

# FEATURE

## Redenius Acclaimed as National Scholar

by Marge Tomczak  
Collegian Staff Writer

Dr. Charles Redenius, Professor of Political Science and acting division head of Business and the Social Sciences, recently received full professorship at Penn State-Behrend, which verified his national reputation as a scholar in his field.

Redenius received a B.A. in Political Science from Western Michigan University and an M.A. from the University of Michigan in 1965. He earned a doctorate in Political Science from the University of Michigan in 1968.

Redenius began his career as a teaching fellow in Political

Science at the University of Michigan. He was an instructor and an assistant professor at colleges in Michigan, California, Wisconsin and eventually came to Behrend in 1973.

His duties as an assistant professor at Behrend included teaching: American National Government, American Political Thought and Culture, and Public Law. Redenius is also approved to teach American Studies courses (which may be part of the Behrend curriculum in Fall 1985).

As acting division head, Redenius has under his direction nine majors and minors. These include, in Business: Accounting,



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Political Science Professor

Business Economics, General Business, Management, and effective in Spring semester 1985, Management Information Systems. The latter degree is one of only a dozen offered in U.S. universities, that meet the guidelines of the ACM (Association for Computing Machines).

Categorized under the Social

Sciences, the degrees are: Economics, Political Science, Psychology, and Business and Behavioral Sciences. The latter is a multi-disciplined study consisting of three modules.

Redenius is a member of the Dean's Advisory Council. As a member, he helps prepare divisional responses for the College Budget and Planning document.

In addition to his many responsibilities as professor and acting division head, Redenius has had several publications. Not only has he presented papers at professional meetings throughout the U.S. and Great Britain, but he has also had articles published in numerous journals within his discipline.

The most recent, with Dr. Zachary Irwin, Assistant Professor of Political Science at Behrend, was published in the Canadian review of American Studies. There have also been books and excerpts from books published that Redenius worked on alone or in collaboration with others.

In addition to all of the previously mentioned achievements, Redenius has been awarded several research projects and grants. He was a visiting research fellow in Great Britain from 1981-82.

On a local level, Redenius has been interviewed numerous times by Scott Cassidy of WTKN-AM in Erie, Fred Hansberger of KDKA-AM in Pittsburgh, Jim Van Dongen of WQLN-FM in Erie, and John Liesering of WLKK-AM, also in Erie. Redenius will be the political commentator on WLKK-AM from 7:30 p.m. to midnight on Election Day, Nov. 6. He will provide on-the-scene comments on the local, state, and national election results.

Dr. Redenius stated, "People talk about going out in the 'real world' after graduation. The 'real world' is about ideas, values, and caring. What better place do we learn to be a whole, healthy person with ideas, values and cares, but at a university. The university is the only place I want to be."

## "Eagles" Doesn't Fly

by Risa Glick  
Collegian Editor

In the late 1970's, Iran had worldwide attention when 52 Americans were held hostage there for 444 days. However, one year before this crisis occurred, Tehran was the scene for an unjust imprisonment of two United States businessmen. It is the latter story which is told in *On Wings of Eagles*.

Known for his other novels, *Eye of the Needle*, and *The Man From St. Petersburg*, Follett makes his non-fiction debut with this tale of heroism beyond the call of duty.

After reading the first ten pages, a noticeable difference develops. Follett is famous for his twist approach in delivering a story by focusing on the enemy. The main characters in all his books have been the 'bad guys'; a Nazi spy, a Russian assassin. Now he tells the story of the 'good guys'; a story which is depressing in its telling.

Although *On Wings of Eagles* is a heroic, patriotic, and sometimes moving story, it does not seem to capture the readers' attention. The flow of the story is constantly interrupted by boring, almost nonessential background on the major characters, of which there are many.

The story begins as the Tehran branch of Electronic Data Systems Corporation prepares to leave the country. Two top employees, Bill Gaylord and Paul Chiappone stay behind to keep the business at a minimum. While the rest of the employees go back to America, these two dedicated men are summoned by the Iranian government.

Soon after, they are arrested and held on \$13 million bail.

Back in the states, Ross Perot, owner of EDS, pulls strings in the U.S. government to save his men. Efforts are fruitless and another plan has to be made. It is this plan which takes most of the book.

*On Wings of Eagles*, praised by many of the top critics as being Follett's finest book, is not all it is made out to be. The premise, non-fiction or otherwise, is interesting and bestseller material. The book, if told in Follett's regular style, would be a wonderful use of the reader's time.

Instead, Follett builds up every person on the rescue team to be larger than life, something which he could get away with if the story was fiction. Because the book is non-fiction, it's difficult to imagine these men as they are portrayed.

When Follett gives background information on the characters, it seems that he tells it in the minutest detail, never omitting a drop of information. This makes the story slow, boring, and easy to put down.

If by chance you happen to make it to the end, it might be the biggest letdown book you've ever read. You might be better off, if interested, in looking in an old issue of the *National Enquirer* and reading what they had to say about it. You'd learn just as much in addition to saving yourself some time.

With all that extra time available by not reading *On Wings of Eagles*, you might want to reread Follett's fiction.

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