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Open forum on racism allows students to voice opinions

by Eric Fisher
The Collegian

Last Thursday evening, a forum on racism was held in the Student Center. The forum was sponsored by the Human Relations Programming Council and the Association of Black Engineers.

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What's that you said?: Lorenzo Paul speaks his mind at the recent forum sponsored by ABC and the Human Relations Programming Council.

"NSBE is a support group for Afro-American engineers who came to this school to help each other out, in terms of getting through school," said Lorenzo Paul, the first president and founding member of the Behrend chapter of NSBE. "That's the purpose of NSBE. It was not (formed) to segregate white people from black (continued on page 3)

Debate tonight: To be or not to be PC?

*Fish, D'Souza
discuss pros
and cons of
heated issue*

by Loretta Russ
The Collegian

Across the country college campuses are experiencing an ongoing controversy concerning political correctness. The issue causes bitter confrontations over questions about the politics of race and sex.

This issue will be debated tonight at 8 p.m. in Erie Hall by Dinesh D'Souza and Dr. Stanley Fish. The debate, titled "Is it Correct to be Politically Correct?" will address the controversial issues of Political Correctness.

Dinesh D'Souza is perhaps the most outspoken opponent of the PC movement on college campuses today. He is the author of the controversial bestseller, *Illiberal Education: The Politics of Race and Sex on Campus*.

D'Souza graduated from Dartmouth College in 1983. His articles on culture and politics have appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Forbes Magazine*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, as well as many others.

D'Souza feels that the conflicts of Political Correctness are the fruit of an ideology that seeks to push the university into social reform and to establish a model "multicultural community". He concludes that the concepts of Political Correctness have produced balkanized, race-conscious groups lacking a shared commitment to the goals of liberal learning.

Dr. Stanley Fish is a professor of English and of law at Duke (continued on page 3)

Tenured professor dismissed last week

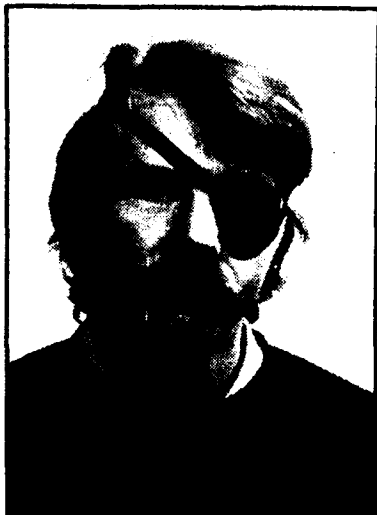
Administrators decline to comment; Wicken refutes rumors

by Mark Owens
The Collegian

Dr. Jeffrey Wicken, a professor of biochemistry at Behrend for the past seventeen years, was relieved of his duties on Friday and asked to leave campus.

Administrators declined to comment on the reason Wicken was dismissed, but Wicken said it was because he had "irked" the administration.

"I've been here for 17 years at a tenured position, and basically managed to get on the nerves of the administration," said Wicken. "It wasn't anything gracious like 'being let go' -- I was



Dr. Jeffrey Wicken

villainously fired."

Wicken said he has been suffering from a viral infection, "or more specifically fatigue syndrom, which makes me very tired. I've missed classes and office hours because I've been

Meanwhile, other professors are taking over Wicken's former classes for the rest of the semester.

According to Allen Pulsifer, division head of science, engineering and technology,

"I was villainously fired."

- Dr. Jeffrey Wicken

working on something else and become so exhausted I just have to sleep."

He also refuted rumors that his dismissal was due to drug or alcohol-related problems.

"I've never had a drug problem. That's absolutely false."

Mary Chisholm, assistant professor of chemistry, and Barbara Juchno-Herman, chemistry lecturer, will take over Wicken's chemistry, organic chemistry and chemistry lab courses for the rest of the semester.