

OPINION

Reader Opinion

Kurre Receives More Praise

Editor's Note:

Dr. James Kurre's teaching has attracted enough favorable comment that the Collegian offers yet another view of his classroom style.

After almost a year and a half of complaining, I have found an attribute of Behrend College worth commending. Unfortunately, my commentary was not in the last issue of the *Collegian*, as Rod Luery, Co-Editor of the *Behrend Collegian*, chose to write about the same topic as mine. So, as Mr. Luery's article was published in the last issue, I now get to voice my own opinion.

My topic for commentary is Dr. James Kurre, an Economics instructor here at Behrend. I would like to discuss Dr. Kurre's positive teaching habits for the benefit of those yet to take an Economics course.

The subject, itself, Economics, was boring to me, but being a degree requirement, I had to take it. Dr. Kurre keeps a comfortable atmosphere during his lectures, interjecting humor and prompting discussion and questions from students. His top priority is student understanding, shown in clear explanations and outside worksheets to supplement lectures.

The fact that I am not a Business major and find Economics a bit more interesting now is a credit to Dr. Kurre. Kurre is a highly motivated speaker, as was pointed out in Mr. Luery's editorial.

For those of you yet to take Economics 2, Dr. Kurre is a very thorough, organized instructor who is an enormous asset to Behrend College.

Lisa Pavadore
Collegian Feature Editor
Third Semester, Communications

Reader Opinion

Is Abortion the solution?

I am writing in response to a letter written by Jill A. Bedford in the last issue of the *Collegian*.

If pro-lifers have the views on abortion which she states, I also do not condone their views. What I do disagree with are her rebuttals in which she tries to justify an abortion. I agree, it is unfair for a woman to be raped, for her will to be violated and for her life and future plans to be changed or postponed.

What I question is the solution proposed for this problem; abor-

tion. She later includes unplanned pregnancies as a reason for an abortion.

Is killing the child justifiable? Is it fair to murder a baby, completely innocent for his existence? She later describes the child as being unwanted and possibly unloved. Maybe my opinion on abortion is biased but I feel that even the life described is better than being murdered. Because the child doesn't have a choice in his destiny in those months, should we be allowed to make the deci-

sion for him.

I find it hard to believe that any child would prefer death over life. She doesn't seem to understand that that child had no more responsibility for his conception than the mother who is impregnated through rape.

In cases of rape and incest, who should be punished? Should it be the rapist or the baby? In the case of the unplanned pregnancy, who should be held responsible? Should it be the guilty parties or the innocent unborn child?

Maybe abortion seems like the best choice because the child doesn't have a chance to object or describe the agonizing pain he encounters in an abortion. Maybe it's because we find it much easier to rid ourselves of the problem (the unborn child) in the case of the unplanned pregnancy than to face up to the fact that we made the mistake and should bear its burdens. It is true in most cases that the woman suffers most of the burden in an unplanned pregnancy.

Why don't we work more toward enforcing equal responsibility and alternatives to abortion. This would constitute a more justifiable solution than to take the innocent life of an unborn baby.

I understand my views are not shared by all, but I think more people should realize that we are dealing with a human being and not a thing we can destroy at will.

Richard A. Bair Jr.
Fifth Semester,
Bioscience

Commentary

Doctors Make Wise Choice

by Paula Penco
Collegian Staff Writer

A controversial medical issue is currently in the news. On Oct. 26, an infant girl was born with a partially formed heart. The infants name is "Baby Fae". Without an immediate heart transplant, "Baby Fae" would have died within a matter of hours.

"Fae's" doctors decided to transfer the heart of a baboon into the infant. A controversy arose because a human heart was available at the time. Many experts in the medical field were disturbed because an animal heart was used instead of a human one. Some people found this to be down right unethical and morally wrong.

I fail to see why so many people are in an uproar over this issue. The doctors chose to give "Baby Fae" a baboon's heart because they saw it as being best suited for

her. Since "Fae" is an infant, her immunity system is not fully developed. Therefore, her body was less likely to reject the heart. Additionally, "Fae" has been receiving injections to help her body accept the heart transplant.

Well as it turns out, "Baby Fae" is the oldest recipient of an animal heart. She is still in serious but stable condition. "Fae" is kept under an oxygen tent but she is breathing on her own and is progressing rather nicely.

I think that the "Baby Fae" issue could very well be a step forward for medical history and mankind. The operation has given "Fae" a better chance for survival. Her doctors should not be condemned for such an operation, rather they should be applauded and rewarded. They have given a child a chance to live and hopefully led a happy and fulfilling life.

Commentary

SGA Busy at Work

In the past ten weeks, the Student Government Association has dealt with numerous issues which directly affect, or have the capacity to affect, students and organizations at Behrend.

Yet, the SGA does so with only limited student participation. Important decisions are made by only a handful of Senate members.

Recent issues confronting the SGA have included drives to remove class periods from the lunch hour, instigate an honor code, alleviate the parking problem, investigate increases in vending machine prices, and exploring ways to increase state funding to the Penn State system.

The SGA has also allocated funds to student organizations, worked on a proposal concerning PS-23 (faculty tenure), discussed ways to lend equipment and money to students and organizations, and participated in voter registrations at Behrend.

The SGA invested in a computer system, set up the Book Co-Op program (selling back books to an organization for more money than the bookstore offers), made numerous committee appointments, and approved the poster policy of Student Affairs.

It is a shame, really, that only a relative handful of students participate in the decision making process.

Of forthcoming issues, the activities fee stands out. This is a proposal to add an unspecified sum to students' tuition, in order to have much better activities and entertainment at Behrend.

The SGA wants, needs, and values student input. Meetings are held every Tuesday night, at 6 p.m., in the Reed Seminar Room. All students, faculty, and staff are welcome.

Michael R. Kitchen
Seventh semester, GAS
SGA Student Senator

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.

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Postal Information: The *Behrend Collegian* (898-6221) is published fourteen times annually (seven times during each academic semester at The Behrend College) by the students of The Behrend College; The Reed Union Building, Station Road, Erie, PA 16563.