



### Women's tennis

This weekend, the 13-4 women's tennis team seeks to cap their season with an AMCC Championship win.



Sports | 11

### Eerie Horror Fest

In its sixth year, the Eerie Horror Film Fest continues to grow  
Special report | 5

# BEHREND BEACON

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## FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE

# IFC President Mancini removed from office

CONNOR SATTELY  
editor-in-chief

Interfraternity Council (IFC) President Marc Mancini has been removed from office, leaving the club's leadership in question. The removal came from a majority vote of IFC's members in a closed meeting last Monday.

Stay up to date on all changes within IFC online at [www.thebehrendbeacon.com](http://www.thebehrendbeacon.com)

Members of IFC voted Mancini out of office after stating during the meeting that he had "not fulfilled duties," according to several students present at the time. IFC members also cancelled their following meeting, leaving the organization without a President for at least two weeks.

IFC is the governing body for the three officially recognized Penn State Behrend fraternities: Sigma Tau Gamma, Kappa Delta Rho, and Delta Chi. It sends a representative to the

Student Government Association which, until last week, was Mancini.

While many members of IFC refused to comment on the record, citing confidentiality, many agreed with Mancini in saying that the announcement came suddenly.

"I was not given any prior warning; nobody talked to me," said Mancini. "It was just stated that I was not fulfilling my duties."

Mancini says that comment may be based on two SGA meetings with he

missed this semester. One, he says, was due to flu, which caused him to miss classes and work for two weeks. The other was due to a miscommunication, which he says he later worked out with SGA.

Lindsey Hopkins Hall, the adviser for fraternities and sororities, also declined to comment regarding the impeachment and removal.

While there is still some confusion surrounding the surprise move against Mancini, students within the organiza-

tion say that the presidential position will be filled come on Oct. 19.

In addition, some members of IFC, who wished to remain anonymous due to confidentiality reasons, say that they also expect to add several executive positions to the club in coming weeks. Mancini says that this would reduce the amount of work of each executive board position has.

As for Mancini, he says he may stay involved with IFC in the future in another capacity, but is not sure yet.

## CAMPUS CONSTRUCTION

# Plans underway for new student fitness center

ALLY ORLANDO  
news editor

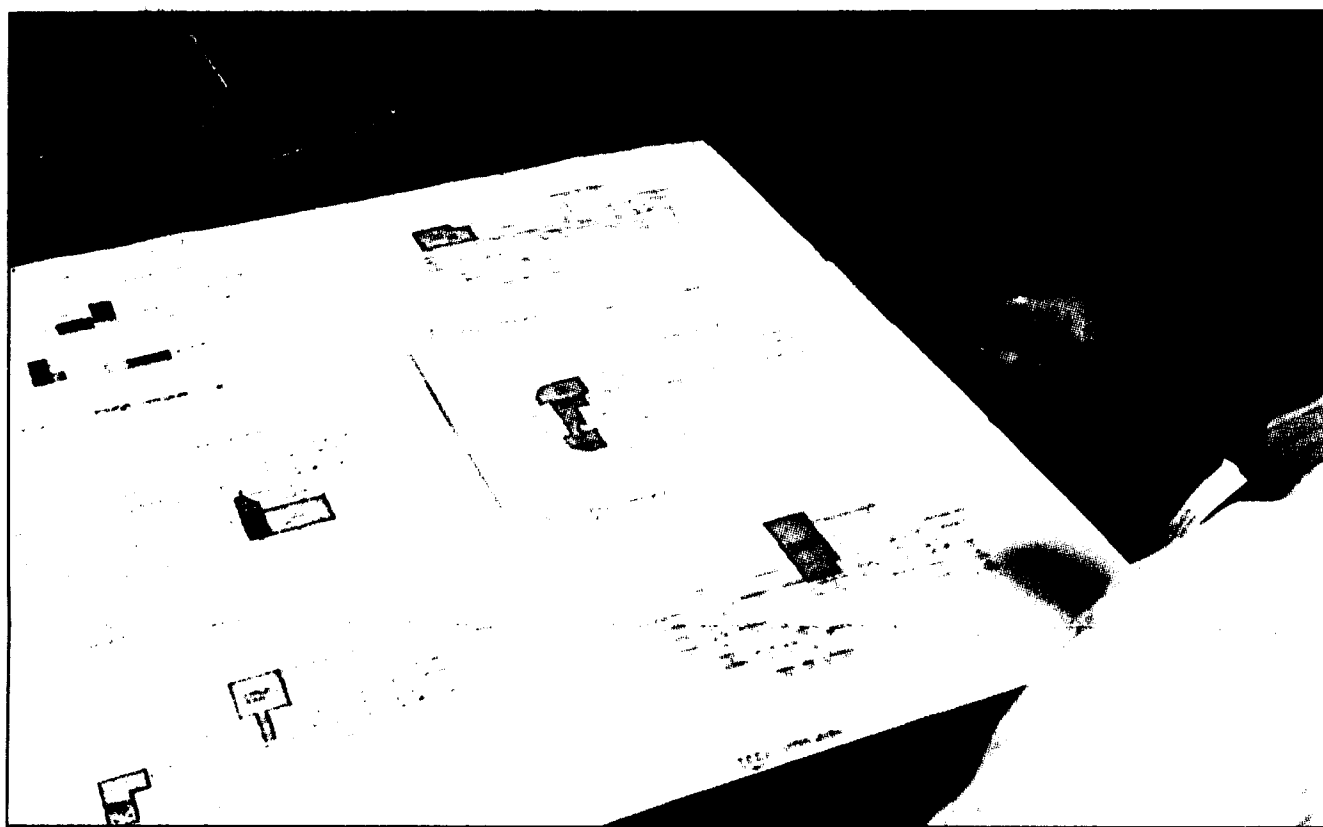
Plans for the location of Behrend's new fitness center in the Reed Union building are underway and are currently undergoing a feasibility study.

