

Behrend Collegian

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Coming soon

Radio Behrend

By Mary Schoen
Collegian Staff Writer

The biggest thing to hit Behrend College this year is getting its own radio station. Edmund Fratus, a sophomore here at Behrend, is behind this operation.

Ed, whose major is electrical engineering technology, first became interested in radio last spring when he built a small radio station in Niagara Hall. Overwhelmed by the success, he decided to expand. Other factors influencing his decision were the \$500 worth of radio equipment going to waste in the basement and the lack of good radio stations here in Erie.

The first program should be taking place before the end of the term. The initial schedule for the station is 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. seven days a week but soon to be expanding to 24 hours 7 days a week.

Meanwhile, Ed and 33 other members of the club are busy taping shows and designing and constructing the console for close circuit AM broadcasting. The type of music that will be played is based on the survey that was given on Monday. Airing time will also be given to community services, interviews, editorials, campus activities, and special programs.

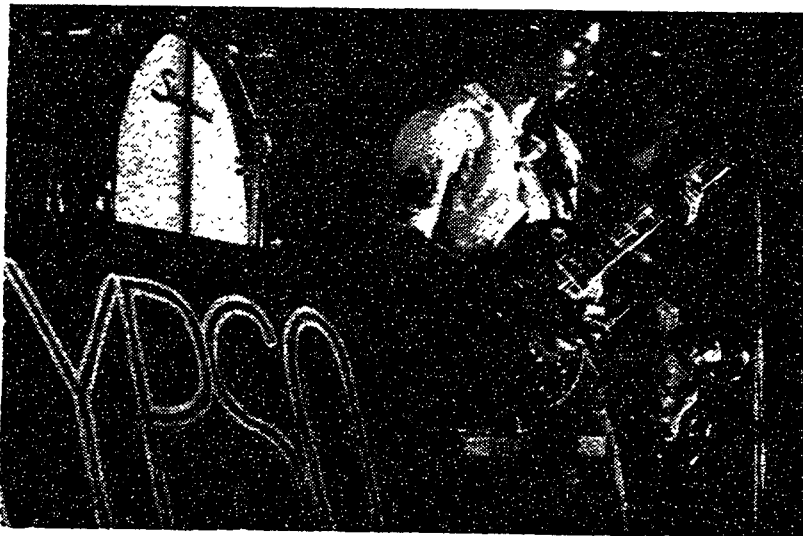
There are rumors of there being FM in the future that haven't been substantiated. Ed explained saying, "The licensing procedure takes time and costs make legal FM improbable this year but I have all the faith in the world that we'll be able to afford FM next year".

For aspiring disk jockeys, Ed is setting up a small training program in which local dj's will come out to the campus to conduct workshops. It's just to give

interested people an idea of what the radio world is like.

The station is in dire need of people with literary talent who could write material for the shows. Any full time student interested in the program should attend the weekly meetings, held Thursday at the common hour in the seminar room of the RUB.

Ed would like to publicly thank Mike Woods and Jay DiFrank for helping find a studio. The studio is located between the Nittany Lion room and the commuter cafeteria. He also thanks all those who attended the beer blast Saturday night and the FM Boosters who donated the proceeds to the station.



Band n' Blast

Calypso supplied the musical enjoyment at last week's beer blast. The blast was sponsored by the Booster Club and it is reported that there are more in the planning stages for the future. For more news on the blast, see story, page 4.

ROTC joins Behrend program

By Dan McKay
Collegian Staff Writer

In addition to the freshmen class, another newcomer to Behrend College this fall is the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps. Its main purpose is to prepare college students for a post-graduate term as army officers.

The first two years of ROTC consist of six one-credit courses, taken one each term; explaining the army and the defense establishment in general. There is no commitment after two years unless you wish to continue in the program.

Those cadets who continue must sign a contract which commits them, upon graduation, to anywhere from three months to four years active duty in the Army. However, they are compensated by receiving \$100 each month, tax-free, while in school. When the cadets graduate and enter the army they receive a regular salary.

ROTC is not limited to male students. In fact 38 per cent of all Penn State cadets are women. The army is an equal opportunity employer and encourages minority students, through ROTC, to become officers.

In addition to the classes in Military Science, ROTC is sponsoring a variety of extra-curricular activities.

A girls' drill team called the Capers will represent Behrend College in exhibitions of precision marching. A co-ed rifle team, which already has fourteen members, will compete against other area colleges. There will also be a color guard to present the colors at all basketball games and other appropriate places.

Along with these three organizations, a group known as the Behrend Rangers will gain

experience in survival, mountain climbing, navigation and hiking. This will "instill in the cadets self-confidence," according to Captain Harry C. Small Jr., officer-in-charge and assistant professor of ROTC at Behrend.

Captain Small also explains that a student's grades need not suffer because of his or her involvement in ROTC. On the contrary, academic excellence is very important in ROTC.

Faculty members of the ROTC program, like all Penn State faculty, are fully qualified and have at least their Masters degree. These officers are chosen by the university from a list of

candidates submitted by the Army.

One of the goals of Behrend's ROTC department, according to Captain Small, is to "contribute to the growth of the college."

