

Editorial Opinion

Drivers Complaints

by Jeff Matson
Executive Editor

Although I am not amongst the driving population here at Behrend, a couple of serious problems have been brought to my attention that should concern those who do drive to Behrend and keep their cars at Behrend.

The first complaint concerns snow removal in the parking lots behind the dorms. It seems that the removal is often slow leaving students trapped as a result of our lovely spring storm and when the plows do come they evidently plow in the students who have already ventured out to plow themselves out. It seems that if the students can keep us from breaking our necks on the walk that maintenance should be able to keep the lots clear. Anyone out there agree?

The other problem is of much larger scope and will have to be acted on outside of the college. The problem is that of poor and potentially dangerous Cooper Rd., a main access road to Behrend. This road has a double

blind curve which goes steeply downhill into a one lane bridge. The possibilities for accidents are endless. Also other areas of this are so horribly riddled with pot holes it is dangerous for cars as well as passengers. Behrend students do have a say in this kind of thing according to law. Anyone who lives here is eligible to vote in his district, all he need do is register. Use of this road is vital to may Behrend students and faculty so if a movement for improvement has to start somewhere it might as well start here.

Both these items would have been completely unknown to me, as I am a dorm student without a car, if I had not been told personally about them and asked to comment on them on the editorial page. If you have a complaint or something you want brought to some attention, let the Collegian know about it and it will get space.

Security For ROTC Officers
Job Opportunities Lie Ahead

Three seniors at The Pennsylvania State University who know what it's like to be jeered, labeled "pig", and to dodge rocks hurled in anger, claim they have turned the tables on their detractors.

They are the leaders of the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) contingents at Penn State. Not long ago they heard cries that military training should be banned from the Nation's campuses; now they find they are the envy of many students; they already have job security in a profession they're enthusiastic about.

The future officers—Ed Parrish, John Weiser, and Todd Slingsby—point out that they've witnessed a lot of changes in the way students view the military and the way the military sees itself.

"A few years ago, being an ROTC cadet even cut down on your dating chances," recalls Parrish. He is a senior, majoring

in law enforcement and corrections and will be commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Military Police Corps upon graduation.

Parrish, who wears his hair closely cropped and talks in a slow Southern drawl, remembers the day when, as a new cadet at his former college, he was struck by a rock thrown by a demonstrator.

"But I haven't had any serious trouble since coming to Penn State two years ago," says the future army officer.

Weiser and Slingsby agree that lately they've seen no serious trouble, but both have heard derogatory jibes tossed their way

as they've walked to classes in uniform, as they do each Thursday.

Interestingly enough all three would reject the chance to spend their college years at a military academy. And they also deny that they are "mouthpieces" for their individual units.

At least one of the leaders has expressed his dissatisfaction with the country's presence in Vietnam—an opinion that put him on common ground with other anti-war students. When the anti-war students saw that this ROTC man had a "a mind of my own", a new respect for him and the military resulted, he believes.

Repeat Rule Revised

On Feb. 5, 1974, the University Faculty Senate passed a revised Rule M-3b governing the repeating of courses whereby the second grade earned will override the original grade. The

Provost has approved Fall Term as the implementation date for the revised rule.

The original rule was implemented during Spring Term 1973. As you are aware, a great number of problems arose in spite of an extensive publicity campaign to make everyone concerned familiar with the rule. So many problems arose that an appeals committee was appointed to review cases dealing with non-compliance with the rule. One hundred seventy four cases were approved for retroactive application of the rule. By and large, the majority of the appeals were based on the plea that I didn't know about the rule and neither did my adviser.

In order to avoid a similar situation in implementing this rather complex rule, a handout has been prepared for each student and faculty member of the Commonwealth campuses. Copies of this handout were distributed in the mail boxes and at various spots on campus anyone not familiar with the Senate rule may pick up a copy of the handout at the RUB desk or at the Main Building. A second reminder, the revised rule does not go into effect until Fall Term 1974.

Letter To The Editor

Commuters Are Involved!!

Dear Editor:

It seems to me that as I sit in on the SGA meeting on Monday nights, that a number of the students on that hallowed council seem to think that the commuters are a bunch of do nothings whose sole purpose of existence is to attend classes.

