

# News

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involve hands-on experience with certain equipment."

While the School has steadily increased its facilities, lab space remains critically low. "The other thing is a realistic concern about the students being able to get a job when they graduate. The area of communications is a growing one but the number of people graduating is far greater than the openings available."

Mester has the unenviable duty of breaking the news to students who come to her seeking to change their major to one of those in Communications.

"There are many angry people," she said. "They are at first anyway. They feel the University has pulled a fast one on them." She works with each student to find an acceptable resolution for their situation.

"In most cases, after the student and I have talked for awhile, we have been able to find a reasonable alternative plan for the student, given the student's particular situation, and come up with other majors that the student can take that will lead to a similar career path. I think, for the most part, that they are initially angry but eventually satisfied that the situation is livable."

Behrend student Pasquale Leretsis feels differently. Leretsis, a 28 year old Erie native, had entered school as a provisional student, hoping to major in Film and Video.

"What burnt me up is that they don't mention all these loopholes when you are starting out," Leretsis said. "This is like a numbers game and I think I got the short end of the stick." Leretsis plans to finish out the semester here and then transfer to Point Park, a private school in Pittsburgh, where all but four of his Penn State credits will transfer to their film production program. "It put a bad taste in my mouth

so I decided to transfer. It's not right. I just lost total interest here."

Mike Chiteman, head of the Division of Undergraduate Studies, fears the enrollment controls may cause an overload of students into Behrend's communication program, since it is not affected by the University Park restrictions.

"There are already several programs that will have some form of enrollment control in the fall of 1990," said Chiteman. Enrollment restrictions are scheduled for mechanical and electrical engineering, accounting, management, and management information systems programs.

Mester has mixed feelings about the changes. "I certainly see the practicality of the need to put these controls on. I think we do our students a disservice if we prepare them willy-nilly, in terms of numbers, for jobs that don't exist."

"The other part of my feeling is that the imposition of these controls puts the typical student who changes his or her major sometime during their college years at a disadvantage. It's fairly common, as a student matures, to develop a clearer sense of what he or she wants to do. I think the imposition of these emergency controls has been unfair to those kind of individuals whose interest in the field is evolving. Therefore I'm very hopeful that the emergency situation will change quickly."

The School of Communications will never be the same regardless of how long the controls stay in place according to Mester who said, "The emergency enrollment controls will probably end within a year or two but the situation we had before these controls were placed will probably never be back."

tampering. A resident of the hall was arrested after discharging a fire extinguisher.

The case is now pending in court.

Also on the pending list; Behrend police have a sample of what they believe to be marijuana. The incident report was filed on January 28 following a complaint.

Behrend Police investigated and confiscated the substance and now await the results of a State Police lab analysis.

## Leadership Retreat

by Mark Owens  
Collegian Staff Writer

On January 27, 50 Behrend students traveled to Camp Glinodo, for Student Services/Inter Club Council's Spring Leadership Retreat for a weekend of workshops and other activities.

Several workshops were conducted, including sessions on parliamentary procedure, motivation, programming, understanding the university system, and the responsibilities of leaders.

John Downey, Coordinator of Student Organizations and Program Development explained the importance of the retreat.

"Something that I wanted to stress . . . was that the student leaders have an obligation to the student body. This obligation is accepted by the mere fact that you have placed yourself in a position of leadership. The obligation is to do the best job possible," said Downey.

Many students participated in cross-cultural workshops, including Bafa Bafa, a workshop that split the group into two different cultures to learn how to deal with a culture different from your own.

Lee Wygant, who participated in the retreat, noted, "the best activity was the cross-cultural Bafa Bafa workshop." "To me, it was the most significant experience of the whole weekend."

Aside from the workshops and lectures everyone spent time getting to know each other and the organizations represented.

## Military Ball

by Lori Beals

The 3rd annual ROTC Military Ball, Behrend's only formal event, will be held on Friday, March 10 at the Maennerchor Club in Erie. The ball will begin at 7 pm with dinner.

The guest speaker, Colonel John E. McAllister, who is the Chief of Staff of the 99th U.S. Army Reserve Command, will give a short after dinner speech. The evening will conclude with dancing to music provided by DJ Mike Reno.

Invitations may be picked up in the ROTC office in the bottom of the Glanhill Farmhouse, or may be sent to you by calling 898-6218. The RSVP date for these invitations is March 1st.

The price per couple for Behrend students is \$25, and the price of a single ticket is \$15. Formal evening wear is required.

## Condom Week

by Janet Ocampo  
Collegian Staff Writer

Throughout this week, Behrend's Health Center will be observing National Condom Week.

This event will offer a light-hearted view of the condom while stressing the importance of its usage in a college atmosphere.

National Condom Week is sponsored throughout colleges by the American College Health Association. This is the first time that Behrend College will be participating in the event. Behrend nurse Patty Pasky has organized activities to increase students' awareness of the condom.

At this time, free condoms, supplied by the Mentor company, will be available at the Health Center. Pasky has organized this activity so that students are aware of condom availability at the center. Throughout the school year, they are usually sold at the Health Center at four for a dollar. The condoms are charged to the student's account in complete

confidence.

One of the major reasons for this week-long event is the high incidence of HIV virus levels in the college population. The HIV virus is the preliminary form of the AIDS virus. As a result, reports show that one of every 300 college students is infected with the AIDS virus.

The Surgeon General has declared that condoms are an effective method of protection against AIDS as well as other sexually transmitted diseases. Since college campuses are such a melting pot of different people from various backgrounds, it is likely that diseases may be passed through sexually active students.

The American College Health Association began the National Condom Week during the early 80's as a means to present the contributions of the condom. This device has been available as an effective form of protection since the 1500's. Throughout the centuries, handbills and poems have been written outside of the medical community in response to condoms' usage in society.

## Editorial Policy

The Behrend Collegian's editorial opinion is determined by the editor, with the editor holding final responsibility. Opinions expressed in the Collegian are not necessarily those of the Behrend Collegian or the Pennsylvania State University.

**Letter Policy:** The Behrend Collegian encourages letters on news coverage, editorial content and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten, double-spaced and signed by no more than two persons. Letters should be no longer than 400 words. Letters should include the semester and major of the writer. All letters should provide the address and phone number of the writer for verification of the letter. The Collegian reserves the right to edit letters for length and to reject letters if they are libelous or do not conform to standards of good taste.

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## Student Injured, Police Test Substance

by Laura A. Weaver  
Collegian Staff Writer

Friday night, January 27, a student in Niagra Hall was transported to Hamot Medical Center as the result of a fall down the stairs.

The young man, who cut his head on the stairs, was apparently under the influence of alcohol.

An underage drinking charge has been filed.

On January 14, Perry Hall was the scene of fire equipment

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