Friday, October 31, 2003

The Behrend Beacon

FROM FRONT PAGE

Lion Ambassadors begin recruiting

other year at University Park. On the off years it is held at a branch campus. This year, in March, the conference will be held at Behrend.

CNC is a great place for the group to come together as a whole. They get to meet lots of new people and share ideas. This conference is one of the benefits of becoming a Lion Ambassador.

The Lion Ambassadors celebrate Founders Days every year.

"It's the day Mary Behrend donated the farm," said McCandless.

To celebrate Founders Day, the Lion Ambassadors hold a "birthday" party by getting a cake and balloons. This year the celebration happened during Oktoberfest.

The Lion Ambassadors are now accepting applications for new members. The applications are available online and at the RUB desk. The deadline is Nov. 14.

Last year, the Lion Ambassadors lost many seniors. This year they have approximately fifteen members and are looking to increase their number.

All students are encouraged to apply to become a Lion Ambassador. The student must be a full time student and have a GPA of 2.5.

"That's only because we feel grades are the most important thing," said McCandless.

It is also encouraged that once a student becomes a Lion Ambassador they will be at Behrend for the next two years. This is only because being a Lion Ambassador is an important job.

'We're the official hosts and hostesses of Behrend," said McCandless.

After filling out an application, the student will then have an interview in front of a panel of four current Lion Ambassadors.

If selected, the student will have to attend weekly meetings. The meetings are held every Thursday in the Memorial Room.

"It's a really special room," said McCandless.

The room has original furniture from when the Behrend family lived in it. It is a privilege to be allowed in the room and the Lion Ambassadors feel very honored to be able to use it.



Sex, drugs, and rock 'n roll An exciting name for a boring program

by Scott Soltis

assistant managing editor

The Sex, Drugs, and Rock 'n Roll program came to Behrend Monday night with high expectations. The program was presented by C.O.R.E., Penn State Behrend Health and Wellness, WSEE 35 and Family Services. The moderator for the evening was WSEE anchor Lisa Zompa.

The program was a series of informative sessions about topics ranging from sexually transmitted diseases, computer safety, teen pregnancy and drugs. While the speakers were informative, their presentations were not very exciting or pertinent to college students. For example, the statistics given for STDs and drug use were primarily about teenagers, and frequently young teenagers.

Each presenter had a series of information on slides, much of which was focused on "ways to talk to your kids" about different topics. The

boring time for many of the participants. "Well I thought that the program was pretty informative," said Mike Barlett, POLSC 05, "but it was mostly geared to adults and what they can modify or apply to their parenting skills."

This seemed to be a theme for most of the night, great subject matter, wrong audience. "Open communication among families and in schools about these problems will help people to realize the severity of these problems and help to find solutions," said Jamie Earls, another student attendee. The message being spread was a good one for the approximately 20 parents in the crowd, but it fell mostly on deaf ears for the 70+ college students.

However, some students were able to take some information away from the program. "I think it's great because educating people is the first step in building a solid foundation for children to grow from in the right direction," said Tami Quigley.

The program seemed to have a good purpose to

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Fanelli speaks on inspiration

by Eileen Jensen staff writer

Following a lunch consisting of soup and rolls, Soup for the Soul speaker Tony Fanelli's, inspirational words brought thoughts of people who have been inspirations to the minds of those who were in attendance. A senior, he is majoring in Mechanical Engineering Technology and is also an active part of the Catholic Campus Ministry. On Thursday, Fanelli shared thoughts about the person in his life who had inspired him the most, his grandmother. Fanelli's grandmother, whom he called "Nana", was his true inspiration. He was inspired, "from the life she lived and her actions."

He began by speaking of her background. She was born in 1916 and shortly after she was born, her mother passed away. Fanelli's greatgrandfather (Nana's father) was a conductor, so he wasn't home too much, so Nana had to go live with her aunt.

Throughout her life she was often made fun of because people had accused her of "killing her mother," because of her Mother's death shortly after her birth. Fanelli said that he was inspired by his grandmother's, "great ability to see happiness." There were three particular qualities that Nana had portraved that inspired Fanelli including, her faith, kindness and humbleness.

