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BEHREND

BEACON

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'TIS THE SEASON

Concert Choir sings tunes for the season

by Nicole Green
staff writer

The Behrend Concert Choir and the Behrend Concert Band held their Winter Concert on Tuesday, November 30, in the Reed Commons. Both groups performed a variety of songs in which they used their vocal and instrumental talents to entertain a large and enthusiastic audience.

The choir sang a variety of songs from different cultures around the world. The songs ranged from Spanish Ballads to songs from Israel and even "Hush Little Baby." Accompaniment for the song "Dodi Li" was provided by Candace Klein, flute, Kristin Betschart, clarinet, and Dulcie Lose, percussion.

The choir was received well by the audience as they rendered a "Cliffsnotes" version of Shakespeare's well known play, "Macbeth", according to choir director Dr. Daniel Barnard.

The choir ended their presentation with selections from *An English Noel* and *Hodie, Christus natus est*. The featured soloists were Megan Harrison, Zach McCartney, Jessica Dows and Demian Blair.

Dr. Barnard is new to Behrend as the director of the choir. He has taught previously at the University of Kansas, Washburn University, and at Western Nebraska Community College. He is originally from Texas, and has won several awards honoring his skills in conducting. His doctoral dissertation, *The Girl*

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PHOTOS BY KEVIN BRUNER



The Behrend Concert Choir performs for the many in attendance at the Reed Commons on Tuesday night. Dr. Daniel Barnard, Choral Director and Coordinator of the Logan Concert Series, led the choir. Dr. Barnard is new to Behrend this year. The Behrend Concert Band also performed Tuesday night. The Concert Band is also new to Behrend this year. The Behrend College Concert Choir, pictured above and left, is comprised of 47 Behrend students.

Stuffy buildings may be opened up to renovations

by Rob Wynne
staff writer

During the warm, humid weather of early fall, students who had classes in the Turnbull Barn, Nick building, and the Otto Behrend Science building found those classes to be unbearable. The heat was intense and the atmosphere was uncomfortable. But, Mother (Erie) Nature has turned things around, and now it's quite chilly outside. The problem is, it's still stuffy in Turnbull and Nick, and

now it's really cold in the Science building. Hopefully, things won't be that way for long.

The administration has noted many "climate complaints" from faculty and students and is currently working on many plans to remedy the situation. One of the problems is the lack of air-conditioning. It is not just a summer dilemma, either. Air-conditioning means having a comfortable temperature year-round. Turnbull Barn, the Science building, and half

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PHOTO BY KEVIN BRUNER

Plans for renovations include Turnbull Hall, pictured left. Turnbull Hall is one of the oldest buildings on Behrend's campus.

RASO to hold Coffeehouse night to raise involvement

by Jason Snyder
editor-in-chief

On Saturday, December 4, the Returning Adult Student Organization (RASO) will hold a Coffeehouse Night for all returning students at Behrend. The event will be held at Bruno's Café at 7:00 p.m. and will feature a band and comedians.

RASO is an organization at Behrend available to any students that are over 24 years old, have children, are married or are veterans. Under the advisement of Director of Student Activities Chris Rizzo, RASO is back on track this school year after a few years of inactivity. Rizzo sees RASO as "both a support and advocacy group." Club President Abby Atkinson and Vice President Demian Blair, along with other current members of RASO have planned a night of activities to try to increase the involvement and awareness of other returning adult students.

Current concerns of RASO include the lack of child-care available to students with children and the occasional lack of sensitivity of professors to the returning adults that might have family. The Coffeehouse Night is an attempt to get more returning adults to their Tuesday, December 7, meeting where those issues will be discussed.

Dr. James Kurre and Gail Kurre will be half of the entertainment for the night as they put on their comedy show. Gail Kurre was part of the first returning adult student organization which was then called the "Over the Hill Club," changed to "Top of the Hill Club."

The band that will be playing for the night will be "Two Girls Alone," a popular band in the area that plays at local coffeehouses.

Blair commented, "Our main goal is to have fun. We hope that the night will bring more students to our meeting next week to help us voice our concerns."

SGA gives students a voice...and free food

by Karl Benacci
staff writer

On Wednesday December 1, 1999, The Student Government Association (SGA) treated Behrend students to pizza, pop and chips to promote their organization.

While students enjoyed the free food, they filled out suggestions to put in the suggestion box and they learned what SGA was all about.

SGA president, Andrea DiPlacido, 05 Communications, said the SGA is giving out free food because "even with something as simple as giving away free pizza, SGA's name is getting out. I hope we reached even a few people and helped increase participation." Public Relations Committee Chairperson Keenen Hansen, 01 DUS, added "I think it's great that so many

people showed up, and I hope we get the same response at our Monday night forum. I hope that more people are willing to get involved in SGA."

SGA received various suggestions in the suggestion box. Some students suggested more concerts, more parking spots, Penn State on the water tower and more money for Greeks. One topic that SGA is taking very seriously is the issue of delayed money transactions. A student also suggested more events like the free food giveaway.

At the event, SGA advertised for their meeting that was later that day and they told students about an SGA forum which is to take place Monday, December 9, at 7:30 p.m. in Reed 117.

Some of the things discussed at last Wednesday's meeting were the tuition petitions that SGA Senators have been

passing out to students. SGA also discussed how to get input towards prioritizing the funding of the Student Activity Fee, the planning of a book sale for textbooks that will help students get more money back for their textbooks, and the Kwanzaa dinner that will be held on Sunday. They also voted for the removal of two Senators, leaving two vacant spots on the board.

Two additional committees were also formed for the booksale and Thon.

SGA continues to promote themselves as an organization that works for the students and listens to their ideas and opinions. Everyone is encouraged to go to their meetings and if anyone wants to talk to SGA they may visit their office which is located in the Reed Building.



Students gather for free pizza at the "Pizza with the SGA."

PHOTO BY MATT WIERTEL

WEEKEND WEATHER OUTLOOK

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