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The Behrend Beacon

Behrend says 'No' to Alice Cooper Halloween concert

by Megan Loncaric
staff writer

Alice Cooper offered Erie a concert date for October 31st. Steve Ospanic, president of the Great Lakes Film Association, wanted to bring Alice Cooper to Behrend. After all, a Halloween concert at a college, plus a CD-release party is a pretty big and exciting event. Behrend rejected the offer.

"It's very disappointing for Erie to lose this show," said Ospanic. "I can easily get 1000 tickets sold by word-of-mouth alone."

Ken Miller, director of Penn State Behrend Student Affairs, said in a phone interview that it's not a question of not letting Alice Cooper play at Behrend, but that timing was everything in this situation.

Behrend allocates money in the spring for use in the upcoming fall semester. The request for an Alice Cooper concert at Behrend came in the middle of summer. The board of people required to vote on it was not able to get together in time to vote on the use of the money over the summer. Behrend has \$80,000 to use throughout the course of the year for events, such as concerts. A big event such as Alice Cooper would cost about \$25,000. Some money would be made back from selling tickets, to the Erie community.

There was really no concern about Alice Cooper's dark image coming to Behrend, said Miller, but the lack of time is what made it not able to happen.

Ospanic said in a recent phone interview that Alice Cooper was open to play at a college campus. His representatives said he was willing to do a meet-and-greet after the show, give interviews, and perhaps play a few rounds of golf with students or faculty members if he came in early enough.

There were many possibilities for this concert: a Halloween costume party, and/or a CD-Release party to celebrate the release of his new CD, *The Eyes of Alice Cooper*, due to be released on Sept. 30.

"He is blowing people away on this tour," said Ospanic. "Some students are disappointed that Alice Cooper isn't able to come to the Behrend campus."

"If they can't get Cooper then hopefully they get something that most people enjoy, like a classic rock band," said Jason Pavlik.

"I think it would've been great to have him here. I've heard that he puts on an amazing live show. I would much rather see an Alice Cooper show than a concert by pretty much any new current band on the radio today," said Greg Smith.

"Cooper would attract a huge crowd...he is a well known performer and i would go see him if he came to Behrend," says sophomore Katie Miller.

Don't worry all you die-hard Cooper fans; while Alice Cooper isn't coming to the Erie area, he'll still be within driving distance. Cooper is scheduled to play at Seneca Niagara Casino, on Halloween in Niagara Falls, Ny.

As for another concert at Behrend, says Miller; "Hopefully with any luck we'll have another one this year."



PHOTO BY ALICECOOPER.COM

Cooper displaying his 'darkside'

The price i\$ right

by Jess Allegretto
staff writer

When Behrend graced the pages of the 2004 edition of "The Unofficial, Unbiased Guide to the 328 Most Interesting Colleges," Behrend it found itself among nationally renowned Ivy League schools including Harvard and Columbia.

The book was written by college admission gurus, Trent Anderson and Seppy Basili and printed by Kaplan Publishing. The used information gathered from surveying hundreds of high school guidance counselors, current students, and recent graduates helped to rank the schools. Evaluation of the results was kept objective with the help of Market Measurement, a national market research firm.

"The Unofficial, Unbiased Guide to the 328 Most Interesting Colleges" offers in-depth profiles of the colleges and universities. Categories ranged from schools considered to be "hidden treasures," most beautiful campuses, schools with popular drug-free and alcohol-free activities. Then there are the categories that tend draw more attention; hottest and trendiest, and best collegiate values, among which Behrend was listed.

The category of "best value" was determined by weighing the quality of education against the cost. It included Penn State University's Erie campus among the 59 public and private universities considered to be most cost efficient in the nation, confirming both the high educational quality and affordability of Behrend.

But how applicable is a countrywide census on a small suburban campus? For many at Behrend, national recognition in Kaplan's publication seemed only to confirm what they already knew.

"Penn State Behrend is committed to quality, and a Behrend College degree has always been a great value for students," said Dr. Jack Burke, campus executive officer and dean.

And by and large students seem to concur.

"It's simple," said marketing major Erika Majewski, "It's (Penn

State Behrend) a good name and a good price."

"I looked at several out of state schools like Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Rochester Institute of Technology, but they were just too expensive basically," says Donnie Quindardo, a first semester computer engineering major. "Penn State offered me a good education and a reputable engineering program and the price was right."

Freshman communications major Alexis Puhala agrees. "Penn State is definitely the cheapest of all the schools I looked at, but people I talk to and even people my parents know have heard of Penn State and its reputation. It's like getting the best of both worlds."

Even the students who remain less than impressed with the cost of the education they get at Behrend are satisfied with their decision to attend. "I know I could have gone to a cheaper school, but I also know I wouldn't be getting the same education," said first year student Jason Hershelman. "It's one of those things where you get what you pay for."

Psychology major Briana Theiss shares that opinion. "I looked at other schools like IUP, Clarion, and Slippery Rock. Behrend was actually more expensive, but I really liked the campus. It's the perfect size - not too big - and just really pretty. Plus they have a good psychology program."

So, it seems that the bottom line is Behrend is about value. Most people said they chose to attend Behrend are relatively happy with that decision.

Kaplan's "The Unofficial Unbiased Guide to the 328 Most Interesting Colleges" will soon be available to students in the John M. Lilley Library or can be purchased at any major book distributor for \$20.

