

Editorial Opinion

# The Joke Could Be on You!

by Bruce Pizzini  
Staff Writer

Last Wednesday while I was in the RUB eating a snack I noticed a large box on a table out in the hall. There were a number of people gathered around filling out some sort of form. It wasn't until then that I found out that this was the day we were to elect our class officers.

That is the reason for this editorial. How many of you who voted really knew who or what you voted for? Some of the criterion people used was amazing. "I voted for a kid in my dorm", or "I voted for a friend." Some even went so far as to use an old rhyme which we all know to pick out their officers. One friend of mine did say he was voting for someone he had a discussion with but I wonder how many other people could say the same thing.

There was no lack of interest on the part of those who were seeking office because I believe they all had a sincere wish to help change things for the better here at Behrend. However if the public (Behrend students, commuters and residents alike) is not made aware of the qualifications and goals of those who desire to be elected, how can they decide who the best man or woman is.

The only campaigning I saw done was the number of posters tacked up all over campus. I'd be willing to bet that some people even voted for candidates with the most attention getting posters; that is one hell of a way to elect someone to office.

This could be the reason there was such a poor turnout at the polls. Many students must have thought "I don't know anything about anybody so why should I vote." It is truly unfortunate that

people felt this way, but I'm certain the turnout would have been better had things been handled differently.

Now is the time to wake up gang. This is no longer high school. Elections are not a popularity contest anymore. In 1,2,3, or 4 years we are going to be out in the world doing whatever it is we want to do. It's time to face facts and start growing up. If we don't give a damn who runs this college, are we going to care anymore about our Federal, state or local government.

This is a year of change for this school. Never before has there been so much interest in class offices. But now the elections are over and the work begins. I would most sincerely hope that the new class officers make an honest effort to live up to the responsibility of their respective offices. No matter how they got there, it is now up to them to see that our stay here at Behrend is made worthwhile.

# Traveli Solution For Bad Job Market

"Jobs for young people 18 to 29 are now available in Europe any time of the year" said Dr. F. X. Gordon, President of Princeton Research, at an interview with Stanford University and Palo Alto High School students.

"The European Common Market unemployment rate is 50 per cent less than that of the United States. Job availability forecasts for 1974 high school and college graduates in the United States are not so rosy. There are more young people entering the job seeking market (some 1,300,000 per year) than there are suitable jobs.

Some graduating High School Seniors, College Freshmen, Sophomores and Juniors are wisely following the advice of personnel and education experts by planning to take a year off from the academic treadmill to stretch the mind by working and travelling.

We have a program called "Jobs Europe", he continued. The aim of this program is to give young people, 18 to 29 years of age, and inexpensive and unique opportunity to live in, and learn

about, Europe.

In the last 13 years we have found jobs in Europe for 10,823 young people. Three thousand (3,000) jobs are now available anytime of the year-Winter, Spring, Summer, and Fall.

These guaranteed salaried jobs are mostly for trainees (general help) as stewardesses and stewards of trains, with large first class hotels, restaurants, supermarkets, department stores, etc. in Switzerland, England and Belgium. Most of the jobs include room and board in addition to local salary. Friends can work together, or near each other, if they apply together.

For free details: send a stamped self-addressed (business size) envelope to: Jobs Europe, 2350 Bean Creek Road, Santa Cruz, California 95060.

**Ski Club Meeting  
October 11 RUB  
Lecture Hall,  
7:30 p.m.**

## Letters to Editor

Dear Editor:

Recently the battery was stolen out of my car. Being a dorm student and trying to raise the money for next term's tuition, the cost of a new battery does not fit easily into my budget.

Having a car with no battery is not only an inconvenience to me, but also to most of the other girls on my floor who depend on my car for transportation.

Today, I heard of another student who had the wires disconnected in his car.

Behavior of this kind reminds me of Junior High School pranks. I thought college students were supposed to be adults with better things to do than destroy other

people's property.

Dorm Student  
P.S. I hope the battery dies on you!

### Snackless Student

Dear Editor:

Can't something be done about the stingy vending machines on campus? We give the machine money, why can't it give us our pop, candy or cigarettes? I know that quite a few students are tired of sending in for a refund and it would be a lot easier for us if the machines were repaired or removed.