At Monday nights meeting Brian Ferris made a rather pointed statement that the only things that have been accomplished around here have been done by the dorm students. Okay Brian, granted the dorm students have done a lot but mostly things such as repairs to the dorms and the lengthening of the RUB hours. I'm sorry if it may sound somewhat cold and impersonal but why should the average commuter care whether

or not the showers in the dorm leak or whether you have a washer or dryer to use? Do you care whether these work at our homes or not? I really doubt it.

Moreover I feel that a great many commuter students do get involved with campus activities. Intramural sports is one of the best examples of this. There are also many students that commute that go to the SUB activities, eg. movies, concerts, etc.

At the beginning of the academic year the majority of students sitting on the SGA were commuters. This has gradually reversed itself over the course of the year but the fact that commuters ranked so high in the elections should speak for something.

Another opinion that is shared by many is that the commuter students don't turn out for meetings such as class meetings. But how much of the blame can be put directly on the commuters? How widely have these meetings been publicized and when were they held? Did they take in to consideration the commuter that has to travel anywhere from twenty to thirty miles to make a trip to Behrend? I'm referring to one way transportation to Behrend. If you don't think any students live that far away measure the distance to Fairview or Waterford and Union City. I'm sure if any dorm student had to travel these distances they would most likely say to hell with it, it's not worth the trip. Also a great many students that commute live on the other side of Erie and Millcreek and must drive through Erie to get to Behrend. Driving through any city is a pain in the you know where and Erie is no exception. Especially with its antiquated streets that were designed years before Henry Ford made his contribution to mankind.

Don't get me wrong however. Students that are interested will get to meetings and such here at school. Many commuters and dorm students are presently working together quite successfully to get things done here at Behrend. The changing of the stop signs at the intersection

by the tennis courts, the longer hours of the library and the RUB. The dorm students were successful in their efforts to have a commuter weekend, and trips to games of soccer. And coming up soon is the Spring Arts Festival which always gets quite a few people involved.

The only thing I am trying to point out is that before you condemn the commuters look at their reasons for not participating. Maybe with a little juggling of schedules both dorms and commuters can accomplish something.

Bud Ore

Spring Brings Snow?

Dear God:

Why, all I want to know is why? I return to Behrend with my heart full of joy at the coming spring, of the gorge in full spring bloom, of cutting a class and going for a walk instead of being trapped in the dorm playing pinochle! So, what happens on the first day of Spring, (and for every day since then for that matter) it snows, no in fact we have a damn blizzard and I catch a miserable cold and miss two classes and this is only the first week of classes. It's enough to make you want to take off for Florida.

Of course, this is not to say I dislike snow. I like snow as much as the next man. (on Christmas Eve and whenever I feel like a good toboggan run). And I can get into the whole winter thing of snowballs and traying, and frostbite, but somehow, when it gets to be March 26 and you know there's supposed to be a blizzard tonight, you begin to wonder. A frozen Freshman.

1st Streaker

Dear Editor:

Recently Behrend College experienced (and continues to experience) the phenomemon of "streaking". For those who are shocked that such incidents occur at Behrend, I advise you to pick your jaw up off the floor because streaking has a biblical basis!

I am referring in this case to Mark 14:51-52 and in case you don't own a Bible, I quote it for you: "And a young man followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body; and they seized him, but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked." There it is in black and white!

The Happy Heretic

Sucker Sunday
Registration
End Tomorrow

Friends

Why is it that human needs and expectations far exceed those conceptions of a friend? A friend is a friend To cry with To laugh with Talking till the early morning hours Sharing memories of what once was Of what could have been. A glance, a smile Saying more than a million words could. Trusting, faithful, friends.

Don't look back and ask Why? All that was done is over Words said in haste, in anger. You are me, and I, you I understand.

Friends are, Not expecting more than you are willing to give of yourself Loving someone enough to show them why they're wrong.

Friends are, the sun, the sky, Morning, noon, and night. You are my friend.

Joan Weiss

Behrend Collegian

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Pros & Cons

- ...bicycles in the stairwells already
- ...pass-fail option next week
- ...a touch of Jack Frost
- ...soccer again
- ...snow on the first day of Spring
- ...staying at Behrend
- ...dropping a course
- ...relating to people
- ...only eight weeks of this school year to go
- ...only eight weeks of class left

Collegian
Openings
Still
Available

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.