

# Editorial Opinion Input Necessary: Who's To Blame?

It has been previously stated that the Behrend Campus is a complete academic community composed of administration, faculty and students. Each plays an important and very valuable role in the management and development of the campus.

However, the system calls for each segment of the community to play its role to the fullest extent. If either of the three fail in any aspect of its duties, the result is a detraction from the other two. A breakdown of the campus community is imminent.

Part of the duties that each of the three facets of the campus share in an intercommunication of ideas. This input-output is necessary so that each of the other segments know of the problems that face each other. With knowledge of the problems, appropriate steps can be initiated to resolve them. It is a lack of intercommunication that is presently hindering the Behrend Campus.

Organizations and committees have been established to provide for proper exchange of ideas. These include many of the sub-committees of the Faculty Senate. These sub-committees are to be filled by faculty and in some instances, at least one student. However, at the moment there is no full membership in many of the committees. Student members are especially lacking.

As a result of this, the administration, and to some extent, the faculty, has no real idea of the complaints and problems among the student body. The channels have been established, but there is no one able or willing at the moment among the student body to provide the administration and the faculty, who are perfectly able and willing to listen—and to act—with the necessary information.

What is even more ironic and perhaps more disconcerting is the fact that much of the student body complains about the shortcomings and lack of response on the Behrend Campus. On the other hand, the common cry among the student population is that of, "get involved," and, "student participation."

It would appear that while many of the students shout for involvement and participation, the opportunity for such exists right before them. Hopefully, some of the students at Behrend will heed their own advice of involvement and participation, and take advantage of what is already here before asking for more.

## Editorial Policy

The editorials appearing in this newspaper will be opinionated and therefore subject to criticism. All letters that are typewritten of 200 words or less, and submitted to the newspaper staff will be printed with the exception of those that are repetitions or in poor taste. The staff reserves the right to correct

or delete portions of all letters for publication purposes.

All letters must be signed, but names will be withheld upon request. Term standing, major, and hometown must be included.

Signed columns represent the view of the author only and do not reflect the Editorial policy of the Behrend Collegian.

# Behrend Collegian

Member of

## The Press Association of Commonwealth Campuses

Ray Geiger  
Editor-in-chief

Doug Leichliter  
Managing Editor

Jack Richebacher  
Business Manager

Assistant managing editor, Carol Turkington; Sports editor, Dave Ruef; Assistant sports editor, Tony Alo; Photo editor, Rege Becker; Reporters: Pam Babcock, Kathy Baker, Carolyn Beck, Garry Cochran, Charles Eschweiler, Jeannie Gray, Tom Harvey, Carol Hughes, Carol Jamison, Rebecca LaPlante, Terri Rich, Mike Tucker; Staff: Bonnie Angevine, Barb Bent, Rosie Chimento, Rosanne Cox, Peggy Doney, Sally Gorman, Marilyn Gracon, Mary Lee Heckman, Jan Jacobs, Mary Karavolous, Colleen Kennedy, Carol Kieda, Roseann Leo, Linda McShave, Pam Moore, Abbie Morrow, Ken Mushrush, Kathy Pastorak, Jill Selleck, John Yammotti; Cartoonist Mike Loren; Advertising manager Bob Moulins; Circulation manager, Dave Kempa; Business Staff: Henry Fox, Robert Haise, Debby McCall, Sherry Oldakowski, Barb Slingland, Sheryl Stebbins; Faculty advisor, David Daniel.

Mailing Address - Behrend Campus, Station Road, Erie, Pa. 16510  
Office - Student Offices, Reed Union Building  
Office Hours: 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday  
Phone: 899-3101 Ext. 238

Opinions expressed by the editors and staff of the Behrend Collegian are not necessarily those of the University Administration, faculty, or the student body.

Published every Thursday throughout the Fall, Winter, and Spring Terms, with exclusions for holidays and term breaks.

# Letters to the Editor

## Ability Questioned

To the Editor,

Most of the students on campus just received the right to vote in State and Federal elections. If their way and means of voting for S.G.A. members is any indication of the way they are to vote in Federal elections - God save the country!

To make a proper evaluation of a candidate for an office, the voter must at least become aware of the candidate's views on the different subjects.

On Tuesday, October 19, a meeting was held for candidates running for S.G.A. to air their opinions and views. This meeting was open to all Behrend students, and out of 1,400, about 50 students showed up.

My only question is how the hell do the voters know for whom and why they are voting?

