

Behrend Briefs

Attention ALL Student Clubs and Organizations: The Student Organization Council will hold its November meeting tonight at 6:30 p.m. in the Reed Lecture Hall. All representatives are required to attend.

New Health and Wellness Site: The Center is now located in the blue house south of Police and Safety on Jordan Road. For more information call 898-6217.

Psi Chi Speaker: Dr. Russell E. Gruber, Assistant Professor of Psychology at Eastern Illinois University, will present "The Functions of Dreaming" on Saturday, Nov. 9 at 7 p.m. in the Reed Lecture Hall.

Essay Contest: The Lion Ambassadors will sponsor the "Why Penn State-Behrend is Special to Me" contest through Nov. 15. Best essay will be awarded a \$50 prize. Essays can be turned in to the Development Office, 2nd floor Glenhill.

Flu Shots Available: Flu vaccine is now available at the Health Center for the 91-92 flu season. The cost is \$8 per injection.

Free Tutoring Available: All Behrend students are welcome to utilize the Learning Assistance Center's services. For more information call 898-6014 or drop by the Center located in the South Cottage.

Spring 1992 Schedule of Classes Available: The Registrar's Office will be accepting advance registration requests Oct. 28 - Nov. 8.

Best Student Competition: This annual contest, sponsored by *USA Today*, is open to all full-time undergraduates. For more information call Mari Trenkle at 898-6160.

Planning Meeting: Students, faculty and staff interested in establishing an organization for Jewish students are invited to attend the meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 12 at 8 p.m. in the Apartments Community Center.

New Course Offered: "Peer Education," a 3 credit course about Drugs and Alcohol, is offered this spring. Class size is limited to 20. See class schedule booklet for more info.

Commu Majors: Lambda Pi Eta Honor Society in Communication will meet every Monday at 6:30 p.m. in Reed 116. Anyone interested in working with the society is encouraged to attend.

Wanna Brief? If your organization has information you would like to see run in the Behrend Briefs, write it down and bring it to *The Collegian* office.

Delta Sigma Pi Guest Speaker: Carl J. Schlemmer will speak on Thursday, Nov. 14 in the Reed Lecture Hall at 7 p.m. All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend.

MEC Meeting: The Mechanical Engineering Club will hold its monthly meeting tonight at 5 p.m. in Reed 116.

Textbook prices

(continued from page 1)

without reason.

"There are books we order in July, but will have to order again in September because we underordered," said Nancy Harned, bookstore manager at Edinboro University.

"We (the bookstore) will see a price increase of \$6-8 per book on our second order." The bookstores usually absorb these costs, she said.

Most schools, including Behrend, have an independent book company who buys the books back from the student. This can be an advantage to the students as well as the bookstore.

For example, if a student wants to sell back *Western American Civilization, fourth edition*, a book that may not be used at Behrend next year, the book company will usually buy it back.

More than likely, it will be able to find another college using the book and sell it to them. If not, the company will usually

store the book until it finds a school who will be using it in the coming semester.

Typically, these companies pay about half the face value for a textbook. While this may seem low, "book brokers" have to compensate for high overhead and also earn a profit.

Sometimes they pay less than half of the original price for a textbook. This could be due to a high level of that particular book in stock or a new addition might be hitting the shelves soon.

"Publishers generally issue a new addition about every four years," said MacDonald. "Sometimes the changes hardly seem worth making, generally collusion is how prices stay so high. I've been in this business for 23 years and I have not been able to get a straight answer from the publishers."

"A lot of books go to paperback and a lot of colored ink is added, but this seems to be, in my opinion, a ploy," said Harned. "It makes the books

prettier but not more valuable. Someone is making some bucks."

Bookstore managers say they're not the one's making the bucks. The bookstores in most colleges are run as independent non-profit organizations.

"We add a flat 20% to our cost," says Harned. "Whatever money we make goes back into the bookstore to pay our costs of business."

MacDonald said most of the profit from Behrend's bookstore come from non-book items. "Most of the money we make is on the knick-knack items, such as t-shirts and mugs. On occasion some books bring no profit at all."

Many people feel the prices of books are out of control. "When I first got in this business," said MacDonald, "I could honestly say books were a minor cost to one's education. I can't say that any more."

History of a textbook

1) Textbook is produced by publisher

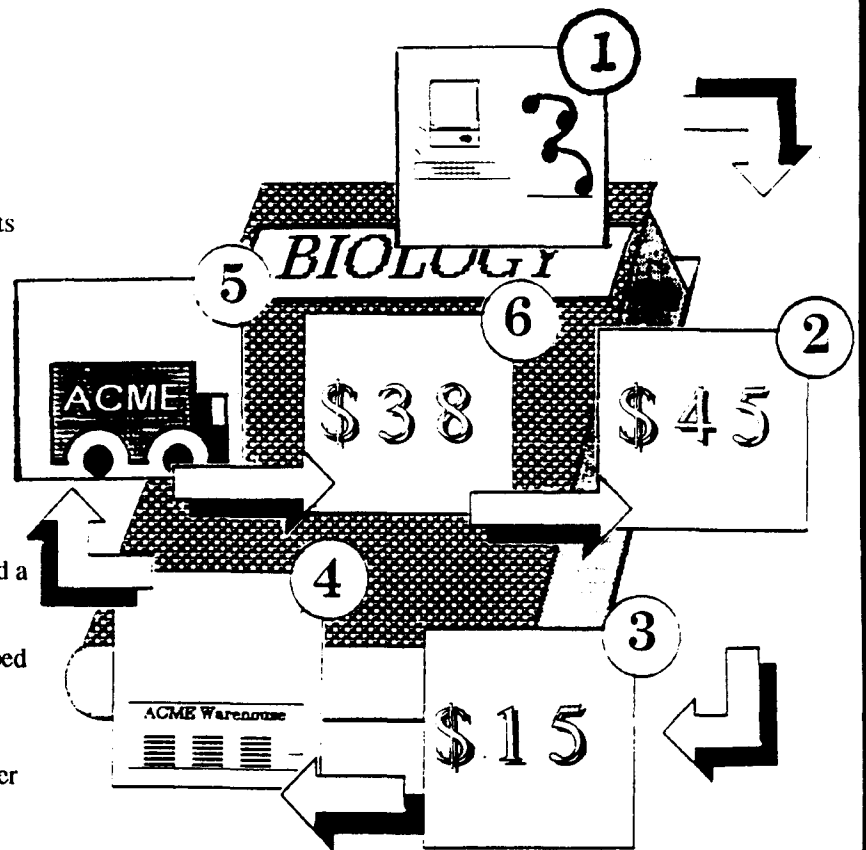
2) Bookstore sells textbooks to students

3) "Book broker" buys books back from students

4) Used textbooks stored a warehouse

5) Used textbooks shipped to bookstore

6) Used textbooks sold back to students at higher price



Police Report

Police and Safety officers cite underage drinkers

by Jeff Johnson
The Collegian

On Saturday a driver was arrested for underage drinking after Police and Safety officers noticed he had failed to stop at a stop sign. The driver's keys were taken, and he was released to a companion.

An additional arrest was made on Sunday for underage drinking. Police and Safety officers stopped a student in the apartment parking lot. The student was taken back to Perry Hall where he was issued a citation and released.

Projector Theft

On Thursday the Instructional Communications Center reported that an overhead projector had

been stolen. The projector was taken from a classroom in Lawrence Hall. The incident is still under investigation.

Robbery

On Sunday a student reported a robbery to Police and Safety. The student said \$42 in cash and 20 compact discs had been taken from his apartment. The incident is currently under investigation.