

Weekly Political Ticker

ADAM SPINELLI
humanities editor

Secretary of Defense **Robert Gates** says that US is not leaving Iraq any time soon...New uranium enrichment facility discovered in Iran...UN set to probe the new facility by the end of the month...The Supreme Court began its first session with new Justice...**Sen. John Ensign** (R-NV) said he did not break the ethics code in helping the husband of the woman he had an affair with land a job...Vice President **Joe Biden** to campaign in New Jersey and Virginia for the Democratic Governors...**President Obama** is going to be the keynote speaker at the Human Rights Campaign's annual dinner this weekend...Poll on Facebook asking whether or not the President should be killed has come under fire from the Secret Service and the FBI...**President Obama** is set to meet with congressional leaders over Afghanistan...He has already met with his National Security team this past week about troop increases...**Beau Biden** is rumored to be running for the Senate Seat given up by his father **Joe Biden** when he was elected Vice President...Republican leaders are criticizing **Glenn Beck** for his recent remarks about the US and President Obama...Rep. **Alan Grayson** (D-FL) said on the floor of the House that the Republican health care plan is for the country to "not get sick, and if you do, die quickly"...he has come under much fire for his comments being called upon to apologize...former **McCain** campaign manager said that if **Sarah Palin** were nominated for President it could be "catastrophic"

On This Day in History: October 9th

1781: The last major battle of the Revolutionary war is fought in Yorktown, VA.

1919: The Cincinnati Reds won the World Series. Eight Chicago White Sox players were later charged with throwing the game. The incident is now known as "Black Sox" Scandal.

1936: The first generator at Boulder Dam transmitted electricity to California. The Dam is now called Hoover Dam.

1994: U.S. sent troops into the Persian Gulf in response to Saddam Hussein sending forces to the Kuwait border.

Forum

continued from front page.

While a majority of questions during the forum were related to Harborcreek schools and community development, several Behrend students were able to ask the supervisors questions pertaining more to our campus.

Student related questions included one asking about the process of building a sidewalk along Jordan Road that runs through campus, a heavily discussed topic among students and faculty here at Behrend.

May noted that commissions are at work on the idea of a sidewalk and could be finished with a plan near the end of October.

Smith acknowledged the amount of growth going on in our campus and noted of several ordinances that have taken focus on building a sidewalk along Jordan Road.

Brad Kovalcik brought up the question of furthering the identification of Penn State in the Harborcreek township. Including the naming of street names relevant to the Penn State community and addition of more signs that can help bring Behrend campus to the rest of Harborcreek.

Both candidates strongly supported the idea of identifying Penn State Behrend in the community, with candidate Tim Mays jokingly offering to name one of our streets "Joe Pa Drive."

Carolyn Barry, a senior majoring in economics and finance, brought up the

question of how the two supervisors will contribute to the development of business closer to and around the Behrend campus. Curtis Smith agrees and promises to strive to follow up and promote more business located around campus.

Tim Mays went more in depth by mentioning several traffic studies that have been conducted on the Bayfront Connector beside campus to determine the type of businesses that could thrive there. Although the state of the economy is making it extremely hard, he still plans to work on bringing business towards campus.

Zack Goncz, a senior here at Behrend and president of the Political Science Society, mentioned afterwards how this was the first forum that the Political Science Society and Student

Government Association actively got involved in.

"It was important for the PSS and SGA to take part in the forum and hopefully we can get more involved in the future" Goncz said.

Dr. Robert Speel, associate professor of political science here at Behrend thought that the debate went very well.

"There was a lot of good discussion of local issues, along with some controversy" Speel says, referring to argument that broke out early in the debate between Smith and a member of the audience.

"All students living at Behrend and University Gates also live in Harborcreek. Decisions local officers make about sidewalks, stores, and street names directly affect the Behrend community."

WOMEN'S STUDIES

Robyn Ochs speaking of equality

ALLI HEITZENRATER
humanities writer

Robyn Ochs, acclaimed writer, activist, and speaker will be speaking her presentation, "I Now Present You...Equal," at the Smith Chapel on Tuesday, October 20, 2009 at 7:30 pm.

Robyn Ochs travels across America frequently to inform groups of people about LGBT rights and issues, as well as her story of same-sex marriage.

According to her website, Robyn Ochs has taught at a number of different universities, including but not limited to Tufts University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

She has taught courses pertaining to Transgressing Binaries and Politics. For now, Ochs has taken a break from teaching and is doing her best to focus on her speaking tour and working towards same-sex

marriages.

Ochs' presentation is like a 101 course providing education about same-sex marriage.

In addition, throughout her powerful presentation, she discusses the social aspect of the issue and tells her emotional story of marrying her partner, and what it means to be emotionally, financially, and legally ready to be married.

On May 17, 2004, Ochs married her longtime partner, Peg Preble. It was the first day same-sex marriage was legal in the state of Massachusetts.

Ochs has had her work printed in Newsweek, Seventeen, the Washington Post and other outlets. She has been interviewed on Donahue, Maury Povich, Hour Magazine, and a variety of other television news programs.

Edited by Ochs, the first scholarly book about bisexual-

ity around the world. Getting Bi: Voices of Bisexuals Around the World, is being published in Chinese and Spanish editions later this year. Getting Bi is the second edition of the book se-

ries.

The event will have refreshments and is generously sponsored by Trigon, the Women's Studies Minor, and Women Today.



Contributed Photo

Robyn Ochs has made appearances on Donahue, Maury Povich, and Hour Magazine. She will come to Behrend on Oct. 20.

