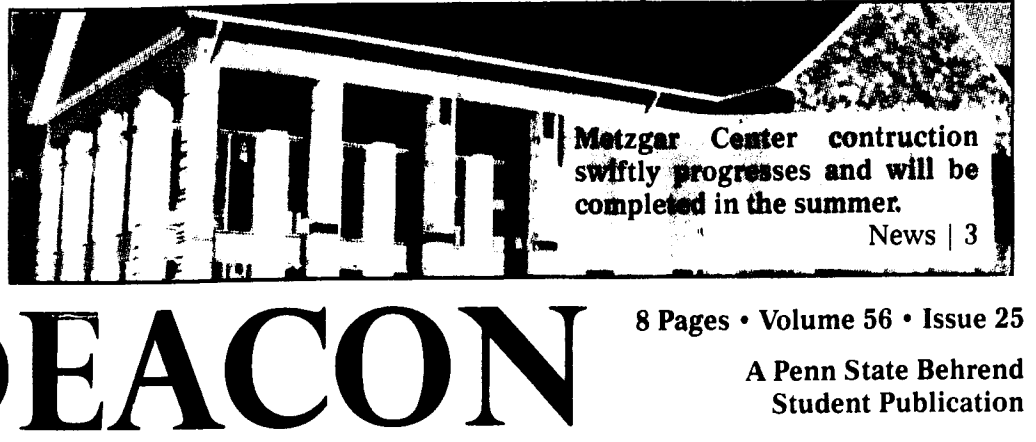




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# BEHREND BEACON

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## Incoming chancellor Birx coming ready to listen

MARCUS YEAGLEY  
head copy editor



Chancellor Birx  
University of Houston Comm. Dept.

Incoming Behrend chancellor Donald Birx says he doesn't want rigid goals in mind when he begins his new job.

He wants to listen. "What I really want to do is sit down with everyone and, together, come to a series of ac-

tions we want to take to move Penn State Behrend forward," Birx says.

Birx says that he doesn't want to get "too far out there" on goals.

"To be honest with you, to say 'these are the goals' from outside, knowing only what I know from outside, not having engaged in brainstorming sessions, having only heard a few people talk...I just want to hold off on that."

Over the first three to six months, Birx wants to focus the university together.

"I want emphasis on getting together and trying to figure out what the problems are for Behrend, getting everyone's

viewpoints together for Behrend, coming up with solutions we can all agree on.

"Ideas won't be the greatest limitation," Birx says. "Resources will be."

"The question is how we focus those resources"

Above all, Birx says that the strengths of Behrend are something to respect, and work to expand.

"Jack Burke has set the tone in relations with students," he said. "That is going to continue."

Behrend, he says, is already a "extremely impressive" university, which he

seeks to build from.

Birx received a bachelor's degree in engineering from the Univ. of California, Berkeley; a MBA and master's of science in bio-physics from Miami University in Ohio; and a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the Univ. of Dayton.

