

Faculty defeats seniors 65-63 in the 5th annual Swishes for Wishes basketball game benefiting Make-A-Wish.

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Women's water polo notches two wins at CWPA regional tournament in New London, Conn. last weekend.

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## New top official for H&SS

### School selects Queens College professor for Director post

RACHELLE THOMPSON  
news editor  
SHANNON EHRAIN  
culture editor

Dr. Steven Hicks, Chair Professor of Philosophy at Queens College, was announced as the new Director of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences on Thursday.

"One thing that attracted me to the position as it was advertised is that it seemed to be a very good match for my qualifications," said Hicks. "I was



Professor Steven Hicks

pleasantly surprised; it was gratifying to know that the faculty and staff had confidence in my ability to take over as the director," said Hicks.

Dr. John Gamble, Distinguished Professor of Political Science and International Relations and the chair of the Director search committee, believes that white Hicks will have to adjust to changes in the school,

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## BERGER AND WHITE TAKE THE REINS



Steven Burger and Hannah White, above, will be the SGA President and Vice President next year.

### Contested race sees 30% increase in voting

CONNOR SATTELY  
editor-in-chief

A race which saw 14 students running for only ten spots as upperclassmen senators has drawn over 600 votes, nearly a 30 percent increase from last year's total.

Stephen Burger and Hannah White, both juniors, won the uncontested race for President and Vice President, respectively. They ran on the same ticket. Burger is a finance major, and White is a biology major.

Briana Newstrom, a junior psychology major, was elected to the position of Secretary.

Harshal Patel, a sixth semester supply chain and information systems major, was

elected to the position of University Faculty Senate Representative.

Elected to the contested position of Senator were Ryan Frankowski (freshman - Industrial Engineering), Alli Heitzenrater (sophomore - Creative Writing), Cassie Kosmal (sophomore - Business), Aaron Morelli (freshman - Business), Devin Pierre (sophomore - Undecided), Jake Randolph (junior - Marketing), Aharon Robinson (freshman - Business), Jennifer Slane (freshman - Psychology), Andrew Sywyj (freshman - Business), and Ryan Voris (freshman - Computer Science).

"Steve and Hannah are going to do a great job next year," says current SGA President Brad Kovalcik.



Daniel Smith / The Behrend Beacon  
A fire emergency worker prepares to enter the brush.

## Emergency crews fight Behrend brush fire

CONNOR SATTELY  
editor-in-chief

Firefighters have extinguished a brush fire at Penn State Behrend which ignited in brush by the Behrend Fields shortly after 6:00 p.m., according to fire officials.

"We are not sure where it started or how it started," said Brookside Fire Company Fire Chief Kevin Tobin. No injuries were reported.

"It was a hundred [feet] by sixty [feet] brush fire," said Tobin, located on the side of a steep ravine between the Nick Building parking lot and the Behrend fields.

"Being on the side of the ravine, most fire apparatus can't fit to get back here. That's the biggest issue."

Companies from Kuhl Hose and Brookside reported to the scene, bringing brush trucks, which are smaller emergency vehicles that have extra maneuverability built for dealing with

such emergencies.

Christina Nguyen, a freshman majoring in health policy administration, was on the nearby fields for an intramural soccer game when the fire began.

"We saw smoke coming from the woods right next to the field, so we all went over to where the fire was to see what was going on," she said. "[The brush] was on fire, and it was a pretty decent-sized fire."

By the time Nguyen got to the border between the fields and the woods, emergency crews were on the scene.

She said that most students at the Behrend fields were playing on fields which were a safe distance away from the fire, so police and fire crews did not instruct them to leave the area. The students did eventually leave, though.

"After a few minutes it was so smoky that you couldn't bear it," she said, "so you had to walk away anyway."

## "THESE AWARDS GIVE STUDENTS SOMETHING TO ASPIRE FOR, AND WORK TOWARDS."



## Fraternities and Sororities recognized for outstanding service

ALLY ORLANDO  
news editor

Day in and day out, hundreds of students at Behrend toiled all year to improve their campus community. On Tuesday, many of them were honored at the Order of Omega and Interfraternity & Panhellenic Councils Greek Awards Ceremony, which recognized students for 2009 work.

According to Lauralee Geci, President of Order of Omega, the awards ceremony's purpose is to "recognize outstanding individual and chapter achievement in the areas of leadership,

scholarship, community service, philanthropy, chapter programming, brotherhood and sisterhood within Behrend's Greek community."

"The Greek awards have really turned into a spectacular evening," said Lindsey Hopkins Hall, Coordinator of Student Involvement and Fraternity and Sorority Life. "It is wonderful to see so many fraternity and sorority members and campus community members come to celebrate their accomplishments."

"This is really their time to shine and show off their accomplishments."

See a full list of awards on Page 7.



## Sonney faces criticism over PSU comments

CONNOR SATTELY  
editor-in-chief

State Representative Curt Sonney (R-Harborcreek) is facing harsh criticism from his opposing party following comments he made at an open forum in Erie on Tuesday.

Democrats, including Gerald Price, who is running against Sonney in the fall elections, claim that Sonney said he would cut Penn State University funding by 20 percent.

"I asked him [if he were Governor] what budget cuts he would make," said Price. "Without hesitation, the first thing out of his mouth was 'I will cut Penn State University funding by 20 percent.'"

Sonney, however, says that the allegations are being made on a comment taken out of context.

"I have no intentions whatsoever of cutting Penn State funding," said Sonney, who has



Top: Current Representative Curt Sonney

Bottom: Democratic Challenger Gerald Price

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