

The Collegian

commentary



From the desk of the Editor

By Paul Corbran
Editor-in-Chief

Well, fellow students... this may be one of the last issues of the Collegian you'll have in your possession. Unless, of course, you're willing to dig into your pockets for a nickel every week (as if we didn't dig into our pockets enough). George Spiegel, who made a motion to start charging for the newspaper at the SGA meeting last Monday, seems to think it would be a good idea.

Mr. Spiegel doesn't think that the "SGA" should spend as much money as it does on the Collegian. On that point I couldn't agree with him more. Why can't the paper be subsidized by the school (that being Penn State) and not the student activities fund of SGA? Almost all the colleges, with a newspaper, do it in this manner—including University Park. If the University can allocate funds directly to the Daily Collegian, down state, why can't the branch campuses get their share of this allocation for their newspapers? We're Penn State Students, also! We deserve as much attention as our counterparts at UP, in every respect. It seems to me that everyone involved with a commonwealth campus is getting screwed!

So Mr. Spiegel, I urge you and your fellow SGA members to look into avenues such as these before charging the students even more for this newspaper. We already pay enough, at Penn State, we shouldn't have to pay any more for such a service.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch... The Commuter Council seems to be coming rather close to its birth at Behrend College. So far, there are five members of the council who hope they will be able to add a few more, very interested commuters.

It has been decided, by the members, that there will be no election held this year. The group, chaired by Mike McCarthy, will direct itself to building a foundation for the future of the Commuter Council. Hopefully, an election will be held sometime during spring term, in order to form the council for next year.

In the coming days, the Commuter Council will set up a table, outside the RUB cafeteria, for the purpose of talking over some of the goals and receiving input from the student body. It is hopeful that we are able to hold a general meeting, welcoming all commuters, within the next few weeks.

Well, enough said for now. So, until next week... I hope!

By Bob Wetmore
Managing Editor

No, there's no reason to look twice. You're right. I am the Managing Editor, but until we find another person to fill the vacancy of Editorial Editor, I suppose I'll have to crawl up from the "bottom of the barrel" and do a little writing.

Before I climb on my soapbox for this issue, though, let me extend a formal invitation to all radicals, dolts, and opinionated occupants of Behrendia...we need

you! Just think, you'll even be guaranteed the impressive title as "editorial editor."

But first things first. You all started reading this column with the intention of finding a current, thought-provoking issue. But since very little even provokes me, and I lead a life of total serenity and happiness (that is, as long as the Editor-in-Chief is not around) I'll just have to fabricate a "peeve."

Here it is: I have driven past campus quite frequently during

term break, and quite a few of these times have been during the late evening hours.

Now it would seem that during term break there would be very few people on campus, and as a result, you wouldn't expect on campus services (specifically, lighting) to be operating at full tilt.

Believe it or not, this campus looks like a country fair or a metropolitan airport during the dark hours, and even during term break.

During this period of energy conservatism, and at a time when our economy is seeking out new ways of producing energy and energy alternatives, good ol' Behrend College is using enough electricity to light the whole of a small city.

It seems to me that there is really no reason why Behrend can't cut down on power consumption at least during breaks and vacations.

Even during regular classes, it seems that every other light could be turned out and between the hours of midnight and dawn, only building premises and parking lots need be lighted.

What say you, Behrend administrators, isn't it about time to shed a little less light on the subject? Wait do you consider the reason for all of this wasted energy? And let's be serious, a few less lights on this campus would not hinder security measures that much.

That is, of course, unless you uphold the policy, "as long as we can get the money to pay for it, we'll use it."

Please, don't feel obligated to exploit our nation's resources just for that soft glow.

letters

varying viewpoints

Milton's motives

Dear Editor:

As most everyone has probably heard, our beloved governor Milton Shapp desires to become President of these United States. How in Hades he ever got that notion into his little head is way beyond me. It appears that the cable-t.v. millionaire is not merely content to screw up the state of Pennsylvania, but now must attempt to apply his muddled talents nationwide.

One must question Milton's motives for such a move, taken in the face of incredible if not insurmountable odds. Shapp has already been bestowed with the outstanding honor of being named the "Longest of the Long Shots" in a recent issue of Newsweek. There exists a large amount of skepticism as to whether he can even carry his very own state of Pennsylvania in the primaries. His very own state! Of course, Milton admits, he has been ready and willing to run for the Presidency for years. Now if only he were able...

It seems safe to remark that the majority of us Keystone State citizens feel a relatively sharp twinge of dissatisfaction when faced with Shapp's antics. His highway administration has somehow and with incredible ease managed to defy one of the most basic and principal laws of mathematics. Take a 2 hour drive and it won't be long before you discover that the shortest distance between two points is either under construction or under repair—Temporary Improvement, Permanent

Inconvenience.

Milton has planned to center his campaign on the economy, which is interesting in itself. There has been in existence (in case all you apathetic individuals out there didn't know) an increased state-wide effort to curb the Commonwealth's spending. We at Behrend have witnessed this personally, as it has ultimately resulted in increased costs of University room, board, and tuition. Rumor now has it that snowplowing will be severely limited at times this winter because funds for this service are being slashed to a somewhat limiting amount. While Shapp cries "cut the spending!!" an interesting thing is occurring back at the bank. Our tax monies start to accumulate at a somewhat rapid pace, waiting for that grand and glorious moment when Milton can turn to the public, point to an impressive budget in the black, and proudly proclaim, "See how efficient I run my state? Let me do the same for the nation." It seems Shapp stands for only those things which he thinks we will fall for.

Presidential races have always caused particular people to play games with anything and everything within reach. Is Milton playing games with us? His bid for the Presidency is a joke. Unfortunately it is not a very funny one. Why doesn't Milton get serious and stop wasting his, and more importantly, our time?????????

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Planned urbanization for future

By Robert Radziszewski
Reston, Va., is located 30 miles west of Washington, D.C., but that is not what is unique about this town.

Reston is one of America's "New Towns". It was built from scratch, a city designed to blend with its environment.

Reston is surrounded by and includes countless numbers of trees within its center city. It has a man-made lake upon which is built the Lake Anne Village Center, a pedestrian mall much like that of Erie. Reston is a town which gives its inhabitants something they need most: the advantages of a big city without the stripping away of nature.

Reston is not alone as a planned city. Columbia, Maryland is another example of the urban future.

Columbia is built on 15,000 acres of land between Baltimore and Washington DC. Columbia goes even farther, however, in

providing comfort for its residents than Reston.

Columbia has a city-wide health insurance plan which offers comprehensive health care including doctors, hospital treatment, and other medical aid at relatively low costs.

Columbia also has made great strides in education, implementing many new ideas into its modern schools. Three universities are also located in Columbia, offering adults a chance for higher education.

Columbia is still on its way up as a new town. Industries are to be built in this city to provide many needed jobs for the predicted 1980 population of 110,000 people (a city roughly Erie's size).

Columbia has problems, of course, like many other cities. Crimes such as burglary are rather frequent and drug traffic is heavy at times. But Columbia stands as a glint of hope in an

otherwise dark urban future.

Certainly, one cannot simply raze all of America's vast cities and rebuild them from nothing. The fact is, however, that some of the ideas used in building Reston and Columbia can be implemented in rebuilding the crumbling inner cities of America.

A new Collegian editor is needed for spring term.

If interested, stop by our office for more information.

Behrend Collegian

Member of

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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.

