

Behrend Rates Clinton

by Paul M. Marini
Collegian Staff

It has been only ten months since the governor of Arkansas became President Bill Clinton.

Since taking office in January, Clinton has proposed the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" bill concerning homosexuals in the military, proposed his health care reform bill, sent humanitarian aid to Somalia, and promised to streamline the federal bureaucracy.

Several students and faculty members responded to a survey conducted by the Collegian staff.

The question asked was, "How do you think Clinton has dealt with the presidency in his first 270 days?"

Julie Barley, a first semester engineering major said, "I believe that Clinton fell through on all of his campaign promises. I also believe that he knew that he was going to break his promises, and that he just used the American voters to get his office."

Coleen Gritzen, a third semester chemistry major, agreed, "As far as what Clinton has done to this point in his term, I am not very satisfied."

Gritzen continued, "Several times he promised things and each time his promises have fallen through. I'm strongly against most of his decisions and am looking forward to 1996 and getting another Republican in the White House."

Mark Fisher, a first semester pre-med major, said, "Clinton won his presidency by kissing up to everyone, then proceeded to promote his private interests by disregarding even the highest levels of his own cabinet."

On the opposite side of the spectrum, other people support

Clinton.

"He is almost unctuous," said Chris Keenan, a first semester chemistry major. "But I think he's trying his best to help the country recover from the recession."

"I think he's done what is necessary to bring change to this country; change is good," said Becky Durkin, a seventh semester English major.

Don Weber, a fifth semester business and liberal arts and science major agreed, "Bill is trying to make sure a lot of changes are instituted, but until the outcome is compared with the past, we can't make a qualified judgement."

Andrew Spears, a third semester DUS student said, "He's got the right attitude towards the current issues. I'm just waiting to see if he's really going to do anything about them."

"I think he's doing a better job than other people expected," said Holly Olarczuk, a third semester political science major.

Olarczuk continued, "People saw him as a pushover, but now he's acting like a president."

Jeff Klingensmith, a third semester communication and history major, said, "President Clinton has a lot on his hands and he will not be able to please everyone. We are still dealing with Bush's plans. We need to give Clinton a chance, and give his plans a chance."

Some commented on Clinton's military policy.

Amber Palmer, a sixth semester biology major said, "Considering that I voted for him, I am very disappointed. He weened out on homosexuals in the military and the whole gay rights issue. I dislike his current Somalian policy."

Aaron Tullio, a first semester plastics major, said, "I don't like downscaling the military. (Clinton) said he was going to do so much for us, but we haven't seen anything yet."

Dan Stanisky, a fifth semester MIS major added, "Somalia should have been a dust bowl by now."

Finally, there is the Clinton health care reform issue.

Carmen Kesternek, a first semester freshman said, "I agree with President Clinton when he says 'at least the plan is something.' Currently, the health care system is corrupt and getting more complex every day. I say just adopt this health care program and get underway with the many problems in the US today."

Mr. Robert Speel, a political science instructor said, "I think health care reform is necessary. Clinton's plan is a very good start. I'm not sure it goes far enough, especially at controlling costs. The top priority of any health care reform should be universal coverage."

President Clinton has more than three years to answer problems and questions just like the ones that Behrend faculty and students have expressed.

Editor's note: The Collegian staff contributed to this article by handing out questionnaires to students, faculty and staff.

Activities Fee Recommended

by Rob Moffett
Collegian Staff

The Commonwealth Campus Student Government met this past weekend to discuss the proposed activities fee.

Sam Epps, president of SOC said that the meeting resulted in a unanimous endorsement of the activities fee.

In a survey to determine students' support of the fee, the most common response was, "What fee?"

The proposed activities fee would be charged to full-time students each semester. The fee of approximately \$25 could be used to finance student activities, organizations, clubs, intramurals, athletics, and other programs.

David Shields, director of Student Activities, said, "The first priority is clubs and organizations." He continued to say, "Clubs and organizations are forced to focus on fundraising before they can accomplish their primary organizational objectives."

Shields said, "Behrend is growing in leaps and bounds." He added that budgets are not growing nearly as fast as the demands of the expanding campus.

According to the survey, students who participate in campus life support the fee. These students are both on and off-campus residents.

The primary reason given by non-supportive students was that they are not active enough with campus activities to benefit from the fee.

Shields said that although no one likes extra charges, the activities fee is needed in order to catch up with budget demands

from the 72 organizations that exist on campus, as well as an increased demand for services and programs.

One example Shields gave was the Paula Poundstone concert. He started with a budget of zero. Ticket sales and fundraising were the only monetary sources. "It was a risk," Shields said, "but it was one we needed to take."

According to Shields, student organizations currently receive funds from three sources. On an annual basis, about \$35,000 comes from University Park, \$17,000 from traffic and parking fines, and another \$10,000 from the purchase of activity cards.

Out of the \$62,000 available, about half goes to five of the 72 organizations on campus. The remaining 67 organizations receive as little as \$120 each.

If \$25 was charged to 2800 students each semester, that would raise an extra \$140,000 annually for the on-campus budgets.

Shields said, "The benefits of the fee would enable student life programs to sky-rocket."

Steve MacBride, a seventh semester business management major, said, "If someone is automatically charged it may encourage more people to get involved."

According to Shields, the fee would contribute greatly to higher quality programs and services for students.

Shields said that Behrend has done well dealing with the lack of money, but sooner or later the campus will suffer.

The money raised from the fee would be used only for student life activities.

Blood Drive

by Hal D. Coffey
News Editor

Behrend students made a deposit at the bank on Wednesday and Thursday, October 13 and 14.

The blood bank that is. The Community Blood Bank of Erie County conducted their biannual blood drive on campus from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. each day.

Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity and Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority co-sponsored the event.

TKE Vice President Steve North was the fraternity's coordinator.

"We wanted to give something back to the community," North said.

Last year's fall drive drew around 150 donors, but only 107 donors showed up last week.

North blames the low turnout on less than eye-catching posters and the colds and flus going around.

There were 25 TKE brothers and associate members working at the registration table.

Stacy Blackmer, public

relations director for the blood bank, is encouraged by the donors, but she said there could be more.

"The donors help save lives. Instead of just donating at these blood drives, students can donate all year round," Blackmer said.

People may donate blood every 56 days at the blood bank in the Erie Center Mall Complex.

Of the 107 possible donors, 92 pints of blood were donated. First-time donors made up 41 of the pints.

Because of colds, flus and lack of eating enough were reasons for 15 people being unable to donate, Blackmer said.

The Community Blood Bank is the sole supplier of blood and blood components to Erie's five hospitals.

Each year, 18,000 donors are needed to meet the transfusion needs of the patients served by these facilities.

"Behrend College is one of our best supporters," according to Lisa Graff, donor group coordinator of the blood bank. "The students really support us."

Hot 'n Ready Dinner

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All You Can Eat Pizza, Pasta & Salad!

Wednesday & Sunday
5:00 - 9:00 pm

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4402 Buffalo Rd.

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