CREATIVE WRITING

Poet David Baker to visit Behrend

ANDREW TARR
humanities writer



Contributed Photo
Poet David Baker

Poet David Baker, professor of English at Denison University, will close the semester's Creative Writer's Speaker Series at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, with a reading on Thursday, October 22.

A reception for Baker will be held at 4:30 p.m. in the first floor living room of the college's Larry and Kathryn Smith Chapel. The reading will take place following the reception at 6 p.m. Both events are free and open to the public, and parking will be available in the Junker Center lot.

Baker has published nine books of poetry, including Never-Ending Birds, Midwest Eclogue, Treatise on Touch: Selected Poems, Changeable Thunder, The Truth About Small Towns, and After the Reunion.

His upbringing in the Midwest states has helped contribute to his works. He also published several books of criticism, including The Radiant Lyre: Essays on Lyrics Poetry and Heresy and the Ideal in Contemporary Poetry. He has received fellowships and awards from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, the Nation Endowment for the Arts, the Ohio Arts Council, the Poetry Society of America and others.

Poet Marilyn Hacker calls Baker "the most expansive and moving poet to come out of the American Midwest since James Wright."

Baker holds the Fordham Chair of Creative Writing at Denison University.

Penn State Behrend's annual Creative Writer's Speaker Series is produced by the college's School of Humanities and Social Sciences with support from the Clarence A. and Eugenie Baumann Smith Fund. The series will return in the spring semester to host poet Debra Nystrom on Thursday, April 15, literary nonfiction writer Brenda Miller on Thursday, April 22, and fiction writer Joanna Howard on Thursday April, 29.

Excerpt from Forced Bloom

By David Baker

Such pleasure one needs to make for oneself.

She has snipped the paltry forsythia to force the bloom, has cut each stem on the slant and sprinkled brown sugar in a vase,

so the wintered reeds will take their water. It hurts her to do this but she does it. When are we most ourselves, and when the least?

Last night, the man in the recessed doorway,

homeless or searching for something, or sought—

all he needed was one hand and quiet. The city around him was one small room.

He leaned into the dark portal, gray shade in a door, a shadow of himself.

His eyes were closed. His rhythm became him.

So we have shut our eyes, as dead or as other, and held the thought of another whose pleasure is need, face over a face...

CRIME, PSYCHOLOGY, AND PUBLIC POLICY

Behrend offers additional certificate

LASHEENA BARNES
humanities writer

The Crime, Psychology, and Public Policy Certificate (CRIMBC) brings the fields of political science and psychology together in an elegant mix courses. There is a relatively wide range of psychology classes and political science courses that fit into the curriculum, so you may be dangerously close to attaining the

certificate without even knowing it.

It is definitely something to look into for psychology and political science majors, who most likely already have most of the required courses. It is also of interest to those outside these majors who have interests in both fields.

The collaborative coursework introduces perhaps novel information useful in all fields and walks of life, whether di-

rectly or indirectly. You develop a better understanding of the criminal justice system, an understanding of human behavior, and cohesively, how criminal behavior originates and ways to treat and deal with it.

For psychology and political science majors though, it brings in some interesting skills that both majors will need later in their respective careers, whatever those turn out to be.

"People in psychology have

to understand criminal behavior, and by the same token, people in political science have to understand general human behavior in addition to mental illness in its many forms," says Cognitive Psychologist Dr. Dawn Blasko.

The two fields intertwine somewhat. There will be a bit of overlap anywhere you look. Anyone holding this certificate will have a little something extra to bring to the table.

What's hot this week:

Pop Chart:

"Use Somebody"
Kings Of Leon.
Only By The Night

Country Chart:

"American Ride"
Toby Keith.
American Ride

Rock Chart:

"Check My Brain"
Alice in Chains.
Black Gives Way to Blue

Hip Hop/R&B Chart:

"Pretty Wings"
Maxwell.
BLACKsummernights

Album:

Barbara Streisand
Love is the Answer

Message From The Editor:

In case you've been looking around and seeing the pink Hungry Howies pizza boxes, and have been wondering why they have them all of a sudden, October is National Breast Cancer awareness month. Breast cancer affects millions of women each year, as many students across campus unfortunately have seen first hand - myself included. So if you don't do it on a regular basis, now is your chance. It's your chance to thank your mom, sister, aunt, and any other female in your life. Now is your chance to tell these women in your life how much that they mean to you. Now is your chance to tell them how much you love them. Because yesterday is gone, and no one has promised tomorrow.

ADAM SPINELLI
Humanities and Social
Sciences Editor

School of H&SS: Upcoming Events

TUESDAY, OCT. 20
7:30 P.M.

Event: "I Now Pronounce You...EQUAL"
Speaker: Robyn Ochs, Author
Location: Smith Chapel
Note: 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, OCT. 22
4:30 P.M.

Event: Creative Writing Speaker Series
Speaker: David Baker, Poet
Location: Smith Chapel
Note: reception at 4:30pm and reading at 6pm

Own a piece of Behrend history.

To purchase photos printed in the Beacon or on the Beacon website, contact photoeditor@psu.edu.

Any student within the School of Humanities and Social Sciences benefits from involvement in a publication. The Beacon is currently recruiting writers for our new Humanities page, which covers all majors within the school.

What are you waiting for?

Cover news that you care about!

Communication Psychology

To write for the Humanities page, e-mail Humanities Editor Adam Spinelli at als5589@psu.edu.