Although Chancellor Jack Burke has signed off on this project, planning is still in very early stages. Ken Miller, Director of Student Affairs, would like to give students an opportunity to have their say in the project. The feasibility study is expected to be completed by the end of the semester, at which point more information will be provided. The information will include what the fitness center will look like, what it will contain, its location, and equipment.

Miller said that the project is a pretty big ticket item. The center is expected to cost two-and-a-half million dollars.

"A million could be spent on fitness equipment, easily," said Miller. Because of the center's cost, Miller believes that it will take third financial priority to the convenience store, which should be finished by sometime in the 2010-2011 school year, and the new student lounge.

Out of the list of several possible options for placement of the new fitness center, Miller believes that the most promising are those that involve new construction rather than renovations.



Marcus Yeagley / The Behrend Beacon

Ken Miller, Director of Student Affairs, points out several places the fitness center may be placed in the Reed Union Building.

Miller said that building something new is much easier than tearing something down that already exists and then building something new on top of it. "You get more bang for your buck," says Miller.

The fitness center will be tied to the convenience store, according to Miller, because it doesn't make sense to pay the architect twice as much for the same project.

The architect working on the fitness center has had past experience with with this type of construction, working

on renovations of the local YMCA.

The architect expressed to Miller that he is interested in what people will see while they are working out in the fitness center. This idea was instrumental in planning the placement of the center, as it is expected to be two levels and made mostly of glass.

According to Miller, the center will also be complementary to the Jageman fitness center.

By adding another fitness center, students will be able to choose from two different fitness facilities. Stu-

dents will be able to go to whichever is more convenient. Miller said that the new fitness center will be more convenient for commuter students, who perhaps aren't as familiar with the campus.

"The plan for the [fitness] center is to have a smaller locker room area than Jageman, because most students prefer to get in, get out, and shower at their dorms," said Miller. "It will also include cardio machines such as stationary bikes and treadmills, but also weights."

## BREAKING NEWS

# Warning issued for students

CHRISTINE NEWBY  
managing editor

University officials are advising students to use the lighted walkways while traveling about the campus and maintain an awareness of surroundings.

According to a university press release, a female student was the victim of an indecent assault on campus on Oct. 13.

