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Bob Woodward compares Watergate and Clinton scandals

by Ryan Cannon
staff writer

Behrend was honored this past Thursday to welcome to campus the Assistant Managing Editor of Investigative News for the Washington Post, Bob Woodward. Woodward was possibly the most impressive figure in the school's 98/99 speaker series. He gained vast popularity in the 1970s for his Pulitzer Prize winning role in the infamous Watergate investigation that resulted in the resignation of President Richard Nixon. Woodward's speech intrigued an audience of various ages. His topic was the presidential scandals of Nixon and Bill Clinton, and he also commented on today's media in general. Woodward had some fascinating thoughts concerning two scandals that resulted in extremely different outcomes.

The story of Bob Woodward and Watergate began in 1972 when Nixon received over 60% of the popular vote and was re-elected to a second term. Woodward was a young, charismatic, investigative journalist for the Washington Post who teamed up with fellow reporter Carl Bernstein to unearth the defining story of his career. Nixon had received illegal campaign contributions during his election, and

shortly after his victory, became quite paranoid that this truth would be discovered.

Nixon began tape recording anyone that he suspected of leaking information. At some point in time, information concerning the Nixon scandals was given to Woodward and Bernstein by a secret source: the mysterious Deep Throat. The identity of Deep Throat has never been revealed and is only known by two people, Woodward and Bernstein.

Given the gift of this secretive information, Woodward and Bernstein vigorously investigated the scandal and thoroughly researched all of their information.

Their findings led to a chain of events that forced Nixon to resign from the presidency. Woodward and Bernstein were awarded the prestigious Pulitzer

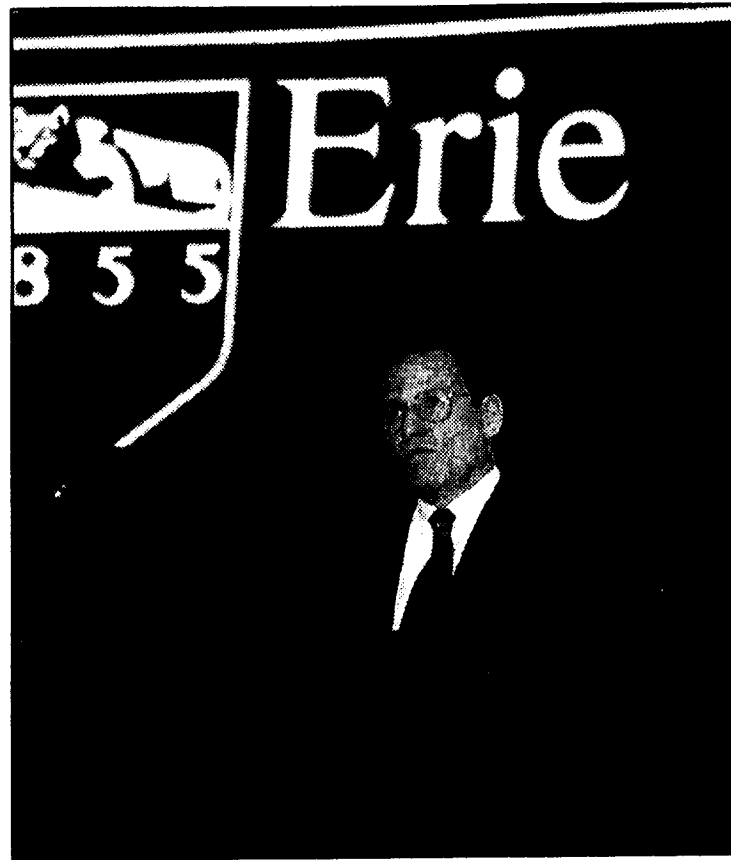


photo by Mike Coursey

Journalist Bob Woodward speaks in Reed Commons

Prize for their outstanding achievement in journalism.

In his speech at Behrend, Woodward followed a brief summary of his

role in this major event in United States history with a comparison to the recent Clinton scandals. He noted that perhaps the most significant factor in these scandals was concrete evidence.

