

The Collegian  
**commentary**

**Natural High**

By Jim Martin  
Executive Editor

Necessary to any Arts Festival is a portion of nostalgia, a tip of the cap to regional history, traces of the Old World and a dash of exotic Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America. A dollop of music and live entertainment, humor, thrills, chills, culture, and education and class, and theme ought to be something for everyone. It all adds up to a formula for success. What it is the Fifth Annual Spring Arts Festival, titled Spread Your Wings and Fly. The festival continues through Sunday, May 11, 1975.

The "Schedule of Events" shows definite flares of nostalgia with the "Bogart Film Festival" series.

The sequences playing are such well known all (old) time favorites as To Have and Have Not, Casablanca, the Caine Mutiny, and several more with the entire series being shown twice daily!

Those "walk-in movies"

containing the infamous epics of "The Three Stooges" (I was saddened to learn that the last of the Three Stooges passed away—Mo—this week).

As for good cartoons, it seems even Saturdays are lacking in retrospect of my childhood Saturday mornings of cartoons. And I can't remember the last time I saw a cartoon before the movie at the Movie Houses?!

We now sit and view a commercial before the feature all for \$2.50-\$3.00.

Dean Lane's presentation and narration of Richard Wagner's "Ring of Nibelung" was indeed more than just a trace of the old world. He did a most formidable introduction, having made time to again expose myself to such culture, I felt guilty leaving before his finish.

A tip of the cap goes to the many visual arts creators who are the Behrend constituency. Also, the craft demonstrations and displays should prove to be interesting if not also creative. And no one has even gotten hurt from any crabgrass; but then the

South Lawn shouldn't have any crabgrass anyhow.

Actually, the display being on the lawn is a good idea.

The international displays also being in a position of easy accessibility, as the entire schedule of events reveals, possesses many items that are exotic, giving a wide range for experience of culture.

Saturday's "Outdoor Music Festival" can hit most everybody's likes. Tunes can always turn somebody's emotion; either lifting or lowering 'em.

The fact is the title for this year's festival is most apt. Looking over the schedule, it proves to be entertaining and just plain class. The weekend programs are very good: skydiving; dance presentations; the frisbee tournament; the equestrian shows; the antique camera exhibit; etc. At this writing, all I've heard in the way to criticism about the Behrend Players Production The Rimers of Eldritch is all favorable. It rivals any production by the Behrend students of past years.

**Letters to the Editor****Homosexual Asininity Proclaimed**

Dear Editor,

I was appalled at the statement made by Daniel Bowie which read, "He has that tendency which is common to all homosexuals, to perform in an off hand, shallow manner."

This is a biased remark. I suppose people of Mr. Eschweiler's caliber are the type who would refuse to listen to Stevie Wonder simply because he is a "nigger." I do not if Bowie is a homosexual, and I could give a damn anyway. But remarks like his make me sick to my stomach. To put it bluntly, I question the masculinity of any man who is easily threatened by homosexuals. I'm not trying to sound like a well meaning liberal, and some of my best friends (to my knowledge) are homosexuals,

but I have found my homosexual acquaintances to be tender, sensitive, loving, and affectionate.

Some qualities that many a heterosexual male would do well to cultivate. The asininity of his remark amazes me. I have an album at home by Golbreaath, an avowed homosexual who appeared in Andy Warhol's Interview Magazine over a year ago. He proclaimed his life-style and his dislike for woman kind. But this is no way interferes with my enjoyment of his music.

I cannot help but admire him for being proud of what he is and not apologizing for his life style.

I suppose that men who are drawn to the arts will always be subjected to such treatment, no matter how fitted. And I would

venture to say that the bulk of these men, actors, dancers, artists, whatever, are in their chosen fields because their sensitivities have not been deadened. They are very much alive. And regardless of their sexual and emotional preferences, they are giving and receiving. Each in his own way.

Rosa Myers

**BC Livelihood**

Dear Editor,

Surprise! Quite to the contrary, this is not a letter relating to apathy at Behrend — it is directed now to the livelihood of the Behrend campus. One evening as the Collegian staff was laying out the paper for publication, we were visited by several members of the Gannon Knight staff. To our amazement they commented on how fortunate we were to have more than two individuals working on the layout procedures. Keeping this in mind how often I've bitched about lack of interest in the Collegian displayed on campus. Now I'm pleased to note that we have a fairly good sized staff, who, more important than number, dedicate themselves thoroughly.

I am also a musician and have played at both Behrend and Gannon coffee houses. At Behrend, no matter what day or time I have always had a very responsive and excellent audience. When performing at Gannon, if I can even rightfully and honestly say 'perform', I have been greeted and listened to by the sound crew and maybe one or two friends of the sound crew. I feel this proves that Behrend's a little less apathetic than is commonly believed, and this is so concerning other experiences outside of my own. So, for once, I would like to thank those students here who do sincerely care about and participate in campus activities.

Now, with the Spring Arts Festival in progress, we have a chance to prove this healthy attitude not only to ourselves but to the entire community. Let's not allow Behrend to sink in an apathetic pool of depression again.

Gay Catania  
Executive Editor's note:

Thank you, Gay, for your increased interest and participation in Behrend's growth throughout your career-stay here.

Maybe some spring will come and pass with just a healthy active student body, as fall term often displays.

