

# The Collegian commentary

## 1975 Renaissance

By Jim Martin  
Executive Editor

It seems incredible and unrealistic. It has titanic repercussions. The Behrend Collegian, which upon its head of every front page is printed, "Published by the students of the Behrend College, Pennsylvania State University," is in utter financial distress and suffers possible total collapse!

But as incredible as it may seem, it is not so unrealistic by any means.

It is my impression and understanding that the academic mission of the Behrend Campus of The Pennsylvania State University is to develop its educational flexibility, toughness, and excellence. The structure of higher education must be responsive to the ever changing needs of the University constituency. Indeed, unique demands are made upon the university from within and without. It has to be recognized that this criterion is not being met.

Behrend Campus has been impowered (1973) the honor of becoming the first commonwealth college through UP. This is all very fine but the responsibility lie with the UP bureaucracy and the BC bureaucracy is not being met (coordination).

The Behrend Collegian is the most viable instrument of the college community. It is ideally suited for service as a forum for exchange of opinion. In this capacity it presents the two administrations, faculties, students, and all the community with the issues and information the College deems important.

I will state here clearly that Behrend College must become a major college. At this point in time Behrend is in a period of monumental decisions. For any type of higher educational institutions of learning to exist in Erie, the time is now to decide!

It is the duty of UP to buttress this necessity and farther Behrend. Also the Behrend administration must use its utmost skills in extending Behrend toward a major college. (The

growth may be slow but not retarding, as it is now.) Otherwise BC will fall far short from any hopes of increasing the educational flexibility, thoroughness and excellence, and of being responsive to the ever changing needs of the university constituency.

It is well known that only \$6,000 has been projected for next year from Behrend College (SGA). This is less than this year. How can the SGA expect to fulfill the vast demands of existing college operations for the student on this sum alone?? Behrend College is being screwed. Let me delve deeper into the mass economic complexities.

Governor Shapp's report is actually a \$14 million deficit of Penn State University's request. If Behrend is already being screwed, more of the same is (\$ less) to continue.

What (again) is needed is

student spirit! So Behrend will become Behrend College in reality!

What I ask you to do is let the UP and BC administrations be well aware of these facts. The college exists of the students, to be for the students. I ask you, Behrend students, to contact verbally and through letters expressing your opinions and feelings about developing Behrend College, the administrations of BC and the UP administrations. Also, a great deal of the responsibility lies with the Pennsylvania State's legislative representatives. Indicate to them, using your personal influence and efforts, to help all of them to understand the severe financial problems due to inadequate State support. In this capacity, Behrend College might be able to continue, ultimately standing alone as a major college (with a Behrend College Collegian!)



## From the desk of the Editor

By Paul Corbran  
Editor-in-Chief

Well, fellow students — this is good-bye. The Behrend Collegian is now officially closed for the term.

The Collegian is \$2,000 in debt, and cannot function any longer.

I have heard, too often, from the students that the newspaper is shit. According to you, we produce nothing in the way of funding or journalism. Well, we are doing something — closing.

An \$1,800 debt was handed down to the Collegian at the beginning of this year, and, from what I can see, a debt has been handed down for a number of years. The paper would now be \$200 down, without that, and there are a number of outstanding bills out. Well, I guess the spilled milk will never dry, so...

I have to thank the staff of the newspaper for sticking

with it. Contrary to popular opinion, this staff does work. Try writing a three and four page paper every week in addition to your regular schedule. Try going out and researching a subject for a story between classes, sometime. Our reporters go out and do this and sometimes on two and three articles. Also, think of how they feel when we tell them that we didn't have enough room for their article(s).

My deep appreciation goes out to those who tore their hair out with me on Tuesday nights — Gay Catania, Bob Wetmore, Tom Stanger, Jim Martin, and Mark Reese.

Lastly, I would like to thank the SGA, especially Mike Woods, for their futile efforts in helping us keep on.

Well gang, this is it! See ya' next year ... maybe.

