

N.A.S.A. Rep. Visits: Chapman Receives Award

by Tony Newman

Dr. Robert Chapman, Associate Chief for NASA's Laboratory for Astronomy and Solar Physics, recently returned to Behrend College for a three day residence. Dr. Chapman, a native of Erie, attended Behrend in 1955-56, and graduated from Penn State in 1959.

Dr. Chapman is the author of one book, "Discovering Astronomy," and the co-author of another, "Introduction to Comets." He has also written over thirty articles and papers for scientific journals, NASA publications, and national magazines.

Dr. Chapman, due to his achievements in Solar Physics and Astronomy, received the Penn State Medallion Award during his visit to Behrend, honoring distinguished alumni.

In an interview with the Behrend Collegian, Dr. Chapman spoke of his role in the recent Space Shuttle mission. According to Dr. Chapman, there are a number of ways the Shuttle can complete the experiments it was originally designed for.

Working with engineers, computer scientists and physicists like himself, Dr. Chapman helped decide which experiments would be completed by man or by computer, both on ground and on board the Shuttle. He also worked on the Shuttle's operational systems and softwares.

So far, says Chapman, there have been no real problems with the Shuttle. Commenting on the

fact that many people have criticized the test flights, Chapman said that people "must realize that that's the only way to understand the Shuttle's behavior in flight." He added that the performance of the Shuttle has been "very successful... only minor repairs have been necessary."

Following the final test flight in June, the Space Shuttle will be prepared for its first operational mission.

In an upcoming operational flight, the Shuttle will be equipped with a special telescope. The telescope, which will examine the surface and atmospheric temperatures of the sun will send data back to Earth.

Chapman is presently working on a research team at NASA designing the telescope.

As far as space travel is concerned, Chapman sees the Shuttle as the ultimate space transportation vehicle, with unlimited capability and versatility. Four space shuttles will be built; this fleet will be responsible for placing satellites directly into orbit and retrieving them. In the not-too-distant future, Dr. Chapman expects to see the Shuttle delivering people, some without any scientific background, to permanent space stations.

He advises students who are interested in this type of work to "concentrate on applied math, physics and computer science." He said that "what they (NASA and similar scientific and research companies) need are people familiar with applied training."

He feels that "there will always be a need for good basic researchers," and students interested in conducting basic research should be encouraged to pursue this field.

Catalog is updated bi-monthly. COM will continue to serve as an UPDATE of the card catalog until the online public catalog (presently under design) is fully operational and available to library users.

The COM Catalog, with microfiche readers, is available for use in locations throughout the library system, which means that Behrend's library has it, as well as the main campus library (Pattee Library).

This is good for inter-library loan because every book on a microfiche contains a listing of the locations where it can be found.

Peg Smith, Librarian, offers assistance to anyone needing it in conjunction with the new COM filing catalog.

wearing a billowy white gown, with daffodils in her hair. She would smell of hyacinths and carry a small bunch of daisies - a regular walking floral arrangement. Maybe she was the first flower child. Who really knows? (or cares, for that matter?)

But she no longer is celestial to me. Now she dresses in polyester, in reds and oranges. She must certainly wear boat sneakers with holes in the parts where her corns have rubbed through. She never brushes her hair or her teeth and smells like the water that the flowers sit in for weeks at a time. Just as the sailor fell from

Faculty Members Published

by Thea Hyatt

Does research and writing enrich an instructor's teaching ability? "The answer is yes," said associate professors of mathematics Roland E. Larson and Robert P. Hostetler.

Drs. Hostetler and Larson have co-authored three math textbooks in the past four years. They are currently under contract with D.D. Heath for their fourth book, "Algebra and Trigonometry", scheduled for publication in 1985.

"Research", said Dr. Hostetler, "increases one's knowledge of the field; writing improves one's method of presentation of that knowledge. We both believe we are better teachers as a result of writing these texts."

Three unsuccessful attempts to publish math texts preceded their success with their first book, "Calculus." The first edition of "Calculus" was published in 1979, the second in 1982.

Approximately 30,000 students enrolled in over 200 colleges in the United States and Canada are now using "Calculus". "Publishers are now contacting us to write textbooks", said Hostetler and Larson.

The two co-authors, and mathematics instructor David E. Heyd who wrote the exercises for "Calculus", are donating the royalties from Behrend sales to a Grant-In-Aid fund.

Larson said, "All grants are

awarded by the scholarship committee of the college. We do not take any part in the decision. However, we did make two stipulations when the fund was established: Recipients must be Behrend students enrolled in one of the four majors of the Division of Natural Sciences and Engineering, and the grants are to be awarded on the basis of academic achievement."

"The current emphasis in scholarship programs is on financial need. Although we believe students with financial need should be assisted, we also believe academic excellence should be recognized," they added.

Dr. Irwin Reflects On El Salvador

by Joe O'Keefe

Dr. Zachary Irwin, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Behrend, spoke on the crisis of El Salvador and its impact on the U.S. He addressed the inevitable comparisons to the U.S.'s involvement there with that of the war in Vietnam, and also discussed the ramifications of the election that took place a few weeks ago.

Irwin felt that El Salvador was not another Vietnam, even though recent propaganda suggests otherwise. Its geographic location, "America's doorstep," as CIA Director William Casey calls it, is the foremost distinction between it and the war in Vietnam. America's viewpoint now, and in the dawning stages of the Vietnamese conflict remains a key issue in separating the two.

While the war in Vietnam began with little opposition initially, some 20 years ago, "the world in 1982 is entirely different," Irwin felt. He added that, "In 1963, America's power, from the viewpoint of our European allies, appeared more than adequate to satisfy their security needs as well as those of South Vietnam. Matters are seen differently now in Europe and elsewhere."

