

Behrend students combine study, fun in overseas experience

by Erin McCarty
assistant features editor

Summertime has come and gone, and school is now upon us. Already planning your next summer vacation? Here is an option to consider: study abroad.

This past summer, 17 Behrend students joined 21 others from various locations for the International Summer School program at University College Northampton in England. Four students from Mercyhurst and one from Gannon completed the Erie group, which was led by Behrend English professor Dr. Dean Baldwin and his wife, Vicki.

"I have taken students to Northampton for the past three summers, and the response has always been enthusiastically positive," Baldwin said. "Many have told me they would love to go back again."

"I had the best time I ever had at the Northampton summer program," said Becky Ore, International Business, 03. "I met so many great people over there that I still keep in touch with. I extremely recommend this program for anyone who wants to have fun and earn class credits at the same time."

Classes commenced on July 9, and ended on Aug. 10. Although decreased enrollment caused several classes to be canceled, students still had a good variety of topics to choose from. Some of the more unique courses included Serial Murder, Dante, and Folklore. Each 3-credit class met on a rotating schedule, with class time occupying a different two-hour slot for each of the four weekdays that class was in session.

The remaining weekday was reserved for special day trips, which students were not obligated to attend but usually did. The four ex-

ursions consisted of Northamptonshire and Althorpe, Princess Diana's final resting place, Cambridge and Ely, Stratford-Upon-Avon, and Stonehenge and Bath. In addition to these brief outings, students also made a one-week trip during the third week of classes. They spent their week in Italy, France,

said Cassie Willey, Mechanical Engineering 03.

The weekends provided yet another opportunity for students to see more of Europe, though it was up to the students to make arrangements for these journeys that were not a part of the school's program. Although most students who took this time to travel did

Money is certainly an important consideration for students interested in the program. The cost of the program ranges from \$2,550 for one class to \$3,550 for three classes. This excludes the cost of airfare, extra travel, accommodations, food, and souvenirs. Prudent students should have a bare minimum of \$1,000 to last them

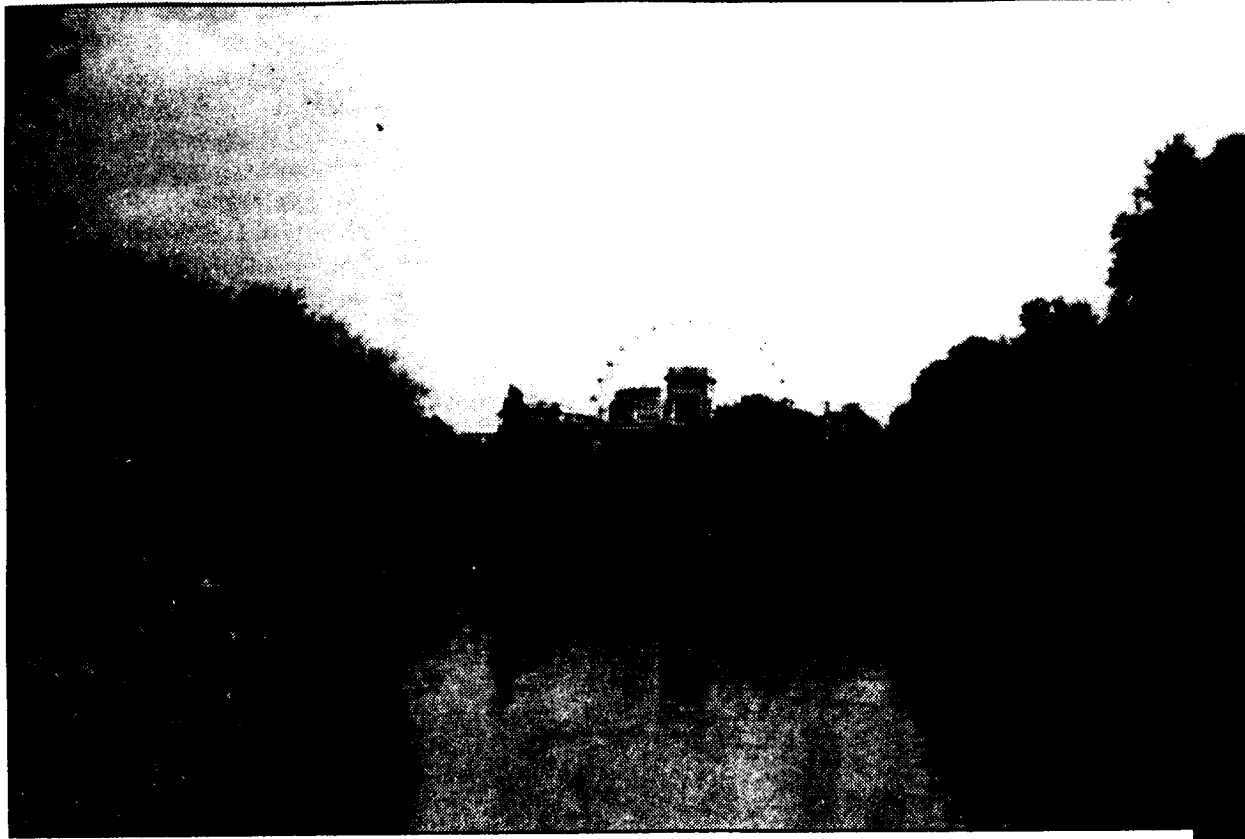
have to spend any extra money to get a taste of the culture of other countries right on campus. "I met so many great people from everywhere in the world," said Willey. Participants in this year's International Summer School included students from China, Canada, Latvia, and Portugal and UCN staff from Tanzania, Germany, France, Finland, and Sweden. Other students on campus hailed from Ecuador, Italy, and Greece. In addition to meeting people from diverse backgrounds, students had plenty of opportunity to immerse themselves in English culture in Northampton.

