

## Loss

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anything like that."

For Harding, it was that closeness which highlighted Loss as one of the most influential people of his college career.

"He really cared about his students," Harding said. "Out of a class of 100, he'd know 95 names. He took a personal interest in every student he had. That's what drew me to him in the first place.

"And you always knew he'd be the same person every time," he said. "You could talk to him on campus about class and have the same result as you'd have sitting at his house with a cup of coffee. You knew he'd be straightforward, genuine, and never putting on any other persona."

Dr. Loss is survived by a wife of 43 years, Dr. Suzanne Loss, as well as two dang hers, a son, five granddaughters two grandsons and a generation of Penn State Behrend students who will always remember his dedication to their education.

# Behrend plans for new fitness center

**EVAN KOSER** senior layout editor

Hour-long waits are not unusual for those who frequent the fitness center within the Junker Center during peak hours of usage. For those unused to waiting for equipment, the wait can sometimes be a detriment and even hard to plan around on an already academically tight schedule.

With the amount of renovation and construction happening on campus currently, many students find themselves wondering when new gym space might pop up. According to Ken Miller, Director of Student Affairs, new facilities might only be five years off.

"The timeline could be shortened if we are able to identify a donor who may want to name

"If the College chose to add tultion dollars to it, or if our enrollment increased dramatically in the next few years," Miller said, then the fa-

cility would be available sooner rather than

Tentative plans have the new fitness center stationed in the empty space above the Wintergreen Garden just outside of McGarvey Commons. This space, which currently allows students an overview from the balcony outside of Bruno's, could accommodate the needs of all students, placing a fitness center in the middle of campus.

#### **Quick hits: Fitness Center**

**Who:** Student Activity Facility Fees Committee What: A new on-campus fitness center Where: Tentatively, in Reed Union Building When: Likely five years away. Why should anyone care: We're all sick of waiting for treadmills at the Junker Center, aren't we?

"The fitness center will compliment the Jageman Fitness Room [in Junker]," said Miller. "Although the exact details are yet to be worked out, they would share some commonalities such as treadmills and free weights."

While Miller wants to meet the growing needs of students, he does not want to rush the process of creating the facility. Even the proposed location needs to be looked over by contractors and architects. Determining whether or not to have the two fitness centers overlap in functionality is also a concern.

"The center would be open later hours than Jageman," he said, "and provide them a work out option when classes are held in Jageman which is eight to noon Monday through Friday.'

The proposed center comes next on a list of construction and renovation projects at Behrend. The information was gathered based upon a polling of students to see what new facilities students wanted to see on campus. The fitness center placed seventh.

## **Founding faculty Louis** Balmer, 93, passes away

**AMANDA STETZ** contributing write

A piece of Behrend was lost when Louis Balmer, 93, a former faculty member of Penn State Behrend, died July 26 2010 in his Erie home on Jordan Road.

Balmer was one of the first professors hired at Behrend, teaching chemistry to the first Penn State Behrend students in 1948.

While Balmer was dedicated to his work in the classroom and helping his students succeed in chemistry, he was also active in campus life on Behrend outside of the classroom, including major construction projects on Behrend.

Current students may be familiar with the outdoor pool that sits outside of Glenhill Farmhouse. While he and his wife lived in the Carriage House on campus during his first years, he and other faculty members took the responsibility of cleaning and maintaining the pool during the spring and summer.

To better the education of the growing Behrend campus, Balmer was on the team that designed the Otto Behrend Science building in 1962 when the Behrend started its expansion of classrooms.

Balmer family still involved themselves with Behrend and its students.

In 2007, Balmer and his wife, Evelyn, established the Louis W. and Evelyn H. Balmer Trustee scholarship for students at Behrend who wished to



From left: previous Behrend Chancellor Jack Burke; Lou Balmer; and Balmer's wife, Evelyn Balmer.

study chemistry.

Balmer also kept active in the community by volunteering with the Boy Scouts of America, and was a member of the American Chemical Society for 69 years.

Born November 25, 1916, in Ard-After his retirement in 1982, the more, Pa, Balmer attended Wagner College in Staton Island, New York to earn a Bachelor of Science in physics. He served in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in World War II. Balmer later attended Penn State University Park for a masters in Education.





# Amber: remembering a friend

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Before long, though, Ley found the tables turned in the mentor-mentee relationship.

"With Amber, it didn't matter who you were, she was there to look out for you. Looking back, I think we all learned so much more from her than

Amber was heavily involved on campus, and was a member of Alpha Sigma Alpha, the College Republicans, Women Today, the Political Science Club, and the Panhellenic Council, serving as ASA's representa-

"For people like Amber, who are involved to that intent, it's not an obligation," said Ley. "It's just you hanging out with your friends, and you happen to be doing a fundraiser, or organizing

an event.' News of the summer tragedy hit hard, but wasn't an event that destroved. In fact, it was what Ley calls "tragically beautiful."

"Everyone put aside petty arguments and disputes," she said, "and really came together. The support from our national organization and from ASA chapters from other schools was



Amber (far right) was heavily involved in campus life, particularly her sorority.

incredible. I came back to 30 cards from other schools."

Looking to the future without such an important part of daily life will be difficult, but Ley knows it's time to move on.

"I think we all kind of got the sorrow over with at the funeral. But we came into this year for her. It's positive steps forward from here on out. "She's always with us."

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## THIS WEEK'S WEATHER

monday

partly cloudy

tuesday

mostly sunny

isolated t-storms

wednesday thursday

partly cloudy