

A SADD EXPERIENCE

by Patty Landry
Contributing Writer
S.A.D.D. Treasurer

Weekends are full of parties on and off campus. If one looks around at the people at the party, it is somewhat easy to point out who has been drinking just a little too much. But have you ever thought about how many people will drive home after a party? How many of your friends will actually survive? There is something that you can finally do here at Behrend to ease the problem. You can join a national organization called SADD, Students Against Driving Drunk.

SADD was developed by Mr. Anastas in September of 1981 in a small school just outside of Boston. Recognizing the need for parental support, SADD developed a contract between parents and teenager by which mutual help was promised in difficult social situations. It also developed high school awareness about the number one health problem of teenagers, alcohol. Governor Edward King of Massachusetts launched the SADD program nationwide which expanded to other countries, including Canada.

Last semester, Behrend launched their own SADD program with help from Police and Safety. The SADD club believes that they can benefit the Behrend community by raising awareness and developing programs. There are only a few colleges involved with a SADD program, but it can be successful. The college contract is altered to between student and student, rather than between parent and student.

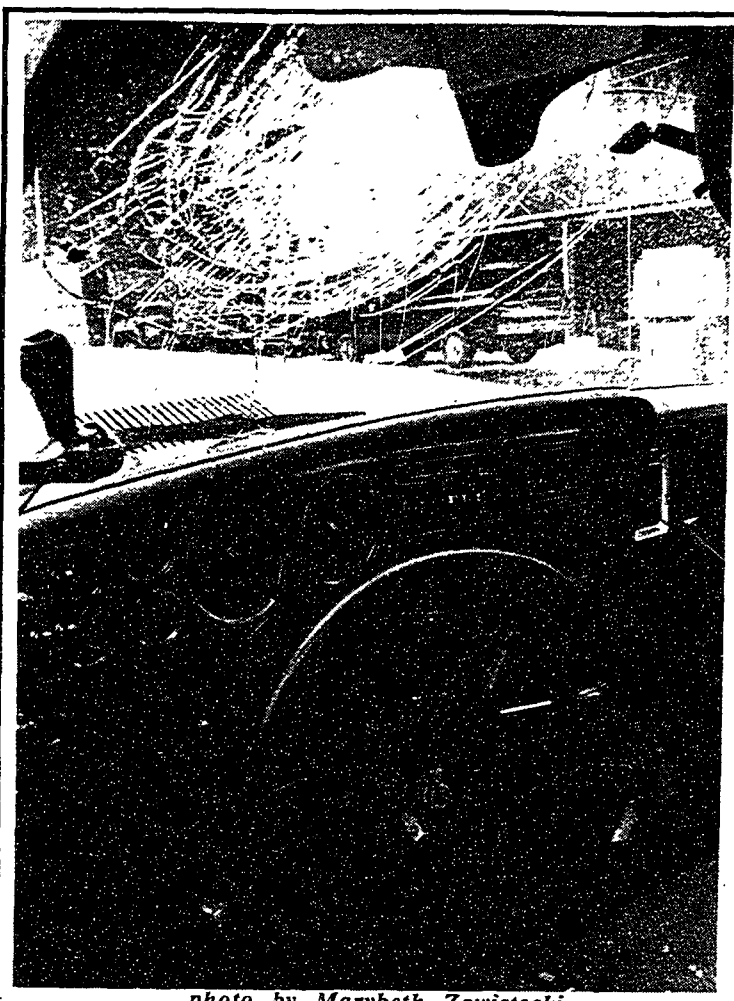


photo by Marybeth Zawistoski

The students agree to not drive in a drunken or even drinking situation in return for help in the means of transportation. It stresses that, SADD does not focus entirely on drinking, but drinking and driving. With help from Officers Tod Allen and Chip Sanders, SADD club's projected programs include alcohol free parties and a cab fare program for students.

SADD is currently selling buttons and key chains with the

SADD national emblem. Can coolers are also available for those interested in keeping their COLA cool in warmer weather. Fundraisers are set up to benefit the students here at Behrend.

SADD club meetings are held Tuesdays at 8:00 PM in the library conference room unless otherwise noted. All are welcomed. For more information one may call Police and Safety here at Behrend at 898-6101.

What ARE You Eating?

by Tammy Furiesz
Collegian Staff Writer

Quite often a college student's first taste of cafeteria food is far from pleasurable. Thoughts of consuming elephant scabs which merely resemble hamburgers and tapeworms soaking in a concoction referred to as french onion soup are enough to tear a hole in even the strongest of stomachs. Is the food really that bad or are our imaginations that big?

