PHOTO BY KEVIN FALLON/BEHREND BEACON

## Spike Lee shakes up Behrend

by Erin McCarty
news editor

"I'm glad it stopped snowing," Spike Lee quipped as he greeted an audience of hundreds in Erie Hall who braved Wednesday's blustery squalls to hear the acclaimed filmmaker's address. Maleficent weather conditions were soon forgotten as Lee launched into a lecture detailing, among other topics, the importance of education and his disappointment with today's media.

"One of my great regrets is that I did not really do as well as I was capable of in college," said Lee. After two years of college, he had exhausted his supply of electives but still had not decided on a major. Urged by his advisor to come back in the fall with a choice of major, Lee spent the summer of 1977 — the notorious Summer of Sam which he would later revisit in film— by roaming New York with his Super 8 camera. By the end of the summer, he had found his focus.

"I was very lucky because I found out what it is I love," Lee said. "That's why college is so important." He went on to

> "You control the media, you can influence how people think. You influence how people think and you don't need bombs."
>
> - Spike Lee

say that doing what you love does not necessarily mean doing something that will make you a great deal of money. Many students are attending college because of the sacrifices made by their parents in order to get them a good education. Mindful of what their parents have given up, they often pursue careers that will allow them to repay that debt and convince their parents their education was worth the cost.

"Far too many of my classmates are now overweight, bald, unhappy, and divorced," said Lee. "They started going down this path

**LEE**

## Hackers pry into Behrend's network during break

*Penn State boosts level of computer security throughout University*

by Rob Wynne
managing editor

During the last week of December, one of Behrend's computers was hacked into, leaving a "Star Trek – Nemesis" movie on a simplified file-transfer protocol (FTP) service. Although relatively harmless, this recent hack has prompted University officials to take a look at higher levels of computer security.

The cracked machine was recognized by University Park's Internet security enforcement agency and removed from Penn State's network, according to statements from the computer center. Additional computers that monitor suspicious activity were also placed on Behrend's network to scan for potential weaknesses and/or threats.

According to Ron Hoffman, manager of network and information systems, Behrend's computer systems, as well as students' machines in the residence halls are hit twice per second by parties seeking to crack passwords.

"People use easily cracked passwords, like their name or birthday," said Hoffman. He suggests students and faculty should not lend out a password and should frequently change it.

Jim Serafin, a computer center technician, said a hacker could gain a variety of things by cracking into someone else's computer.

"They [hackers] could download copyrighted information for redistribution, access checking account information… Graham Spanier recently about identity theft, and how bank account information, social security numbers, and credit-card information is stored in programs that allow for easy purchasing," said Serafin.

Other colleges and universities have

**HACKERS**

## Behrend student pleads guilty in child-porn case

by Kevin Fallon
editor-in-chief

A Penn State Behrend student admitted to having child pornography on his computer while attending and living at Behrend.

On Jan. 8, Jeffrey A. Ewing, 20, pleaded guilty in Erie County Criminal Court to a misdemeanor charge of obscene and other sexually explicit materials and performances. Ewing admitted to having 10 video clips of children engaged in sexually explicit behavior.

An Erie Times News recent report cited a criminal complaint filed in the case, saying a man told campus police Ewing had the child pornography, "making it available to anyone."

Ewing was charged April 26 after campus police responded to a complaint and found child pornography on Ewing's computer at 102 Ohio Hall, according to the complaint. J.E. Harrington of the Penn State Behrend police was the arresting officer, according to the Penn State Behrend Police and Safety office.

Sentencing for Ewing is set for Feb. 18.

This is not the first case of child pornography at Behrend. Chad Warren pleaded guilty to possession of child pornography in 1999 while living at Lawrence Hall. Brian Scott Jackman, was arrested in October 1998 on eight felony charges of using a university computer to collect and trade child pornography while he was enrolled at Behrend.

According to Ron Hoffman, manager of Network and Information Services, Penn State University does not monitor content on student's computers due to privacy issues.

"That is not to say someone else is not monitoring them," said Hoffman.

