

A Word From Our President

T. Clyde Kennedy
Pres. SGA

A mature woman is capable and legally permitted to become ripe with a new life. The most responsible chore that could possibly be endowed on a human would have to be the task of raising a new human and orienting this future citizen towards a prosperous and fruitful lifetime. No simple step one, two, three action. This being is depending on one woman. If she goes wrong, a criminal or socially unadaptable creature may evolve. This is a very serious matter.

A mature, and sometimes not so mature, young man can legally be forced to go to war against an unforeseeable enemy. He can be forced to live under rigid regulations in a jungle: his mind never free from the constant perils of paranoia. At any moment a being he has never known or seen may spring at him bearing weapons with the intent to inflict bodily harm. The G.I. has two choices, one of which is to be killed. The other, is to kill this man he has never met before. Not only to kill but to disfigure and utterly tear him apart with a powerful machine capable of penetrating concrete. Under different circumstances these two humans could become the best of friends, but instead they are following orders that pit them in a life and death confrontation

The woman and the man are considered mature enough to bear these extremely responsible positions: life and death matters. The woman could steer a new human in a socially negative direction or die during the act of giving birth. The man, in the act of bloody war, can be killed or possibly have both of his legs ripped mercilessly from his body.

These persons have many things in common. The obvious commonalities which I will not mention and the fact that neither of them is allowed to legally consume alcohol. If you are under twenty-one, **YOU CAN DIE A TERRIBLE DEATH**, but you cannot drink beer in the state of Pennsylvania

The young man could roll into a bar astride his wheelchair, but he can not have a beer. The country he has served and paid dearly for is giving him a severe "kick in the face" as his reward.

I think it is high time to rid our overburdened society of this ultra conservative law. Are we really adults? We are unlike some adults. What separates these adults from us? A non-sensical law? Yes! Don a mental garment bearing liberal characteristics, you can help change this unjust law and

...YOU CAN DIE BUT YOU CAN'T DRINK.



campus. They don't carry loaded weapons around with them on campus, threatening us with bodily harm. The only rifles they come into contact with are wooden ones, the same ones by the way, that most high school marching bands use

By condemning the activities of the R.O.T.C. members we are contradicting the very system we preach free choice. The students here at Behrend should have the right to choose whatever organizations they want to join. I feel that until the day comes where the R.O.T.C. organizations directly infringe on my personal rights, they should be allowed to continue their activities without a lot of grief from the student body. It's only fair

As I See It

Last year, many of us "concerned" students felt that it was very appropriate to attack the R.O.T.C. program here at Behrend. I have thought long and hard about what I said and I've drawn some conclusions that are very different from the ones that I drew in my more radical sophomore year.

What right do any of us have to condemn an organization or any member of an organization for doing what they like to do? As long as a group of people can carry out their activities without bringing on other people's rights, they should be allowed to continue. By harassing the members of this organization we are bringing on their personal rights, the very thing we said they did to us by their presence on

A challenge for crooks

By Janet Mazur
Managing Editor

If you're a returning student, you've no doubt noticed the elaborate metal structure located at the library's entrance. When this happens, and what's the purpose of this paraphernalia? Well, over the summer, the library installed Checkpoint, a detection system which monitors unauthorized removal of pre-conditioned library property. The purpose of it is not only to catch would be pillerers, but to protect the collection against unauthorized removals, to minimize financial loss, to help control circulation and lastly, to maximize library service to all users. Why has it been installed? In the past seven years, loss of library materials has been overwhelming. The average annual loss in book volumes (this excludes journals) from 1969-70 through 1971-72 was 1.3 per cent per year. In 1973-74, the loss rose

to 700 volumes or 2 per cent of the library's collection. In 1974-75, the loss in dollars amounted to about \$7,514. The checkpoint system could be expected to prevent 90 per cent of the theft, an approximate gross savings per year (assuming the average annual losses would otherwise remain at about 2 per cent) of about \$6,760.00

Now, what exactly is checkpoint? It's a completely safe and harmless electronic detection system which monitors unauthorized removal of pre-conditioned books, periodicals and audio visual materials. The system is completely harmless and requires less power than is needed to light a 25 watt bulb. Passing through checkpoint is as safe as standing next to a transistor radio, and will not erase magnetic tapes, cassettes, film, etc. Although it monitors through bags, brief cases, and

Letters

varying viewpoints

Note: This article appeared in the Daily Collegian on September 9, 1976. It was written by a former Behrend student.

