

Behrend Briefs

Attention All Students: All full-time students do have...

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EDU Education Award: The Learning Assistance Center...

The 1994-1995...

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Tutoring at Diehl Elementary Students as teachers

A partnership was formed several years ago between Penn State-Behrend and another local school.

Located three and a half miles from Behrend, Diehl Elementary School has approximately 300 students. A significant number of those students are considered academically at-risk or in danger of failing due to poor attendance, low achievement scores and failing grades.

According to Barry Kohler, graduate intern at the Learning Assistance Center, the students have the ability but are not working up to their potential.

Philip Rewers, principal of Diehl said, "Some children lost interest (in learning) as early as third grade."

In cooperation, Behrend and Diehl invented a program in response to the issue.

According to Kohler, the assumption behind the program is that early intervention through one-on-one tutoring, role models, incentives, special activities and field trips can reduce the number of at-risk students and change their attitude about learning.

The partnership also includes the Adopt-A-Class program, Student of the Week, and honors lunches.

"Unlike business and school partnerships that invest financial capital, ours invests a wealth of human capital," said Mari Trenkle, support programs coordinator responsible for Behrend's participation in the Adopt-A-School program since its inception.

The program at Diehl not only provides growth for the students, but for the college tutors as well.

make a difference in a child's life," said Kohler.

Trenkle agreed that the tutoring helps the college students.

"Behrend students have told me that working with these children has helped to ease the daily stresses they face at college. They forget their problems when working with the kids," said Trenkle.

Behrend also provides support for organizations to become involved in the Adopt-A-Class program.

Organizations may adopt a class to tutor. Kohler said that through adopting a class an organization may help a child succeed at school and later in life.

Applications are available for both interested individuals and organizations in the Student Activities Office.

Published H&SS works

CONTD. FROM PAGE 1

Morris said the book was Baldwin's idea and is "intended for students and teachers as a reference work."

Baldwin wrote a special section for the book about what critics have said over the years about short stories in general and what they have said about specific short stories.

Baldwin said, "It was wonderful to read a lot of criticisms otherwise we would never have read all this stuff."

"It was a matter of educating yourself," Morris added.

Writing together as co-authors worked well Morris said "because of the nature of the book."

"We had a referee if there had been any conflicts," Baldwin said.

Baldwin and Morris may have co-authored a book of criticisms of short stories, but they hold different views concerning the status of short stories.

"A lot of fine writers are producing a lot of fine short stories," Morris said. "The critical community has turned its attention to the short story and it's a healthy genre."

Baldwin said, "I wouldn't deny any of that (of what Morris said); it's all true. However, the journals that publish short stories are all academic journals and they're only read by other writers of short stories."

He continued, "There is a dwindled audience for short stories and the danger is that the interest there is highly academic and incestuous."

As for future publications written together, Baldwin said he would like to write an "introduction book of the short story" with Morris.

Baldwin also said that if their current book sells, "they (the publishers) may ask us to update it in five years or so."

Fernandez-Jimenez, professor of Spanish, has published his

sixth book as editor of the play, "Faustino," by author Emilio Lopez Medina.

Fernandez-Jimenez developed footnotes to help students comprehend the Spanish-written play. His footnotes are also written in Spanish.

"The play is a comedy of some sort about a young man who's about to take a big examination to get a job. He's so uptight he's drinking a lot so his fiancée and friends play a trick on him," Fernandez-Jimenez said.

On November 2, which is All Souls' Day, "they appear to him as the 'hell court' and another group as the angels," he continued.

"Faustino," in Fernandez-Jimenez's annotated form, is currently being used in Spain's University of Jaen in the city of Grenada.

Fernandez-Jimenez is also the editor of the Cuadernos de Aldeu (Genre of the Association of Spanish Professionals in

America) magazine.

The magazine, which is written in Spanish, is a bi-annual publication.

In the July edition, Fernandez-Jimenez authored three articles in a special section titled "The Celebration of Week of Jaen in Washington, D.C."

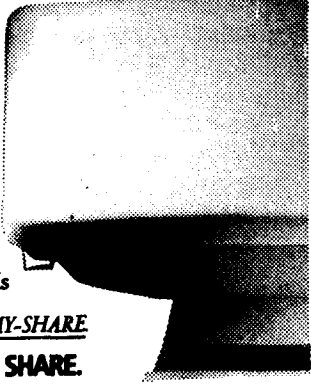
Jaen, a province in Spain and home to Fernandez-Jimenez, "brought political, business, commercial, and cultural leaders for a week (in April) to expose the particular aspects of this province in Washington."

Fernandez-Jimenez's articles include a "chronicle of what happened" during the week-long event in Washington, a "panoramic expose of the province in its cultural and economic point of view," and a "menu of the specific food of the province," he said.

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