

Computers & music mix in class offered at Behrend

University Relations—Every student enrolled in Penn State-Behrend's "Rudiments of Music" class has their own music computer tutor. The tutor knows each student by name, is available to help seven days a week, and can write and play a myriad of melodies, scales and basic compositions.

Unlike human tutors, these tutors draw their power from electrical outlets and teach their material from a thin floppy disk; yet the students find them very "personal."

A computerized tutor is an integral element of the sophisticated music class. Like many classes of the future, Behrend's "Rudiments of Music" features high-technology instruction in a traditional liberal-arts course.

In the course, the computer teaches students to compose their own music. They are learning the fundamentals of reading and writing music, identifying notes, harmonies and keys, and creating scales and melodies.

"The computers are extremely

simple to use, and they're helping me learn the material a lot easier," says Kimberly Best, a freshman liberal-art major from Oil City who had no previous experience with computers. "The exercises have helped me respond more quickly to questions in class and on exams."

Microcomputers are enhancing the learning process through exercises that illustrate and play the musical concepts students learn in the classroom.

"Outside the class, students have personal help mastering the material they are learning. The computer programs give them immediate visual and audio feedback on their progress," says Behrend music instructor David Stuntz. "Better yet, the computers don't bark or laugh when the students make musical mistakes."

Stuntz says the computers will be even more helpful to students when they begin composing their

own music about mid-semester.

"With this system, students can experiment with how their composition sounds, measure-by-measure, as they are writing them on the computer. This enables students with no musical training to turn out compositions that sound good when played on an instrument."

"This new curriculum is a much more efficient way to teach students music, and it's a painless way for students to become acclimated to computers," says Stuntz.

"And it's fun. The computers draw pictures, make sounds and talk to students in a pleasant fashion."

Exercises are completed in the Apple Lab of the Hammermill Building on computers equipped with headphones. Computer homework is completed outside the class period.

In simple drills, the computer illustrates and plays randomly-

selected notes or pitches, and students identify them. In advanced exercises, students create major and minor scales, which appear on the screen while the computer plays the scales and identifies any incorrect notes.

In each exercise, students must select the correct answer before the program will continue.

Tim Reese, a senior energy and environmental technology major from Girard says, "The speed at which the exercises can be completed is a real advantage over using a workbook. And the computer asks questions randomly, keeping the material fresh."

Stuntz says the class appeals to students with a variety of majors and musical backgrounds. No experience with computers or music is required.

He estimates the cost of the new curriculum, including software, is only about \$3 more per student than a conventional course that uses workbooks.

Sigma Kappa Nu sponsors 24-hour dance-a-thon

by Pat Schlipf
Collegian Staff Writer

On April 4 and 5 Sigma Kappa Nu will hold its 24-hour dance-a-thon to benefit multiple sclerosis. It will be held in the George Cafeteria beginning at 8:00 p.m.

The Gorge will be split in half—half for dancers and half for spectators with either WSEG or Joel Miller spinning dance records.

To participate in the dance-a-thon, you must have a partner. The pair does not have to be from Behrend—anyone can support the marathon. However, each couple

must have pledges totalling or exceeding \$3 per hour, therefore having a total of at least \$72 for the 24 hours. Couples can sign up by Friday, March 21 and pledge sheets must be in by Monday, March 31. Those interested can sign up through Pat Espin (122 Perry), the RUB Desk, or the SKN house (898-4073).

Skippereno's is one sponsor for the marathon. Sponsors for the marathon can be a group or independent people. Donations can be given at the door. All are welcome to the marathon and support the participants.

New logo continued from page 1

environment, striving not only to raise funds but also to increase enrollment.

However, one of Penn State's biggest problems on the national market is that it has hundreds of different logos being used by Commonwealth campuses and University clubs and programs—ranging from the lion head of the athletic department to a profile of Old Main's tower used by another department, he said.

This diversity can lead to public confusion and makes an image of unification impossible, he said.

In lieu of the Capital Campaign—Penn State's \$200 million fund-raising effort—it is crucial that the University has one logo to be used on brochures, booklets and informational material which will be sent out during the campaign.

By using one consistent logo that can be identified with the University it will "meet with more success in the competitive market," Williams said.

Williams emphasized that depending on the results of the research, the firm may recommend the use of one of the current logos instead of creating something new. He added that while University President Bryce Jordan has put a halt to the generation of new logos by the University, he has not placed any restrictions on the use of current ones.

Williams said he "is not at liberty to disclose the figure" of the project's cost. He added that the cost of the firm's services will come out of the money raised from the fund-raising.

Williams said he expects the firm's final suggestion for the logo either this spring or summer.

ROTC Colorguard marches in parade

by Barrett Parker
Collegian Staff Writer

The setting is any of the men's basketball games, the clock ticks down and they announce the teams. Four persons start walking across the court dressed in camouflage and carrying flags. This is ROTC Colorguard. There is much more involved in the colorguard than two minutes at the beginning of a few basketball games.

This semester, about fifteen cadets have participated in colorguard activities including Erie Golden Blades hockey games, local high school football games, and in local parades such as the

St. Patrick's Day parade last Saturday.

Sgt. Cal Fryling, in command of the colorguard said, "It was tough and it was fun. I really enjoy doing... (the colorguard). It is an honor and a privilege presenting the national colors."

"It's fun to do," said Heidi Gebhardt, second in charge of the colorguard, "...and it's good representing the school."

Ten members of the colorguard are participating in a drill competition at Fort Indiantown Gap on Saturday, April 19. Other upcoming events for the colorguard include the ROTC Honors and Awards ceremony at the end of the term.

Any MS-I or MS-II student interested in becoming a member of the colorguard can contact Sgt. Young in the ROTC office.

Accident victim thanks Behrend

I would like to thank all of my friends, professors and all others involved for their thoughtfulness and concern during my time of injury. I received so many get well cards and phone calls that it would be almost impossible to thank everyone individually. I hope this reaches out to everyone who showed their sympathy. I would like to give a special thanks to Ed and Tim, who drove to Warren during the first week after our accident to see me and bring Behrend's condolences. I also deeply appreciate the memorial service for my lost friends and yours. I am unable to finish this semester, but will be back in the Fall. Once again, Thank you.

Michael J. Shanshala



ROTC Colorguard from left to right: Cdt. Sgt. Barrett Parker, Cdt. James Fogle, Cdt. Lori Beals, Cdt. Sherece Taffe.

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