

Behrend Briefs

Stop in the Financial Aid Office to learn more about the following scholarship programs: Presque Isle Chapter of American Woman's Assc., Orville Redenbacher's Second Start (for students over 30 yrs. old), Western PA Air & Waste Management Assc. (environmental science, engineering or law), Minority Accounting Students, and Business and Professional Woman's Foundation (woman over 25 yrs. old).

Spring Commencement will be held on Saturday, May 13 at noon on the Reed Lawn, weather permitting. The deadline to order caps and gowns from the Bookstore is Friday, March 17.

Truman Scholarship Meeting. Students who will be juniors 1995-96 planning on a public service career and graduate school and in the upper 1/4 of their class U.S. citizen, should attend a meeting on Friday, March 17 from 12:45-1 p.m. regarding this prestigious \$30,000 scholarship. Contact Mari Trenkle at x6160.

Toronto Trip Tickets Available for the weekend of March 25 and 26. Two packages are available: Two Hotel/Bus tickets or Two Hotel/Bus plus Phantom Theater tickets. Contact Janet Howard at x6000 for details.

Attention Students: Commuter Council will be holding several meetings to allow you to voice your concerns/opinions to CC representatives. Weekly meetings are held every Wednesday at noon in the Reed Conference room.

The Communication Club will hold a career night to feature opportunities in the radio, advertising, television, and news media fields. On Wednesday, March 22 this special event will start at 7:00 p.m. and will be held in the Glennhill Farmhouse Memorial Room. All are welcome.

How To Conduct A Job Search will be held Thursday, March 23 at noon in the Reed Conference room. This workshop is sponsored by the Career Development Center.

The First Annual Penn State-Behrend Career and Internship Fair is scheduled for Wednesday, March 29. The event will take place in the Reed Student Union from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The Fair is sponsored by the Alumni Society and the Career Development Center.

University Scholars Program Nominations Due April 1. Sophomores (04 semester) can be nominated by faculty to participate in the University Scholars Program for their junior and senior years. Contact Mari Trenkle at x6160.

The Penn State-Behrend/Diehl Adopt-a-school Program is planning an Earth Day Celebration at Diehl Elementary on April 22. If your club or organization can help, contact Caryl Unseld at x6014.

Classes got you down? The Learning Assistance Center can help. Free individual tutoring is available at flexible times. Contact Bob Patterson at x6014.

Attention student clubs and organizations: are you running out of time to fulfill your community service requirements? The Behrend/Diehl Elementary School Adopt-A-Class Program has just the project for you. Call Caryl Unseld at x6014.

Free HIV/AIDS Testing is offered at the Health and Wellness Center located in the Carriage House. For an appointment, call the Health and Wellness Center at x6217.

The Accounting Club on Tuesday, March 21 at 5:30 in the Reed Conference room, a panel of CPA's will be answering questions concerning careers in accounting. Any juniors and seniors considering Accounting careers are encouraged to attend.

DA visits Behrend

by Don Wagner
Contributing Writer

Several Behrend students had the rare opportunity Wednesday, March 15, to meet with, and question, a candidate for Erie County District Attorney. Attorney Charles Barber was on campus to speak to Dr. Gamble's POLSC 297A law school decision-making class. The class is made up mostly of Pre-law and Political Science majors who are considering attending law school.

Barber, 38, is an Erie native and graduated with an MBA from Penn State before attending Villanova Law School. He is

opens up avenues in education, business, and many other areas.

Barber fielded questions from the class on a variety of issues. He enjoys the area of criminal law, and says that only criminal attorneys spend any significant amount of time in court. His advice for students who want to be lawyers is to begin making contacts as soon as possible. If a student knows what area they want to practice in, they should make as many contacts with private law firms as they can. "It is in the private firms," Barber said, "that today's law students have their best chance of finding

good careers." currently a full-time criminal defense attorney and is a Democratic candidate for the office of Erie County District Attorney, left vacant by Rusty Cunningham.

