

NEWS

Scheduling again?

by Kristie Guldner
Collegian Staff

Around this time every semester, Behrend students are looking for their academic advisors to schedule classes.

According to College Registrar Robert R. Schenker, the advisor helps council the student in the direction the student wishes to pursue.

"We assign advisors based upon college of enrollment, Division of Undergraduate Studies and planned major. Behrend has advisors in five areas: DUS, engineering and engineering technology, science, business, and humanities and social sciences," said Schenker.

"The advisor is the student's consultant. The student has responsibility also," said Schenker.

Schenker said that a good advisor will listen to the student, help him reach his goal, and put his goals into reach.

"A student pursuing realistic goals and having an advisor helping him reach that goal is the key to advising. The earlier the student sets that goal, the better," said Schenker.

Schenker claimed that the most important question a student must first answer is whether he wants to pursue a science or a non-science degree.

Academic progress is the next step.

"Academic progress is to be able to flow through a major from a student's freshman year to graduation," said Schenker.

"The biggest freshman major is DUS. Unlike high school,

here (in college) you have a chance to choose the level of classes. The student has to take control of his life," said Schenker.

Once a student has chosen a major, he is given a check sheet to make sure he completes all the prerequisites.

"The check sheets give you (the student) a chance to plan. Penn State does a pretty good job of getting the student ready," said Schenker.

Prerequisites must be filled before the student can go on to a major.

"Some majors are very prescriptive. In other words, you must take A, B, C and D and get a certain grade point average or you don't get into that major," said Schenker.

Students cannot take classes within their major only. They must fulfill a majority of general education courses first.

"General education gives you a chance to get ready for your major. Some students don't truly know which direction they want to go," said Schenker.

"Nineteen credits is the maximum load. Only after drop/add begins can a student register for more than nineteen credits. I would recommend no less than an average of sixteen credits per semester," advised Schenker.

Schenker explained how to determine the number of hours of work a student will have according to the number of credits he takes.

Assuming a student takes nineteen credits, multiply 19 by 40 hours of work, and that

equals 760. Divide 760 by the fifteen weeks in the semester, and a student should spend approximately fifty-one hours a week in class, doing homework and studying.

Schenker recommended that an important thing for all students to remember when scheduling is to advance register when they are supposed to and choose alternate courses.

"Choose alternate courses that you would prefer because the computer chooses alternate sections for you," said Schenker.

When making the list of classes, the registrar's office looks at the number of rooms available, the teaching faculty available, and the number of students in each major.

Seniors, athletes, honor students and University Scholars schedule classes first.

The registrar's office tries to make sure that a varsity athlete is able to play his sport by scheduling his classes accordingly.

"Honor students and University Scholars have priority scheduling. Honor students are freshmen and sophomores. University Scholars are primarily juniors and seniors. Freshmen and sophomores are University Scholars because of their college GPA, by invitation, or because of high school grades and SAT scores," explained Schenker.

"The educational process is to make people more employable and more human," concluded Schenker.

Founders' Day celebration

by Terry Rucker
Collegian Staff

On Friday, October 29, the Lion Ambassadors are sponsoring Founders' Day, an activity commemorating the 45th anniversary of Penn State's acquisition of the Behrend estate.

The Founders' Day event will be celebrated in the Memorial Room of the Glenhill Farmhouse. Free food will be served, photos will be displayed, and there will be a trivia contest.

The goal of Founders' Day is to honor Mary Behrend's donation of her estate to Penn State University. The event also introduces students to the history of the Behrend campus.

The Memorial Room, where

the event will be held, is a rarely seen section of the Glenhill Farmhouse.

Sindy Staley, committee head of the Founders' Day program, commented, "Most students have never seen the Memorial Room. We feel they should be able to see it because it's an important part of Behrend history."

Another function of Founders' Day is to promote pride of the Behrend campus itself.

Jane Hill, president of the Lion Ambassadors, said, "We are aware of the history and traditions of Penn State, but most students aren't aware of the unique history behind the Behrend campus. We are attempting to instill more pride for Behrend."

Fire!!!

by Rob Moffett
Collegian Staff

Last Wednesday four fire companies responded to an alarm in Niagara Hall. The cause of the alarm was a paper fire which started inside a pumpkin in a room on the third floor of the East wing.

