New Organization Seeks to Protect Rights of Women

by Janet Ocampo Collegian Staff Writer

As controversy over abortion continues, a number of Behrend students have banned together with members of Edinboro NOW, National Organization for Women, to form a new organization.

That organization is Pro-Choice Erie, a group committed to protecting a woman's legal right to have an abortion.

The pro-choice group came into existence this school year as a response to what many have termed as an "anti-choice" trend

Recently, a committee meeting was held to designate strategies for the protection of women's rights.

Both legislative and lobby committees were created to target specific arenas of the abortion issue.

Karol Tomczak, a Behrend student and head of the legislative group, will work with other

members in compiling data on the legislators and their records concerning woman's rights in regards to abortion and other vital issues.

Tomczak says that it is necessary to let politicians know that women who favor pro-choice want to have the freedom to make a personal choice in the matter.

Groups such as the lobby committee enforces participation in future rallies and attempts to bring forth their voice to legislature as well as the public.

The group has already begun to state their concerns in a public forum. On August 26, an abortion debate was held here that examined the issue.

Throughout the course of the debate, heated views were expressed both for and against abortion.

Behrend student Andy Festa, one of the group's founding members, was vocal in his stand on the purpose of the organization.

"I personally do not believe

in abortion," said Festa. "I believe it is wrong. But, abortion is going to happen, and it will regardless of whether it is legal or not, and it becomes a matter of choice and the protection of rights.'

At present, a group of Behrend students have expressed interest in banning with NOW president, Molly Yard, to reorganize an Erie chapter of the national organization. Although it is only in the initial phases of being reformed, its development will reinforce the need to protect women's rights as a whole.

Pro-Choice members are already at work preparing for the abortion rally and lobby to be held on September 26.

The event will be held on the Capitol Rotunds lawn at Harrisburg. Students interested in participating at the rally and becoming a member of Pro-Choice may contact Andy Festa for information.

Rush Week

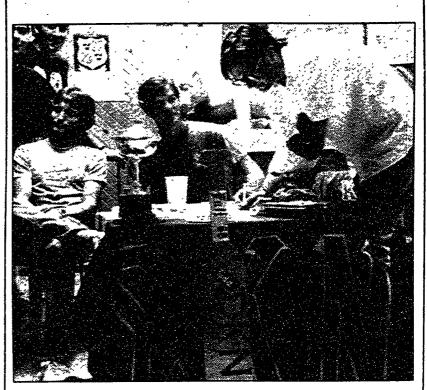


photo by Audrey Acosta

Behrend Fraternities Recruit New Members

set up throughout the week to and Tau Kappa Epsilon. recruit pledges. Sororities and fraternities joined together to two to three times higher than bring forth the program. Those in recent years. Rush is set to sororities that participated continue till Sunday, included Alpha Sigma Alpha, September 11, when the bids Alpha Sigma Tau, and Sigma will be sent out to the pledges. Phi Tau. The fraternities

August 24 marked the included Delta Chi, Kappa beginning of another rush Delta Rho, Sigma Tau period at Behrend. Tables were Gamma, Sigma Kappa Nu,

The turnout this year was

Senator Election Freshmen Results from Yesterday's Voting

*** Jason J. Fitchner Laura Baccus Linda Deshea Ericson Stephen Scharrer ★☆★★ Maria Torres Sandra Miller

***** Signifies Winner

New Student Government Resident Senators

> Michael Piotrowski Steve Spadiccino Esalete Ponte Sandy Miller Brian J. Dwyer

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