Barber opened with remarks to the class by recalling his own law school experiences. He described law school as "a training process of how to think." Lawyers are taught how to "boil down information to get to the issue at hand," he said. Because of this, Barber says he encourages people to attend law school. By teaching you how to think, he says, a law degree

Legalize marijuana?

by Danielle M. Murphy
Collegian Staff

A debate was held last night in the Reed lecture hall concerning the legalization of marijuana.

Loretta Russ and Brian Schaffer were mediators and panelists included freshman Carl Dupper, Dr. Robert Speel, assistant professor of Political Science at Behrend, along with junior Shawn Murphy.

The debate was filled with audience participation in both questions and statements.

Dupper, who was for the legalization of marijuana, explained his position, "Marijuana has many uses that would benefit our country as a whole. It doesn't have to be smoked."

Alternative uses for marijuana include paper products, fuel, clothing, and medicines for glaucoma, AIDS, and chemotherapy.

Murphy is against the legalization of marijuana.

He explained, "I personally don't believe in putting foreign substances into my body, including alcohol. I don't agree with those (for legalization) who hide behind alternative uses for marijuana. Most people don't care about the other purposes."

Some audience members brought up spiritual and

relaxation purposes of marijuana use.

Medicinal usage and marijuana products were also points suggested for supporting the legalization of marijuana. Comparisons of alcohol and tobacco with marijuana were made in support of either side.

Alcohol is the nation's number one drug and causes many health problems, including the killing of brain cells. Alcohol-related accidents claim many more lives annually than marijuana use does.

According to studies, marijuana does not kill brain cells and is not usually a factor in automobile fatalities. However, marijuana does contribute to short term memory loss and contains four times as many carcinogens as cigarettes. Unlike alcohol and nicotine, marijuana is not physically addictive. It is psychologically addictive, though.

The debate did grow heated near the end with audience members questioning why or why not people smoke marijuana.

Some audience members were not satisfied with reasons given to them and the debate did become argumentative. Other points that were addressed were drug awareness education and accusations that some studies with positive findings about

marijuana have been hidden by the media and government.

Many studies used by the government concerning marijuana were done as long ago as the 1930's or have been proven inaccurate.

In support of keeping marijuana illegal, people brought up that marijuana is a foreign substance that creates an altered state and does contribute to crime.

Dr. Speel said about the debate, "I thought it went really good. Both sides brought up their feelings and when students feel strongly about something, they are more likely to discuss a political topic."

Poetry prizes to be awarded

OWING MILLS, MARYLAND-The National Library of Poetry has announced that \$24,000 in prizes will be awarded this year to over 250 poets in the North American Open Poetry Contest. The deadline for the contest is March 31, 1995. The contest is open to everyone and entry is FREE.

Any poet, wither previously published or not, can be a winner. Every poem entered also has a chance to be published in a deluxe, hardbound anthology.

To enter, send ONE original poem, any subject and any style, to the National Library of Poetry, 11419 Cronridge Dr., P.O. Box 704-1983, Owings Mills, MD 21117. The poem should be no more than 20 lines, and the poet's name and address should appear on the top of the page. Entries must be postmarked by March 31, 1995. A new contest opens April 1, 1995.

The National Library of Poetry, founded in 1982, is the largest poetry organization in the world.

Police & Safety Report

March 5: A complaint of trespassing is under investigation after Police and Safety officers found three students in the production studio of WPSE who were not authorized to be in that area.

March 15: A complaint of harassment by communication or address is under investigation after a student in the apartments reported receiving obscene telephone calls.

March 15: A male was issued a traffic citation for trespassing by motor vehicle for attempting to drive across the grass in the S lot. He was trying to drive between the wooden posts when his car got stuck.

March 15: A complaint of theft and criminal mischief is under investigation after a staff member reported a sanitary napkin machine was broken into in the upstairs restroom of the Hammermill/Zurn building.