

Behrend Collegian

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Four To Receive Medallion Awards

Penn State President Dr. John W. Oswald will present the Medallion Award at a dinner to be held at the Kahkwa Club, October 22, 1981. Dean Lilley explained that Penn State does not give out honorary degrees but, instead, bestows Medallion Awards. The award is given to people and their families who have made outstanding contributions in their field. The recipients of the award are: Donald M. Alstadt, president of Lord Corporation; Mrs. Harriet Behrend Ninow, whose former home is now Behrend College; Robert C. Reed, retired General Electric executive; and Allyn S. Wright, Chairman of the Board, Reed Manufacturing Co.

Alstadt has been recognized throughout the world for his work Lord Corporation and for his writings on management, technology and innovation. He frequently lectures both here and abroad. He is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh and holds an Honorary Science Degree. Mr. Alstadt serves as a member of the Behrend College Council of Fellows.

Mrs. Ninow, Reed and Wright are being honored especially for their contributions to the establishment and growth of Behrend College. Mrs. Ninow is the daughter of Ernst and Harriet Behrend, whose former home, Glenhill Farm, is now Behrend College. In the mid-forties, Mrs. Behrend donated the 425-acre estate to Penn State as a memorial to her husband, a founder of Hammermill Paper Co., for the establishment of a Penn State campus.

Mrs. Ninow has been an active member of the Junior League and the Red Cross, and during the war served as a nurses' aid. She is a former member of the

Behrend Council of Fellows, a post once held by her mother and now by her son, Richard.

Reed, a native of Erie, is a graduate of Carnegie Institute of Technology. For 40 years until his retirement in 1963 he served in a variety of positions with General Electric, including assistant branch manager of the Erie Works, and the in executive positions with the company in Schenectady and New York City executive headquarters.

Reed is a former member and vice president of the Behrend Advisory Board (now Council of Fellows), and in 1953 served as chairman of the capital fund-raising committee for the construction of Erie Hall, the first new building added to the campus. For his efforts he was the recipient of a "Penn State Chair." The J. Elmer Reed Building at Behrend is named in honor of his father, an Erie attorney and historian.

Wright, also an Erie native, was a member of the committee working to bring to Erie a nationally recognized college to round out educational opportunities for the youth of Erie, resulting in Penn State's establishment of the Behrend campus. He became a member of the First Advisory Board, serving as an officer for many years and president for two years. He is now a life fellow of the present Council of Fellows.

This is only the fifth time the Medallion has been presented at Behrend. Previous recipients are: Irvin H. Kochel, director of Behrend for 26 years (1980); Msgr. Wilfred J. Nash, former president of the Gannon College (1977); Dr. Russell P. Roth, past president of the American Medical Association (1975); and Skylab Astronaut Paul J. Weitz (1973).

Provost At Behrend

Behrend College has \$500,000 from University Park, providing it can match these funds from private sources, according to University Provost Edward D. Eddy.

Eddy spoke to students and faculty in separate sessions Tuesday morning on topics ranging from inconsistencies in Commonwealth Campus programs to Behrend's future role in the Erie community.

Described in an introduction by Dean Harshbarger as "the chief academic officer of the University," Dr. Eddy said later that his job involves much more, including student affairs, all campus libraries, and the Commonwealth campuses. "Everything except the Medical Center," noted Dr. Eddy.

The first student at the early discussion complained about what he saw as a discrepancy between courses taught at

various Commonwealth campuses, and those taught at University Park. Eddy responded by saying that the course structures within the Penn State system were "filled with ambiguity," but added that he couldn't "think of anything worse than having twenty-two campuses stamped out exactly alike." Eddy said that no two sections of a course have to be taught alike, even at University Park.

Another important issue which came up at the student discussion was whether or not students should have to pay a mandatory activities fee. Eddy said that the University's Board of Trustees attempt to adhere to a policy of only one fee (tuition) for academic and co-curricular services.

Responding to the Collegian's question of poor funding for student organizations, Eddy said that two years ago funding was increased "one-hundred percent," and said, "there's a chance we may increase it again,

although I wouldn't promise it."

