Demerecz's] arrest," Pohl said. "I was shocked and dismayed



Mike Sharkey/ THE BEHREND BEACON

Behrend senior Jonathan Demerecz on his way to a Matchbox Players event.

by what happened." Demerecz has been charged with the crimes but has not yet stood trial. Authorities are still investigating while Demerecz is being held on \$50,000 cash bond.

## Behrend student narrowly avoids fatal accident

By Christopher LaFuria  
editor in chief  
10/06/06



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

After a nearly tragic accident, Shane Miller's Pontiac Sunfire is left completely totalled and irreparable. Above is the remains of Miller's destroyed vehicle.

The picture that Shane Miller carries around with him is his reminder that drinking and driving can affect anyone. Pictures of a completely destroyed red Pontiac Sunfire are the only useable remains of what could have been a fatal accident, and ultimately a life-changing experience. On Sunday, Sept. 4, Miller's life was in jeopardy as the result of a vicious car accident.

While driving home from a late-night hockey practice, Miller headed east on East 38th Street, after a long, grueling session. When he reached the intersection of 38th and Davison, Miller was struck on the passenger side by an oncoming vehicle, which completely neglected the red light. Upon collision, Miller and his Pontiac Sunfire were sent spinning onto the curb of Family Video.

Miller, who was uninjured except for a minor knee bruise, has no recollection of the immediate impact, but can vividly remember his thoughts. "I didn't even know what had happened," he says. "I just remember the fact that I got hit, and checked to see if I was injured."

After exiting through the passenger side of his vehicle, Miller hurried to the other driver to assess the overall damage. As he got to the other driver, he witnessed a dazed man in his mid-20s, who reeked of alcohol. Miller then returned to his vehicle to observe the calamity before him.

Continued on page 2.

## Behrend responds to Virginia Tech massacre

By Ashley Bressler  
news editor  
4/20/07

Nearly 500 miles separate the Virginia Tech campus in Blacksburg, VA, and Penn State Behrend in Erie, PA, yet despite the distance, Behrend students and faculty are still feeling the effects of the horrific massacre that occurred at Virginia Tech on Monday, April 16, leaving 33 students dead. Like many college students and faculty across the country, Behrend's community is wondering what would happen if there was a school shooting on this campus. On Tuesday, Director of Student Affairs Ken Miller reported in an *Erie Times-News* article that Behrend has a well established critical-incident response plan including a newly renovated electronic key card system for the residence halls, video cameras, six sworn and armed police officers, and a critical response team trained in post-traumatic stress counseling. While this is a step in the right direction, some Behrend students still feel preparing for an extreme situation like the one that unfolded at Virginia Tech is near to impossible to predict, or fully prepare for.

Staff Psychologist at Behrend Sue Daley, M.A., said she feels that a good way to help avoid a massive tragedy at Behrend is for students to take advantage of the personal counseling services available. "There are key warning signs that can be looked for in these cases. From what I have seen, there is a difference between high school shootings and college shootings. In high school, the shooter is typically teased, while in college, the shooter may be individually disturbed, a loner, a misfit, or not very well supported with emotional attachment problems. Also, drinking and taking drugs can affect college students more, so if this is combined with an unstable individual, the outcome can be very unfortunate," said Daley. As



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

As the students of Virginia Tech mourn the loss of their classmates, Penn State Behrend questions how safe the campus' critical response team would react. Behrend is a small, close campus, Daley said she believes it is a collective response. Continued on page 2.

### Contents

News.....	1-3
Editorial.....	4
Food & Drink.....	5
Humor.....	6
Student Life.....	7-8
Sports.....	9-10

### Contact Us

Newsroom:  
898-6488  
Fax:  
898-6019

E-mail: csl5005@psu.edu

Our offices are located downstairs  
in the Reed Union Building.