

Question of the Week

by Jen Henderson,
assistant news editor



"It's a secret, but it involves good food."
Eileen Haase, 02 Psych
Brad Stewart 04, English



"Doing laundry."
Dave Daquelente
Psychology, 04



"At a track meet and at a dance."
Nina Zinger, 02 DUS
Mel Buczko



"I plan on buying all the chocolate on sale on the 15th!"
Michelle Suroviev, 04 BLASC
Stephen Kabasinski



"Sleeping. No, really sleeping."
Keegan Mills
Computer Science, 05

Students face their fears at Psychic Fair

by Lauren Packer
assistant sports editor

Four psychics, a palm reader, and a handwriting analyst took the Behrend campus by storm this past Saturday and created quite a stir in the student body. The event, sponsored by (SAF), happened this past Saturday in the McGarvey Commons. The large area was necessary to support the overwhelming turnout of students who anxiously awaited answers about love, health, money, and their overall fate. Patricia Stewart, second semester communications major, came with one specific question for the tarot card

reader. Stewart had asked a question about her relationship, and all that the psychic said was apparently true. How much of what the psychic says is true? Should people really take comfort in what a psychic tells them will happen? Judith, one of the tarot card readers at the psychic fair, has been traveling across the United States for close to 20 years answering people's questions based on the tarot cards her customers draw. As a psychic and tarot card reader, Judith says that she must be able to read the energy of the person and feed off the energy to make her predictions.

Judith also thinks of herself as a guider and a healer. "People seek validation to things they already know, and they want answers to questions that they have. I'm here to validate their feelings and give them advice on how to handle the upcoming situations that the cards say will happen," Judith said. "Whatever you do in life today, affects life in six months," she said. "If people have the advantage to know what is coming their way, they can alter their ways and thinking to either comply or not comply with what the tarot cards say will happen. Generally, the tarot gives all the different perspectives to what is

going on in your life." All the psychics present seemed very much interested in their professions and cared deeply for the students seeking answers to their questions. Students gathered in large groups beside each station, nervously waiting and becoming more excited as their turn drew near. Student R.J. Mycka waited in line several times to have his tarot cards read, handwriting analyzed, and palm examined. "I'm very superstitious, and I've always wanted to have my palm read," Mycka said. Mycka was not the only one who wanted to have his palm read. A group

of at least 20 students continuously gathered around the palm reader's station to have a chance with the expert. Mycka also visited another population station. The handwriting expert seemed to astonish everyone who wrote a small sentence for analysis. "He knows more about your own life than you do," Mycka said. Behrend students seemed to enjoy the day's activities, and many stayed for hours to peek into what their futures hold. More than 120 students had signed up on the waiting list to see the psychics and numerous people strolled in from the outside to discover the psychics.

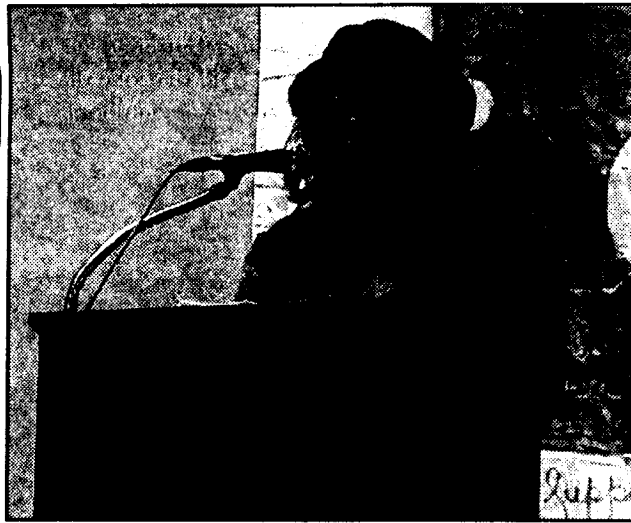
'Oz' performer muMs brings slam poetry to Behrend



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Poet and performer muMs, known among other things for his role on the HBO prison drama "Oz," brought his talents to Behrend on Tuesday. His work has been published in "The Black Quarterly Review" and "The Source," and he was featured on the documentary "Slamnation."

