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The Collegian

Wednesday, January 24, 1990

Behrend's Weekly Newspaper

Volume XXXVIII, No. 14

Martin Luther King III speaks at Behrend



photo by Dave Conti

Following the dream: King tells Behrend audience to become more involved in the 1990's in order to fight the drug problem

Sides meet to solve spring graduation dilemma

by Julie Tibolla
Collegian Staff Writer

A meeting was held on Monday, January 15, in the Glennhill Farmhouse to discuss the possibility of having spring commencement ceremonies on campus even if the weather is inclement.

The graduation is to take place on the lawn in front of the library if weather permits. However, the problem arises if the ceremony needs to be held indoors.

Since Erie Hall is scheduled for renovation beginning April 1, the Spring 1990 Commencement Ceremony was to take place at the Warner Theater in downtown Erie in case of bad weather. The change of location has upset many graduating seniors.

Associate Provost and Dean

John Burke and Coordinator of Academic Affairs Mari Trenkle met with seniors Nanette Quatchak and Randy Eadie who had initiated a petition to keep graduation on campus.

In addition, Student Government Vice-President Martin Cunningham and Student Programming Council President Brent Vernon were present.

Burke presented several options. The first of these was to rent a tent for the ceremony so that it could be held on campus.

However, he explained that the difference in cost between the Warner Theater and a tent was substantial. The Warner would cost less than \$1000 while a tent costs \$8,500.

He added that a tent would not be large enough to cover the entire audience and that the tent's

poles would interfere with some people's vision.

Another alternative is postponing construction on Erie Hall. The problem with this is that if it doesn't get done now, it may never be completed. In addition, physical education classes have already been scheduled around the construction.

It was also mentioned that if the day of graduation is nice, the commencement ceremony could be held in the Reed parking lot even if the lawn were too wet.

A new and viable possibility is conducting multiple graduations in the Wintergreen Cafe. Judging by everyone's response at the conclusion of the meeting, this seemed to be the

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Son of late civil rights activist addresses national problems of the nineties

by Tony Olivito
Collegian News Editor

Reverend Martin Luther King III told an audience in Reed Lecture Hall last Tuesday that we need to become a more conscious nation.

King, the first speaker in Behrend's series celebrating diversity, spoke on "Living the Dream in the Next Century." He pointed out that many problems need to be addressed in the 1990's, the greatest of them being drugs.

King stated even with the invasion of Panama the drug problem "hasn't skipped a beat." According to King, a more effective solution requires that every person assume greater responsibility.

Explaining that people are content with becoming educated

and getting jobs that pay well, King said that education is being pushed aside.

King noted that in his father's era, "Students were more concerned about the world in which he or she lived in."

However, he added, "Over the last twenty years, most students have somewhat been sleeping in the United States."

King said that, on the contrary, people should be involved. "If you can't get motivated when drugs are wiping out your neighborhoods, brothers, sisters...then you can't be motivated at all."

He said part of the solution lies in educating children sooner about the effects of drugs. King was also concerned that we are lagging behind other nations.

"We live in a nation where we (continued on page 3)



photo by Julie Tibolla

Paying attention: Brent Vernon and Marty Cunningham listen to Assoc. Provost John Burke