

OPINION PAGE

Letters

varying viewpoints

To the Editor:

Why do you people of the dorms, students, and R.A.'s always seem to think of Perry Hall as a rowdy, dirty, obnoxious slum? You are always, I mean always, getting down on us fellow students and friends for living in the friendliest, most comfortable dorm at Behrend College.

Where else but Perry
Where's the place
Everyone goes?
Where's the place
Everyone knows
Where there's fun
Enjoyment, friends?
Where else, but Perry!

Where's the place
On a Friday night
That seems the logical spot
For Niagara to fight?
Or where's the place
All the students pick
When they all get drunk
And, oh, soooo sick?
Where else, but Perry!

Where's the place
Students pick on
Until almost everything
Is so far gone?
Where's the place
For everyone to wreck
And then leave it
And think "What the heck!"
Where else, but Perry!

Where's the place
On weekdays is clean
'Til Friday night comes
And you ruin our sheen?
And where's the place
Students destroy
And then just laugh
In all this joy?
Where else but Perry!

So when your Friday comes at last

And you go out to have your blast

Just remember this is our sweet home

And go back and ruin your own!!!

A Proud Perryite
Kathy Morton
"Mort"

(To the editor:) Behrend College seems to be somewhat of an island within the Erie community. When the people of Erie think of college they think Gannon right away. Occasionally they might mention Mercyhurst

or even Villa Maria Colleges, also. Behrend, however, is the last school people of Erie think of when they think of college—if they think of Behrend at all.

Last year there were a number of commentaries in the Collegian involving the isolationism of Behrend College, a problem that still exists. It seems those articles were written in vain.

Last January, a Collegian editorial told of the absence of an article about Behrend in the annual Erie Progress Report published by the Erie Times-News. It expressed disappointment in the fact because other area colleges had articles written for the report. The editorial urged the college to incorporate a larger public relations program to let the people of Erie know what the college is doing.

This year, again, the annual progress report contained articles and ads from area colleges and, again, it contained no articles or ads from Behrend, with the exception of a few short releases about continuing education programs. This year, still, the people of Erie think of Gannon when they think of college. And when they do think of Behrend they think Behrend Campus or even Behrend Center - many people are not aware it is a four-year college now.

Behrend College is growing fast and has great potential. The isolation of Behrend hinders ties with the community and the factions within it. To bolster community awareness of the school would benefit both Behrend and the Erie community.

It would not take much for the director of the college to write a short article once a year on what the school has done and what its future plans are. It would also be well worth it to hire a full-time public relations staff that puts out more than just bulletins about continuing education programs.

Why not ask Dean Lane to write a history of Behrend College for the Weekender or Sunday Magazine? (I think he would be able to do an expert job.)

Paul A. Corbran
8th Term- Journalism
University Park

(Ed. note: the author served as editor-in-chief, of the Behrend Collegian, last year 76-77. Additionally, in Behrend College's

Faculty Bulletin dated February 14, 1977, a new position, Assistant director for University relations, similar to that which Paul recommends, has been advertised).

To the editor:

Some students are critical of the teaching techniques used by a faculty member. Little does a student realize that many factors may enter into the evaluation of teaching. Undoubtedly, the best teacher is the teacher who has a small sized class. In such a class, when the students is requested to study an assignment and to do other tasks outside of class, the student feels that it is his obligation to attend class fully prepared. On the other hand, consider the student in a class of a hundred or more. Neither the student nor the professor find it easy to establish a rapport in class. In many cases, the student often feels that it is not necessary to study and to be adequately prepared. He feels that the best time to study (i.e. cram) is prior to an examination. Such academic techniques often result in lower grades, which are most often blamed on the performance of the instructor.

On Saturday, February 4, when classes were made-up for the Tuesday missed due to the winter snow, attendance was quite poor. Certainly, some of the absenteeism was due to employment. However, not all students have jobs, particularly the dormitory students. This is evidence on the part of the students. Also, not one of those students missing class would be willing to throw away \$3.00. Since the tuition is \$345 per term, if a student is carrying 11 credits, each class costs that student about \$3.00. Failure to attend class and to acquire as much knowledge as possible in each class is, in essence, a financial loss.

