

OPINION PAGE

HELP YOURSELF Help the Collegian

The Behrend Collegian almost failed to come out this week.

Monday night, as we looked over the articles and other copy that could go into this issue, we realized that we were far short of a full four pages. Some of the staff felt that if we could not put out a product we could be happy with, we were better off not publishing at all.

However, we decided that we had made a commitment at the beginning of the term to have an issue of The Collegian every week, and were going to try as hard as possible to meet that commitment.

We are not happy with this issue. We know that some of the articles on the front page belong elsewhere in the paper. We know that our fourth page should contain news, not a plea for help. We would like to have more advertising. In general, we want to give you more news, covered in greater depth.

None of this is possible without some more help. Full time students (and, incidentally, a full time faculty member) cannot continue to give twenty or thirty hours of work a week to the newspaper. Important as we think a campus newspaper is. The work needs to be divided among a greater number of people, especially if the paper is to be of a satisfactory quality.

There are many reasons for having a campus newspaper.

Most importantly it does the work by itself of several other avenues for communicating information to the campus community.

Of course, you can get information on some activities on campus from the SUB calendar, though that calendar by its very nature can only give sketchy information about events. You can also make a habit of scanning publicity posters.

You can consult the Erie newspaper about events that might interest you. Then you can

R-E-S-P-E-C-T by Holly MacTaggart

The way people bust up furniture in the dorms is disgusting. High spirits after a big party in the dorms or "just for fun" is a stupid reason to damage property.

Furniture is not the only thing being wrecked either, windows, lampposts, security doors, pop machines, bathrooms and T.V. rooms are all subject to this violence.

Now mentally add together the costs of reassembling the place after the damage and you will see one of the reasons for ever soaring tuition.

I enjoy a good time, but not at the expense of others. This "fun" also gives Behrend College a bad name with local companies such as Pepsi, Coke, Security Systems, etc.

Hard as it may be, the next time you feel compelled to destroy something, think about others. Beat up your own property, but stay away from mine and others!

see your advisor or look at the TV screens for academic information. You can hope to find out about sports from the Erie paper.

The Behrend Collegian can do all this and more for you. It can offer a way for you to air your complaints, perhaps even to get something done about problems you feel exist at Behrend.

These are mostly reasons for the importance of a student newspaper to a campus community. But working on the paper can help you in a much more personal way.

Such work does not offer only the satisfaction of a job well done, hopefully. When you look for a job after you graduate, you may already know that a prospective employer does not look only at your major and grade point average.

For one thing, an employer will often want some evidence that you are an active person, concerned about improving yourself and willing to do something extra to help others. Someone who has no more to show for four years of his life than a major and some grades will hardly appear to have the drive and ambition to do anything more than routine jobs, and even routine jobs can be hard to come by.

So working on the newspaper gives you something to put down on job application forms or to mention in interviews.

Newspaper work can also help

YOU MIGHT GET SHOT BY Nina Siegel

A shutter bug has bitten a group of our Behrend clan. The entire campus and populace is being shop up, down, and sideways by crazy folk running around with little metal boxes strung around their necks. The reason for this, besides the spring air which always gives our hyper friends an extra added boost, is that photography is THE in class this term. Next fall, an advanced course will be offered.

The few students lucky enough to get the class (12 is the limit) are learning about camera structure, lenses, shutter speeds, f-stops composition, film development, and printing.

The first problem of beginning photographers is that we don't know what to shoot, what will make a good picture. There is a difference between what looks good through the eyes and what looks good as a photograph. Consequently, until we learn this fine distinction, we shoot everything and everybody.

As we budding photographers run rampant taking potshots at everyone, I feel it's only fair to warn Behrendites. Last week in the cafeteria I took a few random pictures of students and received a couple of funny, annoyed looks—books in front of faces, etc.

To all of you out there—don't worry. To quote Candid Camera, "We're only trying to catch you in the act of being yourselves."

to develop skills that may be important to you in the future. If advertising or public relations areas interest you, what better experience than to hustle ads, sometimes even help to put them together.

Many jobs require clear, concise writing. Writing newspaper articles can help to train you in this way.

Some articles require that you do some interviewing, an experience that can teach you how to prepare for your own interviews later on and can also help to build your confidence.