Nixon told people to lie for him and actual evidence served as proof. No evidence exists that can prove Clinton asked anyone to lie. Also, Clinton is a completely different person than Nixon and received public support throughout the scandal. This public support of Clinton, which surely affected the outcome of his scandal to some degree, largely existed because he apologized to the American public for his wrong doings. Nixon never really apologized. Instead, he simply created excuses to justify his actions.

Secretly tape-recorded conversations were famous parts of both presi-

dential scandals. To this day, new Nixon tapes are still being released, and Woodward joked that, for journalists they are "the gift that keeps on giving." He even added that Nixon was the Linda Tripp of Watergate.

Clinton's most serious illegal activity may involve his 1996 campaign funds which Woodward claimed won him the election through thirty-second television commercials. Because of the magnitude and result of the Monica Lewinsky scandal, this might not be investigated until after his term, if at all.

In 1994, Woodward interviewed Clinton and members of the White House staff for his popular and controversial book, *The Agenda*. It was about Clinton's first eighteen months as president. Woodward pointed out during his speech that Clinton is a smart man and knows how to deal with people. He also said that Clinton's most significant achievement was fixing the economy, and this is what he should be remembered for.

Woodward then began to discuss today's media. He said that there should be more important reporting, and that many prominent stories are overlooked. He feels that the future of journalism is at stake. Because

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A whole new world: Behrend visits Spain

by Ayodele Jones
managing editor

Fifteen Behrend students were given the opportunity to experience first hand the culture and the people of Spain and during Spring Break from March 5 to March 15. While many Behrend students were basking in the sun and relaxing, the learning experience for these fifteen students crossed international borders, as students, led by Spanish professor Juan Fernandez, embarked on an experience of comparative cultural analysis and appreciation.

The week began with the students' arrival in Madrid, where they first visited the famous Prado Museum (which holds the works of many celebrated artists such as Goya and van der Stock).

The National Palace was a delight for many with the rooms made of marble and porcelain which were ornately decorated with various fine fabrics such as silk tapestries that hung from every room. The sheer magnificence of the Palace, was certainly visually pleasing. While it left many in awe and amazement, it was a reminder of the dominance and wealth of Spain's previous royal families.

Next on the country tour was the city of Toledo, where much of the city's architecture is of Roman and Moorish origin. One of the outstanding characteristics of Toledo is the Cathedral. It was completed in 1493

and is one of the most original cathedrals built in the gothic era in Spain. The Cathedral has twenty-two chapels and is decorated with a large number of artworks from artists of the time. Despite the beauty of this old city, Toledo is known for its expert craftsmanship with precious metals, such as iron, steel, bronze and copper. Sword making is very famous in this town, although this is a somewhat outdated craft. It is geared toward tourists and many of the students were able to purchase swords and replicas of famous swords.

As the students traveled further south, they visited the city of Granada, which is most noted for its 14th century castle fortress, the Alhambra. The Alhambra Palace looks over the city of Granada and is one of the most famous examples of Moorish architecture. The Alhambra consists of palaces built by several rulers. Each is made up of fountains, lush gardens and courtyards filled with orange trees. The Alhambra is a representation of man's ultimate desire to be one with their God and nature.

Rounding out the end of the week was a visit to Professor Juan Fernandez's house in Escafuella. After a short visit to the family olive oil factory, students relaxed and dined on unique Spanish dishes, such as the famous paella, while they listened to the music of Fernandez's friends and family. There was no better way to end a week of travel and fun. VIVA ESPAÑA!!!

England study abroad program takes shape

by Nicole McGee
staff writer

On July 4, 1999, a group of approximately 20 Behrend students will be traveling to England as part of the program headed by Dean Baldwin, acting director of Humanities and Social Sciences. The students will be enrolled for classes at Nene College, North Hampton, England.

The study abroad program in North Hampton, a town in the center of England, will be five weeks long. Those five weeks are loaded with challenging academic courses and diverse cultural excursions.

From a course list of fourteen classes, students have the option of choosing up to nine credits of study (all classes are three credits). Course options involves such classes as Ecology of the UK and Creative Dramatics. The courses are part of a wide ranging curriculum that will offer a specific focus on through the English culture. Credits will transfer back to Behrend in the Fall.