This campus in itself is a community and if one does not take the time and interest of seeing how it is governed, I question if they will take the time and interest when they get out into the real community they will eventually live in.

Sincerely,  
Marnie Fischer  
(1-Poli Sci-Brackney)  
a concerned student  
and citizen.

## Mertens Retorts

Dear Editor,

If Mr. Charles Eschweiler, staff reporter, had any journalistic code of ethics he would avoid the use of the same rhetorical devices which he demeans the promoters of "Political Prance" for supposedly using.

Briefly, Reporter Eschweiler uses the devices of namecalling, guilt-by-association, and the old-time favorite, the red herring. It is not clear whether the article entitled, "Music Scene at Erie Rally CJ Bri Going, Going, Gone," was a) deliberately headed in an unintelligible collection of words or b) supposedly news misplaced on the editorial page, or c) an attempt to slap together a 100 per cent negative editorial in an overt attempt to gain student response, thus demonstrating to the student funding organization that students really do read the COLLEGIAN so that maybe some bread would be for-

ALL-V-DAY  
NOV. 13

thcoming someday.

1) Name-calling. There is virtually no sentence in the article that does not contain tired, worn-out cliches. I won't bore you with a complete list. Some of the goodies include "Various hippies," "liberals," "dope fiends," and "Weirdos." These may be the words out of Mr. Eschweiler's personal argot; but for a periodical representative of an institution of higher learning, the use of such an article violates the ideal of precision of language.

Such precision of language is rarely attained but flaunting its opposite typifies more immature ventures that make no pretense about their inability to analyze social change nor make clear judgements on musical presentations without resorting to personality attacks on the performers.

2) Guilt-by-association. Assuming that once we determine that the list of types present at the crowd are all detrimental, there is no room for straight politicians, neighborhood types who wanted to get a look at what was happening in what they once thought was a quiet, residential area, or those who desire the right not to be labeled. Those people who consider themselves uninvolved, or political conservatives or anything other than those listed are not considered; thus if one is to believe the shoddy writing of your reporter the A&P Parking Lot at 8th and Walnut St. last Sunday all present were social drop-outs. Thus we come to the most important of the writer's rhetorical devices, the red herring, otherwise known as drawing attention away from the real issue of the day.

3) Thus your reporter discusses the impression he had of the crowd and his personal dislike of the leader of the second rock group that volunteered its services. If Mr. Eschweiler had taken the time to do some good journalism he would have at least talked with some of the people

involved. The issue was that for the first time in anybody's recent memory all kinds of disparate elements of the population got together and agreed to do a thing of political importance. Mr. E can say all he wants that no one there cared about the politicians and he may be right. But the fact remains that those who cared about politics and not about music got together with those that cared about music and not about politics. And that in itself is a political event. For politics is the contest where those who feel on the outs decide to remedy that situation. Mr. Eschweiler by his style apparently belongs to that group of people. So if nothing more was accomplished on that barren blacktop parking lot is that a lot of people got to know how straight politicians relate to them. I am the first to agree that many politicians didn't have the foggiest notion of how to address young people. But now they have the power to do something about it. Not really, because of the young people had no say in the primary elections which determined who is running now. But come next year, those young people will know what they'll be up against if they just sit back and figure that complaining and name-calling and discussing personalities rather than the issues.

And one small error of fact—I was candidate for the democratic nomination for representative to the state legislature not, as your writer stated "one time city council candidate." I know that's a tough thing to get across the reason being that hardly anyone is concerned with what goes on other than right under their noses. Well, that's the subject of another letter. One other point—I don't consider myself "Erie's own token liberal." I stand on my performance alone; each situation must be met with flexibility and depth of understanding. That goes with journalists as well.

Yours sincerely,  
Patrick Mertens

# Speak Easy

by Garry Cochran  
Staff Writer

Q—Why are tickets given out to students who park in the Dobbins Parking lot? 6 tickets

A—According to parking regulations in the student handbook you can not park in the immediate area of the dorms unless you are a short time visitor. If you feel the tickets were unjust see the security officer and discuss it with the officer. You may appeal them if you are still not satisfied. Your fines will go to Student Government, not security, so Al Quinlan, Student Government

President, thanks you for your donations.

Q—Why isn't the Behrend Collegian distributed at Gannon? S.O.

A—Well, let's get this straightened out right now. Each week, because of a price break, we get thousands of Behrend Collegians, but we don't believe in polluting the environment so we keep most of them well hidden in a remote spot here on campus. Incidentally, these bundles make fine footstools; would you be interested in purchasing several novel hassocks, cheap?

