

COMMENTARY

# Erie offers endless hunting and fishing options

JAMES WADE  
*Outdoors, fishing, & hunting columnist*

Paradise to me is not a sunny beach in the Bahamas, or even the scenic Hawaiian Islands. Paradise to me is 30 degrees, snow in my beard, gun in my hands, no cell phone reception, and miles away from my car.

My names James Wade and I absolutely love the outdoors. I have been hunting and fishing all of my life and feel privileged to have an outdoor column in the Behrend Beacon.

There are not many colleges that

can say that they are within seven miles of state game lands and within ten miles of some of the best steelhead fishing in the country.

Penn State Behrend has so many outdoor opportunities awaiting a student on any given day. These are also some of the factors that helped me decide to stay at Penn State Behrend.

I find myself in a predicament each weekend, due to the fact that I do not know what to do. I could start the morning off going pheasant hunting until 11 a.m. get lunch and go steelhead fishing until dark. Or maybe I should take my bow out

for the morning and then go chase grouse and squirrels in the game lands. The opportunities are endless here in Erie. This time of the year I love to go fishing.

Each fall tens of thousands of steelhead from the lake swim upstream to spawn and die. The average fish weighs between four to eight pounds, although ten pound plus fish are out there. I caught a 12.6 pound fish this fall! To fish for these fish you must have a PA fishing license along with a trout stamp, and an Erie stamp.

To catch these fish an angler must be patient and persistent. The

biggest pointer I have learned fishing for these monsters is accuracy of your cast. The cast is so critical to fishing for chrome. You want to place your bait at least five feet in front of the fish and let the bait drift naturally towards the fish. I find that the best baits to use are minnows, egg sacks, grubs, night crawlers, and flies. The fish will almost eat anything; it just depends on the water conditions.

While the fishing is good, the hunting is just starting. With small game in full swing now in November there is so much to hunt. I have been hunting for turkeys, pheas-

ants, squirrels, and ducks all in the last month. The State Game Lands offer such a diverse habitat, which holds all a variety of species of small game.

So whether you want to fish or hunt, Erie has it all within a short distance of campus.

Its just having the time and right equipment that make any Saturday or Sunday, into a day that you will always look forward to! Look forward to next week's article on Pennsylvania Black Bear Hunting, and if you take to the field or the stream, be safe, and practice proper sportsman behavior.

## Record-Breaking: Water Polo program start turning things around

*Continued from front page*

program move forward."

Some members of the team, including Dunleavy, had no idea that the team was even close to a school record, let alone breaking one. The team was extremely excited to hear the news, and they hope to continue breaking records and improving in the years to come. Dunleavy also said that finding out that the

team had broken a record was the best end to the season that they could ask for.

The team hopes to continue to improve next season, their goal is to break this year's record and more. Tristan hopes to recruit another great class of freshman to help the team improve. Tristan also hopes to gain more out of their practices, improve dynamics, and game strategy.

They have a tremendous amount of potential and to

bring in more great players would be icing on the cake for this team. They are certainly on their way to another season of success.

"It's awesome to see that we are moving forward! It shows that our team is on a great path of success!" Tristan said.

This young team has picked up momentum and should be exciting to watch in the future.

## IT'S COMING.

The second improv night of the semester is just around the corner.

WHOSE LINE IS IT ANYWAY?



Play in the games that you see on Whose Line Is It Anyway, and you can be as popular as Wayne Brady. Or as unpopular as Drew Carey.

(we suggest the Wayne Brady route.)

Watch for posters and announcements on the Matchbox Players OrgSync group for the date and time!

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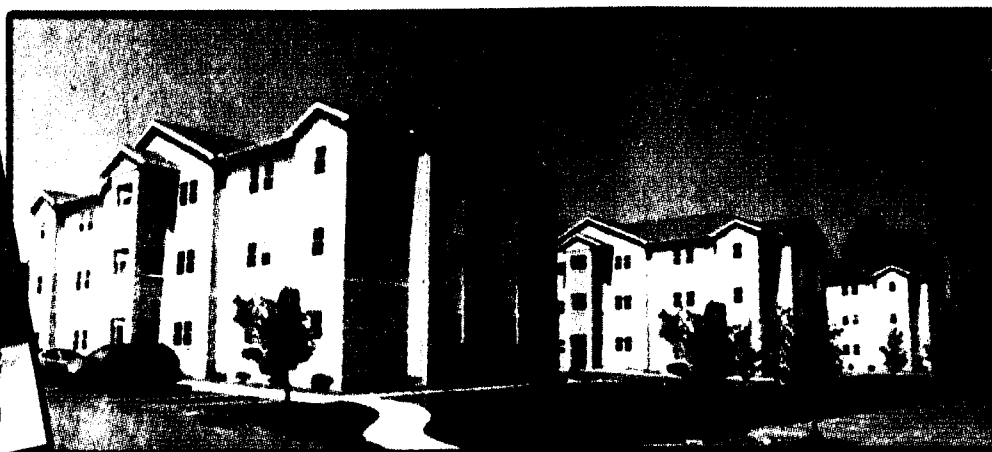
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