

The Collegian commentary

Motorcyclists and Motorists

By Jim Martin
Executive Editor

In hopes of Spring, so all the studies and hard work can subside and "good times" can flourish more so outdoors than before, the common bug of "Spring Fever" annually develops into epidemic proportions. Winter in Erie is too long. Case in point:

Two weeks ago, some very enthused motorcycle riders wheeled their vehicles toward classes at Behrend Campus. They must be brave souls, not just because of the inclement weather conditions (Mother Nature pounded some more adverse winter winds and snow again, after Spring sprang!). But also because of the ever increasing multitude of motorcycles on the roads. Many people, you know, are hounding want-ads, bulletin boards, cycle shops, other friends...etc., in hopes of purchasing such vehicles. It's economics. The would-be buyer should also be most cognizant of some startling facts. The present owner should be too.

In 1964, fewer than one million motorcycles were registered in the United States. By 1974, there were nearly five million. Motorcycle fatalities in the same period rose from 1,100 to almost 3,500.

It is estimated that 15 to 20

million Americans are now riding motorcycles. Many of the riders learn how to ride without the benefit of a sound educational program in motorcycle safety. Ask a fellow Behrend cyclist if he has benefited from any participation in a sound educational program. The rider will most likely answer "no." It follows that as more Americans turn to the motorcycle as a viable, fuel-saving means of basic personal and business transportation, the need for driver education courses becomes critical.

The largest single category of motorcycle accidents involves a collision with an automobile in an intersection. And as most cyclists will agree, almost 70 per cent of the crashes are found to be the fault of the automobile driver. These facts reveal that there is a definite need for improved visual and driving habits on the part of all highway users. This means increased public awareness of the growing number of motorcyclists using the roads is an important step toward safer interaction between motorists and motorcyclists.

Being a registered, licensed motorcyclist-owner, this is important to me. Therefore, with this high increase in the aforementioned, I assert it

would be important to other riders and would-be riders. So I inquired with the various dealers in the Erie community about this safety problem. The information I attained was that the Motorcycle Safety Foundation is making an effort to meet this need. They are in the midst of announcing a newspaper, television, and radio campaign to stimulate cooperation between motorists and motorcyclists. Target states for the programs are California, Michigan, Ohio, Florida, and Pennsylvania, all of which have the largest and growing motorcycle populations. This foundation is also submitting safety programs for area colleges. I do not believe Behrend has any type class, if not, are there plans for such instruction?

The Motorcycle Safety Foundation is a national, non-profit organization sponsored by Kawasaki, Harley-Davidson, Honda, Yamaha, and Suzuki manufacturers.

With this safety thought in mind, it is pertinent that individual drivers formulate better safety habits. So for all you Behrend drivers, be you an automobilist or motorcyclist, Behrend Campus is not the place for letting the wild, free-spirit run (drive) rampant over this institute of terrestrial beauty! These precautions pertain to all of

Pop and Rock

By Ken Bobek

Recently when I was talking about new albums with a friend, he remarked that Dan Fogelberg had a new album out called Souvenirs. You probably ask, "Dan...who? Fogelberg. Daniel Fogelbert. Oh. Sounds more like a doctor or a college professor, right? Though I was equally skeptical at first, I decided to give Souvenirs a whirl, and, admittedly, I was quite surprised at what I found.

The personnel listed on the back label is very surprising for a solo LP. Joe Walsh produced the album and plays lead guitar throughout. Al Perkins and Joe Lala, (formerly of Manassas), play banjo and congas. The drummer is Russ Kunkle, who may sound unfamiliar, but you've heard him on practically all of Carol King's albums and on a few of James Taylor's.

Aside from the vocals, Fogelberg plays acoustic and electric guitar, piano, organ, Moog, and zither. The harmonies and background vocals are

the streets and highways traveled in the United States.

Executive Editor's Note: Coach Onorato...I was pleased to see the fine articles you released to the Erie Times; the publicity for the Behrend wrestlers was well deserved. Respectfully, Coach Onorato, in the future, it would be appreciated and beneficial to the students, faculty and administrative personnel if news worthy information would be forwarded to the Behrend Collegian office first. This type of intercommunication would increase efficient productivity of the Collegian and definitely increase the aforementioned group's report.

provided by Joe Walsh, Graham Nash, (formally of CSNY) and Glenn Frey, Randy Meisner, and Don Henly, all of the Eagles.

Souvenirs is an enjoyable change from the usual solo album. Instead of only the usual guitar, bass, and possible piano, Fogelberg includes a variety of instruments, including an accordion, a string quartet, and even a sousaphone. Some of the tunes are very mellow and soft, as in the title cut Souvenirs.

Others, like Morning Sky, Part of the Plan, and As the Raven Flies, are much more lively and quick. Fogelbert style is quite varied, ranging from folk to country-rock. The lyrics are equally diversified. There are some love songs, but there is also a tune about the state of Illinois.

The music itself is pleasant to listen to, but definitely could not be considered an album to boogie with. The harmonies of Graham Nash and Fogelberg create a unique, new sound, making Crosby, Stills, Nash, Young, and Fogelberg sound like a good idea. Souvenirs is Dan's second LP, and I personally am looking forward for his third.

UP tickets

A total of 1,000 tickets have been reserved for Penn State students for the Nittany Lions' Sept. 20 game at Ohio State.

