

# Behrend Collegian

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## Wintergreen Going Downhill

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At a meeting of the Environment Quality Control Board, the board acted on a request from Dr. Harry N. Cunningham, Jr. to appeal for a decision from Behrend Campus regarding how Wintergreen Gorge should be put to use. The board in conjunction with the Department of University Safety had previously evolved a plan whereby all motor vehicle traffic would be prohibited in the gorge effective Oct. 1.

Dr. Cunningham hopes the tremendous erosion problem of the gorge might be solved with the awareness by our college community of this valuable resource. The EQC Board agreed with Dr. Cunningham's suggestions for maintaining Wintergreen Gorge as an ecological refuge and recommended a program for development.

Dr. Cunningham, a dedicated assistant professor of Biology here at Behrend, is devoted to the conservation for the natural beauty of our campus and is concerned with immediate aesthetic effects and with serious erosion problems of Wintergreen Gorge.

### Motorcycles Cause Problem

Dr. Cunningham suggested the

rampant use of trail motorcycles, snowmobiles and other all-terrain vehicles on the forested areas of the campus, particularly the region in and overlooking Wintergreen Gorge are continually degrading a portion of it.

Regarding the campus population, he stated: "If the majority feel, as I do, that the woods are worth preserving and managing for their aesthetic and scientific value, then I think the vehicles should be excluded from the property."

Besides eliminating traffic, Dr. Cunningham is concerned with the noise itself. "What was once a place where people could walk in comfort and solitude has now become a place where solitude is repeatedly broken by the whining of engines and walking becomes an exercise in caution." He reported that the trails are not few nor are they in any particular pattern.

In addition, he stated that the trails cross and recross over all types of terrain leaving vast, ugly ruts when used in all kinds of weather.

### Cooperation Necessary

Dr. Cunningham made clear that all people have rights to the simple restfulness and escape from turmoil which Wintergreen Gorge has offered in the past. He proposes that consultations with experts before building near the

gorge be taken into account to reassure any further damage. He thinks a possibility worth exploring would be to have the gorge and its surrounding walls designated a nature center, ecological reservation or something similar.

The need for a lot of student involvement and cooperation was also indicated by Dr. Cunningham. Biological science students, especially, can act as modifiers and aid in corrections made for the gorge. Indeed, field trips and serious research projects could be carried out by students in biological sciences. The Wintergreen Gorge is a useful resource for teaching and enjoyment and should be treated with the same amount of respect due to other natural areas.



Three members of Behrend's Advisory Board, Dr. Richard Eisenberg, Chester Reichert Jr., and Russel Robison recently met with students, Darla Berkey, Mike Chiricuzio, Lynne Phillips, and Mike Joyce along with Dean Benajamin Lane.

## New Topics Discussed By SGA

The first business discussed at the SGA meeting Monday evening was a proposed change in the SGA constitution concerning the election of vice-president. As it stands now, two vice-presidents are elected, the first being the resident candidate receiving the most votes with the position of second vice-president going to the winning commuter student. The new amendment would provide for separate ballots for both offices.

Darla Berkey commented on Homecoming preparations by reminding SGA members that nominations for king and queen have not yet been submitted by all classes. It is very important that the names of the candidates be chosen as soon as possible so that the election can come off as scheduled.

The Behrend Advisory Committee was also in the limelight of this week's meeting. The committee is composed of twenty-four prominent community members who meet four times a year to discuss ways of contributing to the improvement of Behrend College. Now, for the first time, students are invited to the meetings. It is hoped that this move will create better understanding between the students and the community. Future Advisory Committee plans include a building fund for the college and a radio station to be run in conjunction with WQLN.

Pat Jackson made several suggestions for future activities. Ideas include a one night boxing tournament, bringing in a roller derby, and holding intra-mural wrestling matches. Mike Chiricuzio, SGA President, announced that plans are underway to discuss allowing parking in the RUB lot on Friday and Saturday evenings and all day Sunday for the convenience of commuter students. A proposal was also made to invite county and Harborcreek candidates running in the November elections to speak on campus.

The main topic of discussion, however, was the lack of student participation in SGA and RUB activities. Several members pointed out that lack of money

prevents many students from attending some activities but, as one attending said, the problem is one of "dance vs. dope". In other words, students would rather party than attend student government sponsored events. In an attempt to generate interest, plans for merging with the Tri-city college organizations of Villa, Mercyhurst, and Gannon were discussed. If the plans go through, the cost and profits of some activities would be shared with the three other schools. Such an arrangement would allow more big name groups to be brought to Erie. The discussion closed with a proposal to hold a luncheon for the student government head of the tri-city colleges to discuss Behrend's entry into the organization.

## CWENS Make Big Plans

Cwens, Women's Sophomore Honor Society, is becoming a more active organization at Behrend than it has ever been before. The members of Cwens at Behrend want to become recognized as a national organization. This means the members will be better informed as to the news of Cwens nationally. The members here will start by drawing up a petition and sending it to the Cwens national headquarters.