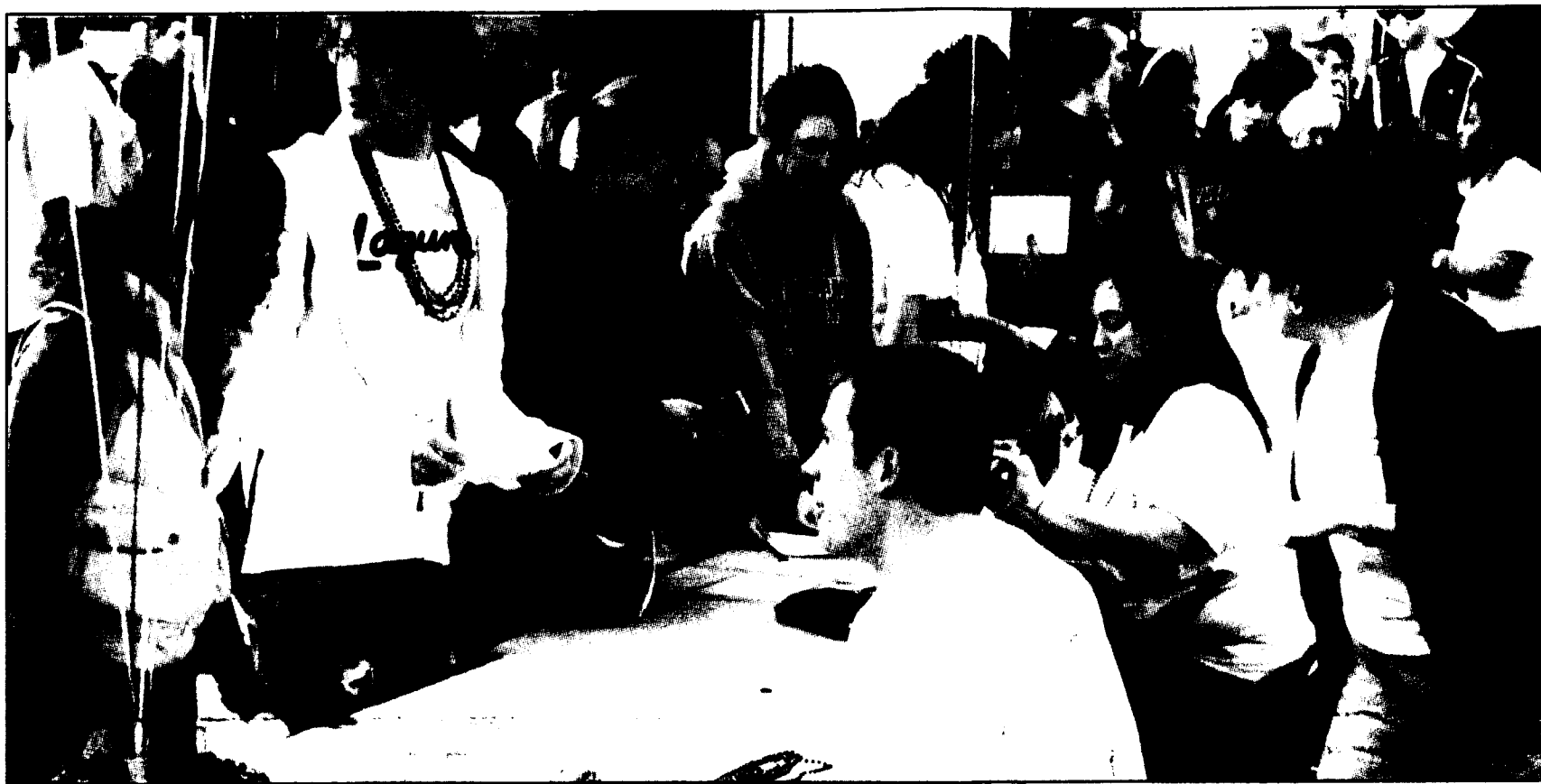
He will move to Erie over the summer, with his family. His daughter, currently a junior in high school, will likely seek to attend Behrend for biology. His son is looking into Behrend also, for engineering.

"And we're all winter sports people," he said. "We can't wait to get up there."



Daniel Smith / The Behrend Beacon  
Sophomore Kim Pol gave blood along with 123 other donors.

## Breastival Testival draws hundreds in McGarvey Commons



Daniel Smith / The Behrend Beacon

Breastival Testival, held in McGarvey Commons on March 30, helped to spread awareness of breast and testicular cancer while entertaining students.

# Test Yourself

CAROLYN ZAFFINO  
staff writer

Hamot Medical Center, the Office of Student Activities, the School of Nursing, and a few other local organizations held a mini-cancer awareness festival Tuesday in the McGarvey Commons, known as the Breastival Testival.

The room was packed with students all interested in finding out the meaning behind the name.

There was a long wait in line before participants could enter McGarvey Commons. According to a recent count, 506 people attended and walked away having learned at least one thing about breast or testicular cancer.

"I had no idea girls were supposed to start self checking for breast cancer at 20 years old," said Amanda Snyder.

