

LOCAL NEWS

ERIE

Erie Police Chief Steve Franklin defended Erie's Bureau of Police use of overtime after meeting with members from Erie City Council.

Council members questioned the Police Chief after a recent investigation by Erie Times-News that found that \$1.44 million of the city's \$2.38 million overtime budget bill went to firefighters and police.

Franklin said that he has taken measures to lessen the need for overtime, such as asking if overnight incidents, outside normal hours, can wait until morning.

"But," Franklin said, "we cannot anticipate all events that will require overtime."

ERIE

Two residents from Erie were arrested on Tuesday on drug charges.

Police found over 342 marijuana plants in two rooms, complete with lights and ventilation,

in an upstairs apartment at 533 E. 23rd St. after the police received a tip.

The two suspects were charged with manufacturing, possession of drugs with intent to deliver, possession of drug paraphernalia, and conspiracy.

NEW WILMINGTON

A Mercer County woman was injured Tuesday in a head-on collision with a tractor-trailer.

A police report found that the woman, who was traveling north on Route 158, had swerved into the southbound lane after being distracted by texting.

This Week In History...

1919- Congress forms Grand Canyon National Park in Arizona.

1924- Trial against Hitler begins in Munich, Germany.

1930- First red and green traffic lights installed in Manhattan, New York.

1935- New York Yankees release Babe Ruth. He signs to Boston Braves.

1936- Military coup in Japan.

1938- First passenger ship equipped with radar

1942- Werner Heisenburger informs Nazis about uranium project "Wunder-Waffen".

1962- US Supreme Court disallows race separation on public transportation

1975- First televised kidney transplant on Today Show.

1983- Michael Jackson's "Thriller" album goes to #1 and stays #1 for 37 weeks.

1984- Pak Awang marries 80th spouse.

1990- U.S.S.R. agrees to withdraw all 73,500 from Czechoslovakia by July 1991.

1999- Oprah Winfrey beats Texas cattlemen in beef trial

2009- Former Serbian President Milan Mulutinovic is acquitted of war crimes during the Kosovo War.

World News



1. SeaWorld Trainer killed by whale in Florida

ORLANDO, FL. -- 40-year old Dawn Brancheau was killed on Wednesday, Feb. 24, around 2pm.

The senior animal trainer fell into the 35ft. deep holding tank in Shamu Stadium which held a killer whale that was named Tillikum.

This is not the first time that the park, and even Tillikum, has been involved in an incident such as this.

In 1999, a man who hid in the park and climbed into the holding tank after park hours was killed by the whale, who was unaccustomed to people being in his environment at that time. An investigation into this incident is ongoing.

2. Guantanamo Bay prisoner taken by Spain

MADRID, SPAIN -- A former Guantanamo prisoner was allowed into Spain on Wednesday.

This is one of five prisoners that are being relocated due to Pres. Obama's effort to close down the prison.

According to Interior Minister Alfredo Rubalcaba, the man identified as a Palestinian will be allowed to work and move around freely in the country, but not allowed to leave it.

3. Police clash with youth in Greece

ATHENS, GREECE -- Greek youth faced police and tear gas while demonstrations took

place on Wednesday.

The violent confrontations with police were not connected with the massive protests and strikes that occurred in response to an austerity program designed by the Greek government.

The program, which would trim pay and benefits to public workers, and include higher taxes, was met with fierce opposition from younger workers, who say they already pay high taxes. The violent clashes with police were reported to have been caused by "anarchists."

EDUCATION

Is a college diploma worth it?

ERIC PEIRCE
asst. news editor

When some of us arrived as freshmen, we saw ourselves walking out with a diploma in hand and jobs lined up, just waiting for us. But after our country's recent economic troubles, what can graduate students really expect to encounter in the job market today?

During the 1970s, the number of high school students who went on to college was only 47%.

In 2008, though, the number rose to a staggering 70 percent.

"There is a tremendous effort to push kids through," says Marty Nemko, a career and education expert who teaches at U.C. Berkeley's Graduate School of Education. "As a result, students who aren't skilled become degree holders, promoting a perception that among employers that higher education doesn't work."

Some attribute the high number of college graduates to the recently high number of grads with a diploma, which rose to a record high of 10.6 percent.

But others say that a college diploma hasn't lost its value.

John Pryer, the director of the Higher Education Research Institute, says that college students need more than just a diploma.

"Years ago, the bachelor's degree was the key to getting better jobs. Now you really need more than that."



Graduates may have more competition than they first thought

Wikimedia

Employers stress that while there are more graduates, that doesn't mean a degree is worth less.

Instead, graduates are encouraged to continue their education, but also gain more experience in the work force.

Daniel Pink, an author on motivation on

the workplace, says companies are looking for workers who can't be "outsourced" and "don't require a lot of handholding."

Pink also goes on to say that companies are now looking for applicants that have cognitive skills and have a sense of self-direction.

NATIONAL HEALTH

Major health breakthrough on micro-scale

ERIC PEIRCE
asst. news editor

If anyone can give an example of "great things come in small packages," it would be Prof. George Whitesides. On Thursday, the Harvard Professor introduced the public to a new way of diagnosing patients: A mini-'laboratory' that's the size of a penny.

This "mini-lab" prototype developed by Whitesides can be used to diagnose patients in Third-World countries. The diseases that could be diagnosed include HIV, malaria, tuberculosis, hepatitis, and gastroenteritis.

The ideas behind this new way of medical treatment were borrowed from the simple designs of mini-technology mentioned in comic books and computer chips. A patient takes a drop of blood and places it on one side of the mini paper, which is actually made up of several layers of paper.