Comparing and contrasting the English lifestyle and overall atmosphere with their own provided opportunities for valuable insights

for the students, while the degree of independence which they were allotted in an unfamiliar place required many of them to spread their wings a bit.

"What is particularly satisfying for me is to watch students grow in sophistication and confidence in just a few weeks," said Baldwin. "Many have never been on an airplane before, let alone traveled overseas, yet within a couple of weeks they are off to Dublin, Amsterdam, London, or Paris on their own. I hope Behrend's students continue to take advantage of this opportunity."

Students interested in this or other study abroad opportunities should contact Ruth Pflueger in the Learning Resource Center at rcp1@psu.edu.



Looking London in the "eye" from St. James Park. The London Eye — a large Ferris wheel located just off the Thames River near Big Ben — can be seen in the background.

or London, depending on which field trip most related to their course of study. Students on the London trip stayed there for the duration, while travelers to Italy and France visited several cities.

"My favorite parts of the trip were the field trip to Perugia where even the clubs and shops were in ancient architecture and the weekend in Edinburgh. Scotland during the largest festival in the world,"

so purely for enjoyment, there was an element of study involved as they had to manage their money and become experts at reading maps and train schedules.

"My advice is to bring lots and lots of money, especially if you're going to travel around Europe on the weekends like everyone just about did," said Ore. "And don't forget to bring your clubbing clothes!"

the five weeks, and \$2,000 is much safer. England tends to be more expensive than America, and who wants to come back from Europe without souvenirs? Students also need to remain mindful that the English pound is worth about \$1.50.

Luckily, students don't



Punters — tourists travelling the River Cams on boats pushed along with long poles — pass under the many bridges in Cambridge, England.

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

~The weekly column that asks if there is intelligent life out there~

by Mike Pingree
TMS Campus

HOW COULD YOU DO THIS TO ME!? A female judge went ballistic when she spotted her 20-years-younger boyfriend out on a date with another woman. Her beau, who is a sheriff, contends that their courthouse affair had ended, but apparently that was not her understanding. After a decidedly unpleasant confrontation at a New Jersey restaurant, the judge followed the couple to a nearby saloon where she continued to air her distress at high volume and with great hostility. Police involvement followed. She has been suspended from the bench.

OH MAN, I AM FLYIN', BA-BOOOOOOM! Seeking to get high, a man inhaled propane gas from a spigot in his Michigan home, but forgot to turn it off before he lit up a marijuana cigarette. The resulting explosion actually blasted the house off its foundation before burning it to the ground. The man suffered minor injuries. He was arrested.

MMMM, SALMON, HEY, WHAT THE ...!? As he reeled in a salmon in a small boat off British Columbia, Myron Chamberlain didn't realize that, beneath the water, a killer whale was just about to chomp that very fish. But Myron pulled it into the boat first, depriving the orca of his lunch and greatly angering him. The irate whale rammed the vessel several times, so Chamberlain sped from the scene.

