

NEWS

Former Student Running For County Judge

by Michael Ross
Collegian News Editor

Attorney Michael T. Joyce, a former Behrend student, is running for judge of Erie County. Joyce is one of eight candidates and in a survey of the Erie County Bar Association, 248 members concluded that, "Judicial candidates Michael T. Joyce and George Levin were found to be qualified by more than 50 percent of the bar's membership."

Joyce is running because he feels that repeat offenders and those who commit crimes against women, children, and senior citizens must be treated more severely. In addition, the glamorization of the defendant in a trial concerns Joyce. "The court should do everything in its power to protect the witness and victim," Joyce notes.

The selection of a judge is tough according to Joyce because they hold a term of 10 years. He

feels, "Intangible characteristics such as fairness, honesty, and character are important when selecting a judge."

"The job of a judge is to make a trial as fair as possible," says Joyce, and "a trial is not a game, it is a search for the truth."

Joyce, a strong opponent of intimidation and game playing in the courtroom, comments, "One time during a trial I witnessed an attorney place a sheet of paper on the rail of the jury box with the word 'guilty' written at the top and bottom. This is obviously an unfair way of reaching the jury. These games cannot be tolerated; the facts should speak for themselves."

Joyce has ideas for improving the judicial process, including setting limits on civil cases such as divorce.

Joyce explains, "In all criminal cases the defendant has a right to be brought to trial in 180 days; but civil cases can last months, even years. I've seen the pain and anguish that these cases create...the law should serve the people and we should not let them (civil cases) last any longer than necessary."

By making "case assignments" for civil cases, Joyce says, "Time limits can be made, and lag time will be eliminated."

Joyce decided to enter law while



Behrend alumnus and Attorney Michael T. Joyce

he was serving in Vietnam. He was a staff sergeant in Vietnam and received two Army Commendation Medals and the Bronze Star Medal.

Following Vietnam Joyce returned to Erie where he enrolled

at Behrend. He believes he is the first four-year graduate from Behrend. "I enjoyed Behrend so much that I pleaded with the administration to let me stay four years and receive my bachelor's degree."

Lambda Sigma Inductions Planned

By Jill Bedford
Collegian Staff Writer

Lambda Sigma, Behrend's sophomore honor society, will hold spring induction ceremonies on Apr. 21 in the Gorge Cafeteria.

Lambda Sigma has been an active organization at Behrend for 15 years. Members of Lambda Sigma are inducted in the spring of their freshman year and remain members until the end of their sophomore year.

Member selection is based on scholarly merits and demonstration of leadership and service to the college and community.

"Not everyone eligible academically is selected," said Cathy Mester, co-advisor of Lambda Sigma. "A member must have a combination of these activities."

Eligible students complete forms regarding their contributions to leadership and campus and community services. Personal interviews are conducted with students by current Lambda Sigma members. Behrend faculty and staff recommendations are considered in the selection process.

Members are chosen by a selection board consisting of Lambda Sigma officers, advisors, faculty members and Lambda Sigma

alumni.

New members are notified of their acceptance into Lambda Sigma at the Gift of Colors Ceremony, where they are given colored ribbons and flowers.

The induction service will include a banquet, speeches by outgoing officers, and a candle-lighting ceremony.

Lambda Sigma members engage in a variety of activities. They hold canned food drives, visit TwinBrook (a senior citizen's home in Lawrence Park), hold parties for underprivileged children, and sponsor "trick-or-treating" in the residence halls for those children. In addition, members are involved in service activities including campus tutoring and the assembling and distribution of care packages for students. Future projects include the assembly of the spring term care packages and ushering at graduation.

"For the rest of the year we will be involving the new members in social and service activities along with the old members," said Mester. "This way, the new members will get a feeling of what Lambda Sigma is all about and what is expected of them as members."

Faculty Membership Unique To Omicron Beta Kappa

By Jill Bedford
Collegian Staff Writer

Omicron Beta Kappa (OBK), Behrend's honor society for juniors and seniors established in the spring of 1982, is petitioning to be a national chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK). From the initial forming of OBK, the local honor society has modulated itself after the national honor society.

"Unless paper work delays us, we fully expect to be charter members of ODK by this spring," said OBK Faculty Secretary Dohn Harshbarger.

OBK is unusual because faculty are active members of the organization. And, as such, are voting members in addition to their role of advisors.

OBK holds inductions bi-annually. A student must be within the top 35 percent of his or her class academically in order to

be eligible. Once that percentage of eligible students is determined, current OBK members consider the students' extracurricular activities. These include participation in social and religious activities, student government, athletics, the creative and performing arts, in addition to contributions to journalism, speech or mass communications.

Unlike Lambda Sigma, OBK does not conduct personal interviews with students being considered for induction. Students are not notified of their eligibility unless they have been chosen.

Approximately 20 percent of OBK is composed of faculty members. Faculty members are chosen for induction based on their contributions to student life. To be selected for OBK, an eligible student or faculty member must receive 75 percent of the voting members approval. There

are presently 26 students and 11 faculty members in OBK.

Induction of new OBK members will take place April 19 in the Reed Lecture Hall. The induction is a formal ceremony followed by a reception. Anyone may attend the ceremony, and friends and family of the inductees are encouraged to attend. Because the local chapter (OBK) may become a national chapter (ODK) before the induction date, old members may also be inducted in addition to new members.

OBK is generally an honor society, but members participate in several charitable activities. OBK has held food drives for members of the Erie community, and has sponsored marathon dances. Several members are volunteer workers at the Gertrude A. Barber Center, and faculty members have held lectures on various topics of interest. OBK was the sponsor of the "Dance for the Heart" held March 16.

"Unfortunately, because most of our members are campus leaders and therefore involved in several other activities, that leaves less time to be devoted to OBK," said Harshbarger. "Most of the semester remaining will be spent working on inductions."

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