

Letter To The Editor

Erie Hall Over-used and Under-equipped

Dear Editor;

All right enough is enough! I endured it all last term and the first month of this term without complaining, but at last I have to speak out. The "it" that I'm referring to is the degree to which the people who use Erie Hall are "redneck". It sounds as though I'm making a mountain out of a molehill but I'm really upset about the entire situation. Actually my gripe concerns Erie Hall and everything about it.

First of all, the facilities there are totally inadequate. I think that it's outrageous that if even 1 per cent of the total number of matriculating students at Behrend decide to use the gym at one time, it's crowded.

This means that when events like intramural basketball and volleyball are scheduled so that a maximum number of people can play at a time, the gym is used from 6:30 to at least 9:00 Monday through Thursday.

Phys Ed classes use the gym almost every period for the first six periods of the day Monday through Friday. Also from 4:30 to 6:30 Monday through Friday, the gym is reserved for varsity use. So that means the gym is "free" during the two common hours from 9 to 10 every night and from 2-10 on Saturday and Sunday. Big Deal. All right so the gym is open for 26 hours a week right? Wrong!

So far there's been a controversy over whether non-Behrend people can use the gym or no. I don't think that most people realize the extent of the problem, though. On an average weekend at any given time, it's not unusual to see ten Behrend people and 30 non-Behrend people in the gym. We're getting short changed no matter how you look at it; we're paying for inadequate facilities anyway, then some freeloaders are coming in and using them for nothing. The Behrend apathy nauseates me.

That brings me to another point, Behrend sportsmanship. Maybe it's spring and everyone's horny but that's no reason for everyone who uses Erie Hall on the weekends to be out for blood.

The "vibes" are bad, if you know what I mean. I have a feeling that there's going to be some fights yet this spring. Anyway, it's a hassle even picking teams, calling fouls, calling violations, and playing winners. So then after a game starts I notice the abundance of hot-shots who probably played second string in junior high and think that they're superstars and play ball-hog. I'll cut them a break and chalk it up to human nature though.

Well, for that matter, I'll cut everyone a break and not criticize Erie Hall anymore now!! If anyone can counter any of my criticisms, I wish he would look me up so I can straighten him up.

Natch
8th Term GA&S

Apathy?

Dear Editor:

I, thanks to the hand of Almighty God, have discovered a way to rid the Behrend College of its sickening apathetic students.

One way is to mount a machine gun on the roof of the RUB. Any student seen not sprinting eagerly to or from class will be shot down immediately.

Another way is to take roll call at all sport events and SGA meetings. Those students who are not present must take health class again. (I know this is a stiff penalty, but I feel it is necessary.)

The third idea I have is to have public floggings of students not voting in SGA or class elections.

And lastly any student who is overheard saying "I don't care" must read every one of Jeff Matson's articles twenty times each.

If these suggestions are carried out I guarantee that: (1) health classes will flourish; (2) the dispensary will gain confidence in treating bruises and gunshot wounds; (3) Jeff Matson will be forced to write more interesting articles by those students who have read them twenty times; (4) the word apathy will no longer exist among students at Behrend;

(5) that students will no longer exist at Behrend.

Respectfully,
Fred Mertz
Third term Law
Enforcement
Erie, Pa.

For Fred

Dear Fred:

In essence I agree with you whole-heartedly, however, in regards to my personal attempts at journalism that you find somewhat less than exciting, please consider what I have to work with. When topics of major concern are boredom, apathy, and how to get off-campus for a weekend I find it difficult to find anything worth writing about. Still, due to insanity or worse, I persist with the hope that someone will find something happening here and let me know about it so I will be able to write one article that might please you. Thank you for reading the paper, thank you for saying something, still it's a shame that the only criticism to ever reach me has been on form and never on content.

Yours reluctantly
Jeff Matson
Executive Editor

Craters

Dear Editor:

Where was Behrend College when NASA needed us? Our government spent millions of dollars building a simulated moon surface on which to test their moon rover. Just think we

could have saved the American taxpayers all that money by lending them our own natural moon surface complete with craters to do their testing on. For those of you who don't drive, the site I am referring to is the entrance to the parking lot behind the Nick building.

Being a poor humble student I have unquestioningly paid \$7.50 each term for the privilege of parking here on campus. I have sometimes wondered what this money is used for. At least I know it is not used for repairs. Any commuting student can testify that the parking area in question is in a deplorable condition. As long as we must continue to pay to park here we should at least be provided with a decent place to park.

To park at Behrend costs about \$22.50 for three terms, that is if you don't include the cost of new shocks, wheel alignments, and wear and tear on the tires, this figure would be much higher. It is about time that something is done to remedy the situation. Perhaps we could still make a deal with NASA.

Respectfully,
Lori Fatzner

Involved

Dear Editor:

In regard to the comments on the lack of commuter involvement, let me state a few facts.

1. Most commuters drive between 5 and 30 miles a day.
2. All commuters pay an average of 53 cents a gallon for

gas.
3. The average commuter must work part-time to pay the 53 cents a gallon.

