



# THE BEHREND BEACON

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### Are Kanye and 50 Cent fueding?

Read about it on page 7.

### Apple makes a good deal for its iPhone users.

Find out what it is on page 7.



### Behrend men's soccer reaches a new milestone.

Read more on page 9.

### Penn State improves to 2-0 after shutting down the Irish.

The full scoop on page 10.

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## Multi Cultural Council brings many opportunities to Behrend

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Penn State Behrend is the home of numerous clubs and organizations. These include intramural sports, academic clubs, and various other programs that aim to get the students of Penn State Behrend involved in campus activities. One of these programs is the Multi-Cultural Council, otherwise known as MCC. This is a student led organization that acts as a link between the Student Government Association, and various student organizations, most of which are historically underrepresented, and works to create cooperation among other clubs and organizations. MCC aids in promotion of three basic factors of these groups: awareness, understanding, and appreciation. Some organizations that MCC shows interest in are the Asian Student Organization (ASO), the International Student Organization (ISO), the Returning Adult Student Organization (RASO) and Women

Today, in addition to many others.

The Multi-cultural Council not only promotes awareness, but also offers various programs and activities to the students of Behrend. These activities include events such as the Penn State Erie Speaker Series, in which well-known speakers visit Behrend. Events featuring speakers such as Maya Angelou, Danny Glover, Jesse Jackson, and former Vice President Dan Quayle are just a few of the many wonderful events that Behrend has offered its students. The Penn State Erie Speaker Series is presented to students, staff and the public at no charge.

In addition to the Speaker Series, the MCC also offers a Feminist Scholars Speaker Series. This series brings strong leaders in feminism, such as Dr. Ruth Hubbard and Emily Arnold McCully to the cam-

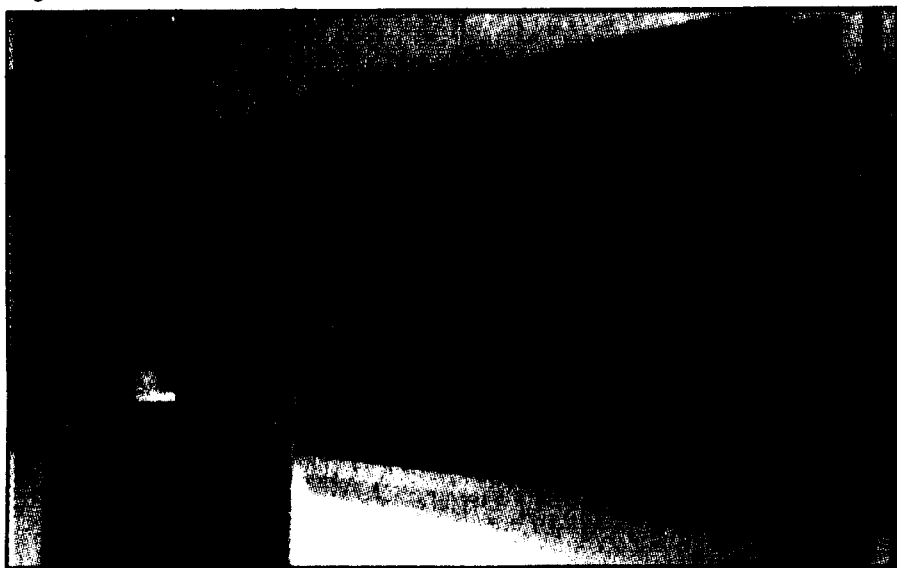
pus. Through this series, speakers discuss topics and issues such as female heroines and reproductive laws.

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The MCC also offers a cultural and performing arts series, a film series, a Cultural Fiesta, and a Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. birthday celebration. The cultural series, known as the Rhythms of Life Series, is an entertain-

ment series, offering comedians, musical acts and storytellers. The Cultural Fiesta is a day-long event, which showcases the dance, food, and music of multiple cultures, including German, Irish, and African-American. It is held in the Wintergarden of the Reed Union Building and generally attracts over 500 people. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration is a campus-wide program that celebrates the life of King. Classes are arranged on this day so that all students, faculty and staff have the opportunity to attend this wonderful event.

More information on the MCC and the programs that it offers can be obtained from, <http://www.clubs.psu.edu/bd/mcc/index.htm>, or from the Office of Educational Equity and Diversity at 814-898-6111 in the Reed Union Building.



Mike Sharkey/THE BEHREND BEACON

The bulletin board outside the Multi Cultural Council room shows upcoming events.

## Behrend updates to be more energy efficient

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Energy conservation is a realized necessity in our day and age. That is why Penn State Behrend is undergoing \$3.7 million worth of improvements that began earlier this year and were to be wrapped up by the time students returned for the fall semester. All of this follows after an energy audit commissioned by Behrend in January. Some of the steps include receiving energy from renewable resources, recycling and reusing materials, and building and improving facilities to be more energy efficient.

This program is set up under a performance contract that enables Behrend to have the improvements paid back by a decade through less expensive utility costs. Thus, no other programs at Behrend will be affected by the drain of \$3.7 million price. Some of the more physical results of the project include more efficient lighting and water fixtures, heat-

ing and cooling systems will be replaced by more advanced control systems, and a large wind turbine. The wind turbine will also double as a learning resource for students and classes. Some savings include an almost 25 percent reduction in energy usage and six million gallons of water. Most students have probably seen the conservation stickers and magnets handed out asking you to do such things as "Take Shorter Showers." This is part of the "Take Charge" program for energy conservation.