The fabulous life of Boiler Hall

by Crazy Newspaper Face
contributing writer

I would like to comment on the state of housing at this university, but first I would like to remind you of my plight. Some of you may remember me from last year as the student that has experienced many hardships because of the fact that I have a newspaper for a face.

For those of you new to the campus I would just like you to imagine what it is like to grow up with the New York Times plastered across your forehead. Imagine the taunts, jibes and sneers. Imagine the incalculable destitution that one experiences as a Newspaper Face.

Now on to the housing problem. I would just like to start by saying that those of you who have experienced housing discrimination in the past, have not even began to experience the absolute depravity that this university has sunk to.

I live in the boiler room in the Reed Building. I have seven roommates including; Jack, Archie, Dianna, Stacey McCoy, Ken, Chris, and Robert. Some of you may be thinking, "Don't those people have their own houses?" Well I am here to tell you that they don't.

I have been living in close quarters with the seven of them for nearly three weeks. Most of them, when asked about why they are living "on-campus" mutter under their breath something about budget cuts and the "Man."

At the moment, I have the best living quarters in the room. I have a very nice refrigerator box located under the pipes that heat the upstairs of Reed. It is the only single room in Boiler Hall, as I

like to call it.

Dianna and Stacey share a ramshackle room made out of old Tivo boxes located about three feet inside the door to the right. Ken and Jack live right next to the boiler, and Archie, Chris, and Robert all live in a Coleman tent next to the event chairs stored in Boiler Hall.

You probably know Robert as Officer Bob, and he is one of my most interesting roomies. He is always showing us his gun, and randomly sticking his head into our boxes saying, "Oh sorry, I thought I smelled marijuana smoke coming from your box."

Chris is our big man on campus in student activities. He is always asking me if I want to start a new organization on campus, and offering to be the advisor for it. Ken, he works in student affairs, how can I describe him? Well you may remember John Belushi's character from "Animal House;" well if you crossed him with Homer Simpson, and Joey from "Friends" you would have Ken, or as we like to call him, "The Kenmiester."

Stacey, pretty much keeps to herself, but she often offers to keep track of our money, and always recommends that we put our loose cash in a non-

allocated SGA account. She usually says with a little grin, "Ha! You'll never see your money again." I think she has a problem keeping her personal thoughts to herself.

Dianna is probably my coolest roommate. She always has a smile on her face, and is cheerful all the time. On the other hand she is always smoking in her box.

Archie is sort of the leader of our gang, he's always putting up the chore list, and making sure everyone is keeping their boxes clean. He always has his friends Jughead, Betty and

Veronica over for snacks.

And finally Jack, there is not much to say about Jack. He's sort of like the "Guy on the Couch" in "Half Baked." All he does is lay on a wood palette in front of the burn barrel.

So all of you little whiners bitching about having to live in a study lounge with three people can just shut your pie-holes. Try living in Boiler Hall with my crew.

If you are still upset about living with three people, you could probably take up residence in the unisex bathroom located in Reed because no one ever uses it.

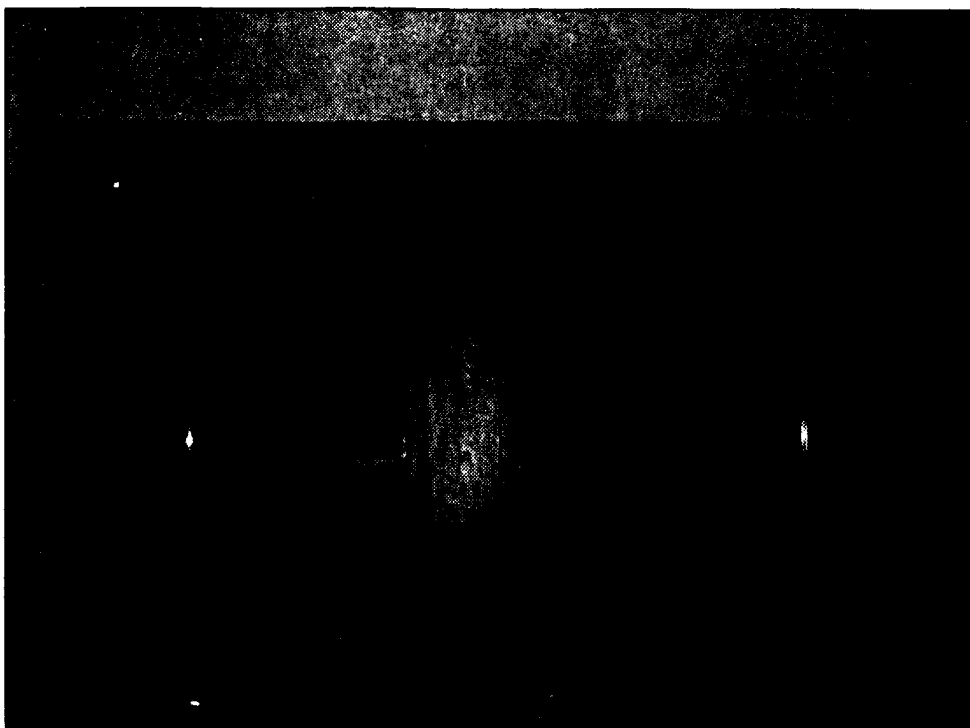


PHOTO BY LAUREN PACKER/BEHREND BEACON

Entrance to Boiler Hall

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The brain does amazing things, doesn't it? Instructions: Just read the sentence straight through....

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