

EDITORIALS

Behrend Goes X-Rated

By: Claire DeSantis

So, Behrend College is planning an X-rated movie, huh? Sounds interesting, at least conceptually it is. As far as enjoyment of an art form, I can't say much for the idea.

This sounds like the product of one of those brainstorming forums they teach you about when you're becoming a leader. Some guy from the back of the room chides in something about, "Let's show a porn flick," and all of the boys laugh hysterically, but dollar signs flash in somebody's eyes up in the front, and though most of the crowd shrugs it off and rolls their eyes, someone in the crowd still believes it's a real money-maker.

So that's how the wheels begin to turn, and isn't that just like business? Surely, I can understand the need to make ends meet. None of the organizations on campus ever gets the money they feel they need. That's just the way it goes. Running a club or an organization is comparable to a three credit course in improvising. It is probably one of the most important lessons you'll ever learn about financial matters. It's not what you have, it's how you use it.

Anyway, this whole X-rated movie deal has the campus buzzing. There are those who say it isn't Christian, those who say it isn't congruent with the ethics of the college, those who say it is blatant exploitation of women.

Well, they are all right, and all entitled to their own opinion, and I am in total agreement with all of them. Especially the part about the exploitation of women. But whether or not I am in agreement with these factions or not, the bottom line is that it is, indeed, a money maker. More students are going just because they are curious. That's o.k. too, because whatever the reason for the projected large attendance, they money will roll in. And isn't that what campus clubs and organizations are all about?

Come to think of it, maybe the Collegian should run an all-pornographic issue, just to get the readership up. Maybe the adult bookstores in the Erie area would consider bolstering our advertising budget. But then, maybe sex should be seen and read.

There is a great deal to be said for the issue at hand. There is also a great deal to be left unsaid. One way or the other, it is sure to keep the students on their toes, give those who are interested something to do this weekend.

As far as this editor is concerned, entertainment certainly is taking a new look at Behrend College. SUB insists that this is the one and only time something like this will be shown. That's comforting. I guess X-rated movies are comparable to prime time television. Another case of "give the people what they want." By the looks of "what the people want," there is certainly no challenge to programming. Quality is not the question. So public television struggles on, and I'm sure, if you'll allow me the chance to project a little, SUB will take a tidy sum to the bank next week.

For those of you who wonder if I ever take a solid stand on anything, I try to be as objective as possible, and this is one of those cases where I'd like to give each faction the benefit of the doubt. If you really are curious about my stand on this issue, well, read between these lines. Buried somewhere in there are the words, "It's a pretty cheap shot guys, but at least it's your organization and not mine."

Behrend Collegian

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Give The Senior, A Break, O.K.?

I am a senior in a freshman course - at least most people take this course as freshmen. Needless to say, we are sorely outnumbered. I wouldn't even be in this particular course if it wasn't absolutely necessary. But I want to graduate as soon as possible, and this is one of the only courses that seems to consistently come up again and again during scheduling time.

Well, since we seniors are so

outnumbered, we are at the constant mercy of those freshmen with short attention spans who continually interrupt the class with sarcastic comments, bursts of laughter, whistles, belches, and anything else that pops into their minds.

This is a plea to those people who have nothing better to do but interrupt those of us who want to graduate. If you really aren't interested in being there, please drop the course. It's a very impor-

tant course for those of us that want to leave college in the very near future. A little bit of respect is in order here, not necessarily for seniors, but for all of the other students in the course, not to mention the faculty member who is teaching it.

So, please, try to give everyone else a little consideration. Even a little consideration is better than the lack of it we are now receiving.

The Ed.

Letter To The Editor

Dear Claire:

By now you will have discovered that I withdrew the third revision of this letter. In light of the letters in the November 11 Collegian, and Dr. Wolford's appeal to me to focus my topic on education, I felt compelled to reiterate my opinions. In my original letter I addressed the problem of an apparent loss of the sense of obligation in children 8 to 14 years old. However, it has become painfully clear that the sense of obligation is missing from college students and adults as well. In order to demonstrate the importance of obligation to society and thereby explain the reason for my concern, I have formed the following allegory.

