

19 FRIDAY 20 SATURDAY 21 SUNDAY

9:00 p.m. @ McGarvey Commons
Band- Saving Jane. Every 10th person gets free t-shirt

10:00 p.m. @ Reed 117
LEB Movie: *Blind Side*

7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m. @ Junker Center
Junior Olympic Volleyball Tournament

10:00 p.m. @ Reed 117
LEB Movie: *The Blind Side*

9:00-10:00 p.m. @ Bruno's
Comedian Esther Ku

2:00 - 4:00 p.m. @ Junker Center
Open swim

5:00 - 6:30 p.m. @ Smith Chapel
Campus Worship

7:30 - 8:30 p.m. @ Smith Chapel
Catholic Mass

Get on the calendar!

The Beacon is glad to display any events from any organization. Submissions are due the Wednesday by 5:00 p.m. for publication in that week's issue.

To submit an item for the calendar, send an e-mail with information or attachments to rit5063@psu.edu

While you should include all possible information, submissions may be edited due to space constraints. Please contact the Beacon for special requests.

22 MONDAY 23 TUESDAY 24 WEDNESDAY 25 THURSDAY 26 FRIDAY

7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
@ Junker Center
Junior Olympic Volleyball Tournament

6:00-8:00 p.m. @ Junker Center
Aerobics Classes

12:00 - 2:00 p.m. @ Junker Center
Open swim

11:30 - 1:00 a.m. @ Reed 113
Logan Series

5:00-5:30 p.m. @ Reed 003
THON Meeting

12:00 - 2:00 p.m. @ Junker Center
Open Swim

5:30 - 7:00 p.m.
@ REED 117
Behrend Idol
9:00 p.m. @ Reed 117
LEB Movie: *Nine*

8:00 p.m. @ McGarvey Commons
Band Kinsey Sicks

10:00 p.m. @ Reed 117
LEB Movie: *Nine*

2:00 - 4:00 p.m. @ Junker Center
Open Swimming

10:00 p.m. @ Reed 117
LEB Movie: *Nine*

TOPS soccer program kicks off once again

RACHELLE THOMPSON
news editor

On Wednesday night the Behrend TOPS Soccer Program celebrated its 10th anniversary with excitement.

Dan Perritano, the head men's soccer coach at Behrend, started the TOPS Soccer Program ten years ago with previous head women's soccer coach Patrick O'Driscoll.

Perritano, who is a father of special needs daughters thought it was something to bring to the Erie community.

"I saw the program at a coaching conference, 10 years ago or so and decided it would be good with Junker Center opening, it was something we could get started," Perritano said.

When spring rolls around, children involved get excited. What makes it so great and exciting is the volunteers.

To help make the program work are 60-70 committed volunteers, coming from athletics to students on campus.

"I heard about the program through some friends," said sophomore Alan Agouti. "I wanted to do it so I could help better myself and the community."

In order to be involved with TOPS the volunteers must meet three standards: to succeed, get enjoyment from their kids, and make a difference.

"Making sure the child is active, making sure you develop a good connection so the child is looking forward to seeing you next week and making sure you're meeting the recreational needs the parent has in mind for that child," Perritano said.



Behrend Students helped kids at all skill levels participate in TOPS soccer



TOPS managed to raise over \$100,000

Mrs. Hitches, a parent of one of the special needs children, says her boys know when it's coming up and get all ready for the night.

"Jordan is nonverbal, but you can tell he's excited to come," said Pam Hitches.

"Brett, he always makes sure what color is his shirt, who is his coach and where is his ball. It's a great program"

On the first night, Wednesday, students meet their kids, ages 3 - 24, their parents and discuss goals for the next six weeks.

After everyone is acquainted, it's time to play. For the hour and a half session, students and their children play various games throughout the gym and connect.

"You'll see all types of things going on. You can see tag games, duck duck goose, bowling, a lot of soccer and basketball. It's almost an open gym," Perritano said. "We want to meet the needs of the children."

The upcoming volunteers meet with their kids once a week, do various activities and create a connection, some-

thing Behring has done successfully. A total of 75 - 80 percent of children return every year.

More factors that help add success are the two generous donors of the program. For the past 6 - 7 years, the Kiwanis Club of East Erie and Sertoma Club of Erie give two grants that help run the program. This allows for free t-shirts and soccer balls for the kids.

With the popularity of the TOPS soccer program increasing, not everyone gets a chance to involve their children.

"I know a lot of parents who have been trying for a couple of years to get in the program because they have heard such great things about it. It's just really wonderful," Hitzges said.

"It gets the kids out, it gets them one-on-one time with a typical person. Plus, an hour and a half of physical activity that the parents don't have to be right there doing with them."

Culture Events

THE BLIND SIDE

LEB movie in Reed 117 at 10 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Admission is \$1. An movie chronicling Michael Oher, an offensive lineman for the Baltimore Ravens. After being in foster care, the would-be football star starts to chase his dreams while being supported by Sean Tuohy (Tim McGraw) and Leigh Anne Tuohy (Sandra Bullock).



COMEDIAN ESTHER KU

Comedian Esther Ku performs in Bruno's Cafe at 9 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27.

Ku has been a regular to the Boston International Comedy Festival and performed in the hit comedy *Shear Madness*.



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Difficulty: ★★★★★

Every row, column, and 3x3 section must contain the numbers 1 through 9.
A number may not be used more than once in the same row, column, or 3x3 section.

THIS WEEK'S SPORTS

*bold indicates a home game

FRIDAY, MARCH 19

- Men's baseball does a double-header against Pitt-Bradford and Thomas More at home starting at 1 p.m.

-Men's Tennis takes on Pitt-Bradford at 5 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 20

-Women's water polo takes on competition at home at TBA.

TUESDAY, MARCH 23

-Men's tennis takes on Pitt-Greensburg on home-ground at 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

-Women's water polo take on Gannon on home turf at 7 p.m.

-Men's tennis travel to take on Franciscan at 4 p.m.

-Men's baseball travels to take on Fredonia at 2 p.m.



The Beacon is accepting applications for staff writer positions for the Spring 2010 semester.

Paid positions for staff writers are available.

Apply online at:

www.thebehrendbeacon.com/joinus.php