

Editorial Opinion

by Jeff Matson
Executive Editor

WHERE WERE YOU?

A few weeks back elections were held here at Behrend and recently a few facts about that election have reached me that should be of interest to the students here.

Voting took place over a two-day period in one of the most often traveled areas in the college. The procedure took only a few minutes at the most and could be done at almost anytime classes were in session on those two days. However, about two-thirds of the students at Behrend managed to be either not in the RUB for those two days, or while they were there they didn't have the three minutes that casting a vote would have taken.

Common excuses for not voting often include lack of time; certainly extending voting over a two-day period makes this claim

hard to support. Another excuse is that people don't know who is running or what the candidates running are in favor of for the college. This too has no support as the candidates made themselves available in an assembly for anyone who wanted to meet them and listen to their views on various issues and their plans for the college.

Still, there are some people who just don't care - until things have already happened and it's too late to change them. Many students were surprised to hear they had elected a president that could only serve for one term. It is only their fault if they didn't care to find out before they voted (or failed to vote).

Still, there is one job left to do, and this job belongs to those in office and those who do run for the office. They must make people interested in what is happening in the college. Students need an effective voice in the college, they need an organization

that can work for and with them to improve the college. But this is impossible if the organizations are not supported. The newspaper could be an effective voice for the students here, but it needs the support and interest of the students if it is to be effective. The same applies to the SGA. If the SGA has the support and interest of a majority of the students, it can turn into an effective instrument that would work for the good of the whole school. But the SGA needs to know what the students want done and they need support to carry them out. It is clear now that interest and involvement need a shot in the arm and it is now up to those officers elected to make their presence known during the next school year, it is up to them to create interest, to show what can be done and how. It won't be an easy thing, apathy is a easy thing, involvement takes more time and energy, but it's worth it. College is more than courses and parties - at least it should be.

Transcendental Meditation Lecturer Coming to Behrend

Transcendental Meditation (TM), once thought to be just another campus fad, is now practiced by 350,000 Americans with approximately 19,000 starting monthly. Recently, California, Washington, Iowa, Michigan, Illinois, Connecticut and Vermont officially recommended TM in resolutions. Over 49 pieces of research have documented TM's benefits ranging from rest deeper than sleep to personality development. Results of this research have been published in "Journal of the American Medical Association", "Psychosomatic Medicine", "Scientific American" and "American Journal of Physiology" among others. In addition, prominent meditation Americans have endorsed TM. In his book, "You Can Do It!!" Senator William Proxmire highly recommends TM for everyone. Major General Franklin Davis,

Commandant of the U. S. Army War College, relates his blood pressure dropped 10 points, his disposition improved and minor stresses and strains didn't bother him. Joe Namath and three of his teammates practice TM.

During a recent New York radio interview, in response to a question, Joe said, "I think TM has really helped me. What am I saying I think it has? I know it has." School superintendent Dr. Francis Driscoll has noticed that grades improved, better human relationships, and decreased use of drugs among TM meditating students. A. James Morgan, M.D., a psychiatrist at Pennsylvania Hospital, has said, "What TM does to my ordinary life is - extraordinary and most welcome." Other famous meditators include: UCLA basketball star Bill Walton, Ephrem Zimbelest Jr., China expert Alfred Jenkis, Astronaut Rusty Sweikert and the Honorable W. J. Murphy, Illinois state representative.

These practical men and executives from over 60 American corporations practice TM. Dr. David Frew, Director of Gannon's MBA Progress, states, "TM is of immeasurable value as a vehicle for dealing with and reducing both psychological and physiological stress."

Far from inducing a passive withdrawal from life, TM prepares one for dynamic activity. In fact, TM was once taught to develop the mind and hearts of warriors. Its early incorporation into the training of young men who aspired to the military progression ensured their development as gentlemen-warriors who would never abuse their strength and skill.

Why do otherwise "straight" and conservative Americans start TM? First, TM is taught only by those personally instructed and qualified by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi in an intensive teacher training program. Second, TM is easily learned in only four days of personal instruction and only the basic ability to think is required to learn. Third, TM is perhaps the only meditation technique totally suitable to the householders way of life - someone active and/or active in the world. In contrast, most other meditation techniques require faith, ability to concentrate, or changes in lifestyle - all tailored to the recluse or hermit way of life.

How does TM work? First, everyone has almost unlimited potential that is never used. In April's Reader's Digest describing Joe's brain, the article relates, "compared to me (the brain) all the other wonders of the universe pale into insignificance." It is clearly beneath the dignity of Man to suffer. From a logical point of view, full use of the heart and full use of the mind is not the privilege of such a gifted creature by a birthright.

