

Collegian Offers Mini-Research

Marijuana Use At Behrend

This column is the sixth of a series of articles in an attempt to make known to the population at Behrend College and Behrend Collegian readers elsewhere, results of a mini-research projects done primarily by students in sociology courses.

by Salvador Parco

Fifty-four percent of 191 students at Behrend College sampled for a survey conducted by Richard E. Aul (9th term, Psychology) last fall said that they had tried smoking marijuana at least once, and 38.2 per cent admitted that they had smoked marijuana eleven or more times.

Aul found that more student majoring in the non-physical sciences (66 per cent) had experimented with marijuana than did the science majors (50 per cent). However, there were as many men (58.5 per cent) as women (58.8 per cent) who had tried marijuana. Using sex as a factor, there were more male non-science majors (78.4 per cent) than male science majors (46.3 per cent) who tried marijuana at least once. Among the women, however, the reverse was true, where 66.6 per cent of the science majors tried marijuana while only 55.3 per cent of the non-science majors did so.

Among the students who smoked marijuana eleven or more times prior to the survey, 51.6 per cent were non-science majors while only 28.8 per cent were science majors. There were more regular marijuana users among the men (43.3 per cent) than among the women (35.5 per cent). When controlled for sex, however, (70.4 per cent) of the male non-science majors smoked marijuana more than ten times, while only 26.9 per cent of the male science majors did so. Surprisingly, more women science majors (34 per cent) smoked marijuana eleven or more times than did the women non-science majors (34 per cent).

'72 Gallup Poll

These percentages are very much higher than those found in a nationwide Gallup Poll conducted in 1972 where only 11 per cent had ever tried marijuana. Through the years, Gallup Polls have found an increasing number of regular marijuana users: from 5 per cent in 1967, to 22 per cent in 1969, 42 per cent in 1970 and 51 per cent in 1972. In 1970, only 15 per cent of the college students throughout the United States were marijuana users. In the same year however, various colleges and universities had these percentages of marijuana users: 30 per cent in the University of California at Los

Angeles, 20 per cent in Brooklyn Village, 18 per cent in Wesleyan University (Connecticut), 15 per cent in Princeton University.

The 1971 Gallup Poll found the marijuana user in college as male, senior or graduate student, in the social sciences or humanities enrolled at an Eastern college, and whose father also had a college background. In the 1972 nationwide Gallup Poll, the typical marijuana user was an 18-29 year-old male college student enrolled at a Western or Eastern college located in the center city or suburban area.

Since Aul did not go beyond identifying the marijuana user at Behrend as a male non-science major or female science major, other studies are helpful in presenting a profile of the chronic or regular marijuana smokers. According to Dr. Harid H. Blum of Stanford University, who studied 100 "intact" middle and upper middle class families of San Francisco Peninsula most marijuana smokers come from richer families with liberal political and religious orientations, where the parents (who themselves are users of alcohol, sedatives and medications) have derogatory attitudes toward authority, and accept youthful spontaneity, self-expression, individualism and rebellion.

Psychologist Views

In his book, *The Drug Epidemic*, Dr. Wesley C. Westman, a clinical psychologist with the Connecticut Department of Mental Health, said that the regular marijuana user is usually bright and, at times creative, but contemptuous of authority figures such as teachers and policeman. The marijuana smoker probably came from a family where an extremely serious balance of power existed, i.e., one parent was submissive and the other domineering. Dr. Westman also found that the marijuana user tends to value things more than people, and therefore, is adept at manipulating other people for selfish ends. His sexual identity is usually very shaky, so that boasts of heightened sexual powers under drugs are often a cover-up for homosexual tendencies.

Why Smoke Pot?

Many theories, including the above, have been suggested as to why people smoke pot. But the one advanced by Dr. Lester Grinspoon in his book, *Marijuana Considered*, is interesting. He said that contrary to popular belief marijuana does not cause the user to search for pleasure; rather, the search for pleasure is

the cause (or reason) for using marijuana. The Center for Studies of Narcotics and Drug Abuse also found that some individuals lacking the conventional goals may find marijuana use appealing.

Thus, Dr. Stanley F. Yolles, director of the National Institute of Mental Health, believes that as a result, the marijuana user tends to withdraw from here - and - now reality, loses ambition and drive, sustains loss of motivation, and may drop out of active involvement in school or work.

Regardless of the increasing number of marijuana users, however, it is a relief to know that many more people would not try pot under any circumstances, in spite of its availability, prospective legality, or enticing "try-it-you'll-like-it" come ons. The National Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse identified the non-users as fearful of body or mind damage, of being addicted, arrested or jailed. Non-users would not smoke pot because they know it is "illegal" or "morally wrong". Also, they receive pressures from their family and are uncertain about the effects of marijuana anyway.

Without making any definite reference to marijuana users, it is also interesting to know that, according to the College Marketing and Research Corporation of Indianapolis, non-users are virgins (if women) or less likely to engage in premarital intercourse.