Students from Behrend will be interacting with other students involved in the same program; these other students will be coming from as far as Florida, Canada, Italy, Poland, and Russia.

During week three of the five week program, students will be participating in a week long field trip. The trips have been planned to coordinate with specific classes within the program, but students had to choose which of these trips they will be taking. The four trip options are: The West Coast of Ireland, The Scottish Cairngorms, The English Lake District, or London's West End.

Matt Jones, 04 DUS, explains, "I chose the Ireland trip because I want to get as much diversity as possible out of this experience."

The cost of these trips within a trip is included as part the tuition of the program. Throughout this week-long break from classes, cultural events like workshops with professional English writers and actors, an evening of traditional Irish music, a tour of some of the highest mountains of the British Isles, and visits to areas as-



photo by Andrea Zaffino

Dr. Dean Baldwin heads up the England study abroad program

sociated with writers like Wordsworth, Coleridge, and Ruskin will be taking place.

During their weeks at Nene College, students will be living in what the English call "en-suites". The suites include individual bathroom and bedroom facilities, as well as a kitchen and lounge to be shared by six suite-mates. The cost of these accommodations is also included within the tuition price.

Two professors from Nene College

visited Behrend recently to speak to students about the trip and answer any questions they might have had. Dr. Cliff Dedynski and Dr. Patrick Quinn gave a first-hand account of North Hampton. They informed the students that the town is about the size of Erie. They also discussed the program itself. Dr. Cliff Dedynski and Dr. Patrick Quinn explained, "We tried to keep all extra costs out of this program. You are not going to be paying a whole lot more than what you have already once you come to England."

Dean Baldwin agrees that for the price of the program the trip is "one of the best abroad programs I've ever seen." Baldwin has been heading the group of students by relaying news from England to them, reserving group discount tickets with an airline, keeping them informed via e-mail and group meetings, and taking care of countless other details involved with the trip.

Given typical costs of many abroad programs, this program does offer students unique and valuable opportunities. Still, a tuition minimum of \$2000, plus plane ticket is a great deal of money for most Behrend students.

Misty Holt, 08 Psych Ed, says, "I applied for a loan and a scholarship. I'm working four jobs while being a full time student with a dual major. It's not easy!"

Greg Lukjanczuk, 03 Bus, adds, "My dad will pay for it if I get above a 3.0 [this semester]. If I don't, I have to pay for it myself."

While many students will watch the sky for fireworks this July, these students, Dr. Baldwin and his wife will be IN the sky, flying to England.

Behrend may benefit from proposed State budget

by Mike Frawley
assistant editor

The upcoming 1999 state capital budget should be of great concern to all Behrend students. In the new budget there are five proposed projects for Behrend.

These five projects could mean upwards of \$38.9 million in funding for new projects that could greatly benefit students on campus, along with the community as a whole.

The Community Coalition, a local citizen action group, will be holding informational meetings about the projects that effect the Erie area in the upcoming state capital budget.

These meetings will be held on Wednesday, March 31 from 4pm to 9am at the Erie Insurance Exchange Auditorium, and again on Wednesday, April 7 from 4pm to 9pm at the Blasco Memorial Library. Anyone who would like to attend should call 454-3878 to preregister and receive an informational packet about the meetings.

The five projects that are in the proposed budget are: the Maintenance and Police and Safety Building, the Otto Behrend Building Renovation, the Research and Economic Development Center, the Erie Hall Renovation, and the Erie Knowledge Park - Part II. These projects will greatly improve the campus, and the over all learning experience for students.

The Research and Economic Development Center, with it's \$30 million price tag, will have the greatest impact on the student body.

With this money Behrend will build a state-of-the-art building for research and development, and which would also house the School of Engineering and Engineering Technology, the School of Business, and the northwest regional office of the Ben Franklin Technology Center. This facility would be a great boon for Behrend.

Also included in the budget proposal will be an important renovation of the Otto Behrend Science Building, originally constructed in 1962, which badly needs renovation.

The meetings about these projects are very important. From these meetings the governor and state legislature get a clearer view of what local priorities for funding are. Students should attend and give their views on how this money should be allocated.

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