At the faculty meeting following the student's session, the Provost elaborated upon topics discussed earlier. Faculty appeared to show many of the same concerns that students had, specifically, the need for an adequate library for an expanding school, and new athletic and recreational facilities.

Eddy then said that \$500,000 in funds were available from University Park, providing Behrend could come up with the same amount from private sources. At this point, Eddy noted Behrend's lack of success in this area in the past.

At the faculty meeting, Eddy also praised Dean Lillie, saying that the U.P. administration is "delighted with the leadership John Lillie is providing at Behrend." Eddy also said that right now Behrend is in a "transitional period," and that Behrend should strive to make itself more visible as the highest quality academic school in the Erie area.

New History Major

By Steve Repasy

The latest in History at Behrend is a realigned major in the field of study. The four-year program is more structured and now offers a choice of two degrees. According to Associate Professor of History Dr. Daniel Frankforter, "for students who enter Behrend with no specific career goals in mind it makes sense to get a broad based type of education at the undergraduate level, and leave specialization for a time in the future."

The objective of a new major is to prepare students uniformly, requiring the student study all major periods of European and American history, general trends and outlines of events that shaped our past. Similarity between the degrees ends here. The student opting for a B.A., in addition to the core of history course is required to pick up a language option. This degree has changed little from what was offered previously, which were approved last July and are in effect at present.

The B.S. option is unique to Behrend. The courses are not offered at any other Penn State campus, and, but a handful of schools across the nation. Requirements include courses in statistics at the 200 level, and an introduction to computer science, plus a special course that deals with applying statistics. These courses are substituted for the language option, which is not required for this degree.

New this year is a senior 400 level course that consolidates and puts to use skills learned in previous courses. They are taught mostly in the libraries of

the local museum and historical society. The course involves investigating several historical sites around the area in search of raw data to be compiled into a senior research project. Designed to get the student out of the classroom, the class provides students with the opportunity to gain experience in working with actual data, to really "do History."

Job opportunities are as diverse as student interests. The major emphasizes communication and analytical skills invaluable to the student whether they choose to continue their education, seeks placement in the government or foreign services, or employment in the private business sector. Both degrees serve as an excellent jumping off points for entrance to graduate or professional school as well.

A graduate with a B.A. could teach, do research, or obtain a position with one of the many companies that have foreign holdings - where the language option and a solid background in the development of country and culture in Europe would prove invaluable.

Students opting for the B.S. degree, with its special background, can look forward to opportunities in fields such as contemporary and economic history, that require the researcher to sift through and critique huge amounts of data, as well as the business and educational fields.

Interest in the new major, especially the B.S. degree, has been healthy so far, and is expected to grow as students become acquainted with the program. Seen as a viable option to some of the more specialized, and

Punkin' Party

By Chuck Beckman

"How often does Halloween fall on a Saturday?" asks Student Union Manager Chris Reber. With this in mind, the S.U.B. has plans to make Halloween not-so-hallowed this year at Behrend.

Featured the night of October 31 will be a "Rock & Roll Jam-boree." The action will begin at 9 p.m. in the Gorge Cafeteria as the "Cyclones," described as an "up and coming band," will play a set prior to the appearance of the "X-White", the featured group of the night.

Following the "Cyclones," the "X-Whites", authors of twenty songs and five misspelled words on their press release, will enlighten the Behrend audience with their own brand of music.

Described as "essentially punk," the "X-Whites" have a moderate repertoire, with tunes ranging from the Beatles' "Twist & Shout" to "Somethin' Else" by Sid Vicious.

At 1 a.m., following the "X-Whites," night people can attend two horror flicks across the hall from the Gorge. "Count Dracula" and "Phantom of the Opera" will run in the Reed Lecture Hall as the last official events of the night.

Of course, some Behrend students may dare to brave Count Dracula and watch the sun come up the following morning. But after the X-Whites, the movies, and bobbing for apples in a vat of Wild Turkey, the student may find himself unconscious long before the Count has to be.



Major Pigott and members of the Behrend ROTC are shown here on their rappelling trip Saturday. According to member Pat Sediak, the trip was "a great success."

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