Remember that you need not be experienced in any area of journalism to be able to help us on the paper. Even if you feel that you write too poorly to help with the news reporting, you can either count on some help from me and members of the staff, or you can do something else for us.

I really don't believe that students fail to work on newspapers because they are apathetic. I think they fail to do so because they don't see the ways in which their participation can give them any personal rewards, yet those rewards are nonetheless there.

And you will get a fifteen per cent commission on any ads you find for us!

As we mentioned in the last issue, you can contact us either by stopping in at the Collegian Office in the RUB, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., or by calling me in my office (ext 216) or at home (899-8988).

We are trying to contact those who have signed up to help us, but sometimes have trouble reaching them. If you are one of those students, please stop by. Help yourselves by helping us.

IF KISSES ARE 25¢. by Connie Pukanic

Saturday Night March 17, saw Behrend Students in "good spirits" at Perry Hall's "St. Patty's Day Party" sponsored by the girls on first floor Perry. Proceeds benefit JRC and WRIE Children's Fund.

"Kiss me, I'm Irish" was the petition from the kissing booth. Kissers and kissees exchanged affections for 25 cents, netting \$60 (or 240 kisses!) for WRIE Children's Fund. That means, on the average, every person at the party was kissed at least once.

The kissing booth was not only enjoyable to patronize but also very interesting to observe as the participants showed few inhibitions.

Virtually all the girls on first floor Perry contributed to the success of the party, especially the Decorating committee, who hung everything from rainbows to Irish Verse on the walls. Recognition should also go to the Publicity, Refreshment, Sound, and Clean-up committees.

Everyone there seemed to have a great time. Those with Irish background at the party had no trouble showing others how to celebrate the Spirit of St. Patrick.

Letters

varying viewpoints

Shake, Rattle, 'N' Hole

It's too bad that Pennsylvania can't sell potholes; its revenue would jump ten million dollars. It seems that the familiar ruts in our roads are as common as acne but even more unpleasant.

I'm one to do the usual griping and complaining when my car gets bounced around, but last week my automobile was plummeted into darkness. For a moment I thought St. Peter would be reading my rights, but lo and behold (much to my surprise) it was a deep chasm in the left lane of the westbound lane of I-90 by the State Line Exit.

"Just your basic pothole," I thought as I proceeded to pay \$20 to get my car towed, \$30 for a front end alignment, and \$50 for front tires. Then I was on my merry way.

I then passed a friendly Penn-DOT truck at about 3:30 in the afternoon, parked, and saw that the men were eating lunch, and apparently had been since 12:30. I honked and waved.

A friend of mine turned to me and asked what that rattle was in my car. I asked him which rattle he was talking about. Funny. My

car had always purred like a kitten before I entered the Keystone State.

I reflected upon the Bible as my car was being taken to that great Broken Axle in the sky, and thought to myself that God plagued Egypt with fire, turned water into blood, and cast locusts upon the people. How mighty His wrath must have been. However, the Lord could have broken the Pharaoh's spirit much more quickly with a few well-placed potholes.

Tim Kenney

ROTC Flies High

The faculty and cadets of the Army ROTC Department extend their thanks to Director Kochel for providing funds for the ROTC picnic on Saturday, March 10.

The entire campus and surrounding community was awakened to the thunder of helicopter blades early (??) Saturday morning as a "HUEY" helicopter from Fort Belvoir, Virginia, arrived to provide overflights of the area for the Cadet Corps. The chopper was piloted by Lieutenant Konwinski, a native of Erie and an ROTC graduate from Kent State.

After waiting for about an hour for the clouds to lift, Lt. Konwinski and his crew flew thirteen sorties for the cadets. Course add slips were made available to twelve Behrend students who decided they could endure a term of military science in exchange for a ride, making a total of 65 people who got a chance to see Behrend College and Erie from the air.

In conjunction with the helicopter rides, hot dogs and munchies were provided by Dr. Kochel and the staff of Dobbins for everyone present. In spite of the slightly chilly weather, everyone had a great time, both on the ground and in the air.

It is hoped that next time the rides will be available to everyone on the campus. The next helicopter event is tentatively scheduled for next fall.

Editorial Policy

The editorials appearing in this newspaper are opinions and we invite criticism. All letters that are typewritten of 200 words or less and submitted to the newspaper staff may 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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