

MAC and Cashstream consolidate

by Cheryl Nietupski
Collegian Staff Writer

MAC and CASHSTREAM cards will soon be interchangeable. In early Jan., the MAC (Money Access Center) network of CoreStates Financial Corporation and the CASHSTREAM network of Mellon Bank decided to merge. The combined networks will serve 538 financial institutions in Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Under the MAC name, the consolidation will be effected around April 1 and will be completed by year's end, according to Thomas R. Slate, Vice President and Electronic Banking Manager of PNC Financial Corporation of Erie. Although not all Mellon Banks have agreed to consolidate, Mellon

Bank Vice President, Donald J. Gleason, said that the consolidation will increase customer convenience through more ATM (Automated Teller Machine) availability. The banks still debating the consolidation are considering either running their own CASHSTREAM ATMs independently or operating within a whole new network.

The consolidation will also prove more efficient to customers by allowing cardholders to make use of special merchant locations. It will free cardholders of having to use a single network in order to be accepted by ATMs for Debit Point of Sale Purchase, according to Bonnie E. Hill, Sr. Vice President of CoreStates.

In a Point of Sale system, banking cards are used to pay for purchases which are deducted from the user's account, much like a

credit card. According to Gleason, financial institutions were previously unable "to find a way to get merchants to accept both cards through one terminal."

The merge is a direct result of Mellon Bank's \$610 million loss from Jan. to Sept. '87, which brought their year's total loss of revenue to \$810 million. In order to recover from its severe financial loss, Mellon Bank began charging their cardholders 75 cents every time they used a non-Mellon Bank ATM. The new transaction fee made Mellon Bank and many CASHSTREAM institutions consider making the MAC consolidation.

For the first quarter, Mellon Bank stands to make \$9 million, and profits will probably increase through CoreStates payments for partial consolidation costs. For

every bank that Mellon Bank consolidates with by April, CoreStates will pay \$1,500 for each ATM and \$1 for each ATM card. The banks that change over to MAC after April will receive only half the defraying costs.

Presently MAC has 2,445 ATMs and 6.6 million cardholders, while there are 1,819 CASHSTREAM ATMs and 5 million cardholders. Per month, MAC has 50 per cent more transactions than CASHSTREAM.

Nationwide, MAC ranks as the fifth largest and CASHSTREAM ranks as the 16th largest networks. When the consolidation is complete, CoreStates' 4300 ATMs will become one of the largest cashcard networks in the nation, second to the New York Cash Exchange (NYCE) in New York City.



photo by MaryBeth Zawistoski

Assistant Professor of Geoscience
Eva Tucker

Tucker new Board President

by Trinette Zawadzki
Collegian Staff Writer

Eva Tucker, assistant Professor of Geoscience here at Penn State-Behrend, was recently elected President of the Erie School Board.

Tucker is best known for introducing the controversial "C-average" rule which restricted the involvement of students with poor grades in sports teams. He stresses the need for quality education for all Erie students.

"We should concern ourselves with educating all young people because there is no substitute for education. And it is becoming difficult to get a job without a high school diploma, even a minimum wage job," said Tucker.

"How can we provide the best possible education for the students in the city of Erie?" Tucker asked. "Some of our overall goals are increasing the academic performance of students and reducing course failure rates. To decrease the failure rate, there are a plans to implement placement tests and place the students accordingly, reevaluate the curriculum, reduce class size, and try different teaching methods," said Tucker.

Some problems that plague education are high absenteeism, teen pregnancy, and drug and alcohol abuse. Tucker also stresses the need for parental participation, especially for students that are academically-at-risk.

Tucker said Erie is considering a new program that would allow students to chose a high school major such as Academic (courses like algebra and chemistry) or General (courses like general math or physical science. Hopefully, this program would keep students from taking courses which they are unprepared for and failing them. This college-like program would prepare students better and produce higher passing rates. Once again, Tucker's main goal is insuring that all Erie students receive a top quality education.

Notices

ALL STUDENTS residing in dorms and University Apartments: If your telephone has been shut off because of non-payment of bill, it will take about a week to have your access code reactivated. If after that time your code is still inactive, call the Behrend Operator at ext. 6000, and she will put you through to Telecommunications at University Park.

If your phone is not working properly, first try another phone in the wall jack. If another phone works, then your phone can be exchanged for a new one. Call the Operator first to ensure that she has a new phone to give you.

If, when trying a new phone in the wall jack, the phone still does not work, call the Operator and she will report it to the proper source. **DO NOT BRING PHONES TO THE OPERATOR UNTIL YOU HAVE FOLLOWED THE ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS.**

Rick Demski is the Eastern College Athletic Conference Division III South Rookie of the week for his performances from Feb. 1 thru Feb. 6.

Demski, a freshman forward from Erie, Pa. and a graduate of Cathedral Prep high school, was a key player in a 2-1 week for the Lions. He scored 66 points while shooting 61 percent (28-46) from the floor, collared 33 rebounds, blocked 6 shots and had four steals. Demski's outstanding performances helped the Lions even their season record to 10-10. The win also propelled the lions to 10-4 in the ECAC.

Erie Art Museum is offering the Adult Workshop "Hand Coloring Photographs" Feb. 29 from 6 - 7 p.m. Also, from March 13 to April 17, the Museum will feature the exhibit "Masters of Cartoon Art," a survey of the best newspaper cartoon art. From Thomas Nast to Gary Trudeau, from the Yellow Kid to Peanuts, Krazy Kat to Garfield, this outstanding exhibition is selected from the collection of the Museum of Cartoon Art.

