

FEATURE

Behrend's Twins Explain Life As A Double

by Dana Gross
Collegian Staff Writer

Did you ever wonder what it would be like to be a twin; to have a brother or sister who looks exactly like a mirror image of yourself? There are numerous sets of twins either attending or working at Behrend College.

Seniors Melinda and Melissa Stasenko are identical twins and roommates. Many twins decide to

one person instead of two different people. The Stasenko twins are both seventh semester accounting majors and both participate on the varsity basketball and softball teams.

The staff of Behrend College is not exempt from having a set of twins. Julie Espin is a secretary to the athletic department and her twin sister, Jan, is a secretary to the associate provost in the Ad-

Do people treat them as if they were one person? Julie said, "When we were growing up people tended to treat us that way, but now that we're older it doesn't happen very often."

The Espin twins stated they feel they are on the same wavelength

"There is always someone to talk to who knows you better than anyone else."

because much of the time they will say the same thing or have the same opinion about something.

As far as the myth about one twin getting hurt and the other feeling the pain, Julie claimed that it is not true, and she and her sister Jan are two separate people. They feel they are closer because they are twins. "We are closer than we probably would be if we were fraternal sisters," they said.

How do fraternal twins, Susie and Scott Sherrill explain their relationship? Susie, a sophomore management major, and Scott, a sophomore ceramic science engineering major, note many advantages to being a twin. "There



Scott and Susie Sherrill

is always someone to talk to, someone who knows us better than anyone else," they said.

What is it like being a twin? "You often hear people saying that their best friend grew up next door and they started kindergarten together," Susie said. "Well, being a twin is almost exactly like that," she continued,

"but better. Most people feel that their closest friends are ones who are almost like family. Try to imagine that they actually are family."

Twins seem to have a certain underlying understanding of each other," Susie concluded. "You don't really talk about it, but you know it's there."



Mindy and Missy Stasenko

separate when they go away to school, but these twins did not. "We wanted to attend the same school to help each other achieve our goals," they said.

When asked what it was like being a twin, they replied: "Being a twin is basically like two people who share the same ideas, beliefs, morals, and interests, while at the same time being separate individuals."

Mindy and Missy both feel that people treat twins as if they were

administration Building.

Jan and Julie are identical twins, and share an apartment in Erie. It is by coincidence that they both work at Behrend College.

When asked if there were any advantages to being twins, they both agreed that it is a definite advantage to always have someone to talk to.

They could not think of any disadvantages since they have "never not been a twin", so they do not know what it is like.



Julie and Jan Espin

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