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Commencement of Fall 1998

by Jon Stubbs
features editor

Penn State - Behrend awarded associate, baccalaureate or graduate degrees to one hundred and ninety-four students during its fall commencement ceremony on Saturday, December 19, 1998. Combined with the other graduates who received their degrees at spring or summer commencement, Behrend awarded 490 total degrees in 1998.

Among the graduating class were nine Schreyer Scholars. Two of the Scholars, Lisa A. Fuhrman (communications and media studies) and Gary E. Brockway (English), both from Erie, graduated with honors.

Behrend Provost and Dean Dr. John M. Lilley welcomed guests and awarded degrees. Dr. Lilley was assisted in welcoming guests by Maria A. Madigan, a Behrend psychology major from Clarendon, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Robert E. Farrell, associate professor of engineering and director of the Plastics engineering program at Penn State - Behrend gave the com-

mencement address entitled "The Influence of Technology: Past, Present and Future." Mr. Farrell's daughter, Wendy, decided to receive her B.S. in German at Behrend's commencement instead of University Park where she attended classes. She was unaware that her father was going to be the

I will trace developments in technology in 25 year segments of time going back to 1950 when your grandparents were graduating. I will then move ahead through time to the year 2050 when your grandchildren will be graduating."

Robert E. Farrell
associate Prof of Engineer-

commencement speaker.

Farrell began his speech discussing the technology of the past ended with his predictions of future technology. "I will trace developments in technology in 25 year segments of time go-

ing back to 1950 when your grandparents were graduating. I will then move ahead through time to the year 2050 when your grandchildren will be graduating," Farrell said to the graduating class in the opening lines of his speech. However, he talked not only of technology, but of basic values as well. "As you can see, the future will be full of moral and ethical challenges. You will have to wrestle with questions of how many and who will be born, how many and who will die. When does a manmade entity possess life?"

Electrical engineering major and winner of the nationally competitive Goldwater Scholarship Alan Hall also participated in the commencement ceremony. The final farewell speech was given by Tadd A. Moreland, who received his degree in mechanical engineering technology.

After the ceremony, family and friends of the graduating class moved over to the Reed Union Building for a post-graduation reception.



Alan Hall and Dr. John Lilley at the commencement

photo courtesy of Ann-Marie Welsh

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Examining "The Dream"

by Danielle Marshall
staff writer

The time has come again for us to join together and celebrate a man who once had a dream. This famous, influential man is known as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Sunday, January 17, 1999 marks the beginning of Behrend's annual campus-wide celebration of Dr. King's birthday on January 15th. On Sunday at 7:30 p.m., the movie "Panther" will be shown in the Reed Lecture Hall. On Monday, January 18th at 7:30 a.m., there will be a Family Breakfast in Dobbins Hall, Gazebo. At 4:00 p.m., there will be the Campus-Wide Birthday Celebration entitled "The March" in the Reed Commons.

"The idea came from Chimira Wil-

liams. We wanted to reenact the famous march on Washington that took place on August 23, 1963. It will consist of a short skit with four students reading selective parts. It gives students the opportunity to see and hear the entire "I Have A Dream" speech. I'm trying to focus on other influential people in the Civil Rights movement who we don't recognize or know the names of," said Janique Caffie, Director of Educational Equity Programs.

At 7:30 p.m., the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration dinner will be held in the Reed Commons with musical selections from Behrend's Gospel Choir. At 8:30 p.m., the featured speaker will be Mr. Bobby Seale, cofounder and former chairman of

the Black Panther Party, which will be in the Reed Lecture Hall. Caffie stated, "I encourage students to speak with Bobby Seale at a roundtable discussion on Monday, Jan. 18th at 5:20 p.m. in the MCC Resource Center. I liked to get a sense of the new Panther movement that's taking place in California and other places." You can also take a walk through history by visiting the time-line on display throughout the Reed Union Building beginning on Jan. 18, 1999 and ending on Jan. 20, 1999. "This could not have been done without the help of some of the student organizations like NSBE, ABC, and ASO and some of the hall council," Caffie stated. So, let's come together and see how the season for struggle is still continuing today.

Committee to allocate \$19,000

by Will Jordan
editor in chief

The Student Activity Fee Committee is preparing to allocate \$19,000 in funds for the Spring 1999 Semester. The Committee is inviting students, faculty and staff to submit suggestions and proposals on how to use the funds. Student organizations, which were not satisfied with the previous SGA allocation processes can now submit suggestions to the Student Activity Fee Committee by proposing programming that encourages student participation and increases student interest. Buck Goedicke, SGA president, and Ken Miller, Interim Dean of Student Affairs, gladly welcome any input from Behrend students.

The money that will be allocated comes from the increase in the activity fee for this year as well as the in-

crease in student enrollment. "SGA doesn't manage the process, the Activity Fee Committee which is jointly appointed by Buck and myself does. It's the students' money and they need to provide as many suggestions as possible. The Committee will actually be interviewing random students to get ideas for the \$220,000 to be distributed for the 1999-00 academic year," Miller stated.

The deadline for any suggestions on how to use the \$19000 is 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 22, 1999. Proposals may be turned in to the Dean of Students Office or the SGA office. The Committee will be reviewing all of the submitted suggestions on Tuesday, January 26.

Faculty and students are encouraged to attend the meeting on January 26.

Behrend is Buried

by Shannon Weber
News Editor

The second semester is usually a hectic time for returning students and new students at Behrend. This semester has been even more hectic due to the amount of snowfall Behrend has received. One Behrend student felt positive about the snow. "I think the snow is awesome," Mandy Gay, 02 Elementary Education. Another student felt a little different about the snow. "I don't appreciate it," Kristin

Jordan, 02 MIS. Some students have never experienced a winter Pennsylvania. When Hazel Sadiarin, 02 Econ, from Virginia was asked how she felt about the snow she stated, "At first it's great, but after trudging through the slush every minute of the day, it can be such pain."

For students going to class and dealing with the cold can be tough, but also receiving inaccurate information about school closings also compounds the problem. On January 13, 1999, WJET-TV wrongly an-

nounced the closing of Penn State Erie. On the computerized listing of schools, they happened to put the cursor next to Penn State Behrend instead of Penn Crest. Anne-Marie Welsh, Manager of Publications and Public Information, stated, "In addition, whenever the area is experiencing critical weather, I leave a daily voicemail at the main switchboard by 5:30 a.m., verifying whether or not offices are open. You can always receive accurate information by calling 898-6000 and selecting 3 for this message."



A Behrend student walks in front of the drifts in front of Reed Hall.

photo by Andrea Zaffino



Acting Dean of Student Affairs, Ken Miller.

photo by Andrea Zaffino