Faculty members at Behrend College are primarily interested in the academic achievement of their students. Since learning is an individual process, each student should have one objective and that is to achieve the best grades possible. The professor can only guide. The student must take the initiative!

Louis W. Balmer
Associate Professor
Of Chemistry

Inexpensive Skiing

(Ski Industries of America)—There is a mythical belief that skiing is a rich man's sport affordable only by the most affluent members of society.

Let's set the record straight. Most skiers are not wealthy. Far from it. They come from different walks of life and different economic backgrounds, ranging from students who are still in school or struggling to meet next semester's tuition to retired people living on fixed income.

The simple fact is that you can learn to ski in a week and enjoy a vacation and do it for as little as \$100. and that you can continue to ski for less than you would ever believe possible.

A random approach to learning to ski can cost both time and money, but if you follow a few basic rules you'll enjoy lots of inexpensive good times on the slopes in the years to come.

RENT YOUR EQUIPMENT - The new skier should not buy any ski equipment until he knows what types of skis best suit him, what boots are most comfortable, what ski poles are the right length.

Rent your equipment preferably at a ski area that knows what kind of a skier you are. You should be outfitted with equipment designed specifically to make it easier to learn to ski. If you rent from a ski school that specializes in teaching beginners, the chances are the rental fee will be part of the instruction cost, and that saves you money.

Don't start by buying fancy clothes. You don't need them. Fashionable

ski wear comes later, after you have earned the right to wear it by learning to ski.

When you go skiing for the first

Winter Fantasy

(continued from page 1)

Only the winter wind and the swish-swish of falling snow are heard. Why am I here when other animals are not? Do they know something I do not? I think for a moment that the intelligent animals must be sleeping. But no, the intelligent ones are here.

We watch the world sleep and learn some beautiful songs. We bow back to the arched trees and break the virgin snow cautiously, daring not to taint it for Mother Nature is at her best, dressed in white satin and blushing like a bride.

She beckons us to watch her, to witness her rebirth, and to listen to her songs and fury and realize that they are one. She flaunts her power by surrounding us with winded breath and bathing us in white. Teeming with awareness, we salute her elegance.

"IN THE MIDST OF WINTER I FINALLY LEARNED THAT THERE WAS IN ME AN INVINCIBLE SUMMER."

Thanks for the inspiration, Ronny.

time, try to go skiing for a week, Monday through Friday, at one resort on a ski vacation package; not a weekend if you can help it, but for 4 or 5 days mid-week. Select a resort that offers a ski vacation package designed for beginners. The most complete ski vacation packages will include:

- 1) A week of ski lessons - two hours or more a day for five days, and sometimes using helpful videotape reviews.
- 2) Ski tickets for five days, good on all lifts.
- 3) Rental of ski equipment (if you need it, and if you do, short skis probably).
- 4) Lodging and meals.

Next, look at the price. A ski week can be purchased for as little as \$100 at small or medium-sized areas, higher at areas with more facilities. You really can learn to ski for \$100. That means \$20.00 a day for five days.

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 repetitious 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.

Behrend Collegian

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As I See It

by Kurt Cavano
Executive Editor

All too often, great people are not known until their obituaries appear in the local newspaper and it's too late. With this in mind, consider there is one all-around "good guy" who deserves to have his good deeds published while he's still around to read them. He's the type of guy that would do anything for anyone, and wouldn't demand anything in return.

Believe it or not, this man is a member of the Behrend College staff, "Uncle" Bob Finley. He's

called "Uncle" because he treats everyone like one of the family and consequently is extremely well liked by the students who know him.

Mr. Findley is always around campus to make sure things get done. I don't mean he does extra work around campus between 9 and 5, but that he spends weekends and evenings on campus doing things that I'm sure aren't in his contract. Some examples are his coming up on week-ends to get the Ski Lift running, or coming to the dorm in

the evening to install the Magic Phone.

When some dummy shorted out the power on third floor Lawrence, Mr. Finley came to Behrend at 3:00 in the morning to straighten that out. He also does a lot of other things like fixing broken heaters, unjamming jammed locks, and even taking the food service employees water-skiing at the end of the year. What can I say? Actions speak louder than words. How about a big hand for Mr. Bob Finley?