

# NEWS

## Radio Station coming to Behrend soon

by Angela Rush  
wire service editor

Recently SGA has been working on a program that will benefit students and help inform them as to what will be happening on campus. There are three projects currently underway. They include: the RealAudio station, the student designed website, and also the possibility of getting an FM radio station. All of these projects are tied together to help better inform students on campus, by letting them tune into a website, to listen to music, and to read about upcoming events on campus.

SGA's first project was the FM radio station, but Penn State needs approval from the FCC in order to maintain a license. If Penn State does get the FM radio station it will be a low power station.

This project is currently being worked on and since there are no frequencies currently available, this project is on hold.

SGA recently hired two students to design a website that is student based. It will have information about events that are happening on campus, as well as information about organizations that will be able to post what is happening within their organization. Ken Miller, Acting Dean of Student Affairs, stated, "the website is designed to bring students the best

of the web." The website is directed at students, and will give students what they want. While Behrend's website is more focused for outsiders, and is not directed at the students.

The website will be consistently changing and kept up-to-date about events and activities that are happening on campus, what Miller would call an "informational convenient store for students."

There is not a website like this at Penn State University Park, and Behrend is the highest user of computer resources outside of University Park. In order to inform the students of Penn State Behrend about this site, The Office of Student Affairs intends to fund money for marketing the site.

There will be a link from Penn State Behrend's homepage to this site. SGA plans to pull in students to look and play with the website and give their comments on it, and then improve it based upon the students input.

The RealAudio Station program is going to be funded through the Student Activity Fee. This will be student run, and what SGA is looking into is the cost of this. There may in the future possibly be a class associated with this, but that has not been looked into as much yet. A committee meets every week and is working with the computer center to work out how this program would run so that the server would not load slowly. It

is still up in the air but it is believed that this will be up and running before the end of the year, or definitely by fall of 2000. One way Penn State Behrend might receive the music that will be playing on this site is by subscribing to a music program. This saves Behrend from having to buy millions of CD's to use to broadcast music across the web. Students on campus will have complete access to the station through the Penn State server. The only people that Penn State can't target at the moment, are those who do not have access to the Penn State server or go to college here but that may change if Behrend gets an FM Radio Station.

It appears that computers are becoming a big part of society and being able to listen to the radio on the Internet is a big step for Behrend. One other advantage of having the RealAudio station is that Behrend can broadcast sports at Behrend over the web as well.

This is a big step for Behrend to be taking, and there are a lot of benefits involved with having the website, a RealAudio station, an FM radio station. All three of these will benefit the student body and enhance awareness as to what is happening on campus. Miller believes, "It is a good way to get students involved on campus."

## Trippe Hall the next residence hall at Behrend

by Karl Benacci  
staff writer

With Behrend growing every year, the need for on-campus housing grows. Soon it will be known if Behrend will build Trippe Hall or save the project for the future. When Trippe Hall is constructed, it will be the third hall built in the "up on the hill" series, the first two halls being Army and Ohio. Trippe Hall will be located northwest of Ohio Hall and

will be built in the side of the hill.

The hall will be very much like Ohio Hall (card access, suites, and many single rooms), only smaller, and the cost figures are still being worked out but are expected to cost upwards of seven million dollars. When Trippe Hall is ready to be built, there will be a bidding process between construction companies. The company with the lowest bid will build Trippe Hall.

An architect will design the build-

ing, and representatives on a board will make the decisions concerning Trippe Hall. The board will be made up of members of Housing and Food Services, the college, and students. A feasibility study is now being done that will tell Behrend the cost of building Trippe Hall and the housing needs for the college. Behrend is either going to build Trippe Hall or remodel Perry Hall.

If the Perry Hall project is chosen, then space for 150 more beds will be

added to Perry Hall. The decision whether to build Trippe Hall or to add to Perry Hall will be made in January and the chosen project will be expected to be built by 2003. Trippe Hall will be built in the future but it is not yet sure when it will be built. After Trippe Hall is built, future residence halls will be built across Jordan Road.

### Housing continued from front page

The number of open housing spaces is not known because some on-campus students will not return to Behrend.

Students who live in the apartments this year have rights to get an apartment space next year but returning students at all other residence halls and suites are not guaranteed a space for the Fall of 2000 academic year.

If four students want to share an apartment and only two get in, housing will try to accommodate the group with another space somewhere else on campus.

If a student is applying for an RA position then they should still hand

their housing contract with the person they want to have as a roommate for the 2000-2001 school year.

Veronica M Chopkins, 01 DUS, said the housing contract discussion "was helpful because it informs you on when and how to apply for housing in the upcoming semesters, and choose roommates of your choice." Andrea Krahe, 01 DUS, added, "it was helpful because I know exactly what I need to do to get good housing and what I can expect because I had no idea before." Catherine Forgenie, 01 BLAS, stated, "it helped because it made it clearer to students about the information."

Sheika Brown, 01 Biology, said,

"I figured out that this is all about a chance of life. There is no guarantee of housing. I am from NY, and if I lose my contract, I will have to transfer to another school." Tracy Mingo, 01 Arts and Science Management, agreed, "I learned that if you delay even a day that you are not guaranteed to have a place to live on campus. I would advise that every student who plans to live on campus for next year to take heed to the contract discussion and have their contracts on time."

The Beacon is looking for columnists for next semester. Interested students should e-mail a sample column to [behrcoll2@aol.com](mailto:behrcoll2@aol.com).

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There will be no issue of the Beacon next week because of Thanksgiving Break. Have a nice holiday!