

Director opens curtain on studio theatre

by Helen McAvoy
Collegian Contributing Writer

Apathy or lack of understanding, what could be keeping audiences small at the on-campus theatre?

Whatever the reason, the problem of getting people to audition and to attend the performances presented at the Behrend Studio Theatre has been plaguing director Tony Elliot. Giving the problem considerable thought, he does not feel students necessarily have a lack of interest.

"They just don't know," he explains. "People have to be taught about theatre before they can know about it. I would like to see theatre attendance encouraged in the classroom."

He explains that if people come from areas where no live theatre is performed then people would have had little exposure to theatre, if any, before coming to Behrend. He stresses how difficult it is to interest people in theatre for the first time.

But, creating an audience is part of his job. Maybe the hardest part; however, he has several ideas he hopes will be effective. Elliot plans to have more on-campus publicity, pass out handbills, and offer deals on tickets.

"I'm not as interested in making money as I am in providing a large audience for the cast," he says. "It is a disappointment to the cast when just a few people show up for a performance. Opening Night should be special, and we are sending out special invitations to assure a large audience that night."

Elliot was disappointed by the relatively small attendance at some of the performances of last season's presentations: The Dining Room and The Children's Hour. The plays ran for ten performances and he feels that people could have found the time to attend, if they had wanted to. "My job is to make them want to!"

When compared to the population of Behrend campus, the attendance of student, faculty, and staff is paltry.

Asked if his being a new director in the area had anything to do with the size of his audiences, he said it might have influenced a few people, but he felt it would have been more of a drawing factor than a hindrance.

"I think they would have come just to see what kind of work I can do," he said.

He hopes the students from last year who came will return and bring others with them.

"Many people," he says, "look at the outside of the building and think that because of its size that good theatre can't be performed here. They are wrong. We can do different things here than they can do in other theatres." He says, "Here the audience has to be considered a part of the show, because of the theatre's intimacy. This requires more concentration and greater responsibility from the audience. It becomes a shared experience."

Student Voice

by Felicia Kelly
Collegian Staff Writer

Over the past couple of weeks, construction men have been trying to reconstruct the ceiling that has been slowly falling in the Reed Building. Along with the falling ceiling, we have had power failures and our Reed Television has been loaded with black-outs. We asked six students what else they think can use a little reconstruction in order to improve the interior as well as exterior of our college.



Jim Hague

Jim Hague, first semester, pre-med—"The Reed Building really needs help, but I feel that it's the exterior that needs a lot of reconstruction, especially the sports fields. The fields should be patched up and taken care of so that when new prospective students come to look at the campus it will make us look good."

John Kennedy, eighth semester, accounting—"The roof of the Reed

Building is in bad shape. I think the idea of fixing the roof was a fantastic one, however, (it was a bad



Steve McGarvey

idea to fix it) during the rainy season. They could have fixed it during the summer and saved the students a lot of grief."

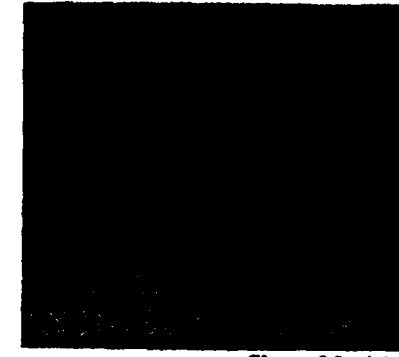
Steve McGarvey, first semester, business—"I feel that the Reed Building is in basically pretty good shape except for recent problems with the roof. I look forward to the days when I will again be dry in

"What things can be done to improve our college?"

photos by Paul Duda

Reed 117 during Music. I feel that the administration is probably do-

needs some serious improvements--besides the obvious ceiling pro-

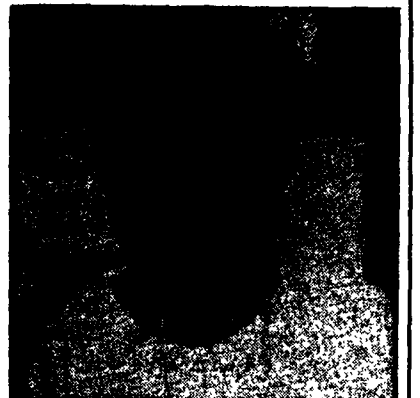


Shane Musich and Tim Maney

ing all possible to deal with the inconvenience, but, in the meantime, I wear a raincoat to class."

Shane Musich, third semester, accounting and Tim Maney, third semester, major undecided—"Besides the obvious problems in the Reed Building, we also believe that the clocks in all buildings should be set at the correct time and there should be one placed in the Reed lobby. There should be an express line for single items in 'the Gorge' (the Wintergreen Cafe) and there should be lower over all prices. We also feel that music should be played louder in non-studying areas. Most importantly, we feel that station channels on the Reed television should be switched occasionally from day to day so that we don't have to watch General Hospital every day."

Rosanne Grygler, third semester, accounting—"The Reed building



Rosanne Grygler

blem. For example, more clocks are needed in the lobby and it should be cleaned more regularly because it tends to get excessively sloppy. Extra cleaning personnel may be necessary. I also feel that the Turnbull building needs more lights in the hallways. The building is quite old and needs definite reconstruction."

productions of The Christmas Carol and as Cinderella in Cinderella.

Performance dates are: October 31, November 5-8 at 8:00 p.m., and 2:30 matinees on November 2 and

9. For information reservations, call the box office at 898-6331, Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Reduced rates are available to students, senior citizens, and groups.

