

EDITORIALS

Library Woes

By Chuck Beckman

There are problems currently with the Behrend Library that need correction. Specifically, they involve a lack of training the work-study students are currently receiving. A few examples follow:

One night two weeks ago I visited the library to pay a fine on an overdue book. The person behind the desk clearly was confused about a procedure as simple as paying a fine. I eventually had to tell that person where the receipt book and change were kept.

More recently, a fellow student asked the person at the library desk if he would pull an article from the reserve shelf. To the student's dismay, the library worker informed him that the article wasn't on the reserve file. However, a phone call from the professor the next day confirmed the fact that there was not one, but two copies of the article on the reserve shelf.

Now, we understand about the high turnover of the work-study positions. We also fully support the idea of work-study people staffing these positions. But as with any job, the employee should thoroughly understand his responsibilities.

The students, after all, are at the mercy of the library, and we shouldn't have to question the staff's ability to serve them.

Bonzonomics

By John Skrzypczak

He has done it again. Ronnie's cuts — Reaganomics. I call it Bonzonomics, because Ronald is making a monkey out of you and me. Mr. Reagan's reductions flew right through Congress with little or no opposition. He promised us cutbacks and he kept his word. The problem is there are two kinds of cuts — good ones and bad ones.

First, there were the good ones. The tax cuts — sure, fine, everyone likes those. Then social security cuts. Wait a minute you say, I think that's a bad one. I'm old (not me in particular) and I need social security. Well, Mr. Reagan jumped back a little because of the opposition. However, he concentrated his efforts on something else. He started hitting other budgets, those on welfare, different interest groups, the poor, the old, and the YOUNG.

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Too bad!! The students of higher education are going to be stepped on again, real soon. It may have already happened by the time you read this. Student loans are getting chopped bad by Bonzonomics. Small colleges, black colleges, and others may have to pack it up. The lack of government aid and student loans will make it tough for many of us to go to school. Soon only the wealthy will be able to attend college. Gee, sounds familiar.

Where's ole Ron (sorry, no disrespect meant) going to stop? Well, as long as the voters who elected him in (step forward you people) don't say anything, he'll continue to chop and chop. The tax cuts went through the working class, the old (with some protest), the welfare users and abusers; now he's back to us. Don't you think that right now it's time to say something?

What I'm trying to get at is that it seems no one reacts to anything in their governments until it hits them in the face. Or worse still the pocketbook. These education grant reductions are the student's cue to what Mr. Beckman (Collegian co-writer) has predicted as a new rise in student opposition.

I'll admit that I am somewhat guilty of apathy regarding politics. However, I'm a Democrat and have been against Reaganomics from the start and am now even more opposed. What was just a drip in cuts is now a flood. I mean, now people have to stick their fingers in the dike. Mr. Reagan is monkeying around with everyone's budget.

I don't know about you but those loans and grants have kept me in school. However, come next term things look bleak without that aid. So here begins my start in opposition to Bonzonomics. It's time for the old letter to my congressperson. Marc Lincoln Marks (108 U.S. Court House) is the man for this district. These small pieces of paper have unbelievable power when stacked all together.

Considering we are supposedly one step ahead in evolution of the monkey and do possess the ability to write, now is a good time to prove it.

The Two Stooges?

No. The editors aren't pawns of the Administration, although up until now it may have appeared that way. What we try to do at the Collegian is to gather information, hearsay or factual, try to decide which is factual, and try not to print hearsay. It sounds easier than it really is.

So if we've seemed to be Administration oriented, it's because right now they're feeding us factual information. And if you spot an occasional pro-Behrend Editorial, it's because we like Behrend. And, in regard to the Administration, they're nice guys, too. Sometimes, though, we don't like their policies, and when we don't, you'll hear about it.

O.K., now for your part. The Collegian is an outlet for news of and opinions from the Administration, the students, and the faculty. If something here on campus either pleases or appals you, stop in our office (in Reed) during the lunch hour Monday through Friday, and let us know about it. After all, we can't report something happening (or not happening) if we're not aware of it ...

Behrend Briefs

by Chuck Beckman

British author David Attenborough will be on campus this Saturday, October 24, to film a segment of his new natural history series, "Life On Earth."

The, historian, whose book "Life On Earth" (Little-Brown Publishers) is a best-seller in Great Britain, is currently working through WQLN TV, a PBS affiliate based in Erie.

The format of "Life On Earth," according to Jack Burke, Associate Dean of Behrend, will resemble that of "Cosmos," a popular series starring astronomer Carl Sagan which was broadcast last year.

WQLN hopes to distribute the complete "Life On Earth" series on a national level. WQLN has been successful in the past, having marketed the popular "Free To Choose" series with conservative economist Milton Friedman.

Dr. Charles Redenius, associate professor of political science, is a Visiting Fellow at the University of Reading, Reading, England, for the 1981-82 academic year.

Dr. Redenius, whose book "The American Ideal of Equality" has just become available, announced in a recent letter to the Collegian, that he's had two papers accepted for presentation at the University of East Anglia, and one at the University of Kent.