**The State of the Arts**

By Mark Reese  
Sports Editor

The Arts in the Erie area in my opinion are not nearly as advanced as the population should merit. There are only two theatres in the area other than those connected with schools that do live productions. Visual art—painting, sculpture, and dance—are extremely hard to experience here. The Philharmonic Orchestra is fairly well supported, but what else is there?

It has been shown that the arts in general are in trouble in this country. People sit at home and watch their televisions or go to see a movie once in awhile. It appears that the only people still involved in the arts are the wealthy. The Erie Philharmonic, and the two theatre companies, for example, are patronized mostly by the same group of people at every performance. The opportunity to attend is available to anyone, and I'm sure the price of a ticket is not a great sacrifice to many more people than are found at the events. This would seem to indicate that the cause is lack of interest in such "cultural" pursuits, and I believe that is a great tragedy. The arts have been said to reflect the level of civilization that produces them. Higher arts are found only in well-developed societies where

the baser problems, and needs of man are well-enough taken care of that man's energies can be devoted to creativity. If no one cares about the arts, it may mean that our culture is on the decline. People are satisfied to do their work, and spend their freetime loafing, or staring at the tube—which I like somewhat to the spectacles staged for the masses of ancient Rome (just before her ruin). I suggest that maybe this portents that our culture is moving from a progressive one, in which all areas of human endeavor are advanced, to a stagnant one in which we "just get by."

But, back to our home front. The decline of interest in entertainments requiring some degree of audience knowledge, or sensitivity, has been apparent here at Behrend also. Several very professional performers have come here, a nationally seen actor, and a virtuoso singer, to name two. These presentations failed to fill even the little lecture hall in the Reed Building. A sad note to say the least!

Universities are supposed to be the centers of thought and creativity in a culture. If there is no interest generated among this generation the future leaders and members of society, the future of the fine arts looks bleak indeed.

**Calendar and Exam Rulings**

An academic calendar for 1976-77, continuing the present four-term system for one additional year, was announced by Dr. John W. Oswald, president of the Pennsylvania State University.

"Any permanent change in the basic academic calendar that might emerge from the recommendations of the Calendar Commission will not take place before the Fall of 1977," Dr. Oswald said, explaining that more student and consultations are necessary.

By extending for another year the present academic calendar, Dr. Oswald noted that it has been modified so as to implement the change adopted by the University Faculty Senate on March 4 with regard to final examinations.

The Senate had asked the President to implement the following action beginning with the Fall Term, 1976:

"An examination shall be given in the final examination period for each undergraduate course (including 400 level) except for practicum or laboratory courses. In no case may an examination covering an entire course be given outside the final examination period. For examinations of a more limited scope, an exception to this rule may be granted by the head of the Department or Division offering the course for justifiable academic reasons. Such actions shall be reported to the dean of

the college."

"Because six days are needed for scheduling final examinations for all courses, it was not possible to begin the Fall Term after Labor Day and end the Spring Term by June 1," Dr. Oswald said. "Therefore, I chose the option of beginning a week before Labor Day rather than ending in the middle of June."

For the Fall Term, 1976 the arrival date will be Aug. 30, classes will begin Sept. 7 and end Nov. 5, with final examinations scheduled for Nov. 16-22.

Winter Term arrival date is Nov. 28, classes begin Dec. 2 and end Feb. 19, with finals, Feb. 21-26. The Winter Term (Christmas-New Year) recess begins Dec. 22 and continues through Jan. 2.

Spring Term opens with students arriving March 8, classes beginning March 14 and ending May 21, and final examinations are scheduled for May 23-28.

The ten-week Summer Term for 1976 opens with a June 6 arrival date and classes begin on June 9. The six-week term arrival date is July 6 with classes beginning July 8. All classes end on Aug. 18 with final examinations on Aug. 19-21.

A calendar for Summer Term, 1977, will be published later, when a long-range decision about the calendar beginning with Fall, 1977, is made. President Oswald said.

**Letters to Dr. Mooning Stranglehold, PhD Esq.**

Dear Dr. Stranglehold:

I am very shy and can not seem to meet girls on campus. It seems that every time I even go near a girl she looks at me disgustedly and walks away. I use deodorant and mouthwash and I am average looking. What is my problem and can you give me some sound advice on how to make it with the girls.

Call Me Clutz

Dear Clutz:

You may take consolation in the fact that this problem is suffered by many persons, some of whom are even considered to be normal. It is more than likely that you are suffering from the ailment commonly known as Hern's syndrome which is caused by a rare virus usually found on the undersides of dead sea urchins. Common symptoms are stuttering, muttering, creaming of the pants, sloping of the head and wetting the bed. This is especially common in the presence of the opposite snakes.

Or, even worse, you may be suffering from necrosis, that is clinical death. But in either case, the only known cure for your ailment is suicide. Good Luck.

Dr. Stranglehold

Dear Dr. Stranglehold:

I meant to write you before, but I haven't until now. That is, I had every intention of sending you a letter, however this is the first I have written. What I mean to say is this: while I sought to inform you of my problem previously, this is my initial effort in this regard. Allow me to reiterate my position. Though it was my purpose and goal to correspond with you via the public mail services, as yet this memo represents my primary endeavor. That is to say this is my first letter to you which I meant to write before but didn't as this is the first.

Thank You, Thank You

Dear Thank:

If I may repeat myself. Thank you, Thank you.

**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 necessarily reflect the Editorial policy of the Behrend Collegian.