

From the Editor's Desk

Upon accepting an award to the New York Times, Arthur Sulzberger said, "The vital measure of a newspaper is not its size but its spirit - that is its responsibility to report the news fully, accurately and fairly.

As an editor of this newspaper it is my intention to keep this quotation firmly planted within my thoughts as I strive to fulfill my responsibilities as an editor. It will be my duty and honor to share with the Collegian organization my knowledge, experience, leadership skills and most of all my time.

I had the pleasure this summer of attending a leadership conference at the Capitol Campus of Penn State. I learned valuable leadership skills that if applied effectively could only benefit the Collegian and in turn, Behrend College.

Within the past three weeks as editor, I have been required many times to make decisions concerning the Collegian. Some of them were wise decisions and some weren't so wise. I have made mistakes but I have learned from them.

I once heard the saying that leadership and learning are indispensable to each other. I am serving a leadership position as a result of what I have learned and at the same time I am learning valuable information from being a leader.

Now that the first issue of the 1984-85 Behrend Collegian has been published, I can evaluate my progress and results and use the evaluation as a guide to improve my leadership skills and better serve **The Collegian**.

I am looking forward to a year of continuous change. The Collegian has witnessed some change already this year, namely the appointment of co-editors as opposed to one editor. Are two heads not better than one?

We have received a computer for the purpose of updating us on current printing techniques. This computer will give the Collegian staff more control over the overall design of the newspaper.

We moved into a different office behind the RUB desk which is providing us with more space for organization and work.

The Collegian staff is larger than it has been in the past, however, it still remains to be a bit weak. As the staff strengthens their motivation skills the paper as a whole will produce positive results.

These are only a few of the many changes that our staff will have undergone by the end of the year. I have generated many ideas to experiment with so as to work toward my goal of making the Behrend Collegian one of the best college newspapers in the local area.

I feel that the Collegian is well on its way to having a successful year. Being the record of information for Behrend Collegian readers, I leave you with the following challenge: There are those of you who have a talent that would be an asset to the Collegian. Use that talent by sharing it with us.

By Risa Glick, Collegian Editor

Penn State Behrend Collegian

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Opinions expressed by the editors and staff of the Penn State-Behrend Collegian are not necessarily those of the University Administration, faculty, or the student body.

Reader Opinion

For two years I have heard the words "non-traditional student" used to describe an adult student in college. Are we not all adults? Non-traditional is so formal, stiff and old-fashioned that I feel it's time to warm the milk and sit in my rocker on the porch.

Traditional, according to Webster, is the handing down of information and beliefs from one generation to another. (Wow, does that make me feel old!). The prefix "non," Webster says, means not, unimportant, or worthless.

Are we not handing down

beliefs, or are we unimportant to tradition, or are we just plain worthless?

I like the words "returning adult learner" because they describe me so much better. I am an adult who has returned to school trying to learn what I want to be when I grow up.

The only difference between myself and other students is chronologically I'm more grown up. The similarity is that I have as much trouble and work with quizzes and homework. In other words, we are all STUDENTS.

Letter to the Editor
Carolyn Conway

Nobody Asked Me But...

By: Lisa Pavadore
Collegian Staff Writer

...Dobbins should be open from seven in the morning until 11 at night. Penn State should have plenty of funds and people to staff the cafeteria so that paying students do not have to eat during designated hours only...

...I hope everyone had a better summer than I had. Mine was spent in a factory working with non-English speaking people who were all married during puberty and call cable-making a career...

...President Reagan is just another aging actor who should not be elected again. He wants to build up defense, but he is neglecting the poor and hungry in his own nation...But Nancy is playing the humanitarian by pretending to help the underprivileged so that

her husband can send them off to war...

...Who is Ash anyway and will someone point him out to me?...

...Who is Walter Mondale and what does he stand for? And for that matter, who is Ms. Ferraro and did her husband steal that money, or did he "borrow" it because he was caught while his wife is running for the Vice-Presidency?...

...If any of you freshmen have girl-boyfriends back home and still believe that you will either A) be faithful or B) marry them, remember you are still freshmen and have a lot to learn...

...Drop-Add...I never thought anyone would use the entire summer and put so much effort into developing a drop-add system worse than last year's...

"Happy Valley" Missed

By: Tricia Wood
Collegian Staff Writer

A month after returning to Behrend - and finishing a two year stint at University Park - I am beginning to think of the big "B" with much less fondness than I had for it while at Main campus. Also, State College seems like an increasingly better place to be now than it did when I arrived.

Although I am the first to admit that State College is a fantasy world - for instance, people simply don't seem to die in "Happy Valley," and if they do, it is not from natural causes - this little college town's separation from the rest of the world serves to surround it with a special aura that cannot be found elsewhere.

State College's population consists largely of a transient student population and a permanent group of residents, referred to by the students as "townies." Sometimes the relationship between these two groups can cause problems. Often, the students feel the "townies" are simply leeches, draining them of their money, and, just as often, the permanent residents feel the students lack respect for a town in which they will only spend a small part of their lives.

Yet, I cannot help feeling now, even though I know I will never become a permanent State College "townie," there will always be a part of my sentimental, alumni heart remaining in State College, thus making it my town too.

Of course, there is simply no way to logically compare living in Erie to living in State College because the two towns are on different levels of reality. But, a comparison of Behrend to Main campus - based on my two year's experience at each - can be easily made, although it might not be pretty.

One of the most-told, and often-feared, horror stories of Main campus is, "Once you're there, you're just a number in the crowd."

Relax.

Although it is nice to see people you know at Behrend's RUB building, then to see those same people again on the way to class, and then to see them yet again at breakfast, lunch and dinner if you live in the dorms, somehow it lacks the excitement of seeing

countless different people, constantly at Penn State. Eventually you may even get to know a few people in this crowd full of young faces, and feel like you belong.

In addition, you will probably have a few large classes at Main where there is one chance in a million the professor will learn your name, but once in your major, the odds improve. In the classes I took in my major, Journalism, none were larger than five people, and most had less than ten students enrolled. Granted, a Comp-Sci or Engineering major may find their classes a bit more crowded.

Before I left for Main campus two years ago, my mother used to compare it to Behrend, saying it would be like being a little fish in a big pond instead of being a big fish in a little pond. She was right. But what she didn't tell me was that being a little fish in a big pond turns you into a stronger swimmer or you will not survive. There may be times at Main campus when you feel lonely, and the smallness of Behrend begins to look good, but the fact is that this "aloneness" is forcing you to be independent and find out what you are capable of doing.

Looking back over this column, I can see in myself the tendency of finding the grass a little greener on the other side of the fence - Behrend seeming better while I was at Main and Main looking enticing now that I am back - yet I still feel that University Park offers something unique and challenging that cannot be found here, even though it may not be for everyone.

Editorial Policy

The Behrend Collegian's editorial opinion is determined by its Board of Opinion, with the editors holding final responsibility. Opinions expressed on the editorial pages are not necessarily those of The Behrend Collegian or The Pennsylvania State University. Brown Thompson Publishers, the publishers of The Behrend Collegian and related publications, is a separate corporate institution from Penn State.

Letters Policy: The Behrend Collegian encourages comments on news coverage, editorial policy and University affairs. Letters should be typewritten, double-spaced, signed by no more than two people and not longer than 400 words. Students' letters should include the semester and major of the writer. Letters from alumni should include the major and year of graduation of the writer. All writers should provide their address and phone number for verification of the letter.

The Collegian reserves the right to edit letters for length, and to reject letters if they are libelous or do not conform to standards of good taste.

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