Focus On The Stars If you've ever wanted to capture the stars (like the North Star and Andromeda, not Madonna and Sean Penn) on film, Dr. Robert Marande will show how during the second lecture in his Astronomical Lecture Series. Marande will discuss "Astronomical Photography" at 7 p.m. on Sat., Feb. 27 in Behrend 101. The lecture is free and open to the public, but reservations are required. For more information or reservations, call 6105.

Free Tax Assistance is available in the Reed Lounge through April 15. Mon. and Wed. 3 pm to 5 pm. Tues. and Thurs. 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Additional help is available daily from 8:30 am to 5 pm in room 216 of the Sumner Nichols Building, 155 W. Eighth St., Erie. Phone is 871-4491.

Lambda Sigma is beginning its selection process for new members. Nominees will be notified by mail the week after Spring Break. Students with a 3.0 or greater GPA are eligible. Anyone who does not receive notification and who believes they are qualified should contact John Forster at 899-8192 or Lisa Hahn at 898-6962.

University Relations -- Student and faculty writers from area colleges can submit their work for presentation during "The Profession of English and the Opening of the American Mind," an upcoming conference sponsored by Penn State - Behrend and the Pennsylvania College English Association (PCEA).

The event, which will serve as the PCEA's Annual Conference as well as Penn State - Behrend's third annual Undergraduate Literature Conference, will be held April 22-23.

Lynne Cheney, Chairperson for the National Endowment for the Humanities, will be the keynote speaker.

In addition to Cheney's address, the Conference will include two panel discussions and several student and faculty sessions, featuring presentations of creative works and scholarly papers.

Faculty interested in participating in the Conference should submit 500-word abstracts for papers or proposals for 3- to 4-person sessions in any of the following categories:

- Literature
- Linguistics
- Composition
- Pedagogy
- Curriculum
- Women's Studies
- Minority Studies
- Humanities Education
- Poetry
- and Short Fiction.

Paper presentations should not exceed 15 minutes, and sessions should not exceed one hour. Faculty can send their submissions to Dr. Dean Baldwin, Program Chairman, English Dept., Penn State - Behrend, Erie, PA 16563.

The deadline for submissions is March 1, 1988. For more information call (814) 898 - 6159.

A.I. for human rights

by Darren Boyce
Collegian Staff Writer

"For years I was held in a tiny cell. My only human contact was with my torturers...My only company were the cockroaches and mice...On Christmas Eve the door to my cell opened and the guard tossed in a crumpled piece of paper. It said, 'Take heart. The world knows you're alive. We're with you. Regards, Monica, Amnesty International.' That letter saved my life." - a released prisoner of conscience from Paraguay.

Thousands of people throughout the world are imprisoned for their beliefs, imprisoned against their basic human rights. Many others are tortured or even killed. An organization called Amnesty International was formed in 1961 to work towards stopping these human rights abuses. Amnesty International (A.I.) is a world wide independent movement that works impartially for the release of what they call "prisoners of conscience." These "prisoners of conscience" are men, women, and children imprisoned for their beliefs, color, sex, ethnic origin, language, or religion, provided they have neither used nor advocated violence. A.I. also seeks to abolish torture and executions and insure that all political prisoners receive fair and prompt trials.

Amnesty International groups

work towards these goals by doing these three basic things: **Writing Urgent Action Appeals** (letters warning offending governments that the world is aware and concerned of what they are doing), **Undertaking Country Campaigns and Special Actions** (focusing attention on one particular country and centering on such issues as "disappearances" or executions) and **Spreading the Word on Human Rights** (continually informing other people about the abuse of human rights and what can be done to stop it.)

You can help Amnesty International. An organization is being formed on this campus that meets every Wednesday at 2:00 in the Library Conference Room. By writing letters you can help save lives just as Monica helped save a life of a prisoner of conscience of Paraguay.

Many people belong to such organizations. All the members of U2 belong and Amnesty inspires them to play. And Sting quotes "While you're writing letters for prisoners and for your own future, don't forget that being a member of Amnesty has a component of fun. It can be fun having a dictator for your pen pal."

You have the opportunity to join and help stop human rights violations. Remember that individuals can make a difference.

Centered around you

by Mary Birdsong
Contributing Writer

Do you hate typing? Especially those term papers that were due yesterday? The Computer Center in the Hammernill-Zurn building has a way to make things easier for you.

The Computer Center has personal computers available for your use. Just enter in your term paper, send it to the printer, and before you can say "Spring Break," that nasty chore is over.

Don't know how to use a PC? Suffering from computer phobia? Rest easy, the Computer Center student consultants are ready to train you in word-processing software packages, as well as other software packages that could make your studies just a touch easier.

The software packages available for seminar training are:

- WordPerfect - a word-processing package for the IBM PC or any compatible.
- MacWrite - a word-processing package for the Macintosh PC
- Microsoft Word - a word-processing package for the IBM PC or any compatible.
- DOS - the basic Disk Operating System package that controls the movement of information on a PC.
- YTERM - a communication package that allows a PC to talk with the mainframe computer through a direct connection or dial-up modem.
- ICU - the Interactive Chart Utility program on the main frame computer that allows a user to plot and display data from files. (It would be necessary to have an account on the mainframe computer, FVM for this one.)
- VP Planner - a spreadsheet package that is a Lotus 1-2-3 look-a-like. It allows for graphical representation of data.

The training seminars will only be available if enough people express interest. If you want to learn more about these packages and are interested in attending a seminar, please call the Computer Center at 898-6250 by March 18 to let them know what package(s) you are interested in and what time you would like to see a seminar occur (morning, afternoon, evening). If not enough calls are received, the seminars will not be held!

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The University of Toronto's main campus is in Toronto. The Erindale College campus is in Mississauga.

The page 2 photo, furnished by the Sister College Representatives, was taken by Student Senator Diane Say, in front of Erindale's main entrance.

The 'Jobs for sale' article was written by Cheryl Nietupski.