The man put his hands around the victim's waist, released her, and then fled northbound through the wooded area toward the Apartment Quad.

The press release encourages students to travel in pairs, particularly during nighttime hours. Police Services will provide an escort to any on-campus destination any time of the day or night. Security phones, often referred to as Blue Phones, are strategically located on campus so that, in the event of an emergency, help is just a call away. Students should notify Police Services if they observe anyone acting in a suspicious manner.

## ACADEMICS

# Greek grades at all-time high

CHRISTINE NEWBY  
managing editor

In the spring 2009 semester, fraternities and sororities accomplished something that has never been done in Behrend's history.

The overall grade point average for Greek students surpassed the all-undergraduate GPA, for the first time. Greek students recorded a 2.96 while the overall undergraduate GPA was a 2.89. The overall fraternity GPA tied the all men's GPA at 2.85. The overall sorority GPA was higher than the all-women's at 3.04 and 2.96, respectively.

"Greek GPA has never been higher than the undergraduate GPA," said Ken Miller, Director of Student Affairs.

Lindsey Hopkins Hall, Coordinator of Student Involvement and Fraternity and Sorority Life, said that she now has higher expectations for Greek students.

"Now that I know they can do it, I expect them to. Obviously from spring, they want to do well."

Five out of the six new member classes of both fraternities and sororities had a GPA above 3.0. Hopkins Hall said that this statistic was very impressive because the students did well academically while being involved with an organization.

First year freshman students are now able to join a fraternity and sorority. Miller said that the last time first semester students could join was fall 1992.

"First semester students who join this year need to have a good GPA," Miller said.

see GRADES, Page 3

## TRANSPORTATION

# Behrend may consider shuttle route to U Gate

MIKE O. WEHRER  
news editor

Penn State Behrend is revisiting the idea of having the Erie Metro Transit Authority (EMTA) provide shuttle service around campus and to University Gate Apartments.

According to Director of Student Affairs Ken Miller, the idea had previously been turned down because it would have been too expensive.

While the idea of a "campus loop" seems appealing, there are three dead ends on Behrend's campus that would prevent a bus or shuttle from making a continuous circuit. The EMTA would not want to have a bus go up and down College Dr., Aquarius Dr., and the road by Ohio and Almy.

Another reason that the idea was tabled in previous years was because of the ongoing construction at University Gate Apartments. Now that construction has finished, the idea of a shuttle service across the Bayfront Connector is being reconsidered.

Edinboro University currently con-

tracts with EMTA to provide their students with shuttle service around the campus and around the Edinboro community. According to the Edinboro University website, this service costs the university \$186,000 in operating costs each year. The service is also partially paid for by state grants.

If EMTA were to provide shuttle service at Behrend, the funding would likely come from the Student Activity Fee.

Currently, EMTA runs a bus from Erie to Behrend, and students pay the full price of \$1.10 each way.

In previous years, there was a shuttle that ran from Behrend to the Millcreek Mall, but it was discontinued due to low ridership.

"At the absolute lowest point, ridership was so low that it was costing Behrend almost \$20 per rider," said Miller. "The shuttle would so often make the trip empty or with a single student. The only time the bus was ever close to full was when a group of students would go see a movie at the mall."

In contrast, Edinboro estimates that total ridership for the entire year of 2008 was over 90,000. Edinboro also recently made improvements to their bus system so that students can con-

stantly know in real time where the "Edinboro Express" is located. This upgrade cost over \$475 million, and the money came from a discretionary state capital funding grant.



Marcus Yeagley / The Behrend Beacon

With construction at the University Gate Apartments complete, Behrend is revisiting the idea of having Erie Metro Transit Authority providing shuttle services.

PhotoReview.....	2
Fraternity and Sorority.....	3
Local/National.....	4
Eerie Horror Fest.....	5
Community .....	6

<b>index</b>	
Culture.....	7
Engineering.....	8
Science.....	9
Opinion.....	10
Sports.....	11-12



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## friday

41 36  
cloudy, windy, rainy

## saturday

46 37  
windy, rain likely

## sunday

49 39  
mostly cloudy

Matthew Alto, weather editor