

## Small Studio Theatre is home of big productions

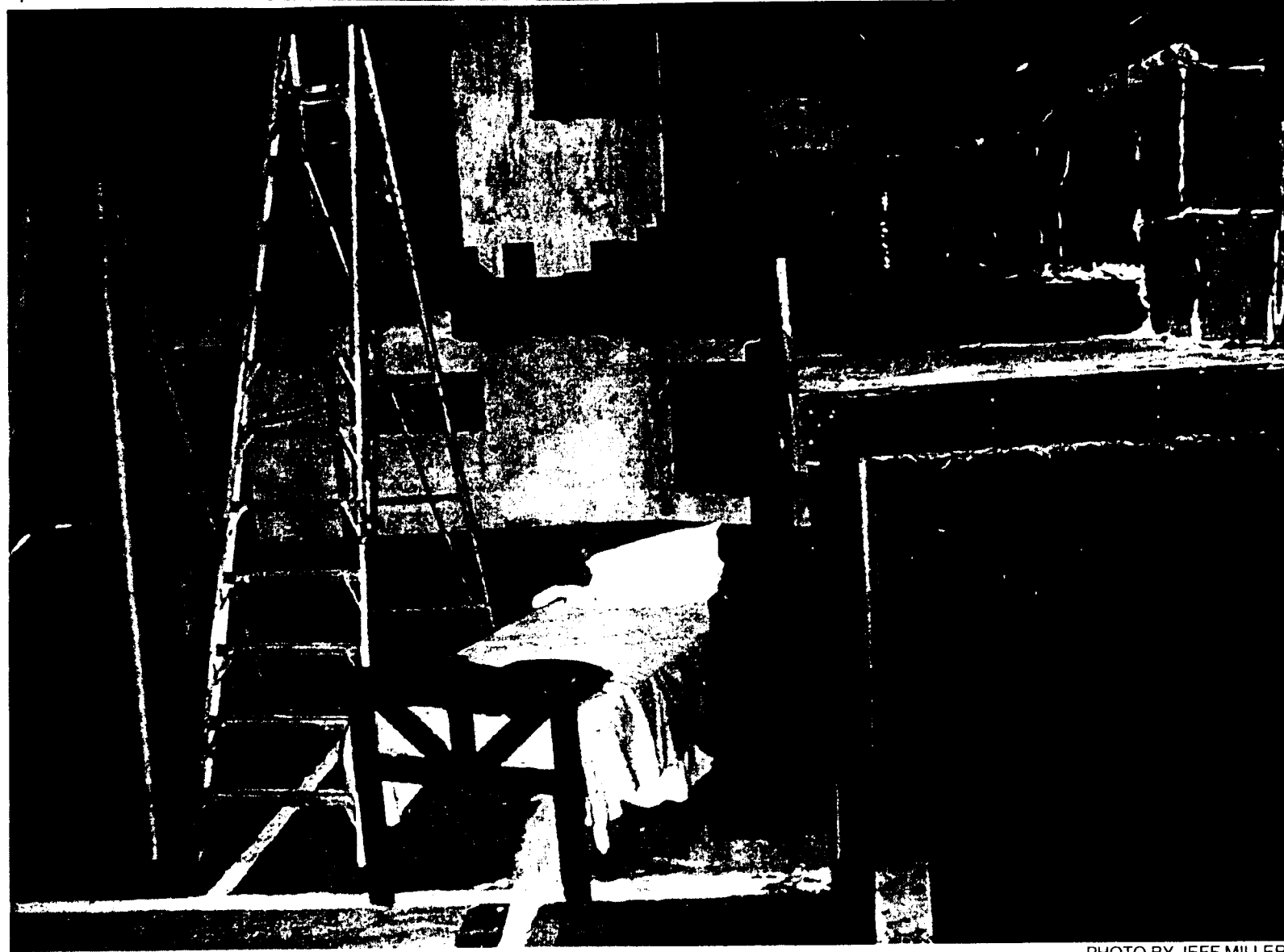
by Rob Wynne  
staff writer

People who plan on attending the upcoming play, "Teibele and Her Demon," may be in for a big...well, actually little surprise. Behrend's Studio Theatre, that little brown house that sits next to the Turnbull Barn and across from the Glenhill Farmhouse, is where the play will be put on. Actually, that's where most of the plays are staged, and where the actors rehearse. What's so big about that little studio? The quality shows that are put on there and the close audience interaction that takes place makes for a unique theatre experience.

The studio, which has been Behrend's theatre for over 20 years, was at one time part of the library, and was originally founder Mary Behrend's own art studio. The 29 x 29 sq. ft. building amazingly provides room for staging and seating of roughly 65-70 people. The studio is also home to the acting class, which meets three times a week, as well as Theatre Arts classes that sometimes meet there.

The lack of room does not hinder performance, though. Theatre professor and play director Mr. Tony Elliot, describes the building as "a very effective little space." He explained that although he is somewhat limited to the size of casts for plays, he and his students do what they can to make them work. One drawback is the difficulty to put on musicals. However, that doesn't stop Mr. Elliot and his students. In the spring of 1998, they performed "Pirates of Penzance" in the Reed Union Commons.