TO THE EDITOR: Although most students on this campus are opposed to the University's present policy of strictly enforcing drinking regulations, several strategies recently proposed by USG to alleviate this problem are nothing short of ridiculous.

First, USG proposes a challenge to campus police by throwing a large booze blast in an East Halls quad. This would be a blatant violation of University regulation and I would not pity anyone who was arrested during this event.

Secondly, USG calls for a coalition to seek out tailgate

parties at Beaver Stadium where booze is being consumed, and arrest those involved. Their theory is that outraging the Penn State alumni will force the University to change its policy concerning student drinking. Personally, I see no connection between the two.

The real problem facing us is that the state law prohibits the consumption of alcoholic beverages by "minors", those of us under the age of 21. With 36,000 students on this campus and another 14,000 on the branch campuses, we carry a large potential voice in state politics. If we can properly influence the state legislators, maybe we will see a lowering of the drinking age sometime in the near future. Until then, keep parties low key

and don't try to attract attention. If we all act as responsible adults, the University might slacken its present policy of enforcement.

Instead of challenging campus police and angering the alumni, I think W.T. Williams and his masterminds in USG should type up a form letter which every student could address to their representative and/or congressman. We should have learned in the late 60's that a peaceful revolution achieves much more than a violent one.

Roger Zanes
7th-Earth Sciences
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This space is reserved for letters to the editor. All letters submitted by noon on Monday will be printed uncensored provided they are signed and contain your term standing and major. This is your chance to voice your views to the entire Behrend community. Don't just lay back, stand up and say something.

What Confusion?

by Jean Porac
Collegian Staff Writer

Erie Hall was the scene of mass confusion on Friday, September 3, (known to Behrend students as Registration Day.) It was to be the fastest registration in the history of this institution. It was definitely the most confusing. After a late start, (a mere half hour), the first of the students were herded in. The looks of relief on their faces soon turned into looks of despair as they tried to figure out which table to approach. There were only 30 to choose from. So, what to do? Follow the crowd - chances were that your group would end up in the right place. To ask someone who looked official was hopeless - you received either a shrug or were totally ignored. Isn't this what you've always yearned for, to be completely "on your own"? Miracle of miracles - you found the correct line! Next, you were given your stack of computer cards. Next table - more cards. By the time all cards were collected, you needed a personal computer to sort them. Time to see the final checker - this requires another half hour wait. And what's the result? Finding out that you're missing a card, a signature, and ID, or perhaps everything. Once again, you begin the vicious cycle. Finally, you were released from the four walls of Erie Hall and the mess known as registration.

Big Changes

by Nancy Anderson
Collegian Staff Writer

As you carelessly lounged about this summer, far removed from the world of Behrend, several important changes took place. The most significant of these is the new security system that was installed in the Library. According to Benjamin A. Lane, Dean of Student Affairs, a new Baldwin Grand piano was purchased and will be used for upcoming concerts. The most noticeable change on campus, however, are the walkways

extending from Niagara Hall to Reed Building and the removal of the magic phones in the dorms. The tennis courts also were repaved.

When asked about possible future changes, Dean Lane explained that an Academic building is planned to be located on the ski slope behind the Behrend building. Once approved, construction should begin shortly thereafter. In addition to this, a new library is being planned in which case the present library will be changed into a recreation room.

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.

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