

# CAMPUS NEWS

## Parking prices alarm students

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Many students can share similar stories of grief and woe when it comes to parking on campus. From tickets they consider unfair to the high price of permits, there isn't much students are happy about when it comes to Behrend's parking system.

When asked about the number of students who purchase parking permits, Chief of Police Services James Amann estimated that 850 residents and 1,700 commuters buy permits every year. With a price tag of \$270 per permit, this adds up to more than half a million dollars every year.

Where does all this money go? According to Behrend's Student Life website, "[t]he money generated from selling student, faculty, and staff parking permits is used to construct new parking lots, maintain existing parking lots, and administer the parking program."

The website goes on to say that "Parking lot maintenance has included repainting parking lot lines, repaving parking lots,

and upgrading lighting." To some students, parking tickets, issued when cars are not parked in their proper place, are even more of a headache.

"It's really frustrating to see those little pieces of paper from across the lot when you're walking back to your car," says Jessica Krugger, a freshman majoring in biology. "They're not usually very expensive, but it's inconvenient to have to go to police and safety and pay the ticket. Some tickets here cost more than when I get parking tickets on State Street."

Amann estimates "about 3,000 to 3,500" tickets are issued every year and the amount varies greatly. "Generally they're \$5 to \$15, but there are pricier ones, for things like parking in a handicapped spot," he said.

Behrend's website says "[m]oney generated from parking tickets goes to the Student Government Association and is then allocated to student clubs and organizations."

## Play in Bruno's honors Black History Month with *Love, Life, and Redemption*

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woman's own determination to make something of her life. "I do not have to be the girl that I once was," she said, "inside the square. Great visionaries were not bound by time or circumstance."

Agatha Nixon, a junior communications major at Behrend, felt that the performance brought a valuable element to the school. "It was really inspirational," she said. "It's simple. They used simple language, made it really easy to understand for people. But the things they said, it motivates students to live a better life. Even in the short plays, you could see and visualize exactly what they meant."

Though the entire performance included 10 to 15 segments, the audience seemed to appreciate the most an Asian-American actress who struggled with not being able to rap. First, she appeared as a cheerleader and cheered her rap script. To the delight of the audience, she came back shortly after to sing the script in a glittery red mask like an actress in a musical. Eventually, she returned and finally "got it," delivering an effective but slightly awkward rap which the audience enjoyed. Before long, the crowd was mov-



DANIEL SMITH/The Behrend Beacon

An actor pleads with the audience to ignore social stereotypes.

ing with her beat and laughing as she rapped.

Ryan Westwood was in the front row, cheering her on. Afterwards, he said that the show offered even more than a diverse gathering of people. "It really opens up a new discussion on diversity," he said, "one that's not normally brought up at college. You can get a new perspective on

it - rather than just talking about it, you get to see it right in front of your eyes."

Another actor, an African-American male, appeared on stage with handcuffs attached to his wrists. He looked up at the audience. He spoke of the stereotypes that the world tells us are true. "Black: minority, underprivileged, lazy," he said. "White:

owners of the world, the standard can't jump. Asian: 4.0 since fourth grade; very submissive, very good at manufacturing cars. Hispanic: chauvinist." In the uncomfortable silence, he looked out at those assembled. "We don't have to subscribe to that magazine. We don't have to live in fear."

When Carolyn Bauers took the stage at the end of the performance to accept her award, the crowd was already spellbound by the performances. "When you listen to people, really just listen to people, all the illusions that you created about them will just disappear. Live the life you imagine. And that's exactly what I did. I lived the life I imagined."

For some of the actors, the performance highlighted their own past experiences. In a question and answer session, several spoke of how the characters that they modeled mirrored themselves. "For me, my inspiration was personal," one said. "A lot of these things that we put on stage are things people go through themselves. It's very close to the heart."



DANIEL SMITH/The Behrend Beacon

Natasha, one of the group's actors, acts out a solo scene in which she struggles to turn her life around.



DANIEL SMITH/The Behrend Beacon

About 3,000-3,500 tickets are given to Behrend students each year.

# What's Inside

## Volunteer assistant coaches committed to women's basketball program

Commitment, dedication, devotion, loyalty, and an extreme love for the game describes both volunteer assistant coaches Amy Stranahan and Becky Reed for the Behrend Women's basketball program.

Stranahan has volunteered for sixteen consecutive years while Reed has volunteered for twelve straight years under head coach Roz Fomari, who is in her sixteenth year at the position.

"They both have loyalty to me and the program," said Fomari. "They invested themselves into something that they truly believe in and stayed with it."

Coaching for sixteen and twelve years, both Stranahan and Reed have impacted and made a difference in a countless number of players' lives.

"They have impacted so many players' lives," said Fomari. "A crazy number of lives; it's ongoing."

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## Sex, drugs, and final exams

On an average day, college students are forced to put up with an absurd amount of crap. From exams that always seem to fall on the same date, through the ever-ominous finals, to classes that are so soul-crushingly difficult, it is the mental equivalent of slamming your genitals in a drawer. This sad reality is something that we simply must accept, because we aren't getting any younger and adulthood is practically banging down our dormroom door. However, in these tried times of crap-tacular stress, it is rather pleasant to look back at a simpler point in our lives.

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## Experienced North Coast Ballet reaches out to help educate children

A plaza on the corner of French St. and 12th is home to a little ballet studio called North Coast.

North Coast is a program for all age groups—though focused on helping kids—to keep their lives healthy through movement.

"It's pretty multi-leveled," says Sam Fargiorgio, executive director of the Pennsylvania branch of North Coast Ballet. "[It is a] health program for children to have a positive body image. It is designed to avoid obesity and other eating disorders."

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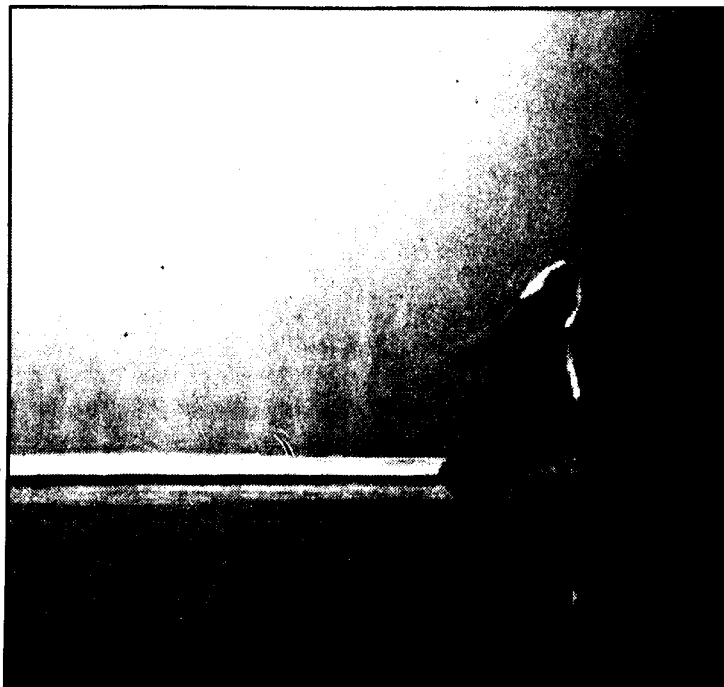


PHOTO COURTESY OF GOERIE

North Coast is located on the corner of 12th St. and French St.

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