You can put your imaginations on hold because the hamburger is genuinely ground beef not processed kangaroo. Dobbins cafeteria and the Wintergreen Gorge cafe serve only Penn State approved food. Fresh cut meats, canned goods and frozen foods are shipped directly from University Park. Baked goods and milk products are purchased daily from local suppliers.

How about the rumor that the Gorge serves Dobbins three day leftovers? Another cafeteria fallacy. The food for both cafeterias is prepared each day under sanitary conditions by a well trained staff. "The food is prepared as if we were making it at home. The only real difference is that recipes are made by pounds and gallons

instead of cups and ounces," comments service worker Mary Ann Stefanski.

Portion control - a term which aggravates the more hungry Dobbins visitors - is the basis for determining how much food to prepare. "All of the recipes to be used each day are sent from University Park via computer with the proper amounts that will be needed. If we do not serve proper portion sizes we could either have too much or too little," says cook Eve Trimble.

Each meal is tested with different proportions at the University test kitchen. Most of the meat is cut by student butchers at University Park. "By the time we prepare the recipes they have been tested and retested. There is really no way a recipe can turn out wrong," says cook Thelma Farmer.

Does Penn State really have an infallible system? "Everything that is done at Dobbins is done on the level. I see how everything is prepared and would not hesitate to eat the food," replied student worker Colleen O'Hare. Another student worker, Julie Elabarger, argued, "it seems like a sin that so much food goes to waste with so many homeless and hungry people in

America." According to Penn State food and safety regulations all cooked food which goes unused must immediately be thrown out. That shoots another leftover myth out the window.

With all the planning and care which goes into the preparation, how do you feel about the cafeteria food? Todd DeBello says, "The chicken sandwiches with ketchup are life!" Although Scott Purcell thinks the chicken fingers and fries are great, he wishes that they would diversify the menu. As far as Shawn Love is concerned, "I think that the Wintergreen Cafe serves the best food. The only problem I have is trying to eat it with the sun burning the retinas off my eyes through the shadeless windows."

The opinion of the food at Dobbins was much more varied. Sophomore Ron Thompson feels "It is better than starving." "The food isn't all that bad. I think the best thing about Dobbins are the jovial people that work there," replied James Snerf Senyo.

Now that you know the facts you can decide for yourself. And if nightmare memories of cafeteria food from the past fill your mind... take some Pepto-Bismol.

Top of the Hill

by Marlynn Tomlin
Contributing Writer

In this second article, I'd like to get into more detail of who, what, and why we are the Top of the Hill group. We are not a "gang" of older students. We are a support group for "non-traditional" students who just happen to be over 23. On some campuses we would be called "Returning Adult Students", or something like that. We really aren't sensitive to a title, only if there's a recognition that helps staff and faculty know who we are and show some sensitivity to our special problems.

Non-traditional students have many different life situations that present special needs to the administration and to our ability to answer demands made on us. Those demands can come from any or all sides of our lives. We are playing very differing roles than the college student. Most of us have family responsibilities of children and/or spouses. Many of us have jobs, and a number of us have disabilities to deal with during our schooling. Very few of us have any kind of support system in place. Parents, if

they are around, are usually busy with their own jobs, etc. Brothers and sisters are wrapped up in their own families. I could go on but you get the point. We need each other, and hope to be able to lend our experiences and sensitivities to help one another. Yes, we could use your support and help. We have a few needs that would make our time on campus a whole lot easier.

One of the top needs we have is a place to spend time together during the hours we are captive to staying on campus. Some of our group drive from as far away as Warren, PA for an 8AM class and then don't have another class until 2 or 3 PM or even later. That is a terrible strain on a person's concentration. Other campuses have solved that type of problem with a place dedicated to non-traditional students. Some places have a large office turned over to the students to use, and University Park has a whole center for non-traditional students.

What we need is a place for group discussion and study time, and even a non-public place to rest. Other colleges and universities

know that non-traditional students are on the galloping increase of attendance. We need this kind of consideration so we may put our non-class time to the best possible use. That is one of the biggest priorities I have, - Time Management. With five teenage sons and a lonely husband, I don't have time to waste running back and forth to the house just to eat or type up a short-notice assignment, and neither do the other non-traditionals.

TOTH meets every other Thursday at 12 Noon in Reed 116. Bring your lunch and join us. We are not long-winded but essential. Faculty are welcome too.

Some of the items on our future agendas will include our position on campus child day care and making a file of course information provided by TOTH members; Financial Aid geared to non-traditional students, and physical and psychological support programs that are available. For more information call TOTH President Tom Wilkinson at 456-8387 or Marlynn at 825-3980.

