

Editorial Opinion

Energy Crisis Sideline

By Jeff Matson
Executive Editor

Those of us who are warm and comfortable in the dorms or don't have to worry about cars and gas for transportation don't worry much about the energy crisis. Unless you have a class in the Studio the largest energy crisis here at Behrend College occurs around first period or directly before SGA meeting, then nothing and no one moves. However, even some of the non-drivers have run into a troublesome sideline of the energy crisis. This past weekend several friends of mine left campus to visit friends at State College, in spite of all that was going on here. Unable to find a ride down from anyone here on campus they decided to hitch down. This worked fine for the trip down.

However, after a long enjoyable weekend at State, when they took to the road again on Sunday they were hit with the reality that no one went driving anywhere on Sundays now that the gas stations are closed. So after traveling fifteen miles in four rides over a period of eight hours they were forced to return to the college and wait until Monday to find rides back to Behrend.

Is there really an energy crisis? Is it a plot? Are there really tankers with no place to unload their oil? Are there really wells with no one to process the oil? Well, this is America in the 1970's so the answer is probably, but who knows for sure. One thing is for sure. Don't try to hitch on a Sunday for a while.

Student Opinion

What Is It

By David Baumgarten

What is effective government? Communication. Why communication? Let us look at ourselves and communicate to ourselves how communication works. Okay?

Most of us have a pair of hands. These hands like to grasp and thereby modify the environment and therefore ourselves. This is because this is what they are designed for. This is what they are. They communicate their presence, what they are, to our mind. The mind, comparable to a government, acknowledges that the hands are facilitating their use in ways beneficial to both. When we grasp neat things to grasp, the hand communicates this to the mind via our neural telephone lines. The mind acknowledges by maybe communicating to the legs to move us

closer to what is neat to grasp and focuses us in on it.

It is close to being scientifically acknowledged that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. This is the idea of Gestalt. Thus, this means that through greater communication in government we can be more than what we are ourselves. Is there objectively any difference, then, in how we work inside of us and how we work outside of us? Those of us who understand communication must also understand duty. We need leaders plugged into what is happening in government. There is a lot more going in government that we should be more aware of, just as we are finding this out about our mind.

Whether you are aware of it or not your attitude affects the state of the whole Student Body and our

government. This happens whether you want it to or not. In essence, it always comes back to us. The government is the mirror of us all. Do you like what you see? It is only all our strengths and weaknesses. If you do like it, isn't it worth maintaining and improving? If you don't like it, the isn't it worth changing and not ignoring.

So what can you do? Get a hold of someone in student government, grasp them firmly, and communicate your real self to them-what you want and what's in your way of getting it. Help yourself help yourself yourself.

"The government is only the mode by which the people execute their will."—Thoreau on Civil Disobedience.

Applications For
Editor-in-Chief

of Collegian Available.

See Your
Advisor

Students are reminded that a new procedure for pre-registration has been employed, in which the student will be able to pre-register before the end of the current term. Advising began on Monday, Jan. 28, with the actual pre-registration beginning on Monday, Feb. 4, and continuing through Friday, Feb. 22. Copies of the pre-registration instructions can be picked up at the following distribution points: Behrend Building, Reed Union desk, Library, and Main building. All students who are continuing at Behrend in the Spring term should pre-register.

Research At State

Biophysicists at The Pennsylvania State University are developing a new research tool that also holds special promise for an automated test for cancer.

The device, still undergoing intensive testing and research, was designed and constructed by Dr. Paul W. Todd, associate professor of biophysics, and his graduate students, Robert C. Boltz, Jr., of Armonk, N.Y., Ming K. Louie, of Boston, Mass., and Richard A. Gaines, of Exton.

According to Dr. Todd, the new tool employs a technique called "cell electrophoresis" that is used in a few specialized research laboratories but never has been applied to routine cancer diagnosis.

The device can measure the electric charge on the surface of individual living cells taken from body fluids or tissues and also can separate cancer cells from normal ones on the basis of electric charge.

Theoretically, Dr. Todd says, the new instrument could be used to detect cancer by analyzing

either blood serum, white blood cells, or tissue samples. The first two possibilities, he notes, "offer special advantages because they involve taking only a sample from the patient."

So far, the Penn State researchers have used the device only to analyze animal cells but the results have been sufficiently encouraging that Dr. Todd expects to pursue development of a prototype model for use in clinical trials.

Dr. Todd believes the equipment's simplicity and sensitivity will be its chief advantages over existing cell electrophoresis methods which he says are "limited, tedious and require highly trained personnel."

Dr. Todd says part of the technique's promise as a research tool comes from its ability to process cells without killing them. Thus, researchers may be able to use the device to isolate living malignant cells from normal cells in order to study their functions.

Since the principal difference

between malignant and normal cells are in their surfaces, the Penn State biophysicist believes in the device's ability to gain a better understanding of the disease.

