

Athletic League Decision Uncertain

The decision to compete against senior colleges next year in all sports has posed many problems that are, at this stage, far from being resolved.

These problems were uncovered last Thursday evening at the initial meeting of the new Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics which was formed at the request of Director Irvin Kochel at the last Faculty Senate meeting. The committee is to function until a standing committee of the Faculty Senate can be formed in the spring. This will necessitate a change in the constitution. The new committee will act in an advisory capacity to the athletic director to try to work out the problems involved with Behrend's power to make final decisions.

The committee is composed of nine faculty members and three students. Mr. John Grode, Instructor in Engineering, is the chairman of the committee. Other faculty members include: Mr. Sweeting, Assistant Professor in Physical Education and athletic director, Mr. Fryer, Assistant Professor in Psychology and Director of the Division of Counseling, Mr. Hostetler, Assistant Professor in Mathematics, Mr. Masteller, Assistant Professor in Biology, Mr. Peightal, Instructor in History, Mr. Small, Instructor in English, and Mr. Countermine, Assistant Professor in Computer Science. Tony Alo, Tom Harvey, and Mark Warren are the student representatives. Mr. Lauffer and Mr. Stoner were also in attendance at the meeting.

At last Thursday's meeting, after all the preliminaries were hashed out, the question of what national athletic organizations and conferences to affiliate with came up. Mr. Sweeting informed the committee that he has applied for membership at the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA). However, he has run into much trouble with the association officials as to the actual status of the Behren Campus next year. Will Behrend be a four-year degree-granting institution next year? Will Behrend still be a part of Penn State? Will this affect Penn States' membership in the NCAA? These questions will have to be answered before Behrend can seek membership in any national organization which is necessary for the scheduling of decent competition.

As far as joining any leagues or conferences is concerned, Mr. Sweeting pointed out that Behrend has been asked to form a league with the other four local colleges for competition in all sports. This was further discussed at a meeting of the athletic directors of the five schools Thursday of this week. Behrend has already scheduled Mercyhurst in basketball and Gannon in baseball and soccer. Behrend has joined the Western Pennsylvania Intercollegiate Soccer Association (WPISA) which includes Gannon, Edinboro, Geneva, Pitt, Allegheny, Duquesne, St. Francis (Pa.), Slippery Rock, Point Park, and Behrend.

The issue of whether or not to change the school colors and or nick-name also was raised. The students on the committee were appointed to study this possibility and report back to the committee at the next meeting.

Another of the big problems Behrend will face next year is recruiting and financial support for athletes. At the present, there is no money for athletic scholarships. Of course, scholarships are not really necessary for an athletic program, but, in this reporter's opinion, they will be necessary if Behrend hopes to compete with area colleges now and in the future. A subcommittee of faculty members was appointed to delve into this problem.

Over and above financial aid, though, is the academic status of Behrend. At present, Behrend Campus offers only a paltry two majors in which a student may remain here for four years. It is extremely obvious, in my opinion, that Behrend doesn't have very much to offer an athlete, or, for that matter, any student who wishes to complete his college education at this school. Until this situation is rectified, Behrend cannot hope, by any stretch of the imagination, to compete, athletical-by or otherwise, against schools that offer both financial aid and varied academic program.

We can see then, that there are many things that have to be done before Behrend endeavors to compete in four-year athletics. It is in the interest of Behrend Campus to establish a favorable image in the community and successful athletic teams are one of the best ways of accomplishing this. This is evident at schools like Gannon and Mercyhurst who have gained tremendous community interest, and the students and money that go with it, through their fine basketball teams. We should do everything we can to promote athletics at Behrend.

Everyone would like to see Behrend be successful in athletic competition, but before this can be realized, it is up to the administration, the coaches, and the students to shed their "illusions of grandeur" and think sensibly about what they are faced with-or else forget about this ambitious athletic program.

Led Zeppelin Improves Sound; Pink Floyd Improvises "Meddle"

by Charles Eschweiler
Staff Writer

Commercial success usually means the decline of most rock groups; it becomes quite easy for the musicians to sit on their asses and churn out hordes of indistinguished tunes that sound enough like whatever they think their public image is and end up stagnating. . . the monotony is broken up when the group starts losing members. Led Zeppelin has gone a completely opposite direction; instead of hanging out doing variations of "Dazed and Confused", or "Whole Lotta Love", they have been working towards new things, as shown by their new album. The first two Zeppelin discs were plodding exercises in electronics. Led Zeppelin III cleaned the group's hard sound up and introduced Page and Plant's old english folkie trip. The new Led Zeppelin album fulfills the potential shown in the previous recordings; the band has broken itself down to two styles - folk rock and pure hard rock.