The cast of "Teibele" will not perform the show three or four times as



Studio Theatre is being prepared for the upcoming production of *Teibele and Her Demon*

PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

one might expect. Rather, this play will be put on TEN times, due to the limited seating available for each show. The cast doesn't seem to mind, though. Real Estate major Mike Puline, who plays Beadle Trete! in the show, said, "The Studio Theatre here provides a theatrical look that the

auditorium-style doesn't." He also felt that having the opportunity to do ten shows would help him to develop his character even more. One of his fellow cast members agrees. Rob Kearns, who plays Beadle Leib, explained that a studio setup like this

"adds a whole new dimension for actors and leaves less room for error."

There are always plans for the long run, though. Finding a new location for the theatre is always looked at, with the budget in view, of course. But for now, students and the public

have the opportunity to be close to the action. Any students who are interested in acting in a play or musical may contact professor Elliot, or ask to join the "Matchbox Players," Behrend's student theatre organization.

## Knacke holds second Astronomy Open House

by Nicole C. Greene  
staff writer

On Thursday October 28, Behrend hosted the second Open House Night in Astronomy for the 1999-2000 school year. The speaker for the evening was Behrend's own Dr. Roger Knacke, Professor of Physics and Director of the School of Science. His subject was "The Nature Of Space", in which he spoke about how we define the word space.

As a preview of the topic a slide presentation was shown. The slides related to outer space, the stars, and other galaxies. During the slideshow, the Otto Behrend Science Building Lecture Hall was filled to capacity. Many different people attended this informative presentation. Not only were students from Behrend present, but also an assortment of faculty, adults, children, and others interested in the topic.

To open up the lecture, Dr. Knacke posed a question to the audience. "What is space itself?" This question was answered as he continued to talk about the nature of space. He stated that we don't really sense the space that we are in. It is difficult for us to understand the nature and the essence of space. "A good way to think of it," according to Dr. Knacke, "is as a medium."

One property of space is time. Space and time have now been correlated and cannot be separated. When one thinks of space, they no longer think of space alone, but of "space-time". The two concepts of space and time merge together and work together.

Dr. Knacke gave an example of the relationship between space and time. His illustration pointed to the Andromeda Galaxy, a neighboring galaxy to our Milky Way. He stated that it took light from the Andromeda Galaxy over a million years to get to us. "Therefore, every time we look at an astronomical object, we are looking back in time. We are seeing what it was," as Dr. Knacke stated.

This idea is explained in the notion that although light travels at a definite speed, the space between the two points determines the amount of time it will take for light to pass between the two objects. This idea leads to the concept that space in the universe is expanding. According to Dr. Knacke, "Space has a property of being something that can change."

The lecture by Dr. Knacke was one that was worthwhile. To capture the attention of the audience, he displayed comic strips relating to the nature of space. Both the comic strips as well as his humor entertained the audience, and the information he provided grabbed their attention. The topic proved to be interesting to many people. At the conclusion of the lecture, the professor invited all of those that were interested to view the planets of Jupiter and Saturn outside through the telescopes. The smiles and attentive expressions showed that everyone present had a good time.

# Carville vs. Buchanan

## Buchanan's change of party affects upcoming debate

by Juliana Harper  
staff writer

Recently, Pat Buchanan changed his party affiliation from Republican to Reform, and is still attempting to win the presidential nomination. This may affect the presidential election and the debate between Bay Buchanan and James Carville scheduled for November 9 in the Reed Building Commons. Bay Buchanan is Pat Buchanan's sister and former Republican campaign manager; Carville is Clinton's former campaign manager.

In Buchanan's speech, in which he announced his change of party, he said, "only the Reform Party offers the hope of a real debate and a true choice of destinies for our country. If we don't go now, I have been told by loyalists all across America, every cause for which we fought for seven years will die."

Robert Speel, Assistant Professor of Political Science, commented on the significance of Buchanan's change of party. "Buchanan's leaving the Republicans will probably not be significant enough to affect next year's presidential election unless he actually becomes the Reform Party presidential nominee, in which case there might be ten percent of the population who support him, most of whom would otherwise vote Republican."

Some of Buchanan's leading platform issues include: fighting against abortion, protecting jobs, limiting legal immigration, rebuilding U.S. defenses, and outlawing unlimited "soft money" donations in politics. Speel remarks that so far, Buchanan has not expressed any changes in his views since switching parties. He may have some trouble winning support among past Reform voters, however. His eco-

omic views and some of his foreign policy views are not too far from those expressed by Ross Perot and supported by Reform voters in the past. But Buchanan's conservative religious views on social matters contrast with the libertarian minimal government attitudes taken by other Reform leaders such as Governor Jesse Ventura of Minnesota on moral issues. Buchanan may have other problems with his campaign. Speel further comments that Buchanan's very conservative positions of injecting his religious viewpoints into government policies and some of his past comments and views which many have interpreted as anti-Semitic will cause him trouble with winning Reform party activists and supporters for the presidential nomination.

