

Question of the Week

asked by Kelly Walsh

"Have you ever pulled an April Fools' Day joke on someone?"



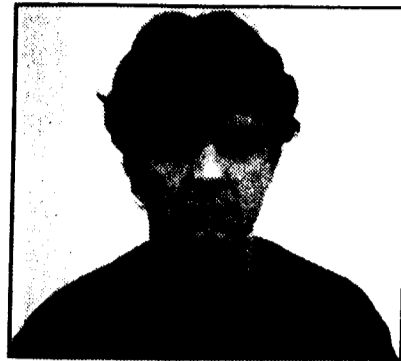
"I put detergent in my friend's ice tea mix, after he drank it he said, 'Now this is good ice tea!'"

Brad Schmitt
Communications, 08



"I told my boyfriend I was pregnant and watched him flip out."

Kindra Beck
Communications, 06



"I told my twin daughters they were one person with split personalities."

Brent Alexander
History, 08



"I fell for the rubberband on the faucet trick and then pulled it on someone else."

Joe Cario
Finance, 08

Friday Fiesta full of flamboyant fun

by Emily Linendoll
staff writer

If you attended the Friday Fiesta, which took place Friday night in McGarvey Commons, you know dancing was the highlight of the evening. Members of the Latin American Organization organized the event, and it was a night filled with dancing, food, and excitement.

The first stage of the cultural event was a taste of some Latin cuisines. The menu included sliced shoulder picnic ham, a Latin chicken breast dish, white rice and rice with beans, campechana, which is carne asada steak wrapped in a tortilla shell with avocado and provolone, platanos, which are fried sliced bananas, salad, and platters of sliced fruit. In the past, members of the Latin organization cooked and prepared the food themselves. However, this was the first year that the staff from Dobbins took over

the job.

After eating, the entertainment began. La Crema, a Latin band from Buffalo, took the stage as well as DJ Ricardo Montero. As soon as the music began, so did the swaying hips of the audience. Everyone grabbed a partner and showed off their Latin moves. But even if you didn't know the right steps to the salsa or meringue, many gave "mini-lessons" to those who never learned the steps to any Latin dance.

Dancing continued all night long. Towards the end of the night there was a contest, basically to see who could shake their butt the fastest and on beat, as the band picked up the tempo. All the participants were amazing, flaunting their individuality and style on the stage.

The Friday Fiesta has been held since '94. The organization has worked with DJ Montero in the past, but this was the first time that the organization has worked with La Crema, who gave an

excellent performance.

"The event went over very well considering the weather outside. We had a great turn out," said coordinator Radhina Ramirez.

Not only were there many familiar Behrend faces on the dance floor, but there were also many unfamiliar faces. Members of the organization brought their friends and family, and spread the word in the community about the event. There were many people there, and it only added to the excitement and dancing that highlighted the evening.

"The main goal of the event," said Ramirez, "is to raise cultural awareness to Behrend students through diversity based programs."

The Friday Fiesta was a fun, entertaining cultural event that included everyone. So start working on your Latin moves and be prepared for next year's fiesta. It is definitely a good time you don't want to miss.

Yellow Rage slams stereotypes through spoken word

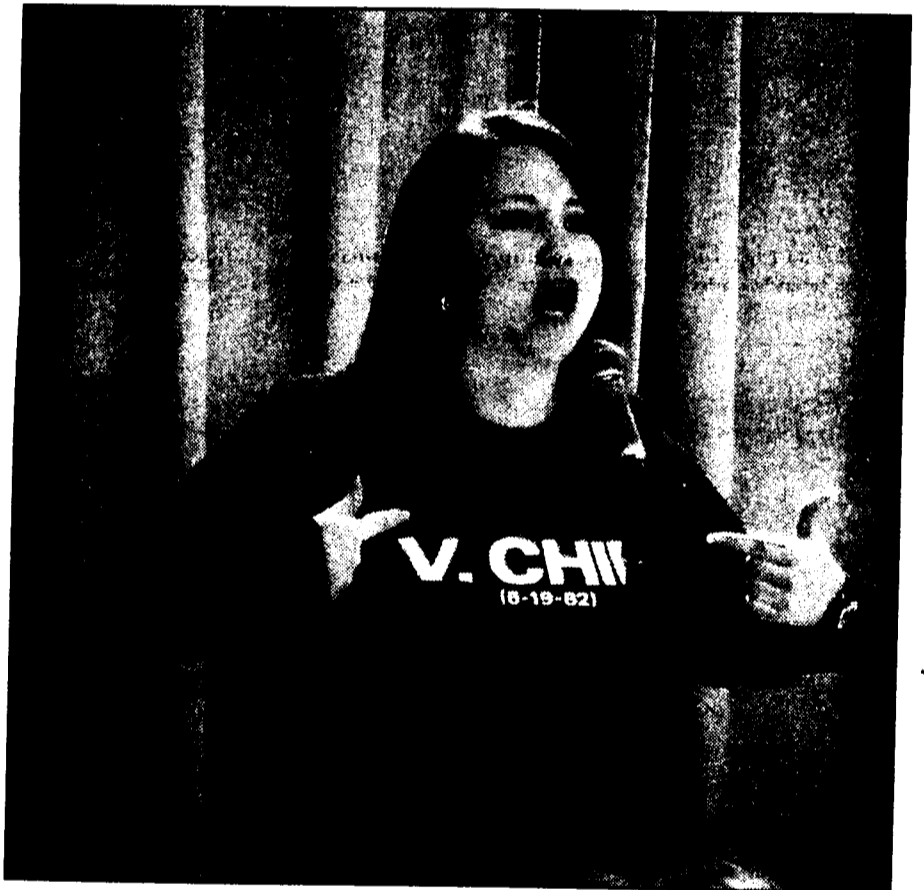


PHOTO BY JEFF HANKEY / BEHREND BEACON

Michelle Myers (above) and Catzie Vilayphonh (below) express themselves through poetry. Myers and Vilayphonh, known collectively as Yellow Rage, performed at Behrend on Wednesday in Reed 117. The duo debuted in Philadelphia at the Russell Simmons' Def Poetry Slam in December 2000. They have since participated in various festivals and shows and have produced a CD, "Black Hair, Brown Eyes, Yellow Rage, Vol. 1," which sells for \$12.

After the audience poetry by Victoria Anderson was warmed up with Mars Nacalaban, and Nina Nacalaban. Yellow Rage stepped up to perform 16 poems. Their first piece, addressed to people who disrespect Asians, required audience participation. After this, they performed a poem about capitalism before branching off to perform several pieces by themselves. Their topics ranged from Asian-American identity to profanity to romance, and their words and expressions conveyed sarcasm and rage.

They joined together to do a tribute to hip-hop before branching off once more to perform solo. Myers explained the significance of her shirt, performing a half-sung tribute to Vincent Chin, who was a victim of racial violence in California. Vilayphonh delved into the problems she has with being identified as a Laotian. The performance ended with two poems that they recited together about the sisterhood of Asian women. After the show, audience members were invited to speak with Myers and Vilayphonh or buy one of their albums. Yellow Rage was brought to Behrend by the Asian Student Organization.



PHOTO BY JEFF HANKEY / BEHREND BEACON

**BAD CREDIT IS LIKE A BAD NICKNAME.
IT WILL STICK WITH YOU FOR YEARS.**



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