The breast and testicular cancer tables were separated and each had trivia questions on them. Each person got a stamp in your "passport," which he or she received upon entering the festi-

val, for each station visited.

If he or she received a stamp from all 18 stations, they were entered into a drawing for a television and other prizes. Students were also handed tickets they could later use for the Chinese auction.

In addition to the auction and drawings, they also handed out "booby" prizes. Along with these, games were set up to keep students occupied if the tables were crowded. There was "pink" pong, Ta-Ta Toss, Plinko and "Can You Feel the Lumps?"

Not only were the games there to occupy time, but they also added to the overall experience and made it more memorable.

"What I liked about this event was that it raised our awareness of breast and testicular cancer. It made it stick because they did it in a fun method," Kymberly McClellan said.

McClellan also said that this is something she will go home and inform her family about.

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## Students help save lives in blood drive

### Blood demand increases after shortage in Northwestern PA

ERIC PEIRCE  
asst. news editor

Behrend students have always been generous to the Erie community. In the past, money has been raised and time spent to help out with the city of Erie.

When Behrend students were asked to donate blood to local blood banks, they were more than willing to roll up their sleeves and face the dreaded needle on Friday.

The Community Blood Bank of Erie had 124 donors donate 110 units of blood that was safe for use.

"That is outstanding, and especially impressive was that there were so few deferrals," said Deanna Renaud, Mobile Drive Coordinator for Erie's Community Blood Bank. "What: Blood Drive Where: McGarvey Commons When: Friday, March 26 Why: Up to 330 lives can be saved!"

According to Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center, one unit of blood can help save the lives of up to three separate patients, which means that over 330 lives may be saved by Behrend students.

This blood drive is especially important since a sudden blood shortage occurred last weekend in northwestern Pennsylvania.

But this is not the first time things got "bloody" for Behrend students. Last semester, another blood drive was held that was also met with unexpected high number of participants.

Behrend was one of the few colleges around Erie that was conducting blood drives last week for the Community Blood Bank.

"This was an enormous help to the local blood supply, which we have been working to bring back to appropriate levels for a couple weeks now," Renaud said.

"Everyone here was very relieved to see so many units pour in on Friday!"

## Women's water polo defeats Utica College, 7-3

ELESE MERKOVSKY  
senior reporter

The women's water polo team beat Utica College, 7-3, on March 26. This is their first win in two years.

The team made a trek to Illinois over the past weekend, and competed against some talented opponents in the Wheaton Invitational.

The team had played against Wheaton, Utica, Connecticut College, Carthage, and Macalester. These teams ranged from the states Illinois, New York, Connecticut, Minnesota, and Wis-

consin.

Goals were recorded from a variety of players, showing the diverse talent of the team. Stefanie Pontillo, Maryellen Spooner, Danielle Wilson, Tegan Boland, Kendal Duffy, Kim Ballentine, and Annie Lawrence all recorded goals during the match.

"We don't really have any top players. We all work as a team which makes us even closer," Pontillo said.

Pontillo, a freshman, helped Behrend to success and competed in each game.

The match against Utica proved that Behrend had what it takes to record a

win.

"It was a good game and challenged us all. We were all very excited for our first win," Pontillo said.

The trip was not only successful due to the win and the chance to play high quality teams, but it also helped the team bond.

This was the team's second longest road trip, second only to a trip to California over Behrend's Spring Break.

The team really enjoyed the chance to get out of Erie and spend time in the city of Chicago.

"We had a lot of team bonding, and

also we got our first win which made the long trip worth while," said Pontillo.

Head Coach Joe Tristen expressed much excitement for the season. Bringing in four new freshmen and having experienced older players help strengthen Behrend's team.

"I believe we will contend for a good spot at the championships and will look to be competitive," said Tristen, according to PSBlions.com.

Behrend Lions are looking forward to their next trip, which will be in New London, Connecticut for the CWPA Regional Tournament.

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friday 68/54 partly cloudy

saturday 69/49 mostly cloudy

sunday 54/46 partly cloudy