Behrend students are subject to the same monitoring of the general public by various government and law enforcement agencies.
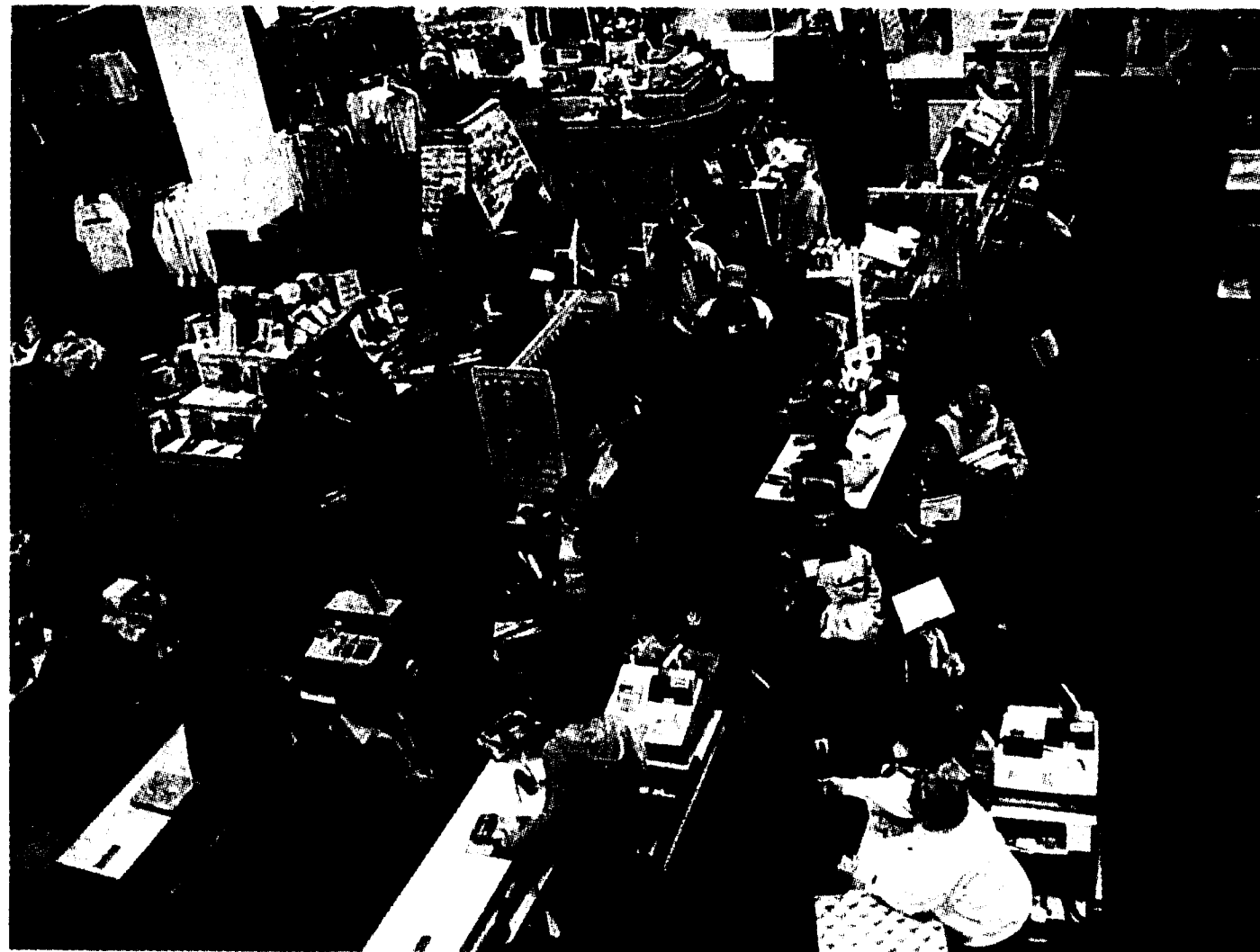
# Bookstore blues

PHOTO: KEVIN FALLON?BEHREND BEACON
Students rush to get their books on Monday. They were welcomed back only to face long lines at the bookstore.

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