There are three folksy pieces on the new Zeppelin album. "Battle of Evermore," "Stairway to Heaven", and "Going to California". They are all in as fine a form as possible and it wouldn't serve any purpose to point out any special tune. The hard rock numbers are pretty much standard Zeppelin stuff, with two exceptions: "Rock and Roll" and "When the Levee Breaks." "Rock and Roll" is four minutes of Bob Plant wrenching some acne-splattered teenage exuberance from the very pit of his nasty cockney soul, while Jimmy Page slashes at his guitar, sounding like a chopper tearing through a slag heap. Should anyone ever ask you to play a tune that personified rock and roll in all its vicious splendor, Led Zeppelin's song would do fine. . . music to have a razor fight with. "When the Levee Breaks" is the standard Zeppelin "Blooze" bit, but it fares better than their previous blues things by virtue of the heaviest, most oppressive and obnoxious riff the band has gotten

together since "Whole Lotta Love." All things said, the new Led Zeppelin is one of the best albums that was released in late 71. If you're into the group you no doubt have it, but even if you aren't, I'd suggest a few open-minded listenings. It's good enough music to stand up to anyone's standards.

MEDDLE... PINK FLOYD

Pink Floyd has always been a cult group, you either like them or not. . . they aren't making any compromises. The groups' limited appeal has kept them buried away too long, so they have finally made an accessible, thoroughly enjoyable album with "Meddle".

The majority of the tunes on "Meddle" are free improvisational things quite reminiscent of the Grateful Dead's total improvisations on "Anthem of the Sun", "Aoxomoxoa," and "Live Dead". They come out of nowhere and take off into the ozone with vengeance. Floyd is more electronically oriented than the Dead ever were, but they never fall victim to their technology and who could get down on any group that closes off their album with a number like "Seamus", with Steve Marriot's hound dog (for whom the piece was named) yelping the vocal in perfect tune. . . maybe it's to give "Meddle" a rough quality, maybe, it's because Seamus almost yelps as well as John Lennon. Whether you like dogs or not, I recommend "Meddle" as the perfect introduction to Pink Floyd's music.

Resident Parking Lot Appears Impractical

by Doug Lechlitter
Managing Editor

The parking situation at the Behrend Campus is a lesson in perseverance. Anyone who drives a car on the Behrend Campus has to have the patience of Job, the restraint of a diplomat, and the driving skill of A.J. Foyt.

The Dobbins Hall parking lot has to be on of the sorest spots in the sides of those resident students with automobiles. It is on the top of a windswept hill where the chill factor-induced-temperatures turn oil to the consistency of molasses. There is also the problem of getting there, either in your car or on foot. To drive up Jordan Road in the midst of one of Erie's frequent blizzards is nigh impossible. Provided that your car is already there, the student is faced with the problem of climbing up to it. It is possible to go through Lawrence Hall, but that is a two day safari. The logical route is up the inside steps

of Dobbins Hall, but the doors are locked almost immediately after supper.

If the weather conditions make it impossible for the operation of the Dobbins lot, students should be able to use the Reed lot. An equitable system of parking is needed for all students.

To The Editor

Dear Concerned Students:

It is certainly unfortunate that the audiovisual - language lab problems you mentioned in last week's "Collegian" could not be spelled out and listed as specific complaints so that adequate solutions could be reached.

Since the Instructional Services Department exists for the students and faculty and not vice versa, I would hope that actual difficulties would be brought to my attention and that it would not merely be assumed that I know what they are.

Any comments, suggestions and criticisms would be greatly appreciated and are certainly solicited in an attempt to rectify our shortcomings.

Thank You,
Sincerely,
Thomas J. Doyle
Instructional
Services Department
Behrend 119

Editorial Policy

The editorials appearing in this newspaper will be opinionated and therefore subject to criticism. All letters that are typewritten of 200 words or less, and submitted to the newspaper staff will be printed with the exception of those that are repetitions or in poor taste. The staff reserves the right to correct

or delete portions of all letters for publication purposes.

All letters must be signed, but names will be withheld upon request. Term standing, major, and hometown must be included.

Signed columns represent the view of the author only and do not reflect the Editorial policy of the Behrend Collegian.

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