With all these findings, the faculty and administration would now have an idea as to who smokes marijuana and why. But it would be unfair to label certain categories of students as suspects, unless one would receive a term paper on marijuana that reeks with marijuana.

(Continued from Page 1)

Inter-campus Competition

be put on the courts.

The chances of chartered buses to Pittsburgh and Philadelphia was another topic discussed. Sheets are posted in the RUB so that interested students can sign up. Brian Ferris is still checking into cancellation dates and the possibilities of buses leaving from the back of the dorms.

The SUB requested \$85-\$100 for an inter-campus competition in table tennis, chess and bowling. Competition would take place between the commonwealth campuses. This event would give the students of Behrend who excel in these sports an opportunity to visit other branch campuses and eventually if they are good enough there will be a chance to compete at University Park. The first round of competition will be held at the Shenango Valley



Clint Eastwood, shown above, will be featured in this weekend's movie, sponsored by the Student Union Board. "Dirty Harry" will be Saturday at 10 p.m. and Sunday at 7 and 9 p.m.

Final Schedule

Classes for the Winter Term 1974 will officially end at 5:45 p.m., Wednesday, February 27. Final examinations will be held in the succeeding 2 days according to the schedule below.

Students are reminded that the final examination is an integral part of the course, and failure to attend could result in the student's failing the entire course, regardless of the quality of the course work submitted before that date. In accordance with section 0-4 of the Senate Regulations, "A student who is absent from a final examination for a cogent reason may have his grade deferred upon the authorization of the (Director of the Commonwealth Campus at which the student is enrolled)."

The Senate Regulations also provide in section 0-8 that "Any student with two or more final examinations at the same time should file a request for a conflict examination at the time and place specified in advance by the instructor for the course." Any student with three or more examinations on the same day may file a similar request, and conflict examinations will be arranged if feasible.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Course-Section- Room - Instructor
8:00 - 9:50 a.m.

Biol 210 - N113 - Cunningham
EE309 - 1,2 - B120 - Neumann
EE 816 - B123 - Bedford
ME 805 - N117 - Grode
Ph Ed. 1-25 - 2,4,5 - Reed Lect. - Onorato
Pl Sc 20 - N109 - Yena
10:00 - 11:50 a.m.
Chem 13 - B101 - Balmer
EG 12 - N117 - Zakrzewski
Fr 21 - 1,2 - N 109 - Hovanyecz
Ger 2 - N114-115 - Eilenberger
QBA 102 - 1,2 - N8 - Heyd
RI St 19 - B113-114 - Frankforter
1:00 - 2:50 p.m.
Biol 11 - 1-6 - Reed Lect. - Masteller
EG 10 - 1 - N116 - Grode
EG 10 - 2 - N117 - Zakrzewski
Engl 106 - T206 - Horne
Engl 445 - T204 - M.E. Scott
Fr 31 - N109 - Hovanyecz
Psy 437 - B 120 - Hall
3:00 - 4:50 p.m.
Anth 45 - 1,2 - Reed Lect. - Kolb
Chem 31 - B101 - Chisholm
Chem 34 - 1,2 - B101 - Chisholm
Cmp Sc. 1 - 1,2 - B113-114 - Bedford
Engl 1 - 1,6 - N8 - W. Scott
Pl Sc 1 - 1,2 - N114 - Yena

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

8:00 - 9:50 a.m.
Acctg, 102 - 1,2 - Reed Lect. - Monahan
Chem 12 - 1,2,3,4 - B 101 - Knockemus
Hist. 17 - 1,2 - B113-114 - Frankforter
Phys 151 - 1,2 - B123-124 - B. Scott
Phys 202 - 1,2 - B117 - Baker
Phys 203-4 - All - B123-124 - B. Scott
Phys 265 - 1,2 - B120 - Hagenbuch
10:00 - 11:50 a.m.
Am St 100 - T205 - W. Scott
Biol 13 - 1,2 - N8 - Cunningham
EE 801 - B120 - Neumann
EE 821 - B123 - Bedford
Ph Sc 8 - Reed Lect. - Leavers
So 1 - 4 - B101 - Axtell
1:00 - 2:50 p.m.
Acctg 802 - N8 - Monahan
Arts 1 - B113-114 - Bauer
EE 51 - B121 - Pierce
EE815 - B120 - Neumann
Human 2 - N113 - Dinn
IE 815 - N117 - H. Wilson
Psy 2 - 1,2,4 - B123 - Mizusawa

Graduating Students

Have \$7.50 at
registration to Pay
for Cap and Gown

campus. As a final note, Mike Chiricuzio added, "Behrend has been cut off from other branch campuses in all other sports, this will be a good opportunity for us to compete with them again."

Chiricuzio also charged a committee to review and make recommendations on the food service here at Behrend.

It was also noted that Gary Pizani is no longer on the SGA and Jeff Lang will be taking his place.

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