Deputy associate vice president for physical plant and head of the University's Environmental Strategy, Steve Muszewski said, "Penn State is committed to aggressively reducing its impact on the environment. Minimizing energy consumption associated with University operations will cause a significant reduction of our greenhouse gas emissions. The improvements in energy efficiency at Penn State Behrend are another fine example of the University's environmental stewardship."

## Six years later, nation remembers

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Sept. 11, 2001 is a day that most Americans will never forget. It was the day terrorists hijacked four planes and crashed them into the World Trade Center in New York, the Pentagon in Virginia and a field in Pennsylvania. Thousands of lives were lost, and many were scared by the fact that an act of this caliber could actually be accomplished; most people thought that the United States was a relatively safe place when it came to foreign affairs.

The initial impact of this event evoked emotions from shock and sadness to understanding and indifference in Behrend students. Freshmen Erik Johnson and John Dzikiy were both stunned. Dzikiy said, "I was really shocked and surprised because nothing ever really happened like that before."

Similarly, Johnson said, "I was shocked and saddened because a lot of innocent people lost their lives."

This seems to be a common feeling among most, including freshman Shawn Lorigan who said he was, "shocked but also angry and kind of understood why the terrorists did what they did."

It is hard for a country that has just been attacked to understand why the attacker has done so, but Lorigan said, "I understand that countries have a unique hatred of America because in comparison we are a younger country with many faults of our own, but we have a history of going into other countries and pushing our views and beliefs onto other people that never openly accepted them. We do not accept our neighbors for whom they are; that is why terrorism exists."

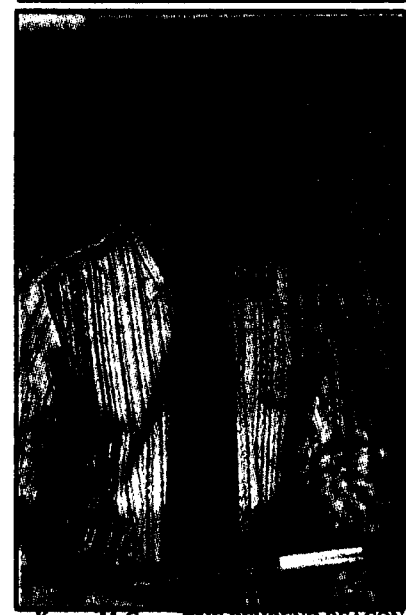
Another uncommon response was one of apathy. Freshman Nathan Ellenberger's response to the attacks of 9/11 was, "pretty much indifferent because it didn't really affect me. There are far worse issues in this world, such as genocides in Africa, and we're not impacted by those so why should this be any different?" Clearly the attacks evoked a wide range of emotions among all.

Now that six years have passed, a variety of measures have been taken to ensure that events such as this will not occur again. Still, the country has

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## Behrend English professor teaches abroad

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Professor Champagne spent 10 months in teaching Africa.

If Professor Dr. John Champagne made a list of where he thought he would end up teaching later in life, a primarily Arabic speaking country would probably be towards the bottom of the list. However, this Penn State Behrend English teacher had that very opportunity.

Champagne was awarded a 10-month grant through a Fulbright "international exchange of scholars" program in which he would teach English and American studies in Tunisia, Tunisia, a primarily Arabic and French speaking country. He taught at the University of Lamanouba, and ended up teaching somewhere around 400 students throughout the year.

"The students were incredibly polite," Champagne said. "Any time that they would see me on a bus, they would immediately stand up and give me their seats, and address me as sir, even when I told them not to."

That politeness, he claims, is one of the greatest differences between the United States and Tunisia - not, however, because Tunisians are necessarily more polite.

"There's a very large difference in what is culturally polite and acceptable there," said Champagne, who has been teaching at Behrend since 1993. He recalled an experience in a supermarket where people would continually cut in front of him in

line until he yelled at someone, who was immediately apologetic and kind, and allowed him to move forward.

The culture, says Champagne, is extremely vibrant and is a rich melting pot of Middle Eastern, European, and African cultures. Tunisia features many cafés, which are often strictly sexually segregated. The southern part of the country is mainly desert.

"If you want to visualize what southern Tunisia looks like, take into account that the desert scene from the original Star Wars was filmed there," Champagne said.

The government is a republic, but according to Champagne, it is a police state. "The government controls almost everything," he says. "It censors websites and books, and there are pictures of the President everywhere, in classrooms, businesses... it's just weird."

The internet was very difficult to access in Tunisia, and Champagne found himself taking orders from his colleagues at the college to find information online for their studies.

Those who know Champagne, who quickly says, "Just like the drink," at any strange looks he receives about his name, identify him with a bright, fun personality that matches the colors of his shirts. Strolling the halls of Kochel, where Champagne teaches some of his classes, one may notice teachers in polo or dress shirts; Champagne wears bright, silk shirts often adorned with tropical flowers or patterns.