"Prolonged or armed American involvement in the Caribbean would have potentially dangerous consequences for relations with the NATO allies."

Asked as to whether the analogies to Vietnam are drawn because each began as conflicts of similar circumstances (i.e., military advisors and millions of economic aid were sent), Irwin contended that the Vietnamese conflict was understood as a confrontation between the U.S. and, indirectly, the Soviet Union and China. Views about the conflict

grace with the sea, so has Mother Nature fallen from grace with me.

Maybe everyone will become as fed up as I am and see that the present Mother Nature is ousted. Might be a fine summer job, if you'll pardon the play on words. I'll say this: If "Mother Nature" were my position, I'd give us all nine or ten months of spring and summer and only two or three months of mild winter.

But then, who knows what I'd do. Power has a way of turning one cynical. Just for a joke, I'd probably hit different cities with foot upon foot of snow. Come to think of it... Maybe I understand why she acts the way she does. There's no accounting for anybody's taste in humor.

reflected a "polarization of the world into communist and non-communist camps."

"In the case of El Salvador, it is a matter of the Salvadorans being backed by the Soviets. El Salvador presents a problem in that "the line of adversaries gets stretched out." Dr. Irwin felt, because of the complexity in the support of the Salvadoran guerrillas, the connection of the 'proxy actors' with the Soviets is hard to identify, unlike the conflict in Vietnam.

The role of the outside party in each conflict separates the cases of Vietnam and El Salvador into two distinct struggles, because Soviet intervention differed greatly in each. El Salvador's struggle is influenced by the relations of the 'proxy actors' (Cuba and Nicaragua especially) to the Soviet Union, and America's relation to its European allies. In the 1960's, however, relations with the superpowers played less important roles in the war in Vietnam.

"The Vietnamese situation was... a problem of conflict between distinct parts of the country each supported by outside powers. The war was isolated from other international problems. El Salvador's conflict is not isolated from America's domestic politics, from Latin America, or from other problems in the world," the professor explained.

Irwin then went on to analyze the election's principal candidates, President Jose Napoleon Duarte, the head of the leftist Christian Democrats, and Roberto D'Abuissou from the right. He said that Duarte, the head of the leftist Christian Democrats represents his people well and relates well with other nations. Duarte's problem, that in the professor's view plagued him before the elections, was that "the opi-

nions of the U.S. Congress may have been more important than the opinions of his own people."

Despite being seen throughout the world as a political moderate, Duarte heads the military junta which is backed by the U.S. Repeatedly has he tried to repress the mounting force of the revolutionaries from the right.

Roberto D'Abuissou, head of the rightest party is the cause of many fears in this country. After his visa to the U.S. was revoked, D'Abuissou remained a threat even after he was forced to be deported as a undesirable. Irwin felt that the right party leader could very well "intensify the peasantry's discontent that continues to plague the Central American nation."

While the rightest party represents an amalgamated minority composed of several disunited groups of El Salvador's population, its following could grow if it could "stand up to the U.S. and also reject negotiation (with the left)." The election in El Salvador is not the conventional voting for a legislature, but rather a constituent assembly hoping to create a new constitution. However, individuals like D'Abuissou present possible threats to this nation if they can successfully reject any negotiation process.

Dr. Irwin saw the U.S.'s military aid to El Salvador as potentially dangerous. "If the (Salvadoran) peasantry favors the situation like that of Nicaragua, then military aid worsens the conflict since it (further) leads to death and violence."

Yet he felt this administration hoped its aid would help procure a more stable and civilian government that geared its efforts to the improvements of its peasant population.

Behrend Briefs

FROM PENN STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS

DAVIS ESSAY

James M. Davis' essay "Alan Sillitoe" has been accepted for "Critical Surveys of Long Fiction", a reference book published by Salem Press and edited by Walton Beacham at Virginia Commonwealth University. The book is scheduled to be published early next year.

LANE PRESENTS LECTURE

Benjamin A. Lane, Director of Admissions, recently presented a lecture on the poetry of Dylan

Thomas to the Cathedral League of Erie. The title of his talk was "Ravished Cherub: Dylan Thomas and the Eucharistic Image." Mr. Lane's presentation dealt with Thomas' use of religious images, especially those associated with the celebration of the mass.

PHONATHON RESULTS

The first Penn State-Behrend Phonathon was a huge success! After the first week of calling, over \$8,000 was pledged by Behrend and Penn State alumni (the goal was \$5,000). Total pledges exceeded the goal and amounted to \$13,000.

Com Catalog

by Cindy Stipancic

Are you aware of the library's new "Computer Output Microfiche (COM) Catalog" and its function?

COM, a dictionary catalog listed in alphabetical order, updates the card catalogs. It includes information about materials catalogued for the library's collections since January 1982 (when the library stopped adding cards to the card catalog), as well as all Penn State thesis and dissertations.

The COM Catalog is split into three separate sections: the catalog, the register, and the shelflist. The catalog is arranged by author, title, and subject listings which makes finding a particular book quite easy if only one of the above is known.

The register is a file which provides additional information on every book in the catalog section and the shelflist rearranges information from the catalog section into a useful order by call number.

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towels around me to make it home in the cold.

Pretty inconsistent, you say? You're not kidding. And inconsistency is something I just can't tolerate from a woman of such great importance.

I don't know if the position of "Mother Nature" is a governmental position or what, but whoever holds it should be carefully observed for these next few weeks to see that she doesn't tamper with us any further than she already has.

I once thought of Mother Nature as a wonderful lady,