Entertainment scheduled for Alcohol Awareness Week

by Jill Tourville
Collegian Staff Writer

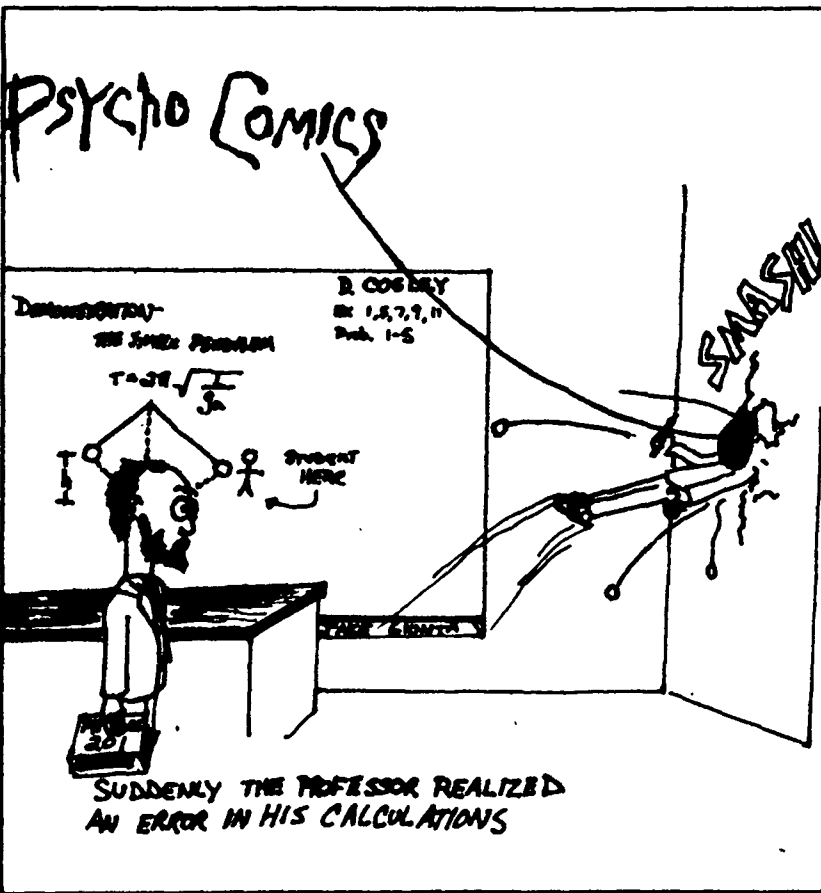
Oct. 19-26 has been designated alcohol awareness week in conjunction with a nationwide effort sponsored by the Inter Association Task Force, which represents all college personnel staffs across the country. The residence life and Student Activities committees want to inform students about problems related to alcohol misuse so that students will make wise decisions about alcohol. This program has been initiated

to deal with the reality that underage drinking does occur on campus. The decision to obey or disobey the drinking law of Pennsylvania is ultimately the individuals'. Thus only by knowing the facts can each individual make a responsible decision about alcohol.

Many special activities are scheduled daily, including: a mixologist, a lawyer who will speak about the liability of drinking and Police and Safety will conduct a seminar about the breathalyzer and

the drunken driving laws. On the lighter side, a car smash, in which a small fee will be charged to raise money for a local alcohol rehabilitation center. The Wintergreen Cafe will have a "happy hour" on Friday where non-alcoholic drinks will be served and the microphone will be open to anyone who wants to improvise comedy. Also Billy's on State Street will be dry for an evening.

Check the "Today" bulletin for specific dates and learn the facts this week!



It is Elliot's opinion that having a theatre on campus is a privilege of which students should take advantage. He points out that not all colleges have theatres, certainly not all Penn State campuses; therefore, we should use it to its fullest.

Getting people in the theatre the first time is difficult but once they are there, Elliot plans on making sure they have a good time so that they will come back.

He sees this problem as a challenge. "I want to make this theatre more a part of the campus and at the same time share this outstanding facility with the community."

The first Penn state-Behrend production of the season is a Richard Rodgers' musical, Two By Two. It is a modern-day version of the Biblical story, Noah and the Ark, with touching moments intertwined with hilarity. Cast as Noha is Earl M. Kneissler who has performed in Witness for the Prosecution and Divorce Me Darling at the Erie Playhouse; as Esther, Kitty Dilley who has performed in Brigadoon and the Behrend production of The Dining Room; as Sem, Brad Hirsch who performed in Lovers at Behrend; as Leah, Jennifer Scherer, as Ham, Sean Gallagher, and Japheth, Bill Hallinan--their first appearances on the Behrend

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Crossword Companion

ACROSS

- Hits
- Baying
- Copy; mimic
- Lull; quiet
- Delete
- Sun-dried brick
- Prosecuting officer (abbr.)
- Time period
- Fish
- Pullet
- Direction (abbr.)
- Bolt
- Go by
- Fur
- Extravagance
- How all grounds end
- Time Zone (abbr.)
- Area
- Beams
- High cards
- Ward off
- Near
- Each
- Gen
- Egg
- Precess
- Tied up
- Same
- Declaim

DOWN

- Hackle
- Great Lake
- Craft
- Preposition
- Hungry
- Almost
- Owe
- Hole-in-one
- Southern state (abbr.)
- Oldest
- A plan (obsolete)
- Mission
- Deer
- Hue; dye
- Henry
- Circles
- Dated; obsolete
- Digger
- Spin
- Fat
- Containing acid
- Grounded
- Black birds
- Upright position
- Dance
- 2,000 pounds
- Seeds
- Elipse
- Sinks
- Environment group (abbr.)
- Bomber (abbr.)
- Elven (Roman)

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