

Faculty senate
looks at cultural
diversity-
page 2

Richard Marx
concert review-
page 9

Soccer team
concludes their
home season-
story and photos
on page 10

The Collegian

The Collegian Wednesday, November 1, 1989 Behrend's Weekly Newspaper

Volume XXXVIII, No. 9

James Gleick: making sense out of Chaos

by Jennifer Flanagan
for The Collegian

James Gleick, formerly a reporter for the New York Times, lectured last Thursday evening as part of the 1989-90 Speaker Series on some of the ideas set forth in his best selling book, *Chaos-The Making of a New Science*.

Gleick covered the points in his book in basic terms, breaking down concepts into simple ideas and metaphors. When trying to stress a particularly difficult concept, Gleick injected a bit of humor into his explanation to hold the audience's attention.

Gleick's lecture attempted to explain what the science of chaos is and why it is so vital to understanding not only the

scientific world, but other areas as well. Chaos, or complexity, as he defined it, is, in essence, the science that explains disorder in a variety of different areas. It is the kind of behavior in simple systems that appears to be completely random but actually follows the laws of physics.

He illustrated these points through a variety of examples, concentrating on the philosophical aspects of chaos rather than the esoteric mathematical and physical laws set forth by science.

Gleick spoke about the origin of chaos as a science, explaining why it has only been in existence since the mid-to-late seventies. "Scientists see what they expect to see," he said, and as soon as

(continued on page 3)

Rainy days and Mondays. . .



photo by Rick Brooks

Looking at the school: How does Behrend rate?

Faculty's view of Behrend Academics

by Lea Gotch
Collegian Staff Writer

What does the faculty here at Behrend really think? I recently interviewed several faculty members in order to find out what they think of the students, the quality of education, how money is being spent, and what, if anything, they would change if given the chance.

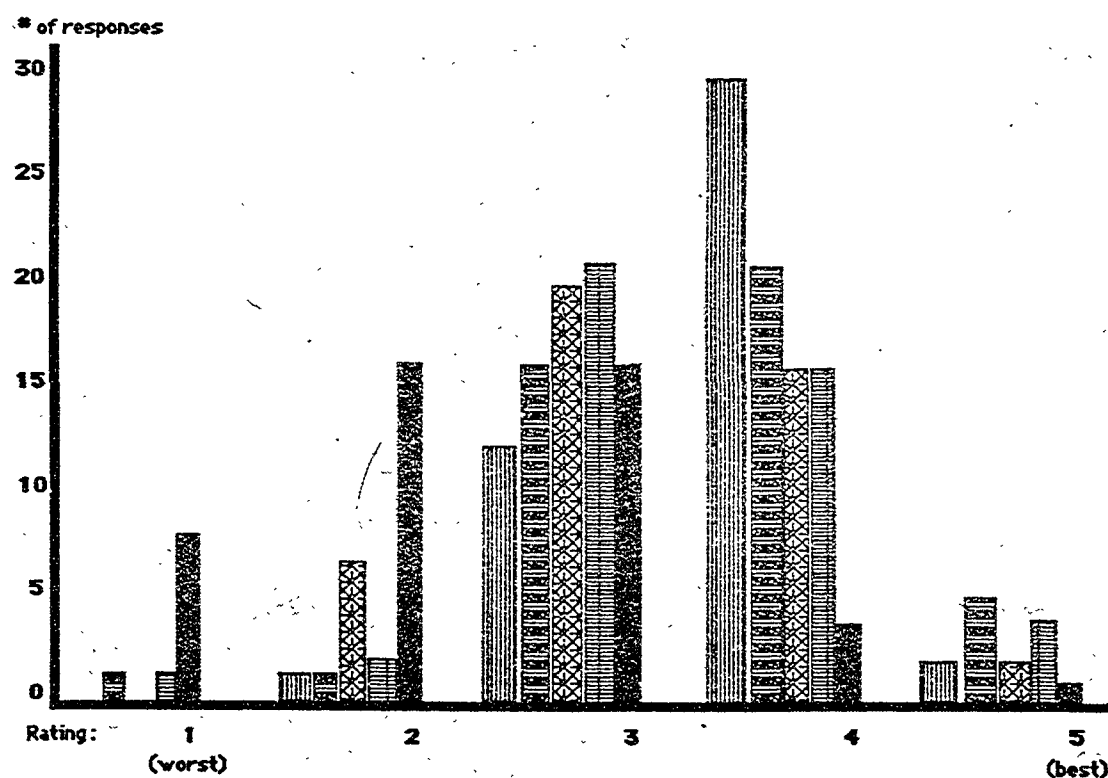
The general consensus on the student body is positive. Dr. Diana Hume-George summed it up when she said, "the best students here at Behrend are as good as any in the nation."

However, as Dr. Eva Tucker pointed out, there is always a certain percentage of any freshman class that has trouble making the transition.

Several professors expressed the concern that students have become too career-oriented and the only thing that most students are concerned about is what job they will be able to obtain upon

(continued on page 4)

How students feel about Behrend



Results of Collegian Survey

Collegian Graphic/Rob Farnham

Students say Behrend is 'average'

by Mark Owens
Collegian Staff Writer

A recent survey conducted by the Collegian seems to suggest students feel most programs at Behrend are average or slightly above. Students were asked to identify areas they felt were the strongest and weakest.

Sixty-seven percent felt academic programs were good, while 27 percent thought they were average and 4 percent poor.

When asked which areas were the strongest, 55 percent replied that engineering and the physical sciences were the best, with business-related majors receiving 31 percent and liberal arts getting 15 percent.

Students felt the weakest areas were liberal arts (76 percent), followed by the natural sciences (24 percent) and the physical sciences and engineering (17 percent).

When asked about faculty, 49 percent felt they were good while

(continued on page 4)