SPORTS Behrend students qualify for Boston Marathon

time of three

hours and eight

minutes. With

the help of an

experienced

by Matt Wiertel sports editor

Imagine yourself at a competition in a crowd of 4735 people who are twentieth annual Columbus Maraall trying to finish in approximately 250 spots. In addition, you have to run 26.2 miles before obtaining one Marathon. With only three hours School of Warren Ohio in ninth who Musick of these spots. Sound impossible?

dents Brian Musick and Jason Saeger.

The tandum competed in the thon on November 14th in an attempt to advance to the Boston and ten minutes and 26.2 miles

Not for Penn State Behrend stu- separating them from a "day that will neously with a go down in infamy", the two set out to attain their goal.

> Both Musick and Saeger are very familiar with the perils of competitive running. Brian, who began running for John F. Kennedy High pace runner, grade, was competing in his fourth and Saeger ran

PHOTO BY BRIAN MUSICK

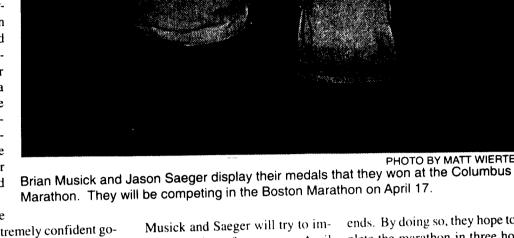
The crowd of 4735 competitors, including Musick and Saeger, wait for the Columbus marathon to begin

marathon. Saeger also is an extremely experienced runner. He began his competitive running career as a freshman at Conneaut Lake High School, and the Columbus Marathon was the third marathon that he has run. As for the Columbus Marathon

itself, Musick and Saeger ran an incredible race under the circumstances. Battling a twenty mile-perhour wind for the final two miles of the marathon, the pair crossed the

along side of during the majority of the race, they were able to run each mile in an average of seven minutes and thirteen seconds. Their ability to keep a steady pace was a key factor in their ability to finish the

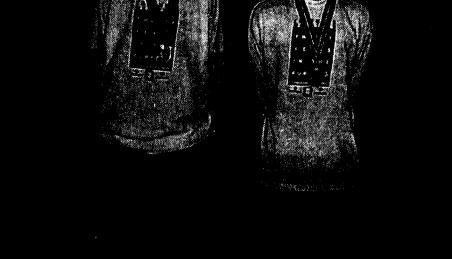
race in under three hours and ten minutes. All in all, the combo was extremely confident going into the marathon. From the start thry had their goals set on advancing to the Boston Marathon. Throughout the race they tried to focus on everything but running. Ei-



prove on their performance on April 17, when will travel to Boston to compete with some twenty thousand other competitors at the Boston Marathon. Right now they are continuing to keep

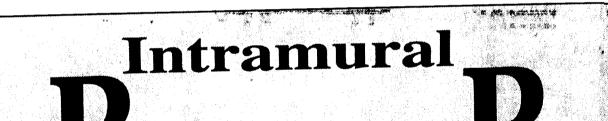
ends. By doing so, they hope to complete the marathon in three hours or less. This is quite an accomplishment, and Musick and Saeger should be commended for their achievement.

PHOTO BY MATT WIERTEL



in shape by running the gorge and to ther they would try to motivate the Dobbins Landing and back on weekcrowd or talk amongst themselves. finish line simulta-THE BEACON SPORTS STAFF WOULD **COMMUNITY A HAPPY HOLIDAY**

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NOUND-U

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The Beacon would like to thank Rob Wittman for all of his help with the intramuals box this semester.

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