

The Behrend Beacon

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Women's basketball defeats Mt. Aloysius

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The Behrend women's basketball team made a strong statement as they scored 93 points and defeated Mt. Aloysius on Wednesday night at the Junker Center in the opening AMCC game.

Behrend went into halftime with a ten point lead of 48-38. According to the Behrend website, the Blue and White made 81 percent of their free throws, while Mt. Aloysius made 53 percent of their field goals in the first half.

The final score of the game was 93-67. The top scorer for Behrend was sophomore Rachel Richardson with 24 points followed by senior Natalie Engel who scored 20 points.

"We did exactly what we needed to win," said head coach Roz Fornari, who enters her sixteenth year at the position. "We executed what we needed to do: style and everything."

According to Fornari, the win was a team effort and all the players contributed.

"The game was a team thing," said Fornari. "All players are doing special things. Courtney Bricher really stood out in the game. She had a really nice game and ten boards."

According to the Behrend website, the game was

See **WOMEN'S BASKETBALL** on page 8.

Behrend student no longer facing felony charges

By Matthew Schwabenbauer
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Penn State Behrend sophomore Vincent Citriniti no longer faces felony charges after a hearing on Wednesday reduced his charges to four counts.

Citriniti, who was arrested on Oct. 24, originally faced charges including: Burglary, Criminal Mischief, Criminal Trespass, Criminal Mischief, Property Damage, Indecent Exposure, and Resisting Arrest. Of those charges, Criminal Trespass and Burglary are considered felonies under Pennsylvania state law. At the hearing, which was held at the office of Erie County District Judge Mark Krahe, the Burglary charge was dropped and the Criminal Trespass charge was reduced from a felony to a misdemeanor of the third degree.

Citriniti's charges now include: Criminal Trespass, Harassment, Criminal Mischief and Disorderly Conduct. These charges were all agreed upon by the victims who attended the hearing, and the Erie County District Attorney's office.

According to Officer Steve Farabaugh of the Pennsylvania State Police, Citriniti's case was "waived downtown," to the Court of Common Pleas of the Erie County Court House.

"The case didn't go to trial today, but the hearings consisted of pre-trial agreements, said Farabaugh.

See **COURT** on page 4.

Homecoming 2008



DANIEL SMITH / TheBehrendBeacon
The 2008 Homecoming Court poses with the Behrend mascot in the Junker Center on Wednesday night. The dance is on Friday night.

By Adam Spinelli
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Penn State Behrend's Homecoming Week has gone off without a hitch. The week took off with the naming of the 2008 Homecoming Court, which is as follows: Elton Armady & Vetta Stepanyan, Deb Workman & Jeff Barber, Max Polinski & Laura Lukasiak, Erin Biley & Phil Stuczynski, and Brad Kovaleik & Jessica Rizzili.

"It all started about three weeks ago with a 'box out,'" says senior marketing major and Homecoming King Nominee, Elton Armady. The

top ten couples that received the most nominations were paired up according to their respective number of votes and continued on to the next step of the nomination process. "We had to do a four page scavenger hunt all about Behrend trivia, answer the random questions, and then get 100 signatures from students and faculty," continued Armady. "The first five couples to do this officially became homecoming court."

Tuesday continued to be another great day for Behrend's homecoming. The "Winter Fest" was sponsored by the Student Government Association and the Student Activity Fee, and included a bonfire and hot cocoa.

See **HOMECOMING** on page 2.

By Matthew Schwabenbauer
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Penn State Behrend saw its second annual drag show this past Thursday, when Trigon, the gay/straight alliance on campus, filled McGarvey Commons with over 300 people to be entertained by five drag queens.

The evening began with an introduction from the show's host: Glitter. The host first apologized for profanities that would be uttered throughout the event.

"I'm sorry if something slips out of my mouth," he said.

Glitter then addressed the crowd and took number of how many straight, gay and bisexual people were in attendance.

"I'm bisexual," said the host. "You buy me something and I'll get sexual."

A resident of the Pittsburgh area, Glitter has been doing drag for two years and also performed at the previous Drag Show held at Behrend. Before becoming a Drag Queen, Glitter was an ordained minister with the Salvation Army before he began doing drag.

"I was kicked out because I'm gay," Glitter said during the show. "All I ask is that you appreciate everyone around you."

After his introduction, Glitter passed the microphone onto another of the Queens, Akasha Lestat. He encouraged the crowd to be generous to the performers and stressed that, "tipping isn't just for cows."

Some of the audience members even joined in the cross-dressing.

See **DRAG** on page 4.

Late plastics professor remembered by students, faculty

By Marcus Yeagley
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"Mighty Marty" will be missed.

Martin Dropik, a 51-year-old professor of the Behrend plastics engineering department, died of a heart attack in his Erie, Pa. home on Nov. 13.

Well-respected and loved by friends, family and students, Dropik was known for his kind and welcoming demeanor. And his "little chuckle."

"He wasn't as much a professor as he was a friend," says Tim Farrell, a junior majoring in plastics engineering technology. He is currently in a thermodynamics class that Dropik was teaching this semester.

Dropik was born in Buffalo, N.Y. While living in Cheektowaga, N.Y., Dropik graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Buffalo with a Bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1979.

After graduation, Dropik got a job at Fisher-Price Toys in East Aurora, N.Y. It was there that he met his wife, Kathleen Stapleton. Both were engineers - he in plastics and her in product.

They soon married in 1984.

The teaching bug eventually bit Dropik. He took up a role as an adjunct professor for the Behrend plastics department, and left quite an impact.

"Everyone liked him," says Professor John Beaumont, the head of the plastics program at Behrend and a close family friend. "You never heard him say a bad thing about anybody."

After getting to know Dropik, Beaumont began to appreciate his connection with his students. He soon convinced Dropik to teach permanently.

See **PROFESSOR** on page 4.

Drag Queens rule McGarvey Commons



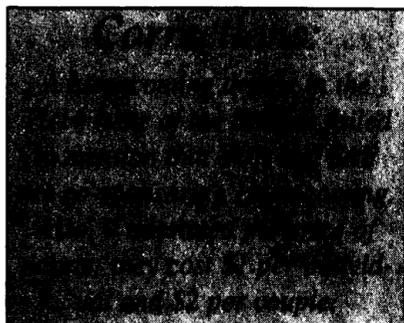
DANIEL SMITH / TheBehrendBeacon
A crowd of over 300 people were entertained by Drag Queens in McGarvey Commons on Thursday.

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Our offices are located downstairs
in the Reed Union Building.



Source: Weather.com

Friday: AM Snow will turn to periodic PM snow showers. 2-4 inches expected. High 28 F.

Saturday: Windy with afternoon snow showers. High 30 F.

Sunday: Windy with possible snow showers later. High 29 F.

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