

# Behrend Collegian

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President, Dave Scypinski and Secretary, Gina Myers probing SGA dilemmas at Monday's meeting.

Monumental Meeting ...

## SGA Desperate

By Elaine Grove

The usually tranquil, orderly meeting of the SGA exploded last Monday night into heated criticism of the frustrations facing its actions. The tension built under the table as the order of the agenda proceeded from patient gathering of scanty funds for Spring Arts Festival and Inter-Campus Tournament, to the pathetic turnout for SGA elections. Only three people have submitted for election to the offices. A motion was brought up from last week's meeting to hold the elections this week in an effort to face the student body with the dilemma. The debate began to die, and there was a call for adjournment, as the usual time for ending the meeting neared. Dean Bainum unleashed the smoldering sentiments of the members attending by asking why the majority of SGA members no longer attend meetings and why the SGA fails to respond to more critical needs of the campus such as the need

for better library facilities and the condition of the dorms. She asked why the SGA had not been the instigator of dorm visitation protests, and also why the response of the students for that issue could not be directed for other matters by the SGA. The floor was thrown open to the complaints and opinions of the members present.

The focus of the discussion centered on the inability of the attending members to take any relevant action without the support of the student body and especially of their elected representatives on SGA. Only six voting members attended the meeting Monday night, and there has not been a quorum for the past three meetings. The intelligence and maturity of the Behrend campus student body was questioned, but Dean Bainum defended herself and the students by pointing to the attitude of the students as the root of the problem.

Blamed also was the difficulty of establishing involvement and a sense of Behrend College while the students, faculty, and public consider the campus an extension and non-autonomous unit of the Pennsylvania State University. The development of the college and the usefulness of the SGA were said to be obstructed by the apathy and sense of futility generated by this and the inadequate funds, amounting to \$12,000 given to the college for the entertainment of 1,500 students for nine months. The lack of communication between the SGA and the Behrend Collegian was pointed out as a weakness of both.

Solutions offered to these problems were many and desperate. It was suggested that the attending members of the SGA take autocratic control of the organization if others fail to show up. The opposite solution of leaving the issues to the students to force their interest and participation, and the ultimate withholding of all funds were proposed. To punish irresponsible members of the SGA various

reprimands, including public announcement of their attendance records, impeachment, and even laps around the campus were thrown out to the floor. Finally a motion was passed unanimously to publish a reprimand of non-attending members in the Collegian.

Matters discussed previous to the above were mainly financial. The American Sterilizer Scholarship, amounting to \$2,000, is being offered to a student of Behrend College showing financial need and residing in Erie County.

Tentative contributions from JRC, the Behrend Players, the Cheerleaders, Black Student Union, CWENS, for the filling of SGA's deficit in the Spring Arts Festival amount to approximately \$500, with definite amounts to be settled in the next SGA meeting.

A motion was passed to support the Pennsylvania Student Lobby through generating funds by the SGA. A car wash, soliciting, and other activities were suggested to earn the \$70, or about \$.05 per person necessary to keep Behrend active in this organization.

Dean Bainum asked support of a Beach Clean-Up at the Peninsula on April 26 (sponsored by the city of Erie). This would involve people from the ages of 18 to 25, hopefully including students.

The Martha Graham Dance Company will perform at University auditorium on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, the 17, 18, and 19 of April. Tickets are \$1.50 - \$2.50 - \$3.50 for student-child, and \$2.75 - \$3.75 - \$4.75 for general sale. These are a series of dance dramas by a world-famous company, led by Martha Graham, winner of the Laurel Leaf of the Composers Alliance. Sign up for tickets at the RUB desk. Tickets will be sold at Behrend if sufficient student interest is shown.

## SUB plans

By Judy Reed

At the Student Union Board meeting held on March 25 several events which could take place at Behrend were discussed. SUB is working on the possibility of having Lily Tomlin come to Behrend at the end of April. SUB will be sponsoring a coffee house April 4 in the RUB at 9 p.m. There will also be a movie, "American Graffiti" April 6 at 7 and 9 p.m. in the RUB Lecture Hall.

## Writing Clinic offers help

By Ron Wayne

The Writing Clinic, considered by many as simply a remedial English course, has now opened its doors to help any student who needs assistance in writing. The new policy is a result of the small number of English 1 classes this term, plus Instructor Ms. Pat Holland's acquisition of Assistant Craig Reichert.

Mr. Reichert feels the clinic is not as structured or rigid as a course. He stated their purpose is "to help people who may have some sort of writing problem." He further explained the style of the clinic when he mentioned a student who recently came in

with a paragraph. After going over the student's English course textbook, Mr. Reichert and the student exchanged ideas and came to some resolutions. As part of a work-study program, Mr. Reichert assists Ms. Holland 15 hours per week. He has had some experience in the field of teaching, since he taught English in Laos for a year.

