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Officials: Speaker Series Offers Diversity, Quality Cost of 1989-90 Program is About \$54,000

by Lea Gotch
Collegian Staff Writer

This year's speaker series should offer more diversity than in the past, and will explore areas other than politics, according to David Shields, Behrend's Assistant Dean of Student Services.

The 1989-90 Speaker Series, entitled "Into the 21st Century: Issues for the 1990's" will feature ten speakers, including Martin Luther King, III and Gloria Steinem, with topics ranging from the internal affairs of the KGB, women's rights and AIDS.

Around \$54,000 was allocated for this year's program.

Behrend's speaker series is nationally acclaimed and is considered to be one of

the best in the country, according to Shields.

"There are not many colleges our size that can compete with us," said Shields. "Gannon and Mercyhurst can't touch us. This is Behrend's niche."

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- David Shields
Assistant Dean
Student Services

According to Shields, the process of choosing the speakers began nearly a year ago. A committee of about 25 members of the faculty, staff, and students identified around 60 possible candidates. A survey was then sent out to all faculty, staff, and students. The results of the survey were used to narrow the list to approximately 20 prospective guests.

This list of 20 possibilities was then sent to seven different speaker agencies to begin bidding for the contract. The agency that offered the most "bang for the buck" received the contract. This year the Cosby Bureau International of Washington, D.C. is handling the series.

John Downey, Coordinator of Student Organizations/Program Development, also suggests this year's speaker series is both more diverse and better balanced, offering speakers from both ends of the political spectrum and from a variety of areas of expertise.

"In the past it's been more political in nature," said Downey.

Shields said that a travel, food, and hotel expenses are included in the total cost of the program. Fees vary from speaker to speaker with most averaging between \$3,000 and \$10,000.

Every year Behrend is allotted a sum of money from University Park to be used for student activities and services.

Part of this amount is used to pay for the speaker series each year.

The first speaker scheduled to appear is David Gergen, editor-at-large of "U.S. News and World Report." He has served in three White House administrations and will speak on the topic "Why the Democrats Won't Win the White House Soon". Dr. Gergen will appear in the Reed Lecture Hall on Tuesday, September 19, at 8:00 p.m.

Throughout the year lecture subjects will be tied into campus events such as parent's weekend, Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and Women's history month.

Speakers will include Major Stanislav Levchenko, Martin Luther King, III, Gloria Steinem, and Dr. Richard P. Keeling.

Parking Garage Idea Studied Problems With Space Shortage Persist

by Tony Olivito
Collegian Staff Writer

Behrend's parking problem has prompted a study on the possibility of constructing a parking garage.

Currently, makeshift lots on what once was part of the campus' landscape provide 160 temporary spaces. This includes the area just east of the Nick Building and west of Turnbull, a dirt lot south of Lawrence Hall, and, in some instances, other land in the vicinity of designated lots which is suitable for parking.

Most recently, Behrend Police Chief Gene Johnson reports all resident lots have been filled and resident parking permits are no longer being sold.

The proposed garage site east of Jordan Road would alleviate parking shortage by furnishing 450 spaces. According to John Ream, Behrend's director of operations, besides conserving land which could be better used for other developments, the garage would be in proximity to the future library, residence halls, and other facilities.

Ream attributes the shortage of parking to a change in lifestyle of the average college student.

"Cars which were once a nicety have now become a necessity," said Ream. He feels this trend along with the school's growing enrollment is responsible for the problem.

A decision is expected after funding for the project has been thoroughly studied.

No timetable for construction has been established.

WPSE On Air



photo by Amy Smith

ON AIR - Beth Lefebvre sits at the controls in the WPSE studio. The station plans to slowly institute more student-oriented programming.

Behrend Radio Seeks Professionalism Before Making Changes

by Greg Farrell
Collegian Staff Writer

WPSE isn't reaching a high percentage of Behrend students, but for now that's not its main concern.

Only four months old, the station's primary goal is to have "reliable air and production studios" to ensure the station is perceived as professional.

"WPSE serves both the Eric community and Behrend, so we are a link between them," said station manager Fred Anzivino. "We want to be professional because we are all that most people see of Behrend."

For now, WPSE is broadcasting sports and news syndicated from CBS as well as American Radio Network talk shows.

With over 100 students expressing interest in working for the station, student perception of the station should warm as more students become involved.

Ken Bunting, student station manager, wants to see more student involvement.

According to Bunting, "As we expand and grow, I think it's something the students will run more the way

they want to. I think talk was a good way to start, but I also think that we need to serve the students."

A poll of Behrend students confirms that WPSE still falls short of appealing to the entire student body.

Freshman Trisch Mahr questioned, "WPSE... What's that?" Heath Holodziej, a junior, is aware of the station but does not listen because he's "not into news and sports."

Anzivino explained that the station's library of music is just beginning to grow, so any musical format is still wide open. "We can't play music (as well as FM stations) without stereo, but as a college station we can be more flexible than most commercial stations."

"As students get up to speed and the library builds, we will play music weekends... we are only getting up to speed now though," added Anzivino.

The young station is hoping to hook listeners during the World Series and Super Bowl, both of which they plan to air in the upcoming months.

Music may take a while because as Anzivino noted, WPSE "won't do it if it is not professional."