The deeper we explore mind or matter the greater charm, creativity and intelligence is expressed. In TM, we experience thought at finer, more subtle levels. Hence, the mind is innocently led deep within by the increasing charm, creativity and intelligence every step of the way, till the source of thought - the reservoir of abundance within is reached.

TM has been described by researchers as hypometabolic physiologic state, of if in the King's English, a deeply rested body and an alert mind. Precisely because the mind is active and alert in TM these qualities of more and eventually most creativity, intelligence and energy associated with firmer levels of thought are infused into the mind to benefit activity, much in the same way cloth dipped into dye retains more of the dye with each dipping. Lecture is Monday, May 13, 8:30 p.m. in 110 Nick. Admission free. Exhibit in Reed Building in the TV Lounge.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Editor

I would like to comment on the recently held Student Government Association elections. The newly elected SGA President for the 1974-75 academic year is Jim Armstrong. He defeated Brian Ferris in a democratic election.

How many voters were aware of the fact that Jim Armstrong will only be at Behrend for the fall term? From past experience of holding offices in Student organizations I have found that you can only begin to get the feel of the position during the first 10 weeks. Major changes handled properly take time which is not one of the assets which Pres. Armstrong now possesses. As for

student knowledge to candidate's qualifications and platform, I had intended to be present at the debates but because of other campus involvements I could not; and therefore found this fact out after I voted. I do not feel that the voters were allotted enough time to meet the real candidates but I question the fact as to whether or not the election results would have been different had the students been aware of Jim Armstrong's short term of office.

Georgean Gaydosh

Why?

Dear Editor
I realized that the Behrend

Collegian may often be faced with a scarcity of news to report. I have heard talk that the student newspaper staff is overworked and in need of more and interested workers. I realize that one of the major obstacles the Collegian faces is students' lack of concern. Why then does the Collegian further emphasize student apathy by failing to report such a major concern of the student body as the SGA elections?

How many people realize that less than one third of the student body voted? How many people are aware of the slight margins of victory held by some of the winners? How many people even know, or furthermore care, who actually won in the SGA elec-

tions?

A student newspaper is supposed to reflect and inform student feelings and concerns. I see the Collegian as possibly the most effective weapon against student apathy; it is probably the best mode of communication to both commuter and dorm students yet it makes little use of such a potential. This case is not hopeless. People need to be made aware of the situation, spurred to action, and motivated to care. If the Collegian will not take up the challenge, who will?

Finally I would like to offer my congratulation to the new SGA officers, whoever you may be.

Jan Cauffiel
5th term - Rec & pks
Johnstown, Pa.

TIDBITS

Bruce Zimmerman, Student Union Director, has been notified of his election to a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the National Entertainment Conference. The NEC is an educational organization for student activities programmers and allied industry. Zimmerman

was one of three staff members selected from eight nominees in balloting conducted across the U. S. and Canada.

During the recent American College Personnel Association Confab held in Chicago, Bruce Zimmerman was elected Vice

Chairperson of ACPA Commission IV. The Commission is responsible for the area of student activities. Zimmerman's duties will be in developing membership within the Commission.

Dr. Chaly accompanied the Behrend College Forensic Team and served as judge for the annual John Henry Frizzell Extempore Speaking Contest held at University Park, May 1 - 2. Representing Behrend were Cindy Arnold, Barb Drelick, Harry Loudon and Lynne Phillips. All four Behrend students qualified from the preliminary round to the semi-final competition. Cindy, Barb and Lynne will be returning to UP to compete in the final round this Wednesday and Thursday. The team deserves our hearty congratulations... 3 of the finalists are from Behrend.

The following Behrend Students participated in the March of

Dimes Walk-A-Thon on Sunday, April 28, 1974: Tim Barr, Nancy Hill, Ed Hunkele, Jack King, Rosalyn Monteverde, Donna Pesolyar, Sylvia Polasky, Judy Reed, Leann Sherman, Rick Shroul, Bob Stein. They raised more than \$400 for the charity's drives against birth defects and other related diseases.

On Sunday, May 5, Dr. Tauber attended the 50th year University Park celebration of the College of Education, 1923-1973, as part of the Pennsylvania State University. Speakers for the occasion were Dr. John W. Oswald and distinguished alumni, including Dr. Helen Wise, presently of the National Education Association.

Dr. Franforter is presently offering a six-week course in American religious institutions at Wayside Presbyterian Church. The classes meet on Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:40 a.m. and the public is invited to attend.

Behrend Collegian

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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.

A NEW IDEA FOR THE OUTDOOR MUSIC FESTIVAL.