4. Some commuters don't own cars and must either ride with a friend or borrow their parents' car or take a bus.

5. Most things happening take place at night when most commuters are home, studying, or working part time.

6. Commuters don't have the luxury of returning to their rooms between classes to catch some sleep as dorm students do.

I personally will follow your recommendation regarding Erie Hall that "the facilities only be open to Behrend Students that can produce ID's at the door" I will also add this statement: there will be no exceptions!!!!

Duane Zimmerman
P.S. to Jack King; I didn't know that Americans slept at the polls.



Editorial Opinion

Clowns and Jokers

Jim Concelman
Sports Editor

I'd like to know where all the sympathy has gone. I mean, I haven't been receiving much lately and when other people are a few bricks shy of a load, they whine and whimper a bit until some vain procrastinator, such as myself, affiliates a small portion of consonance.

I think I deserve at least an intamint dole of sympathy, I am in Erie, I do eat at Dobbin's Hall and the thing that sets me apart from the rest of you banal constituents, I work for the Behrend Collegian.

I am speaking of, and for, the handful of people that spend around 15 hours of their time on every single issue of this paper. We receive no money (a ridiculous thought), no credit (an even more ridiculous thought), and recently, no satisfaction (a not so ridiculous thought). We want no money (I should hope to kiss a pig), we'd like a little credit (I'll have to kiss something else for that) and if we can't have any satisfaction, we'd at least like a little sympathy.

You see, we've got clowns to the left of us and jokers to the right and we're tired of being stuck in the middle. "Ladies and gentlemen if you will kindly look to your left you will see the clown. The clown is talking to the sports editor of the Behrend Collegian (That's me). Let's listen to what that jovial jokester has to say."

CLOWN-"Mihner spohrts enhitor (I've added the hare-lip, you'll have to put in the New York drawl), why dihn't yhou cohver nhe tihnnilly whnks touhnrnment threeweehks ahngo?"

ME-"Tiddley winks touhnrnment? Threeweeeks ago? To tell you the truth, I spent 15 hours on that issue, missed two classes, blew a major test and generally busted my bijubies. Why didn't you write an article, we'd have put it in?"

CLOWN-"Mhe?! It's yohr nyohb". (job)

Sound of sports editor smiting clown about the head and body.

I wish the joker on my right could be dismissed with such ease of levity and extraneous acrimony as the clown pressing my left. However, the joker poses a more visceral and trying insight that defies superficial shenanagins.

SGA president Mike Chiricuzio and his band of merry men will soon lead a charge on the Board of Publications. There, from atop his stoutly white stallion, he will do battle with the forces of evil that scheme to undermine an innocent young maiden and push her further into debt. Sir Chiricuzio then wishes to marry the fair young maiden and live happily ever after.

The fair young maiden (Behrend Collegian) only wishes to be rescued from her creditors. The thought of matrimony is down right disgusting. Sir Chiricuzio's marriage proposal lurks in the form of a number of questions he will pose to the Board of Publications.

The first and foremost slap in the face is the question, do students really want a newspaper?

Just the thought that this question should come up tries my morals and sense of purpose. It makes me feel good to know that all the work, sweat, arguing, cajoling and fighting that goes into the production of a paper is all for nothing because no one gives a damn. If you, the students, don't want a paper, you had better let me know quickly so that I can go somewhere else and peddle my wares. I want to know the answer you get to this question Mr. Chiricuzio.

There are only four things at Behrend that make me feel that I am in college and not still in high school. I study a lot harder, I

party a lot more, I live in a dorm and I write for a college type newspaper. I will always have to study hard, but the administration is trying their hardest to suppress all parties; consequently almost all forms of fun at Behrend (you may not know this, but they tried to bust last Saturday's Wilson Grove party—the first "college party" at Behrend—but we got out in the nick of time). Mr. R.C. Finley is coming very close to driving me out of the dorms by taking me for every cent he can get his hands on. Mr. Chiricuzio will ask the Board of Publications if Behrend needs a weekly paper. If the Collegian came out anything less than weekly, it would complete Behrend's high schoolization.

I must point out that the Collegian has serious financial difficulties and anything that Chiricuzio and the SGA can do to alleviate these problems would be greatly appreciated by the Collegian staff. My point is that SGA should limit itself to business problems and stay away from operation of the paper itself.

The Collegian is always open for constructive criticism, suggestions or anything else, except complaints. If you think you can do a better job, why don't you hustle on down here and show us. We'll give you a desk, a typewriter and all the help we can.

I can still hear those famous last words, "This is not an SGA power play. It is only an attempt to better an organization on this campus". In order for this statement to hold true, the SGA must keep its hands off the Collegians operating affairs. If this paper goes bi-monthly next year, then it will be SGA's job to re-staff the Collegian because none of the present staff, myself especially, wish to write for a rinky-dink high school type paper.

Behrend Collegian

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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.