

## Babes In Arms to break in the new Athletic Recreation Center

by Jermaine Hardy  
features co-editor

From March 21 to March 25 The Athletic Recreation Center (ARC) will host Behrend's spring musical, *Babes In Arms*. Just before Behrend's newest "multi-purpose" space is open for sports and other activities, it will be broken in as a theatre for this special production. "We're going to celebrate the multi-purpose nature of our campus' new Athletic Recreation Center by turning it into a theatre for much of the month of March. And *Babes In Arms* is the perfect musical to showcase Behrend's growing performance arts programs and to showcase the diversity and talents of our students," said the play's director



The cast of *Babes In Arms* rehearses for their performances to take place from March 21-25 in the Athletic Recreation Center.

Tony Elliot. *Babes In Arms*, originally presented in New York in 1936, is a Musical Comedy with lyrics by Lorenz Hart and music by Richard Rodgers. The play focuses on the fun, frustrations and romances of a group of college age "would-be" actors and actresses at a summer theatre in New England. Their tyrannical producer works them so hard that

they never have a chance to display their own talents. When they decide to produce their own show on their own time the mayhem ensues.

With a score of classic tunes like "My Funny Valentine," "Where or When," "The Lady is a Tramp," and "All at Once," *Babes In Arms* boast one of the greatest musical theatre scores ever written. Along with a great story the overall show should make for a great evening of pure entertainment for the whole family.

The performance schedule for *Babes in Arms* in the Athletic Recreation Center consists of the following dates and times: March 21, 22, 23, & 24 at 8:00 and March 25 at 2:30 pm. Tickets go on sale Friday, March 2, at the R.U.B Desk.

## The Hiphopera rocks the Studio Theatre

by Christopher Buchanan  
staff writer

Friday February 16, 2001, the Association of Black Collegians and the National Society of Black Engineers, student organizations here at Penn State Behrend, collaborated to celebrate Black History Month with rhythm and rhyme in a play called the *Hiphopera*. This fascinating musical packed the Studio Theater with numbers exceeding 60 students, faculty, and members of the community.

The *Hiphopera* is a Hip-Hop musical comprised of Behrend students, who wrote the entire play themselves. Although, the first show was geared toward Black History Month there was an array of information that was spun off of the subject. The cast, which consists of actors Victoria Anderson, Anthony Bineyard, Melissa Davis, Jacqueline Jackson, Lamar Jefferson, Adinah Juliet, Dale Lamb, Kim Moses, Gyasi Stewart, and director Jermaine Hardy, make up a college campus, which is the setting for a series of skits about college life.

There was a classroom scene where the students learned about the Black Panther's involvement in the civil rights movement. It was a scene in which the students expressed to their teacher "Dr. Smith" that the history books were not sufficient enough in the information about African-American history.

The difficulties of leaving for college are a big issue for most high school graduates and this was shown

in a scene about a high school graduate leaving for college, and trying to escape his negative friends and neighborhood. The scene showed the difficulties the boy went through, but also gave the positive outcome of the boy remaining grounded and pursuing his college education.

There was also a skit about how males think and talk about females and how women think and talk about males. Many college men and women could relate to these two skits. The males talked about how they wanted to have sex and degrade the women in their lives, while the positive message came from one of the males, who expressed that women should be treated with respect, and tried his hardest to convince the others. The women talked about how the males in their lives were being disrespectful and untrustworthy. The positive message out of this scene was that two wrongs don't make a right and that being independent as a woman can get you through the hardest times.

The *Hiphopera* had a very positive outcome. The turnout in the Studio Theatre was so impressive that the collaborating organizations are planning to schedule several other performances, which will soon be advertised. The scenes in the play gave everybody that attended something to relate to. Although the *Hiphopera* came from an African-American standpoint, it covered issues that any race, gender, and creed can relate to.



The cast of the *Hiphopera* displays the "classroom scene" at opening night in the Studio Theatre.

PHOTO BY NEIL MAKADIA

## Midnight Bingo keeps Behrend up all night

by Mike Grooms  
staff writer

On Friday, February 16, Behrend held Midnight Bingo for the second time this semester. The aroma of freshly popped buttered popcorn filled the Reed Commons. Laughter and chat could be heard throughout. Many people like to spend their free time gambling.

Some people win big, some lose big, and there were no losers here. Once students showed their school I.D., everything was provided for them free. The entertainment, food, cards, and the bingo chips were all free. The student activity fees were used to fund the event.

Although it is formally known as Midnight Bingo, 12:00 a.m. was not the actual starting time. Beginning at 10:30 p.m., over 100 people had taken their seats, and were preparing to get down to some serious bingo playing. The bingo games ended at 1:30 a.m.; students, both resident and commuter came out to compete. If students wore pajamas, they received a prize automatically, so quite a few students came wearing their pajamas in order to guarantee themselves one of the many fabu-



PHOTO BY KATIE GALLEY

Ryan Raines sits in suspense at Midnight Bingo at the Reed Commons.

lous prizes. In addition to the various prizes that were being awarded, the room was full of free food and beverages! Students feasted on popcorn, bagels, cookies and Ocean spray drinks. Some of the prizes that were being awarded were twister games, Millcreek mall gift certificates, lamps, Behrend t-shirts and sweatshirts, water bottles, folding

chairs that would be perfect for dorm rooms, and many others. The bingo game was projected on a big screen. The balls were tossed around in a machine that resembled a lottery ball machine. The event was organized in a very professional manner. If you didn't know it, you would think you were at a professional bingo tournament. When the announcer mentioned speed bingo, the entire room erupted in cheers. This was indeed the game of choice, and ob-

viously the most exciting. When playing speed bingo, like the name implies, balls are drawn, and the numbers called at a much faster pace, so players really have to be aware of their cards, and pay close attention to the numbers that are being called. Pattern bingo was also popular among the students. The idea was to get different patterns on your bingo card, depending on the pattern the announcer displays on the projector. Some of the various patterns used are diamond, cross, and ring.

Commuting student Dan Stonski, who attended the bingo event mentioned, "I come because I think it's pretty fun. I had a really good time here the last time Behrend held this event. The food is good, and free, so the price is right. You get good deals, and the entertainment just doesn't come cheaper." All in all, the students seemed to be having a really good time. The event provides an alternative for students who may usually go out and spend lots of money, and provides entertainment for those who just feel like relaxing.

Have you gone on a road trip lately?

If so, write about it and send your entry to behrcoll5@aol.com.

**Cruisin'**  
**4**  
**CASH**

win \$250

### Contest Rules

Any Behrend student can submit a 300-500 word story about a road trip they have taken since the end of the spring 2000 semester. The trip must be more than 150 miles from the original location. A photo must accompany entry with sufficient proof that the trip was made. Insufficient proof will lessen chances to win contest. If more than one student took part in the road trip, only the student submitting the story is eligible, unless all members send name in with entry. If more than one student name appears on entry, prize will be divided amongst the students who entered. Send in entries as soon as possible to ensure publication in the *Beacon*. Only entries appearing in the *Beacon* will be voted on. *Beacon* members are ineligible and will vote on the winner.