

How suite it is...



Michelle Beisler/The Collegian

Up they go: The new Behrend suites are beginning to take shape as they near completion for this upcoming fall semester.

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Cisneros...

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referred to fallen empires, such as the Spanish, Austrian-Hungarian, Napoleonic and British.

Paul Kennedy's book "The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers" inspired Cisneros to analyze America's situation.

"It's almost as if a country reaches a position of a world power, or empire, and is then faced with the responsibilities of maintaining this power.

"I think something profound is happening, a new sociology," said Cisneros. He pointed to two areas where conflict will most likely occur in the next 59 years: increases in the elderly and minority populations.

An older America will have difficulty identifying with the younger generation's values, said Cisneros

"We are headed for a demographic collision," he continued.

Another area of conflict will result from larger numbers of blacks, hispanics and other minority groups, who may have different cultures and values than the traditional white male.

Throughout his "dialogue," with the audience, Cisneros stressed a need for individuals to make a "commitment to community. We need to invest in the human capital infrastructure, such as higher education, retraining, and literacy programs."

Regarding education as an investment in America's future, Cisneros would like to see changes in how students learn.

"Instead of the three R's, we should be teaching the three C's: calculate, compute and communicate."

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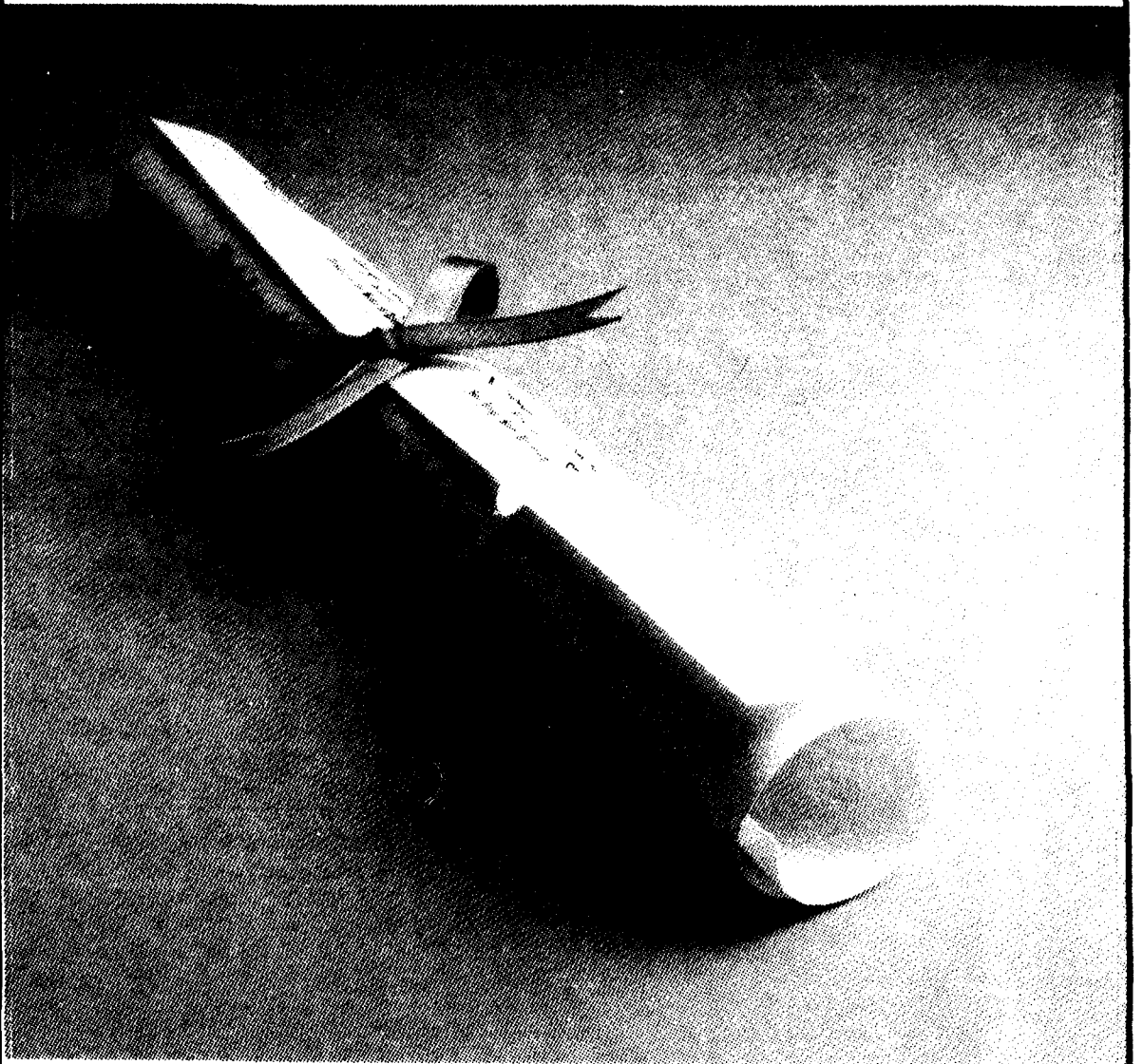
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