

Behrend students take a bite out of the Big Apple

by Liz Hayes
wire service editor

Over winter break nine students went on the alternative break trip to New York City with Chris Rizzo, Director of Student Activities, and his wife Lori. Students got to experience the community of NYC while helping the less fortunate through an organization named Project Hospitality at the same time.

In previous years, Behrend students were able to go on alternative spring break trips to Our Daily Bread in Baltimore, Md. This particular trip has been offered for the past three or four years. The interest generated from this trip led to the formation of the Reality Check student organization.

Also, partially due to the popularity of such trips, Shawna Polaskey was added to the Student Activities staff. Polaskey is the Coordinator of Greek Life and Leadership Programs for the campus, and the alternative break trips fall under her supervision.

Sarah Edwards, a student here at Behrend, also acted as one of the

coordinators for the trip over winter break. She helped to plan the entertainment portion of the trip, as well as to help students get ready for the trip during the fall 1999 semester.

Students arrived in New York City on Monday, January 3, 2000, around 4 p.m. Those participating were able to roam the city that first night, getting a feel for their surroundings, since several students had never been to the city before.

Students worked Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday for Project Hospitality in various locations. On Tuesday and Thursday the whole group worked in a soup kitchen during the morning and early afternoon. This particular kitchen usually served about 50 people a day. The students prepared the food from 9 a.m. until noon, which was when the pantry opened to the public. The patrons were served until about 1:30 p.m. Afterwards, the students helped out with other activities in the pantry, including canning food, distributing clothing, and giving flu shots.

The students were finished working at the kitchen around 5 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They then had

the evenings to themselves in the Big Apple.

On Wednesday the students were split into groups and went to two different places to volunteer. One group went to the Store Front, which is an area where Mexican immigrants convene to wait for work during the winter months. The Store Front also dispenses clothing and other necessities.

The other group went to an Outreach Center where they served lunch, sorted clothes, and performed other miscellaneous manual labor.

On Friday the group had the day to themselves to explore the city. Greenwich Village, Rockefeller Center, Brooklyn, Central Park, St. Patrick's Cathedral, and Times Square were just a few of the sights the students got to see. They also went to see a performance of *Les Miserables*.

There was also an alternative break trip during fall break to Cleveland, Ohio, to the Catholic Workhouse. During spring break Reality Check will be journeying to the Blowing Rocks Preserve in Fla.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JESSE COLAIZZI

Students participating in the alternative break trip take time out to pose for a photo with Chris Rizzo.

Elections continued from Page 1

shows an increased amount of student interest considering last spring's elections were unopposed."

A University Faculty Senate Representative will also be elected. Their main job will be to go to University Park once a month and meet with other SGA students from other campuses to discuss certain issues.

On Wednesday January 26th, at the SGA meeting, privileges were amended to give voting rights to University Faculty Senate Representatives so that they can vote on issues.

The two students running for University Faculty Senate Representatives are Jenny Zhang and Matt Grimmke (for more information

about the candidates please turn to page four).

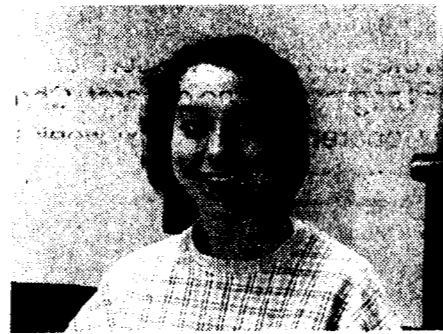
Voting will take place on February 2nd and 3rd outside of Bruno's. For more information visit the SGA office in the Reed Union Building.

Question of the Week

WHO DO YOU THINK IS GOING TO WIN THE SUPER BOWL?

"I don't even know who's playing!"

Jessica DiBacco, 04, PSYCH



"The Titans, because they've dominated the AFC and they're going to roll over the Rams."

Travis Teeter, 02, Computer Engineering

"I don't really care, because all my teams lost, but if I had a choice I'd choose the Rams."

Chris Rizzo, Director of Student Activities



"Tennessee, because I like their colors, and they walked all over Jacksonville."

Deanna Symoski, 06, COMBA

"Who's in it?"

Brian Vallor, 02, ECE



Police And Safety

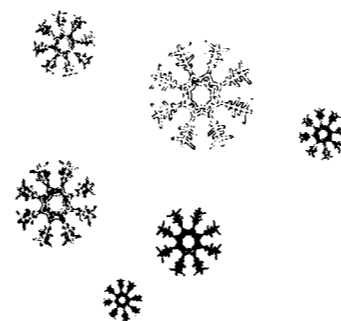
REPORT:

- 1/22/00 09:20 Damage was found done to University property.
- 1/24/00 02:30 A complainant reported that they were receiving harassing phone calls.
- 1/24/00 08:40 A complainant reported the theft of the University owned telephone from the Perry Hall lobby.
- 1/24/00 17:30 A video camera was stolen from Ohio Hall.
- 1/25/00 09:12 A complainant reported that she and other staff members had received email which included a link to an obscene web site.



WEEKEND WEATHER OUTLOOK

JANUARY 28-30, 2000



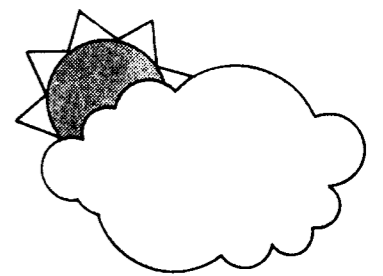
FRIDAY

SNOW SHOWERS; HIGH NEAR 22, LOW 13.



SATURDAY

PARTLY SUNNY, HIGH 26, LOW IN THE TEENS



SUNDAY

PARTLY SUNNY, HIGH AROUND 32.