In addition, Dr. Redenius is

planning a trip to Brussels, Belgium, October 26-27 to sit in on a NATO briefing "to learn about the Soviet Threat." He says that his sabbatical "has gotten off to a good start."

Ms. Jenny Graves is teaching Dr. Redenius' classes for this academic year.

PLAYWRIGHT EDWARD ALBEE'S — "Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolff?" will be performed at Mercyhurst College, October 30 and 31 and again on November 6, 7, and 8. This production will feature Behrend's theatre director, Paul Iddings, as George. Also, the playwright Edward Albee will be in residence giving a lecture on the 29th, a creative writing workshop on the 30th (limited to 50 participants), and he will offer remarks after opening night to the audience with a reception for Mr. Albee following his remarks. (There are two free full length previews on October 27 and 28). For more information/reservations, call 825-4000.

There is a Pumpkin Sale in progress in the Reed Lobby outside the Bookstore. This sale, sponsored by Lambda Sigma Society, will continue until October 23. Entries for a pumpkin carving contest will be accepted at the booth on Thursday, from 12-5. Cash prizes will be awarded to those funniest, ugliest, and most original pumpkins.

Things They Don't Teach In College...

By Claire DeSantis

The other day, while sprawled out on the ground overlooking the Wintergreen Gorge, a thought occurred to me. Why do we have eyebrows? What purpose do they serve? I rolled onto my side carefully, trying to keep my philosophy book from tipping off the ledge. My friend was on her back, staring vacantly at two leaves caught in an updraft.

"Jackie?"

"Hmmm?" she replied, without moving.

"Jack, did you ever wonder why we have eyebrows? I mean, why does hair grow horizontal to your eye? They just don't seem necessary."

Jackie chuckled. She didn't chuckle. She laughed hard.

"I guess it's to keep dirt out of your eyes," she said.

"No, I just don't buy that. Maybe at one time, but, hey, we're not in the desert anymore so why do we have eyelashes?" I rationalized.

"But they must do something. The theory of Use-Disuse states that they would, or should, fall off if they don't have a purpose. Maybe we haven't evolved far enough yet. Or maybe I messed the theory all up. That's more like it. Maybe they are there to

furrow — so people know you're worried about something. Maybe God, in his infinite foresight realized that someday people would need glasses. Eyebrows might be built-in padding in case you get hit in the face. I don't know, even reciting the alphabet becomes difficult when I ponder things like this."

Needless to say, it was a pointless conversation. But the question stuck with me throughout the day. It's not bad enough that they are there, but they're ugly. And even though they are ugly — and few people would deny that — women still feel compelled to groom them. I'll never understand why they do that. Men don't and their vision isn't impaired. Most likely, some British Monarch Queen did it for kicks and it stuck.

Whether it be a technical reason for eyebrows, or a cosmetic reason for them, or no reason at all, they are still there. And whether you accept them or deny them, the fact still remains — Brooke Shields is a very rich woman.

The Collegian welcomes any and all comments regarding eyebrow theories.

SUB Talent Show

Overall, the SUB Student/Faculty Talent Show was a big success. The show, presented Sunday, October 17, in the Reed Lecture Hall, lasted from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., with approximately 150 people in attendance.

Those students participating included a piano, guitar and song duo of Chris and Cathy performing "Stairway To Heaven," Phil Larson playing guitar and singing, a piece by Dave McCracken on piano, one man singing, "If You Could Read My Mind, Love," Joe Fornear on guitar with some gospel songs, and Alison and Sue Richardson doing "Dueling Fire" baton twirling.

After intermission, the concluding acts included "Lapevich," a rock band, Debbie Duer and friend playing and singing an original song by Debbie, and the night closed with "The Statesmen," Behrend's own octet providing their harmony to three songs.

Brian Palmer acted as Emcee for the show, doing an excellent job.

One problem in the talent show was the lack of faculty support, attendance, and involvement. Said one student, "I was very impressed with the student talent, although I was disappointed in not seeing any faculty members participating. I can't imagine there not being any faculty talent on campus."

There were no prizes awarded for those participating, although the co-ordinators would like to thank all those involved.

Commuter Corner

By Sharyn Phillips

Every Monday at 12:10 p.m., the Commuter Council meets in the RUB Seminar Room. Problems faced by commuters are discussed and some projects aimed at alleviating these problems are being worked on.

One of these projects is the organization of a carpool. Sign-up sheets have been placed outside the Records Office and drivers as well as riders can sign up there. When signing up, make note of the others in your area to contact them about schedules and specific routes. The more students that take advantage of these sign-up sheets, the more useful the system will be.

There will be a dance sponsored by the Commuter Council on November 7, from 9 p.m. to 12 p.m. Lance Edwards will D.J. "Oldies but Goodies" with hits from the 50's, 60's and 70's in the Gorge Cafeteria. The donation will be singles-50 cents and couples-75 cents. Dress appropriately and come join the fun.

Behrend Collegian

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