FROM FRONT PAGE

FACULTY



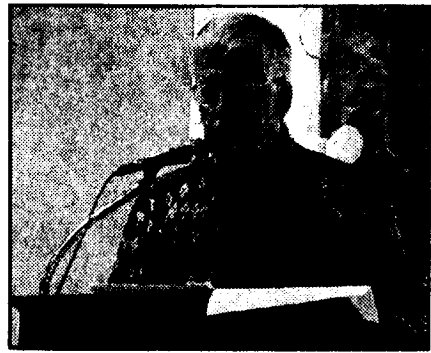
Dr. Diana Hume-George reads her "spiritual manifesto" in front of a rapt audience in Bruno's.



Dr. Chester Wolford produces laughs with his satire about the experiences of a first-year professor.

"Devil's Den," takes place at the end of World War II, when about half a million POWs (mostly German) were made to work on farms during their imprisonment, and one is accused of murdering the wife of a foreman on a Gettysburg farm. Looney, whose book-length poem "Structures the Wind Sings Through" consisted of 12 sections, added another section eight months after the poem was 'finished.' The section was a coda that incorporated the different images within the poem, combining themes into a complex, final product. Both Melissa Fraterrigo and Brad Comann also used strong imagery and themes in their selected readings. Comann's several poems (most focused around a winter theme) exhibited a distinct rhythm in their variety of forms, ranging from traditional to haiku.

Many of the poems also showed the extent of Comann's travels and knowledge of Eastern culture, sometimes using it as a metaphor such as "the color of oolong tea." The final poem described a phenomenon in Thailand that involves stripping the temples of the Buddha heads (yes, just



PHOTOS BY ERIN McCARTY / BEHREND BEACON
Dr. Archie Loss reads from a novel set during World War II in southern Pennsylvania.

the heads) and selling them on the market. Fraterrigo's imaginative short story shows us a young woman (Fraterrigo assured the crowd that she was not this young woman) whose older husband owns a chair, given as a present by his mother. Most audience members might have tuned out until this chair started splitting cushions and spitting out valuable jewelry to the young woman, in exchange that she not leave for a younger man. This mixture of poems and fiction and manifestos is only a small part of the Smith Creative Writing series this semester. Upcoming presenters include fiction writer Amy Hempel (April 17) and Penn State's own Dinty Moore (March 6), a professor at the Altoona branch campus and author of two non-fiction novels.

Panel provides information to future teachers

by Erin McCarty
news editor

Although students cannot graduate from Behrend with a degree in education, opportunities are available for Behrend students interested in teaching. Next week, those who are interested in pursuing a teaching degree are invited to attend a panel discussion on Wednesday in Reed 117 at 6 p.m. The purpose of the discussion is to provide information to students interested in pursuing the 4 + 1 program, wherein

Behrend graduates spend an additional year at Mercyhurst getting a teaching degree, or an education degree from University Park. Topics up for discussion include the pros and cons of both options, the process of getting into the major, the attributes of the programs, and the experience of teaching. The evening will begin with a general discussion, after which those interested in University Park will convene in another room while those interested in Mercyhurst remain in 117. "This is the first time we have done a panel discussion," said Dr. Dean Baldwin,

an English professor at Behrend. He expects it will prove useful to many students; about 10 students per year go for the 4 + 1 degree, and at least that many go to University Park. "This is very valuable for students," Baldwin said. "I would encourage people to come if teaching has ever crossed their mind." He also said that underclassmen would be most likely to benefit from the discussion because advance planning is needed. Students need to fill out paperwork and take a number of required

classes at Behrend. "If you're a senior now and you decide you want to do one of these programs, you're going to have a lot of work to do," he said. The panel will include Kathleen Bukowski, the chair of education at Mercyhurst College; Candace Schiffer, the head of the adult college at Mercyhurst; Erin Lyons, a Behrend graduate now teaching at Strong Vincent; Melissa Fox, a Behrend graduate now teaching at Roosevelt; and Baldwin. Other attendees may include Thomas Wortman, representing the Behrend

administration; Charisse Nixon, another coordinator for education programs at Behrend; and faculty members from each discipline at Behrend. Baldwin thinks that students will be particularly interested in the experiences of Lyons and Fox. "The students will get real-life examples of people who have been through this program," Baldwin said. "They will get to hear about the joys and agonies of first-year teaching."