Respectfully,
Marlynn Tomlin

Current Fashion Sets The Pace

by John P. Downey
Assistant to the Dean
Student Services

"Behold, here comes the dreamer, let us slay him and see what becomes of his dream."

This saying is forever imprinted on the grave of Dr. Martin Luther King. Let us ask ourselves what has become of the noble dream "to live together as brothers." If you have followed my articles this semester you have seen me write about Dr. King, human rights, multi-culturalism, and man's inhumanity to man. I would like to take a different course at this time.

My basic goal in writing for the Collegian is to promote diversity, the acceptance, and the understanding of its power. We live in an interdependent world. Let us accept that. We can better attain our goals by understanding that diversity produces creativity. Let us thrive off of that knowledge.

But the course I would like to take for this educational pursuit is not the path of the Why, but of the How. How can we learn to accept diversity? The first step is to accept our shortcomings. We have been blessed with the burden of being human. We are subject to

prejudices and discriminations because of years of the "socialization factor." As a nation we can not remedy the effects of over 300 years of racial discrimination in a period of 20 years. As a person I can not remedy the effects of 18-22 years of prejudice and discrimination within my family, peer group, school, and self in just 1 or 2 years. But we can start now. We must start now.

We can educate ourselves. That is what we are here for, is it not? We can participate in discussions, attend workshops and speaker series events, become a part of the "Socialization of Prejudice in America" series, and we can even sponsor our own workshops and seminars and panel discussions. We can also read books on the Civil Rights movement and Nazi Germany during World War II and other shining examples of prejudices in the history of our world.

We can encourage others to join our group and we can join a group of others which we might have been reluctant to join. This "creative tension" or "forced integration" will afford you the opportunity to learn about other cultures. You will learn that people are people. All people cry, all people sing, all people can love,

and all people can learn to accept. This is what is meant by "thriving from diversity." Once you understand that, although some behavioral differences may exist, the forces of good and evil which are alive in the world today as they were 3,000 years ago, are alive in each and every one of us. Black or white, Jew or Christian, Hispanic or Oriental. You can make the difference whether the forces of good will win over the forces of evil in each person you meet, and in the world you live.

Finally, you can "just say no" (to coin a phrase). You can say no to racist statements. You can say no to discriminatory action. You can say no to closing your mind. You can say no to so-called "friends" who do any of the above.

One of my favorite lyrics to one of my favorite songs is "Current Fashion Sets The Pace, You Lose Your Step You Fall Out Of Grace" (throwin' stones by the Grateful Dead). I fell out of Grace this past weekend with some lifelong friends. Their current fashion was totally racist. I march to the beat of my own drummer now, and the music has never been so sweet. I guess what I'm saying is you have to decide who beats your drums...And Why? Until next time, thanks for staying in touch, and Best of Luck.

Community Blood Bank

by Darrell Freund
Collegian Staff Writer

According to Anne Stonesifer, public relations coordinator for the Community Blood Bank, there are a few myths that need cleared up regarding blood donation.

The major concern with many donors today is the possibility of contracting AIDS. Numerous studies have shown that it is impossible to get AIDS by donating blood. The Surgeon General C. Everett Coop has confirmed this fact.

Our goal at the community blood bank is safety, AIDS has seriously cut into our donor population. One out of four adults in this country still believe that a

donor can get AIDS by giving blood. This is a serious concern, "said Anne Stonesifer. She went on to add, "40% of the population is eligible to give blood, (a person must be 17, weigh 110 lbs. and be in good general health), yet only 5% of this figure will ever donate.

The second myth concerning blood donation is that all "blood banks" are related to one another. This is another serious concern to Stonesifer. There are actually three blood collection centers in Erie, but they are very different from one another.

The American Red Cross is a nationally known blood collector. However, the American Red Cross that collects blood in the City of Erie is based out of Buffalo. Many Erie natives when donating blood to The Local chapter of the Red Cross think that they are helping

replenish Erie's blood supply. They do not realize the blood donated is going to be used in Buffalo hospitals. To Anne Stonesifer, this is a concern. "The blood we receive is just for the Erie area hospitals.

The third blood collecting center in the area doesn't actually collect blood. Plasma Tec collects plasma for experiments; they also pay a fee which concerns the Community Blood Bank. "If you pay a fee many people tend to overlook any medical problem they might have that should prevent them from giving. This makes the overall blood supply a more dangerous one."

The Community Blood Bank transfused 24000 units of blood to the Erie hospitals this past year. On March 16th and 17th, between ten a.m. and four thirty pm, the Community Blood Bank will be here at Behrend.

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