## Letters to the Editor

### SGA - MJW - JCF - AFK — — "Zoom" X Cylists

Dear Editor, (and anyone else who gives a shit),

In light of the rather "unusual" occurrences of the last week, I feel compelled to address my former opponents and all of the students at Behrend. The elections which were held last week were perhaps the most bizarre to be held in Behrend's history for several reasons. First, neither of the presidential candidates had a publicly stated platform (I had attempted to explicate my platform in the Collegian but problems arose). Secondly there were a noticeable lack of candidates for all of the offices which seemed adequately representative of the seeming indifference we all "know and love". Lastly, and most note worthy, was the "strategy" employed by Mr. Kirk and Mr. Farren which I feel served to do nothing more than further alienate students from their SGA.

All which I have to say regarding the direction I wish

SGA to go next year will be elucidated in an interview to be published next week (I hope) so I won't belabor the issues. I do hope we can work closely with Dr. Fox in academic areas and concern ourselves less with budgetary issues and more with matters that directly effect the lives of the members of the Behrend community.

I suppose I will make this short and cut out all of the verbal rhetoric so I may get right to the point. I not only resent all of the little innuendos directed my way by Mr. Kirk but I dismiss them as a humongous pile of shit! Furthermore, if he really wanted to generate any longevous interest he should have attempted to offer the voting populous something more than his isane "wit". Christ, I'm sick to death of people trying to make SGA look like a joke. It isn't! SGA will remain relatively impotent as long as we are perceived that way. Next year is a whole new ball game, and maybe we'll shock the s--- out of Allan Kirk!

At the Pinnacle of my absurdity,  
Michael J. Woods  
107 Lawrence

### Ecology

Dear Editor,

A serious situation exists on our campus which demands immediate attention, and every student should be outraged about it.

If you occasionally walk in the

gorge, you've been chased off the trail by rude motorcyclists. Motorcycles are NOT permitted in the gorge. Notices of this regulation are posted around the perimeter, but a great number of offenders totally ignore them. Sure, it may be fun to make believe Evel Knevil on the hills, "zoom" through the creek and have an all around fantasy, but it is annoying to the majority who go to the woods for other purposes and, more important, highly destructive to this area which many years of Behrend students have loved.

A few years ago, there was no regulation prohibiting motor vehicles and just as many people rode them in the gorge. You must recall that a steep hillside holds its soil tenuously at best. Small weeds, mosses, ferns, seedlings, all hold the hill together with living roots and leaf litter protects it from erosive forces. When a few motorcycles run over the same area these protections are removed. It was soon noticed that erosion scars were occurring to stop it. The soil is totally open to attack. The silt washes down into the creek and deposits on the beautiful shale bottom, covering up fish eggs and other necessary fauna. Organic nutrients are washed into the stream and algae blooms. Trees and other plants cannot grow on the rocky sub soil.

Also, animals which are sensitive to noise disappear. Porous soil gets packed down and mud

holes appear along the trail. Wintergreen Gorge becomes a crummy place after eons of placid beauty.

I feel that the offenders are mostly not Behrend students. Those who are not paying thousands a year are the unappreciative ones. Behrend Security: Why not hassle these people instead of the parking lots? What good is this important regulation if it is not enforced? Is it because you have to get out and walk instead of driving to get there? Behrend students: Be

(Continued on Page 4)

### !!!SCHOLARSHIPS!!!

Applications are available in the Office of Student Affairs for two Scholarships.

1. Deadline date for the Kunkle Scholarship is Wednesday, April 30, 1975 for all enrolled students. The eligibility is based on a superior grade point average and the financial need of the applicant. The applicant must also be a full-time undergraduate student and a resident of Erie County, Pa.

2. The American Sterilizer Company Trustees Scholarship deadline date is also Wednesday, April 30, 1975. The eligibility for this award is based on: Superior grade point average; must be full-time undergraduate student; demonstration of financial need; and residency in Erie County.

The Awards for the Kunkle Scholarship are currently being revised and the amounts will be announced at a later date. The American Sterilizer Scholarship has four awards available of \$500 each.

There are also applications for the Erie County Sabin Scholarship in the Student Affairs Office. This is for those who are considering the health field. For further information, please contact the Student Affairs Office.

## Behrend Collegian

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

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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.

