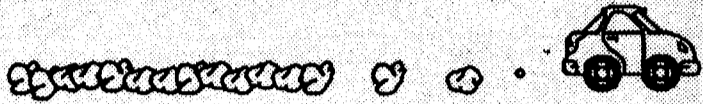


Behrend Briefs

COMMENCEMENT

Commencement for summer and fall 1996 graduates is scheduled for Sunday, December 15, 1996 at 12:00 noon in Erie Hall (snow date - December 16). Orders for caps and gowns must be placed at the Bookstore no later than October 11, 1996.

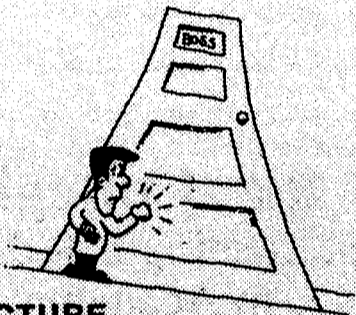


ETHERNET CARDS NOW AVAILABLE!

Ethernet cards for IBM-Compatible and Pentium computers (including laptops) are now available at the Bookstore. The cables to connect your computer to the Penn State backbone are available at the Housing Office (Dobbins Hall). The cards may still be rented from the Microcomputer Order Center (MOC) at University Park.

PERSONAL COUNSELING SERVICES

This semester make it a point to take better care of yourself. Support is waiting at the Counseling and Advising Office (1st Floor Reed Union Building). All Personal Counseling records are strictly confidential. Contact Sue Daley at 898-6164.



ASTRONOMY LECTURE

Dr. Alexander Wolszczan will present "Planets Around Neutron Stars and Elsewhere" at the Penn State - Behrend Astronomy Open House September 5 at 7:30 p.m. in the Reed Lecture Hall. Reservations are requested, 898-6105.

BOOKSTORE HOURS

The bookstore will be open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Sundays from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. until August 23.

THINKING ABOUT DRINKING? (A LITTLE MORE THAN YOU LIKE?)

Moderation is possible. Confidential Alcohol Moderation Group. Every Friday at Noon at the Health & Wellness Center. For more info call Sue Daley at 898-6184.

VOICE MAIL

All Penn State-Behrend residents now have voice mail. An information booklet was placed in your room with specific details. For more information call the Housing Office at 898-6161.

Want to get involved? Participate in DAY OF CARING Saturday, September 7

Special Behrend projects include landscaping and painting at the Gertrude Barber Center and the Florence Crittenton Home.

For more details contact
Student Activities at 898-6171

Faculty develop interactive teaching software

In the past members of the psychology faculty at Penn State Erie-Behrend, have relied upon visits to the local zoo to teach students animal behavior observation techniques.

If the animals were asleep, the students were out of luck.

Now, thanks to new software designed by those same faculty, students will soon be able to learn scientific observational techniques more conveniently using interactive multimedia software in psychology classrooms and labs.

This teaching enhancement is the result of a Faculty Technology Initiative grant received from the Penn State Center for Academic Computing by Dr. Dawn G. Blasko, assistant professor of psychology, Dr. Victoria A. Kazmerski, assistant

professor of psychology, Dr. Carl A. Kallgren, associate professor of psychology, and Dr. Eric Corty, assistant professor of psychology.

Their project involves the development, testing, and evaluation of software that will support the observational part of Penn State's basic research methods course in psychology.

"The teaching of scientific methods of observation presents challenges," said Blasko. "The techniques cannot be mastered without hands-on experience, but we know from experience that animal behavior is very unreliable. The proposed project will solve that problem by using carefully selected and edited digitized video clips of various species."

"In addition," she noted, "this project is highly interactive and goes well beyond traditional lecture-type teaching. Students will be able to try different behavior coding schemes and receive immediate feedback."

Development of the observational methods software has already begun and will continue through the fall 1996 semester. Blasko plans to pilot test the software in her research methods class in the spring of 1997, and the project is expected to be completed and fully integrated into the classroom by fall of 1997.

Blasko indicated that "after discussions with faculty at other institutions, we believe that the software may be commercially viable, especially if produced on CD-ROM for student and faculty use."

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