"Researchers have been struggling with the problem of how to measure the change on a single cell for decades," Dr. Todd says. "The technique currently in use in research laboratories requires a trained observer to time the migration of single cells across a small liquid-filled chamber. Using that method, it would take about a month to measure the charge on 10,000 cells (the number that would cover the head of a pin). The new device can measure the charge on one or two million cells (a thin, dime-sized sample) in only an hour or two."

Dr. Todd says a discovery by his former graduate student, Ronald P. Milito, of Pittsburgh, was crucial to progress on the application of the method to cancer research. He found that normal cells carry a stronger electric charge than cancer cells after treatment with a jerk-bean protein called concanavalin A.

Dr. Todd explains that "without this special chemical treatment, the charges on the malignant and non-malignant cells are probably not different enough to allow separation by electrophoresis."

He notes that the group's current efforts are directed toward finding additional ways to enhance such differences in cell charge.

Even if the new cancer test proves workable in clinical trials, Dr. Todd believes it will enjoy a very short lifetime because other researchers will use it to develop even better methods of diagnosis. He says that "When science understands what is happening on

the surfaces of malignant cells, it may even be possible to develop specific tests for cancers of individual tissues."

The project is supported in part by a grant from the National Cancer Institute, U. S. Public Health Service.

Dr. Todd, who joined the Penn State faculty in 1966, will be on leave from the University for the next nine months to explore applications to cancer research of the new proton accelerator at the Los Alamos Meson Physics Facility, Los Alamos, New Mexico.

Second Meeting on
Fourth Annual Arts
Festival will be on
Tues., Feb. 12,
from 10:50 a.m. to
12:05 p.m. in
Behrend 113.

Pros & Cons

- ...midterms are over
- ...no snow, damp dismal rain
- ...new library hours
- ...biological abstracts
- ...gymnastic routines
- ...SGA meetings in the dorm lobbies
- ...Daylight Savings Time?
- ...Ali beats Frazier
- ...only four weeks left of class

Behrend Collegian

Member of

The Press Association
of Commonwealth Campuses

Editor-in-Chief: Lynne Phillips
Executive Editor: Jeffrey Matson
Sports Editor: Jim Concelman
Managing Editor: Georgean Gaydosh
News Editor: Linda Johnson

Photographers: Michael Mark, Gary Stewart
Business Manager: Bruce Pizzini
Circulation Manager: Jayne Switata
Cartoonist: Jack King
Staff: Sue Skiba, Debbie Ries, Bud Ore, Gary Schonhaler, Lynn Alexander, Muriel Hykes, Leann Sherman, Gay Marie Catania, Dave Lojewski, Nancy Lindholm.
Layout Staff: Karen Burton
Typists: Betsy Sterling, Jeanne Murray, Lee Weinberg
Circulation Staff: Suzanne Walker

Mailing Address - Behrend Campus, Station Road, Erie, Pa. 16510
Office - Student Offices, Reed Union Building
Office Hours: 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday
Phone: 899-3101 Ext. 238.

Opinions expressed by the editors and staff of the Behrend Collegian are not necessarily those of the University Administration, faculty, or the student body.

Published every Thursday throughout the Fall, Winter, and Spring Terms, with exclusions for holidays and term breaks.

The 30's
Are Back

Two Pennsylvania State University students who didn't know each other before last weekend are very close friends now—they danced together for nearly 48 hours at the interfraternity Council Dance Marathon.

The Marathon raised \$10,824 for the Heart Association of Central Pennsylvania.

The first prize winners, matched when their sorority and fraternity wanted to enter the best possible candidates, are Robin Milne, of Huntington Valley a sophomore in elementary education, and Michael Gerard, of West Chester, a senior in animal industries. They were sponsored by Delta Delta Delta sorority and Kappa Delta Rho fraternity.

Robin and Michael won \$500 for their tireless dancing; second place winners won \$300; and third place winners won \$100. Local merchants provided numerous other prizes.

Twelve of the 51 couples who began dancing on Friday night were still on their feet when the event ended on Sunday night. Winners were chosen on the basis of money raised in their name and the time spent dancing. Dancers were allowed to take very short breaks, but were penalized for time spent off the dance floor. The failure of a band to show up gave dancers an extra break in the 32nd hour.

Robin credits her endurance to her training as a swimmer; Michael entered simply for his love of dancing.

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.

Are You Busy
Tuesday Nite

The selecting of a new Editor-in-Chief of the Behrend Collegian will soon be underway. The applicants will be reviewed by the Board of Publications during the last few weeks of winter term.

Any student with an avid interest in journalism or any area of the newspaper field are asked to apply. The selected student will be the Editor spring term under the supervision of the present editor, Lynne Phillips. Spring term will essentially be the newly selected Editor's training period.

Positions of Managing Editor, News Editor, and possibly Executive and Sports Editor will

be open to applicants also for the upcoming school year. Those students interested in applying for any position are to contact Lynne Phillips at 138 Lawrence Hall, 899-9994.

The Collegian also needs students interested in the business field to handle advertising and billing. These students will be needed spring term. Business majors should be interested in this department to gain some practical experience in the business world. If interested, contact Ms. Phillips.

The application deadline will be Feb. 12.