



THE BEHREND BEACON

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Students surprised by Technology Drive tickets

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Technology Drive, located right behind the REDC building, has turned into an illegal one-way street. For the past couple of months, students have been parking illegally along this road to their advantage of getting to class on time. Amber Wozniac admitted, "It is convenient to just park there because it's closer to the building than the Junker parking lot." Technology Drive is not Penn State Behrend property and actually belongs to Harbor Creek Township.

"I wipe my hands of their duties."

**-Jim Amann
Chief of Police
and Safety**

Chief of Police and Safety Jim Amann said plainly that, "the Harbor Creek Township Enforcement Officers are in charge of the main roads like Jordan and Technology Drive and I wipe my hands of their duties."

Officer Bryan Benobic, head of Harbor Creek Code Enforcement Officers, explained that Technology Drive is closed to any parking between Oct. 1 and May 31. He also stated that the officers have been ticketing the students and if they continue to park there, "they will be charged up to a \$35.00 parking fee." The township is working on a lot of new renovations and the fines for parking and other small illegal issues have jumped quite a bit in price since last year. Benobic also felt it necessary to warn the students to be "very careful

crossing Jordan Road because people don't always stop for pedestrians."

John Ream, Director of Operations at Penn State Behrend, stressed the importance of student cooperation. He also wanted to inform the students that the parking garage behind the REDC is designated for visitors and faculty because "the expansion of Dobbins Hall is underway and it will take up the already limited parking spaces for those individuals." Ream also stated that the prospect of installing a new parking lot for students

was unlikely because "they had bigger issues" at hand.

Many of the students received parking warnings and notices from the Township for illegal park-

ing. These notices require the student to call the officer and give them their information. If the student is caught at the spot again, having been registered with a warning, they will receive the \$35.00 fine. Lauren Decreny, a visitor from Kings College, said she was "shocked" when she came to visit Behrend only a week ago. "The parking was ridiculous. I had to get a visitor pass and even that was a silly process. I know why students park illegally, they just want to get to class on time."

Although students are complaining about the tickets and parking, the only way to avoid the fines is to park in the designated parking areas on campus.



Keegan McGregor/THE BEHREND BEACON

Cars parked along Technology Drive are subject to fines by Harborcreek Township.

Penn State Wiki does not favor Behrend students

By Matthew Schwabenbauer
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Penn State students are now more closely connected than ever before, thanks to the Penn State Wiki.

Wiki is the term used to describe a social-networking website that allows anyone to create or edit the content of the site. Most people are familiar with Wikipedia.com, a Wiki which allows its users to post information on any topic. As long as you are registered to a Wiki, you can create content for the site, edit existing entries, or even remove information completely. The Penn State Wiki is essentially an open forum for PSU students to ask each other questions, spread the word about events, or even sell things to one another.

Penn State isn't alone with their wiki, many colleges have followed suit and created similar pages. The Wikis are hosted by collegewikis.com, which has a Wiki for just about every major college you can think of. In Pennsylvania alone, there are 14 universities with Wikis including Clarion, Carnegie Mellon, Temple and more, with Pitt inexplicably absent.

A Wiki is a valuable tool for college students to utilize. Need to get rid of those textbooks from last semester and want to sell them to other students rather than the bookstore can post them for sale on the Wiki.

Even a quick glance at Penn State's Wiki page shows the possibilities in such a resource. Right on the front page are entries for Internships, people looking to form bands, even registration for a "Humans vs Zombies" event.

Wikis can even be valuable study tools. There is a section of the PSU wiki devoted to course E-mail lists, enabling students with the same classes to get in touch with one another. There are even dorm E-mail lists, which include everything from residence halls to off-campus housing.

Even though Wikis are university-specific, collegewikis.com provides a section on each university's page listing global topics. This allows students looking to travel to another college for a football game or concert to quickly and easily find information on the event.

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Pennsylvania primary could be the deciding factor for Democrats

By Mark Nardo
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The New Year has brought an unpredictable presidential election. Clinton and Obama are racing towards the finish line neck and neck. It should be a big year and Americans are ready to see some big changes in this country.

In a race as close as this one it is impossible to know who is going to win the nomination, but pending what happens in the March 4 primaries in Ohio and Texas, Pennsylvania could be vital to this election.

Robert Speel, Associate Professor of Political Science at Penn State Behrend said, "if either party's nomination process is not wrapped up [on March 4, then] Mississippi will vote on March 11. Then for six weeks until Pennsylvania votes on April 22, there are no other presidential primaries or caucuses at all."

If this is to be the case, then between mid-March and April the residents of Pennsylvania will undoubtedly see the news media as well as the

candidates camping out throughout the state. This would more than likely bring the candidates to Erie. If either candidate can win Pennsylvania and Ohio, it could mean a sure victory.

Paul Witt, President of the College Democrats at Behrend, said that his club is fully supporting the Obama campaign. During the fall semester, the group hosted Greg Stewart, the Pennsylvania co-chair of the Obama campaign, to come and speak at Behrend. He stated that the Obama campaign was the first and only to contact our university. Attempts to reach the Clinton campaign have not been successful. Witt and the club members are hoping that if it comes down to Pennsylvania in this primary race, that they can get Obama to come speak personally to the school or possibly one of the campaign's coordinators. Witt believes that Pennsylvania is usually a "toss up" state and that "this year is going to be a coin flip."

It seems the college student demographic is leaning more towards Obama. He's younger and that appeals to a younger crowd a lot more than Clinton, who is in her 60s. The large age difference between Clinton and college students might be too



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama react to a question from the CNN debate mediator.

large for the college populous in which to relate. With the percentage of young voters that have already turned out for primaries and caucuses around the country, they will surely be essential to the turn out of this year's presidential election.

CNN Delegate Count
Barack Obama- 1,253
Hillary Clinton- 1,211

2,025 delegates are needed to win the nomination

SGA budget allocations released No plans for eateries around Behrend's campus

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The Student Government Association has released their approved budgets for various clubs and organizations.

The SGA allotted a total of \$30,603.29 to 20 student groups such as Trigon and the Panhellenic Council, in addition to the organization's own requests for funds. The total amount asked for by all organizations exceeded \$60,000.

The group that received the most money from SGA

was SGA itself, receiving a total of \$8,681 for Rally on the Hill, a day-long event being held to promote diversity. SGA will also use the funds to assist Penn State Behrend's representatives for THON at University Park.

Eight other groups received amounts between \$5,000 and \$1,000 for various activities such as a paintball event for the Outdoors club, trips to conventions for clubs such as the Management Information Systems Club (MIS) and the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), and also a bus trip to a Philadelphia game for the Hockey Club.

The SGA consists of thirty five members of the

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Students of Penn State Behrend do not have the luxury of off-campus food or retail establishments that Mercryhurst and Gannon University have that are in walking distance of our campus. Nonetheless, there have been some rumors going around campus about the development of a Starbucks coffee shop and Quiznos restaurant.

As most students are aware, Penn State

Behrend is lacking a serious quantity of retail/food establishments; and the off-campus establishments that we do have require transportation of some sort.

Rick Hall, head of the Management branch of Harborcreek Township wasn't quite aware of this situation. He said "I heard nothing about it. There has been talk about development around I-90, and the Bayfront connector, but there isn't a sufficient amount of population in Harborcreek to support that particular retail."

The idea of developing new

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