

Unity Day a day
of diversity

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Spring Fever
rocks Behrend

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BEHREND

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Miles Apart

**Miles,
Skillen
run away
with SGA
election**

by Liz Hayes
and Traci Jones
news co-editor and staff writer

In an overwhelming victory, Jen Miles and Clint Skillen beat Demian Blair and Mike Frawley for the positions of Student Government Association president and vice president, respectively.

Voter turnout was at a record of over 500 — a turnout that hasn't been matched in recent history. And of the 490 votes cast for the presidential/vice presidential ticket, over 401 went to Miles and Skillen — a figure of over 80%.

This past week was a busy one for these candidates, as they participated in a debate Monday evening, visited a few classes and organizational meetings, and made their final efforts to win over voters before elections took place. Elections committee head Melody Sherosky was excited about voter turnout — on Wednesday when the voting booth closed, there were already 349 votes cast. This number alone surpassed last year's.

The debate Monday night also saw a positive turnout, with over 90 people in attendance at the peak of the event. Students posed questions to the candidates for two hours and ten minutes. Sherosky said that the elections committee had prepared questions ahead of time to keep things moving along in case the action stalled, but they didn't need to use them. Students were



PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

The candidates (from left to right), Mike Frawley, Demian Blair, Clint Skillen and Jen Miles take part in a fiery debate on Monday, April 3. The debate focused on Blair's goal to get more student involvement in SGA versus Miles' attempt to better Behrend's academic program.

very receptive to the debate and participated actively and spurred somewhat heated conversation and debate. The first hour of questioning revolved mainly around Frawley's opinions of the Greek system, and whether or not he could accurately represent the student body. Several members of the fraternities and sororities pointed to Frawley's editorials in past issues of the *Beacon* as a basis for this line of questioning.

Students also asked questions about the candidates' platforms and what they planned to accomplish for the student body if elected. Blair and Frawley focused namely on getting more involvement in SGA and SGA events, while Miles' and Skillen's platform concentrated on improving education at Behrend.

At Wednesday evening's SGA meeting, it was discussed whether or not Skillen was

eligible to run for vice president. SGA decided last semester that in order to receive a stipend for an executive board position, he or she must have, prior to appointment and during the term of office, and a 2.5 GPA. Also, an executive board member is not to hold any other presidency positions, and Skillen is currently the president of the Zeta Beta Tau fraternity —

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SGA ELECTION RESULTS	
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION	
Miles/Skillen	401
Blair/Frawley*	89
SECRETARY	
Benjamin	346
SENATORS	
Webb	292
Warren	276
Ellison	266
Hovis	266
Hansen	252
Hamm	249
Sherosky	238
Davis	227
Braun	221
Hartman	219
Meyers	219
Wiertel*	186
Foulks*	163

* not elected

Elections took place on April 5 and 6 outside of Bruno's. Miles and Skillen will replace Andrea DiPlacido and George Leshnock as SGA President and Vice President in the 2000-2001 school year.

Jane Bryant Quinn talks finance at Behrend's Speaker Series

by Mike Frawley
managing editor

Jane Bryant Quinn, a syndicated columnist for the *Washington Post* and *Newsweek*, spoke at Behrend on April 4. She is the final speaker this year in the Provost's Speaker Series, "Taking Charge: Politics, Finances, and Personal Freedom." In her speech, "The Economy and Your Money.com," Quinn touched on such topics as the ever-growing stock market, the boom on technology stocks, and the recent Microsoft antitrust decision.

The speech was given at 7:30 p.m. in the Reed Wintergarden to a full lecture hall of students, faculty, staff, and guests. Quinn was on campus for other events as well that day, including a press conference at 3:30 p.m., a question and answer session with students, and a dinner at Logan House before her speech.

Quinn is an award-winning columnist for *Newsweek* and is a leading commentator on personal finance and national economic issues. She is the author of *Making the Most of Your Money*, a comprehensive guide to personal financial planning, and *A Hole in the Market*, which tracks the effects of Generation X on the economy. Her syndicated newspaper column is published in more than 250 newspapers, and she has been named by the *World Almanac* as one of the 25 most influential women in the United States.

Quinn is recognized as one of the country's leading personal finance writers. Quinn spoke about the ever-changing landscape of the investment world, which has changed a great deal since she first began writing financial information in the early 1970s. Quinn noted that people today take a much greater interest in their personal investments than they did twenty years ago. "You are talking about a

time when people were not greatly involved in stocks and when they had very few choices," Quinn said.

Quinn's speech, which was simulcast by Behrend's radio station WPSE, was very well received by the audience. "I don't know what is going to happen with the Dow Jones tomorrow, or next week, or next year," Quinn joked with the audience. She discussed the ever-growing role of the Internet in our economy, both as a new way to do personal investment and as a new place to invest money. The stock market is continuing to grow at a tremendous rate, and a large part of this growth is due to the great amount of investment being done in new technological stocks. "Expansion is slowing, but is still expanding," Quinn said.

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PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

Jane Bryant Quinn speaks to a packed Reed Commons about personal finance.

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