This, he explains, is accomplished by going to area high schools and discussing ROTC in conjunction with Behrend College. The addition of ROTC to the regular courses of study may attract students who otherwise wouldn't be interested in Behrend.

The army realizes that ROTC is not for everybody, but as Captain Small says, "Try it, it may be for you."

Behrend receives new aid director

By Ron Wayne

Collegian Staff Writer

Financial aid is less available this school year but the students who are eligible have a fairly good chance to receive some aid. This is the news from Mr. Larry Skerlong, the new financial aid coordinator at Behrend, replacing the departed Ms. Cynthia Krishna. Mr. Skerlong remarked, "I think the amount of money is not increasing, but if a student wants to go to school, he can probably get aid."

The amount of available financial aid for the 1975-76 school year has not been calculated and the figures will be released in October. Therefore, the exact difference of available financial aid between this year and the 1974-75 school year cannot be established. Mr. Skerlong is somewhat sure that the total number of PHEAA (Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency) grants was less this year, since PHEAA now requires that a student apply for BEOG (Basic Educational Opportunity Grants). Therefore, BEOG is giving more money in proportion, than PHEAA in 1975-76.

Concerning the future availability of financial aid, Mr. Skerlong foresees no new agencies within the next year. However, some time ago the federal programs, SEOG (Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants), NDSL (National Direct Student Loans) and Work-Study were to be eliminated and BEOG would become the cure-all, handling all

federal financial aid. This plan might still be implemented within the next few years.

Mr. Skerlong comes to Behrend and his position from Indiana County, Pa., where he had four years of administrative experience with the American Heart Association and the County Community Service. He received his masters degree in Student Personnel Services from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where he taught a course one summer in social work. When asked if he liked Behrend, Mr. Skerlong answered, "Yes, I do, as a financial aid officer, it's a good position. financial aid in addition to the student counseling usually involves a lot of bureaucratic activity, but at Behrend, U.P. handles the bureaucratic part. This allows more time for student counseling." Also at some schools, financial aid is part of the business office or under the academic dean, but at Behrend it is part of student affairs. Mr. Skerlong is extremely pleased with that, since his plans include getting closer to the student body. Within the next few months, Student Affairs will be in the residence halls, and Mr. Skerlong plans to give information about financial aid. He may also do something similar in the RUB. Another plan, although not formally set, would be to have some budgeting workshops for those students who receive aid in lump sums.

Mr. Skerlong's experience and ideas will be a valuable asset to both the student body and administration at Behrend.



SGA leader

Michael J. Woods is once again behind the SGA President's desk. Michael is offering many new ideas and plans on bringing about necessary changes for Behrend.

Moonchildren cast

By Mary Jo Santilli
Collegian Staff Writer

Tryouts were held for the Behrend Players' production of "Moonchildren" on Sept. 15, 16, and 17. Of the 33 Behrend students who auditioned, eight were chosen to portray various characters.

According to Mr. Arno Selco, the director of "Moonchildren", the decision was extremely difficult. Mr. Selco and his casting committee—comprised of John Szumigola, president of Behrend Players, Tim C. Newel, vice president, and Sally Greager, secretary-treasurer—deliberated for two hours before making the final decision.

The cast is as follows:
Mike—William Trimble.
Bob—Phil Aron.
Dick—Phil Galon.
Cootie—Tim C. Newel.
Norman—Chris Dalessandro.
Kathy—Deborah Bunting.
Ruth—Bridget Brawer.
Shelly—Sally Greager.
Ralph—Jerry Glass.
Milkman—Arno Selco.
Eiffing—Mark Lackey.

This year, a record number of students auditioned and Mr. Selco says the number has been increasing every year.

Many people tried out, those who have never been enrolled in theatre before and want the experience.

According to Mr. Selco there were many talented students who

didn't get parts and he thinks there is even more talent at Behrend.

He hopes to see more increases in the number of students who audition.

The cast chosen last week was only the student cast. There are still adult roles yet to be filled. Mr. Selco hopes to cast these parts with adult faculty and staff members.

Auditions for these roles will be held on Saturday, September 27 at 11 a.m. in the Behrend studio.

Anyone interested should contact Mr. Arno Selco at 899-3101.

Bio Club News

The year's first Bio-Club meeting was held September 11 in Nick 116. Maybe the club should serve cookies and lemonade at all of its meetings. We are hoping our new members will be back for the September 25th meeting. Anyone else interested in joining is also encouraged to attend.

Possibilities for a weekend field trip to Virginia Beach or the New Jersey Pine Barrens were discussed. It was decided that such a trip would be planned for Spring Term. This will allow enough time to adequately plan for such a long excursion.

Shorter, day-long trips to more local areas of interest are better possibilities for Fall Term. Cook's Forest, Sandy Lake, Pymatuning, and Siegel Marsh were among those mentioned.

The upcoming plant sale, to be held September 26, was also discussed. The revenues from the sale are to be used for the spring field trip. The sale will be set up near the mailboxes in RUB. It will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The club has acquired many fine-looking plants in a wide range of varieties for the sale. Be sure to stop by and look them over.