A lottery during the first week of May will determine the recipients of the tickets, which are priced at \$8 each and are limited to two tickets per application. Only students who will be enrolled full-time during the 1975 fall term are eligible for the drawing.

Behrend Students may apply through the Office of Student affairs during the week of April 21-25.

Student ticket recipients will be notified by mail before May 10.

Letters to the Editor

Readers Respond to Baseball Bouncing Policy

Dear Editor:

I would like to state my opinion of an article which appeared in last week's Collegian pertaining to some baseball policies. I feel it was strictly one-sided, and since I

also played on the team last year, I would like to give light to the other half of that story.

When Spring training started this year, Coach Stoner found himself faced with a slight

problem. Vying for the position of short-stop were four gentlemen. Since only one could play the position with a possible backup, Coach Stoner compared past performances of all four and made his decision. The young man he released was the least qualified of the four. Having played with or against all four gentlemen, I feel the right decision was made.

Now as for the record setting performance of a young man, of 105 playless innings. Last year, as Behrend's baseball team traveled to Grove City for a doubleheader, a young man played the first game and knowing he might not see action in the second game decided to leave the team and go home for the weekend. This action didn't set a very good example of team support or give the coach an impression of wishing to play for the team at all. Actually I felt he should of been cut from the team at that time but he was permitted to remain on the team thus setting his record.

"A position is yours until taken away." This was stated in last week's article. This is a very true statement, but it doesn't have to be taken away by another player you can lose it on your own. The suggestion by Coach Stoner to lose some weight, or he might not see any action because he was too slow. Well, the young man chose to remain overweight. Having also been told of practice sessions over Spring break, he refused to show up, even though he lived closer to school than some of us who did. Therefore, Coach Stoner assumed he did not wish to play and dropped his name from the roster.

Considering the fact that Coach Stoner is but one man, I feel he is still doing a fine job. Sure, every man is entitled to a mistake in judgment, but I myself do not feel

he made one.

Since I feel absolutely no fear of any kind of consequences, I will sign my own name.

Tim Slaven

King Speaks

Dear Editor,

After reading last Thursday's letter to the editor concerning Mr. Stoner, I decided to ask him about it. I approached Mr. Stoner inquiring about the article. He informed me he wasn't going to write a rebuttal. So with Mr. Stoner's permission I decided to write a rebuttal for him.

The first argument was one of a certain returning short stop being cut unfairly before any outside practice was held. When asked Mr. Stoner said his decision of who to cut and who to keep was made by a comparison of abilities only! Mr. Stoner had scouted these players a number of times and made his decisions accordingly. I must agree that this short stops position wasn't taken away by another player, but instead by two players who are viewed as better all around short stops than the person in question.

Yes, Behrend did have a backup third baseman who sat the bench for disciplinary reasons, after walking out on the second half of a double header against Grove City. You must admit this shows little interest on the players part, and most coaches would have thrown him off the team.

Oh yes, as for last years second string catcher not being allowed to come out for the team. Well, once again this was done for disciplinary reasons. The person in question was informed of pre-season conditioning practice, and he never showed up until the regular indoor practices were starting. I must again stress the lack of interest shown by this ex-player also.

Finally I would like to say that in my opinion Mr. Stoner has taken no unreasonable actions in view of the circumstances. This opinion is shared by all of the players I have talked to also. Mr. Stoner regrets (and I am sure the other coaches do too) not being able to keep everyone who comes out for a sport. Anyone familiar with the athletic situation at Behrend knows that facilities and funds are limited and short. The coaches do their best to create winning teams for Behrend and I think we should all give them the respect and support due.

Dave Dinger

No Graffiti

Dear Editor:

I wish to reply to a letter printed in last week's Collegian about the baseball

team. First of all, it is my opinion that last year's shortstop lost his job to a better player who simply out-hustled him. I would also like to know how anyone who wrote that letter could claim that he did not have a morale problem. As for the references to Coach Stoner, well that sounds like sour grapes to me.

Finally, I'm glad to see that the letter was printed, it means the bathroom walls of Lawrence will probably take a little less of a beating!!!

Michael Kahl
201 Perry Hall

Hopefully

Dear Editor,

Just as a matter of clarification, I wish to formalize the current status of the Behrend College Central Committee on Student Rights. Allusions have been made by several individuals intimating that the Committee had been disbanded. Not so. We will continue this year (if the occasion arises) and perhaps become a formal sub-committee of SGA next year. We hope by making this move we can better serve the interests of commuter and dorm student alike.

Thank You,
Michael J. Woods
107 Lawrence

Evolution

Dear Editor (re: Ms. Rosa Myers):

What you have written and inferred here is absolute garbage. I am a student of the Bible, and so realize that your alleged correlations between the "scientific" fad of astrology and the Scriptures are completely invalid and imaginary. It plainly shows a great lack of depth of understanding, and intelligence, in Biblical matters. Harsh words-but you should know that your false presentation is offensive to me—as is any supposition of knowledge where no knowledge actually exists.

I take it you have not read the entire Gospel of John, the entire New Testament, or the entire Bible. Maybe you should. Possibly I should not be so vehemently offended, but Jesus words are not to be taken and toyed with or represented falsely. They are too important for that.

Drew DeCrease

Editor's note: Cognitive information before one signs his name to written material is good advice for all. The Bible has immense value to any believer in God or the Athesist.

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 necessarily reflect the Editorial policy of the Behrend Collegian.