Cwens' first project is to purchase a scoreboard for athletic events. Students and faculty can help Cwens to achieve this goal by taking part in their activities.

On Oct. 26, 29, and 30 a Pumpkin Sale will be held in the RUB's lower level. Prices will be set according to the size of the pumpkin. Get into the Halloween spirit and buy one.

In November, posters will be sold. Additional information will be given later. Cwens is hoping to help Father Guy Patrick to organize a Camed Food Drive this Thanksgiving. Cwens will be aiding him by going to each house in Erie and asking for one can per family to be contributed for the needy.

During the holiday season Cwens' project is "Take a Kid to Dinner at Dobbins Hall." Before final exams, Cwens will be sending a letter home to each parent asking for a fee to purchase a care package of fruit and candy for their sons and

daughters during finals.

Cwens has a high set of goals to accomplish. Hopefully, students will participate in all of Cwens' projects to help fulfill the attainable goal of a scoreboard for the sports program.

## Write Now!

The reception which the literary magazine received last year was very reassuring to those who had been skeptical about the project. As a result of that reception, preparations are now being made for bigger and better plans this year.

At this stage, the editor is interested primarily in assembling a staff that will be willing and able to work. They are also interested in contributions from students, staff, and administration. All materials will be considered.

Anyone interested in working for the literary magazine or any contributor who either has material for consideration or is interested, will meet in the RUB quiet lounge Monday, Oct. 29 during 5th period. (1:40-2:55) If you are unable to attend please contact Mrs. Debbie Horne, faculty advisor, or call Doug Julius, editor, as soon as possible at 899-4126 after 6 p.m. any evening.

## Yes, Behrend There Is Truly An Energy Crisis

There have been rumors spoken and articles written of a coming energy crisis. Are these rumors and articles just a result of energy industrialists trying to gain a greater profit off the Americans great consumption and need for energy?

By the year 2001 the annual demand for energy in all forms is expected to double. In the area of natural gas, a mineral fuel, the peak of production will be reached in this decade. There is a theory that the world was created with 1,400 trillion cubic feet, three-fourths of the remaining natural gas has yet to be discovered.

Natural gas is expected to last

for 40 years at the present rate of consumption. There are no figures as to what the cost will be to home owners, but it is expected that the cost will increase drastically because modern man with all of his technology does not yet have the knowledge or equipment to extract all of the remaining natural gas.

We are concerned with the state of crisis in natural gas because it is widely regarded as the perfect fuel. Natural gas requires a minimum of equipment for use, it is easily transported in pipelines, burns with little or no smoke, odor or ash. Natural gas is prized as a fuel for industry, power generation and the domestic sector.

Natural gas is being consumed at a rate 1 million times faster than it is being formed in the earth. There is an energy crisis, and it will manifest itself in the near future, if you have not already been directly affected by it...

## Oil Shortage May Soon Become Grim Realization

Oil is probably the largest source of energy in America today. Lately, though, we've heard of, and some have even experienced the effects of our present oil shortage. But, is there actually a shortage? Yes, there is a "shortage", but only because our never-ending demand is ahead of our ability to discover, refine, and deliver the oil to the consumer. As the years go on, however, we will literally "run out", and be forced to rely on other sources of energy if we hope to survive.

As of now, the United States' potentially recoverable oil reserves will meet our demand for only 65 more years. Over the years, as our supply runs lower and lower, the demand for im-

ported oil will rise. It is estimated that the amount of oil imported by 1980 will rise from our current 4 per cent to 25 per cent. Also, by 1985, this figure could go as high as 50 per cent. Just consider what would happen if the present threat by the Arabs to cut-off all exported oil to the United States would materialize. Even with the oil from the Middle East, estimates predict that all oil reserves will last only for another century.

The answer then, is to begin to look towards other means to satisfy our energy needs, for as a commercial by the Oil Companies of America says "A country that runs on oil can't afford to run short."

## SUB To Present 'Joe' On Sunday

The sole activity on the Student Union Board's calendar for this week is the showing of the movie, "Joe". This film, which deals with the lifestyle and unrest of middle America, will be presented only Sunday night, Oct. 28 at 7 and 9 p.m. All-U Day at University Park has precluded the scheduling of any other events for this weekend. As a result, the regular Coffee House and Saturday night movie will not be held. Prices for this week's flick remain at 50 cents with an activity card and \$1.25 without a card. Picture on page four.

## Alcohol And You

Students interested in meeting with Dean Benjamin Lane and other area college students from Gannon, Mercyhurst, and Villa to discuss the topic "Alcoholism and the Student" should contact Dean Lane in Student Affairs. The group will meet at Behrend, October 30, to view a film and join in discussion.