Mentioning his grandmother's faith, Fanelli spoke about her marriage to his grandfather. His grandparents were married in 1936. Fanelli was inspired over the 20 years he had gotten to know his grandmother and realized that she had faith in her marriage because his grandparents were, "committed to one another for over half a century." Nana was a "true believer in prayer," said Fanelli,

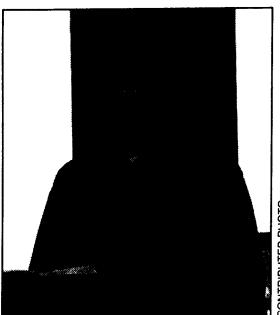
and had faith that prayer "could work" as well. Fanelli said that through her faith, she was better able to "build her relationship with God."

Continuing to speak about his grandmother's faith and how it inspired him, Fanelli said that she, "never jumped to conclusions ... and always gave you the

benefit of the doubt." Though it is easy to find faults in people, Fanelli expressed how he knew Nana never found a fault in anyone; she only looked for the good in people

The second reason he is inspired by his grandmother was because of her humbleness. He believes her humbleness came from her experiences throughout her life. By growing up with people who weren't always nice and always judged others, his grandmother grew very humble and grew to inspire her grandson, Fanelli.

The final quality that Fanelli expressed to be



Tony Fanelli was the second to last speaker in the Soup for the Soul series.

portrayed in his grandmother was kindness. While things may have been rough for her as a child, especially growing up without a mother during the Great Depression, Fanelli's grandmother always complimented him and his sister. She was always willing to get things for them, even in her later years. while being confined to using a walker to help her move from place to place.

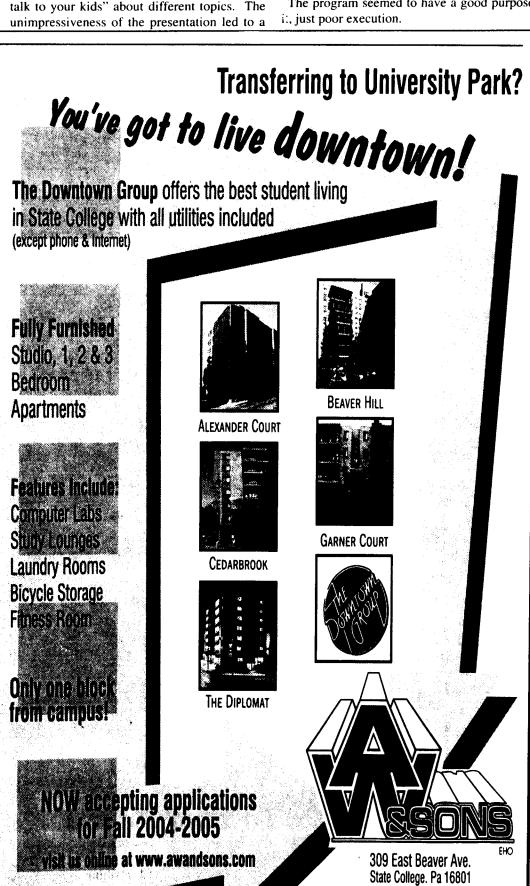
Faith, kindness and humbleness are three qualities in which Fanelli saw in his grandmother. Even after her death, he is still inspired by the wonderful ways she taught him to live and the way she taught him to look at the world.

Fanelli said, "If everyone had a little more faith, kindness and humbleness, the world would be a better place."

At the end of Fanelli's inspirational words, he said, "I challenge you to find these qualities in yourself." When you find qualities such as those portrayed by his grandmother, you inspire yourself and others around you.

At the conclusion of his address, a reflection and discussion included talk about the question, "Who is the person in your life who has inspired you the most? Why?" The next time you feel someone has inspired you to become a better person, tell them, and let them know that you are better because of the encounter you had.

Nov. 6 will be the final Soup for the Soul of the semester. The featured speaker will be Zach Irwin, associate professor of political science. If you would like to attend, lunch begins at noon. RSVPs are appreciated to Sr. Mary Drexler (x6245 or mcd14@psu.edu) or contact Lynn McNeil (x7139 or lkm11@psu.edu).





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