WHAT THE HECK, IT'S ONLY MONEY: When an attractive young blonde appeared at the door of their Oslo, Norway home, elderly brothers Arne and Oeystein Tokvam, were only too happy to let her in. The two men, ages 73 and 80, were even happier when she started to disrobe, and she was soon joined by her female friend who did the same. They left after a 15-minute strip show, and the men soon discovered that while it was going on, an accomplice was stealing their safe containing \$8,200. But Arne said they didn't feel too badly about it: "It's been a long time since we had so much fun."

SPORTSMANSHIP ABOVE ALL THINGS: After a 15-year-old boy scored the winning run at a youth league baseball game in Salt Lake City, upset parents of the losing team beat up his mother.

HOT ENOUGH FOR YA? GLUB, GLUB! A heatwave in Moscow has encouraged many citizens to seek relief in the city's rivers and lakes, but, since Russians mix beer and vodka to both cool off and get drunk quickly, many have drowned. Since the beginning of summer, 211 people have been pulled from the water, dead, and "most of them drown in an inebriated state," a local doctor said.

DITHERED TWITS by Stan Waling

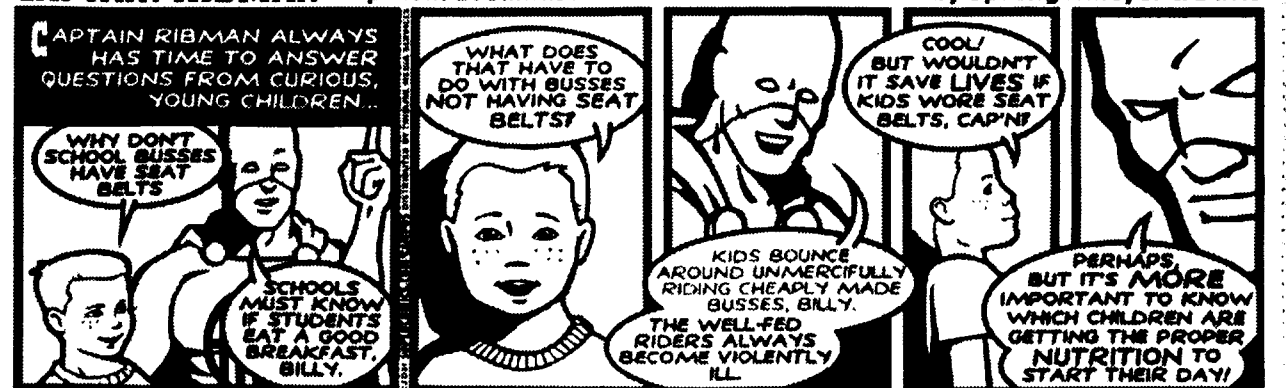


Oh man, the king's in heaven.

The Weekly Funnies

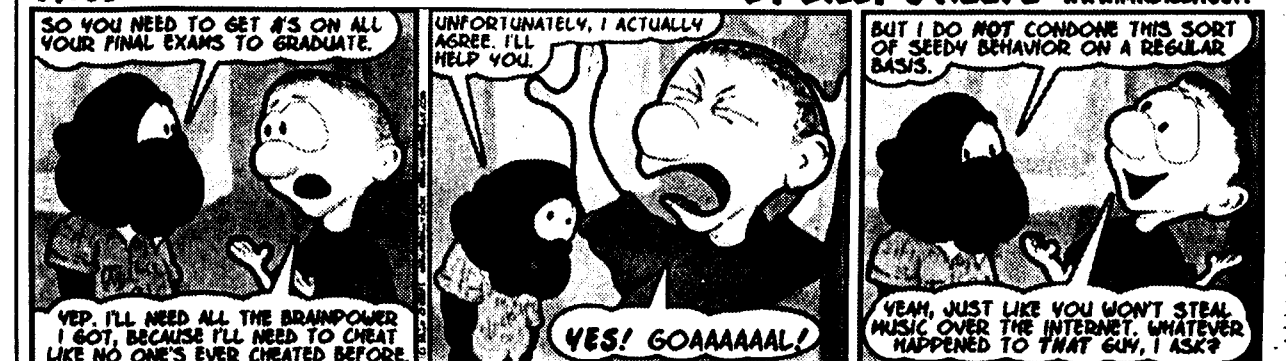
CAPTAIN RIBMAN is Up With Breakfast!

by Sprengelmeyer & Davis



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