Obligation plays an important role in the act of civilization. In the first scene, Obligation is a young child being raised by her parents, the royalty of early society, Necessity and Love. In the second scene, Obligation and her boyfriend, Guilt, explore their future kingdom. They observe their fellow actors (portraying humans) who engage in senseless, unorganized acts of immorality

and violence. These actions arouse Concern (Obligation's brother), and at the direction of Necessity, Obligation and Guilt are wed at the end of scene 3. Scene 4 finds Obligation and Guilt busy as parents, caring for their newborn triplets: identical-twins named Law and Order, and their fraternal-twin sister, Morality. In this scene, the other actors are behaved and possess obligation and a sense of guilt. They form laws, organize governments, and create moral codes of conduct. They educate their children, and their children educate their children in turn. But now, unlike Love and Necessity who simply vanished after their exit in scene two, Obligation and Guilt die suddenly, on stage at the end of scene 4, without apparent cause. Scene 5 finds the triplets shocked and gravely weakened at the sudden loss of their parents. Their fellow actors begin to break the laws, abolish the governments, and commit immoral acts. The triplets and their efforts are lost, and with this loss the first act of civilization in the play of human existence draws to a close.

Civilization resembles an act from a play because its actions are determined in the same manner that an author determines the plot of an act. Men control the course of civilization in the same way that the author writes. In addition, obligation resembles a character because civilization can't exist without it (the way a play can't exist without characters). Obligation is temporary - in the same manner, an actor stops playing his character when the play ends.

It is this temporary existence of obligation, combined with its necessity to society that makes it clear that civilization is both a temporary and an unnatural state. To quote Dr. Wolford:

"Civilization is an unnatural state. All it takes is one generation that doesn't care, one generation without education, and we'll be back in the trees."

Our society hinges on obligation and sways back and forth between the firmament of security and the brink of disaster.

Much to my dismay, our society

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Behrend: Positive Outlooks

by Risa Glick

The year 1984 is finally upon us and well under way.

Behrend College has seen many positive occurrences during the first month of the year.

Student enrollment at Behrend has increased this semester.

I'm sure this doesn't do justice for the already poor parking conditions on campus, nor does it help overpopulated classrooms. I find it annoying to hear that students have to sit on the floor during class because there are not enough seats in the classroom. Why didn't the administration make plans to accommodate the increased number of students? Surely they knew long before registration what the projected student enrollment was for the spring semester.

I was pleased to learn of the decision to build additional housing facilities for Behrend students. Hopefully, the increased possibility of obtaining on-campus housing will persuade more students to attend Behrend College.

Plans for the new science, engineering and technology com-

plex have been finalized. This will enable more students to stay at Behrend to receive a college degree.

So, as we can see, the machinery of Behrend College is running at full speed. Our ad-

ministrations because they feel they are needed to help maintain the distinctive identity that Behrend College has, but these organizations only involve a percentage of Behrend students. Where are the rest of our students?

It is my hope that the increased enrollment at Behrend will increase student participation in campus organizations, especially the Behrend Collegian. I have set a goal to recruit ten new Collegian staff members this semester.

Participation on the newspaper staff is not strictly volunteer. All staff members have the opportunity to receive one credit for their involvement with our organization.

If you are interested in becoming a Collegian staff member or would like some information about the Behrend Collegian, please feel free to stop in the Collegian Office located on the first floor of the Reed Union Building.

I hope many of you at Behrend will accept my invitation to become a member of the Behrend Collegian.

The machinery at Behrend College is running at full speed.

ministrations is constantly busy, engaged in a variety of educational projects.

A good percentage of students are involved in some type of organization at Behrend. Our administration supports student