The blood droplet saturates the ink on the paper, which then flows into "tree-like channels". The ink then reacts with the paper to create the diagnostic colors.

Besides telling what diseases the person has, it also says how much the disease(s) have progressed.

"The test can be compared to a pregnancy test," said Whitesides, "but these paper chips are much smaller and cheaper and can test for multiple diseases at once instead of just one." How

do people get results in countries where healthcare is minimal and the nearest doctor's office could be miles away in another town?

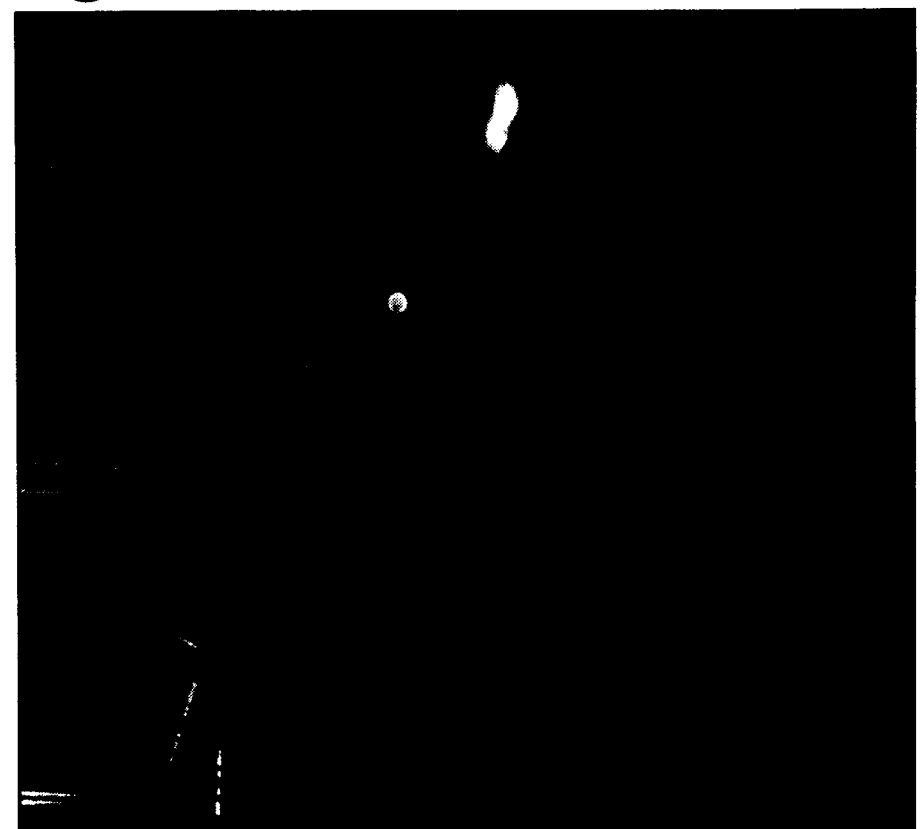
Whitesides has solved that problem too.

Since cell phones are exploding in popularity all over the world, the Harvard Professor has designed the chips to work in synch with cel phones. A patient would take a picture of the chip after revealing its' colors, then send the picture via text to the doctor's office. Whitesides is also working to develop a cell phone application that can automatically diagnose a patient's results in the event that a doctor is unavailable.

"After all," Whitesides said, "doctors are as scarce a resource as money is."

And besides doctors, countries that are still developing have one resource that is usually taken for granted: Electricity. Besides the testing chip being simple and easy to use, the cost of these chips are an eye-opener for not just poorer countries, but Western countries as well.

"Today, many people don't get the necessary diagnosis that will lead to access to the right treatment because diagnostic tests are, most of the time, out of pocket," stated Dr. Caby Vercauteren, coordinator of diagnostics and laboratory technologies of the World Health Organization. "People don't have the money to buy that. Therefore, often, diseases



U.S. Airforce

Doctors may soon have a new way to diagnose patients.

are not diagnosed or only diagnosed far too late." Yet problems could arise, such as the testing chips molding and resulting in a wrong diagnosis. But Dr. Ver-

cauteren says that these challenges can easily be overcome. This breakthrough in medical technology can put a new perspective on affordable health care.

BEACON ONLINE

The Beacon website, the-behrendbeacon.com, is your online source for campus news.

Constantly updated with new and breaking news stories, the website will feature immediate coverage of events as well as an archive of past articles in the Beacon.

We also offer a Twitter account, @behrendbeacon, which will be used to let students know of breaking news happening at the college: notification of important events about to begin, police reports at the campus, or developments not yet released to students by the college.

The site also offers an RSS feed, links to Erie resources, and Behrend students' blogs.

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"When a subject becomes totally obsolete we make it a required course."

-Peter Drucker

FACT OF THE WEEK

Fish can taste with their fins and tail as well as their mouth.

www.mentalfloss.com

CONTACT US

Our offices are located in the bottom floor of the Reed building, office 10H, down the hall from the mailroom.

TEL: (814) 899-6488

FAX: (814) 899-6019

The Behrend Beacon

4701 College Drive

Erie, PA 16563

Room 10H

If you have a news story for the Beacon or want to submit feedback, e-mail us:

editor: editor@psu.edu

news: rlt5065@psu.edu

opinion: opinion@psu.edu

sports: sports@psu.edu

culture: culture@psu.edu

website: editor@psu.edu

photos: photoeditor@psu.edu

advertising and business: behrendbeaconads@gmail.com