Buchanan stated in his recent speech, "But of all the needs of this nation, none is greater for our peace

and happiness than racial reconciliation. This land is our land; it belongs to all of us, immigrant and native-born alike; and it would be unpardonable ingratitude if we, the children of pioneers and patriots of every color, continent, and creed, lost this last best hope of earth, because we could not learn to live with one another, and could not learn to love one another."

"There is virtually no chance he could be elected president," says Speel. "But if he becomes the Reform party nominee, Buchanan could damage the election chances of a Republican presidential nominee, because of our election system."

But Buchanan seems determined to fight for the presidency. It is in the name of the Founding Fathers that we go forth to rescue America, he says, and we will not quit this fight as long as there is breath

within us.

The debate between Clinton's former campaign manager, James Carville, and Buchanan's former Republican campaign manager, Bay Buchanan is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9. It should be an excellent debate, says Speel. Both speakers have very strong, usually opposite viewpoints, and both can provide lots of interesting or colorful examples to support their positions. They have both had a lot of experience in how politics and presidential campaigns work. If students want some insight into American politics and next year's presidential election from two campaign managers who have been there, they should be attending this debate, Speel says.

If you would like more information on Buchanan's views and party platform, check out the website [www.gopatgo2000.com](http://www.gopatgo2000.com).

## Shapiro shares distinguished poetry

by Erin McCarty  
staff writer

Alan Shapiro, distinguished poet, professor, essayist and translator, spoke in the Reed Lecture Hall at 7:00 PM on Thursday, October 28th. His appearance was a part of the Creative Writers Speakers Series and was sponsored by the Clarence and Eugenie Baumann Smith Fund and the Mary Behrend Cultural Fund. Shapiro greeted a half-full auditorium and spoke for about 45 minutes, with a 15-minute question and answer period afterwards.

"As a person, he seemed completely at ease with his work," commented Arturo Zilleruelo, 07 Creative Writing. "His poetry is really very confessional and personal, and I think it says a lot about him that he was completely unapologetic about that nature of his work."

He read several of his free verse poems, providing background information for each one. All of his poems were based on his own experiences, though

he incorporated many allusions to both classical mythology and current events. He opened his talk with an introduction and then a reading of a poem in two parts. The first part was a recounting of Michael Jordan's countenance as he held his NBA trophy. The stiff concentration which had carried him to victory was no longer present, and he collapsed into a fit of joyous tears. The second part concerned Shapiro's father as he wept at his father's funeral and how he was chided by another man in the family for looking unmanly. In his introduction, Shapiro suggested that men must earn the right to weep and that whatever reward they receive in the conquest is insignificant.

"He delivered anecdotes before he read each poem, and his anecdotes were basically attempts to give the audience some insight into his creative process and the genesis of his work," Zilleruelo said. All of his poems had something to do with his family. Several concerned his ailing parents, who live in California. He lives in North Carolina, where

he is a professor of English and Creative Writing at the University of North Carolina. Others dealt with the deaths of his brother from a brain tumor and his sister from breast cancer.

During the question and answer period, he was asked whether writing about the woes of his family was therapeutic for him. He replied that it was just the opposite. Writing was, for him, a way of avoiding the confrontation of his grief.

"Writing," he explained, "is a way of being happy in the midst of misery." All of his efforts were focused on creating a beautiful piece of art. He became removed from the experience which had led him to write. He admitted that he had been unable to grieve for his sister until he had finished writing his book about her. In answer to the question of whether he ever wrote fiction, Shapiro replied that he did all the time.

"All writing is fiction to some extent," he said. A writer has to pick and choose what aspects of an experience

will be brought to light in any piece of writing. Parts of it will always be missing from print, because there is just too much to include, and the same story could seem like two entirely different stories when written from the unique vantage point of two different people.

The evening ended outside of the lecture hall, where three of Shapiro's books were available for purchase and could then be autographed by him.

"I'm not sure if 'enjoy' would be an appropriate word with which to describe my reaction [to the reading]..." Zilleruelo admitted. "The poetry itself dealt with dark, often depressing issues, but the language with which the poems dealt with these issues was, for the most part, beautiful. So, I suppose that I would call the experience of the reading 'rewarding' or 'affirming'. It was a rewarding linguistic experience, but...some of my emotional reactions to the poetry were too intensely sad for me to be comfortable with the term 'enjoy'."

## Alleged computer hacking is under investigation at Behrend

by Adam H. Costa  
staff writer

According to Police and Safety, on October 22, an individual not affiliated with Penn State realized that their computer was being tampered with from an outside source. The individual then traced the trespasser back to a psu.edu server. From there a phone call was placed to the University Computer Network and Security office at University Park.

The UCNS then contacted the Be-

hrend Police and Safety office, and a joint investigation began. Police and Safety filed an affidavit of probable cause with the District Justice's office, and a warrant was issued. Police and Safety then entered an undeclared residence hall dorm room and seized some computer equipment and other sensitive items. No arrests were made.

Little else has been disclosed to the public, but the incident is still under investigation.

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