Ms. Holland spoke of the trend the Writing Clinic may be following. "The English Department is moving towards a separate English remedial course because students shouldn't be forced to cope with English 1 without basic skills." She finds that so many English 1 students need remedial work that there should be a separate course. The Writing Clinic could continue its open-door policy, without a possible onslaught of English 1 students who need help.

Recently the Inter-Campus Committee on English met and worked on the question of a separate course called English II.

## Fine Arts

By Chuck Stanish

Thanks to the efforts of Mr. Giersch, the Behrend Culture Club and its guests had a very successful day on its field trip to Cleveland. The first stop was the Cleveland Zoo followed by the Museum of History. Next, the group toured an antique auto and aviation exhibition. After lunch, we saw the Museum of Art, which is considered to be one of the country's finest. Some of the works included Picasso, Monet, Rembrandt, Renoir, and Rodin.

The highlight of the trip, however, was the performance of The Cleveland Orchestra. Conducted by Lorin Maazel, the orchestra did Symphony No. 2 by Schubert and selections by Berg. The final number was a Piano Concerto by Rachmaninoff performed by guest pianist Vladimir Ashkenazy. Ashkenazy is the well-known Russian pianist currently on tour with the Cleveland Orchestra.

All that we attended were in the cultural area of Cleveland located near Case Western Reserve University, so members of the group could go to different exhibits such as the Museum of Natural History or the Conservatory.

The Culture Club was instituted last term and is dedicated to low-cost cultural excursions to Pittsburgh, Cleveland, Toronto, Philadelphia, Washington, New York and other significant art centers, all within a reasonable distance from Erie.

## Keystone

By Chuck Stanish

The Keystone Club has been quite busy these past few weeks. At a recent meeting a number of items were discussed. Of main importance is the annual Honors and Awards Banquet. This year's banquet is scheduled for May 12. The club is busy right now with preparation for this major event.

Another item that was discussed was the cancer society fund drive. The Keystone Club is in charge of the Wesleyville district. They participated last year and hope that this year is a big success. Another fund raising activity is the March of Dimes Walk-a-thon. Club member Rick Shroud was chosen to be the representative. The club in turn has sponsored Rick so the miles he walks will bring in a lot of badly needed money.

It was also pointed out that the club needs new members for next year. Any Behrend student who has maintained a 3.0 cumulative average is eligible to join. If you are interested, the next meeting is Wednesday, April 5, at 6 p.m., in the RUB quiet lounge.

It would cover basic writing and grammar skills and be a prerequisite to English I. Ms. Holland feels the remedial course is sometime away but added some ideas. Students would still be allowed to exempt both the elementary English courses. The Minimum Essentials Test (MET) would be used as a mechanical device to allow students to enter English I.

Ms. Holland stressed the most important value to this possible prerequisite remedial English course would be the freedom it would give to the Writing Clinic so it could continue and expand its open-door policy all year.

The schedule for the Clinic is: Tuesday and Thursday 2, 3, and 4 periods; Monday 5 and 6 period; and Wednesday 5 period.

## Players rehearse

By Tom Stanger

On Wednesday, May 7, the Behrend Players will once again open the doors of the Studio Theatre to present their spring production. Under the direction of Arno Selco, the Players will present *The Rimers of Eldritch*, a play by Lanford Wilson. The Players, headed by officers Jennifer Gregor, Cathy Lipinski, and Chuck Little, have already begun rehearsals for the production.

Readings and auditions for the play were held in the Studio Theatre on the evenings of February 17, 18, and 19. Those chosen as members of the cast include Lori Fetzner, Cathleen McInerney, Beth Moore, Tim Newell, Virginia Dreibelbis, Mark Studenmund, Todd Augenstein, Kathy Donatelli, Michael Wolfram, Mary Beth Mellor, Cathy Lipinski, Mary Scharrer, and Barb Jones. This 17-member cast was chosen from the 33 individuals who tried out for the play, a record number of try-outs in Mr. Selco's experience at Behrend.

An organizational meeting was held on Thursday, March 13 for the cast and stage crew. The stage crew has divided into groups to work in the technical aspects of the *Rimers*. The cast members will rehearse the play

scene by scene, three nights a week until the play opens.

Tickets for the play will go on sale April 30, at the Reed Student Union. Tickets cost \$2.50 for the public, and \$1.50 for Behrend College Students, faculty, and staff.



Kathy Donatelli listens attentively as Arno Selco provides inspiration for the Spring production of *The Rimers of Eldritch*.