"Snackless Student"

## Some Dope on Drug Penalties

Albany, N.Y. (AP)-Since the state's new drug laws went into effect Sept. 1, there have been many questions about its scope and penalties.

Here are some questions about it and answers on the highlights of the new law:

Question: Is the new law harsher than the old law?

Answer: Much harsher. For example, judges now are required--required to impose "life" sentences on convicted sellers of hard drugs such as heroin or cocaine.

Q: A "life" sentence? That sounds pretty tough.

A: It could mean life in prison. Or it could mean a year in prison.

Q: A year in prison? That doesn't sound like a life sentence to me.

A: Ah, there's a catch. If a person is released from prison, he is placed on probation for the rest of his life. This applies to large-scale possessors of hard drugs, too. Make no mistake, a convicted drug peddler must be sent to prison, and he could stay in prison for the rest of his life.

Q: Is probation pretty tough?

A: It can be, your every activity is subject to the scrutiny of your probation officer. You can't leave the state or even get married without permission. And if you're ever in trouble with the law again, back to prison you go, maybe for the rest of your life.

Q: Okay, I understand. But can you be more specific about the amount of time a person will have to spend in prison?

A: It depends on how much drug is involved. For example, the seller of more than an ounce of heroin is to be sent to prison for at least 15 years and can be im-

prisoned for the rest of his life. If He is convicted of selling one-eighth of an ounce to an ounce of drug, his prison sentence must be at least six years and maybe as much as life. For selling less than that, the minimum prison sentence is a year.

Q: For possessors too?

A: Again it depends on how much drug is involved. The prison term is at least 15 years for possessing more than two ounces of a hard drug, at least six years for possessing more than an ounce, and at least a year for possessing less than an ounce.

Q: We've talked about hard drugs. How about LSD?

A: The same general rule applies. All sellers and possessors must be sent to prison for at least one year and possibly as much as life. The severity of the sentence depends on the amount of the drug that has been sold or possessed. Upon release from prison-if the defendant is released--a seller will be on probation the rest of his life. This rule also applies to sellers of amphetamines and stimulants, by the way.

Q: How about marijuana smokers? Will they be sent away for life?

A: No, this drug has its own special penalties. The seller of any amount of marijuana can be sentenced to prison for one to 15 years. However, it is possible that he could plead to a lesser charge and not go to prison at all.

Q: Hold on: Let's go back a minute. You said "plead guilty to a lesser charge" to avoid a prison sentence for selling marijuana. Well, how about the sellers of hard drugs? Can't they plead to a lesser charge and

escape a prison term?

A: I'm sorry. I forgot to tell you. The law places a restriction on plea bargaining for sellers of hard drugs. If you're indicted for selling a hard drug or LSD for that matter-the law forbids you to plead guilty to a lesser charge to avoid a prison term.

Q: All right. Let's go back to marijuana. You told me about marijuana sellers. How about marijuana smokers--people who don't sell marijuana, just get it and smoke it or who have it in their possession?

A: The penalty varies according to the amount. A person caught with a single cigarette in his possession could be sent to jail for the year. But no jail term is required. The judge has the option of placing the defendant on probation or dismissing the charge altogether after a period of good behavior.

Q: You mentioned a single cigarette. How about several marijuana cigarettes, or hashish?

A: I'll answer the second question first. Hashish is treated the same as marijuana in the new law. The penalty for the possession of marijuana depends on the amount. The possessor of a quarter-ounce to an ounce of marijuana or 100 cigarettes can be sent to prison for up to seven years. For more than that amount, he can be imprisoned for up to 15 years. Either way, the judge has the option of simply placing the defendant on probation without sending him to prison.

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## 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.



**Pros & Cons**

- ...waiting in the cafeteria line at Dobbins for fifteen minutes, only to have kids cut ahead of you.
- ...Coach Lauffer's gift of a red, white and blue tie.
- ...puzzling reason as to why the doors have been locking in the Nick and Behrend buildings.
- ...SGA brings great student involvement.
- ...the unforgettable mid-terms come up next week.
- ...the dispensary seems to be inadequate to fulfill students needs due to lack of size.
- ...quiet hours and visitation hours aren't being observed in the forms.
- ...only six more weeks left of fall term.