Smoke from the fire drifted under the door and set off the smoke detector.

Several fire-fighting units responded to the alarm.

Police and Safety Manager Larry Silvis said that the amount of response on behalf of the fire departments was necessary.

Fire fighting companies respond to Behrend's alarms as part of a mutual aid system.

"Four companies make up the mutual aid," said Silvis. He added that the amount of response depends on the time of day.

"Usually all four companies respond at night, but due to manpower, only two may respond during the day," Silvis said.

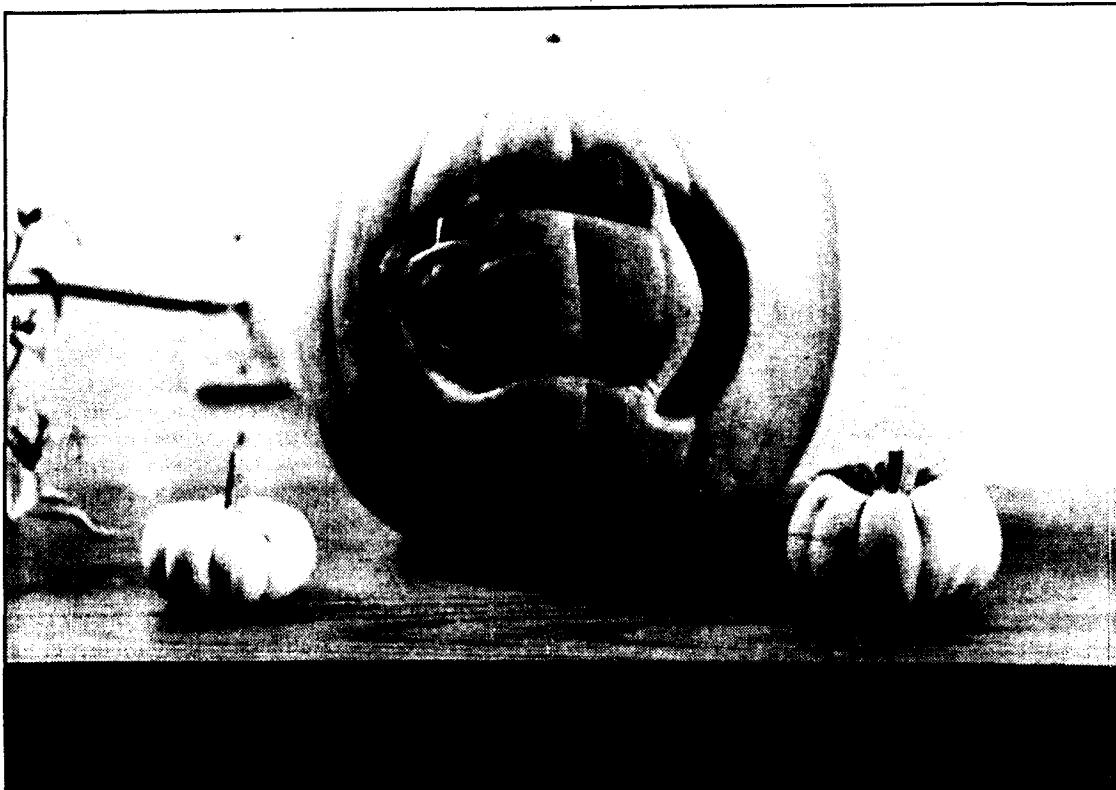
There are a few reasons which account for such a large response to a seemingly small fire on behalf of fire departments. One factor is the way that Behrend's alarm system operates.

Silvis said, disregarding false alarms, "When a fire alarm goes off, it means that there is a fire. The alarm signals University Park who then dispatches fire-fighting units."

Silvis continued to say that, since University Park has no idea of how severe a fire may be, they have no way to determine how much support to send.

Another reason for such a large response to an alarm is the fact that it was in a residence hall and there is a high potential for injuries and deaths.

A second issue associated with residence halls is the result of



Craig Brown/Collegian Photographer

Nittany Lion Found Carved in Pumpkin. Film at 11!!!: Happy Halloween from the staff of The Behrend College Collegian!