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Security's Attitude "Problem" Probed

by Jill Bedford
Collegian Staff Writer

Is there an attitude problem between campus security and students? This question was presented at a recent Student Government Association (SGA) meeting.

Several students have gone to the Student Government and registered complaints as to how they have been treated by campus security. Many claimed they have been verbally harassed and treated in a patronizing manner by police and safety officials. Several more students have complained that when in need of security assistance, often no one is available to answer the security switchboard.

A committee of concerned students headed by Michael Kitchen, SGA Commuter Senator, has been formed to investigate these claims. The group is interested in finding out if there is a misunderstanding between security and students, and how to solve such a problem. The object of the investigation is to promote a bet-

ter understanding and relationship between the two.

Most traffic fines go into the SGA fund and several SGA members are representatives on the traffic appeals board. "I have had no problems with the police and safety," said Doug Gerow, SGA president. "My relationship has been quite businesslike with them. However, other students I know have had problems."

It has also been suggested that the students' attitudes toward security have been less than favorable. However, the complaints registered must be recognized as a specific need for such an investigation.

"I respect campus security," said Kitchen, "but a significant number of students have come to me with problems they have had with security, treating them with a more than condescending attitude."

All filed complaints will be reviewed in the investigation. The findings of the investigation will be released at a future SGA meeting.

National Chapter Disbands Theta Phi Alpha

by Greg Rathbun
Collegian Staff Writer

Behrend's only national sorority, Theta Phi Alpha, was depledged Jan. 8.

Established at Behrend on May 7 1983, it was given colony status even though it had fewer members than required. In its existence, the membership did not increase enough for them to petition for chapter status.

Former president Barb Wetmore said the national chapter of the sorority gave the Behrend sisters colony status too soon, hindering the women's initiative to get the proper number of

members for colony status, which they already had.

The major reason for the sorority's demise was poor communications and cooperation between the Behrend sisters and the national sisters, said Wetmore. She said nationals mistakenly sent its information to another local sister, but that sister kept the information from Wetmore.

Theta Phi Alpha also lacked a local advisor. A former president of the sorority was to be their advisor but she found night employment and couldn't carry the responsibility, said Wetmore.

During last summer and fall,

Theta Phi Alpha's membership failed to increase substantially and this resulted in national's decision to depledge the local unit, National President Patricia A. Giallanza said in a letter to members.

Talk about reviving a national sorority on Behrend campus comes from freshman Annette Fronzaglia, who said she had wanted to join Theta Phi Alpha.

Fronzaglia said, "I feel it is very important to have an active national sorority, such as Theta Phi Alpha, on Behrend campus, and with 20 hopeful pledges I intend to pursue it."

Additional Parking Space Alleviates Congestion

by Barrett Parker
Collegian Staff Writer

"It's been a godsend," says Gene Johnson, Chief of Police and Safety, about the new parking lot behind the Nick building. This new lot, needed to relieve the parking congestion at Behrend for the last few semesters, can hold

between 50 and 60 vehicles.

The new lot, called E-lot, is a temporary set up. There are no lines painted to denote individual spots, and the lot itself is constructed of a limestone and gravel mix.

When asked if satisfied with the lot, Johnson said, "Very much so, it solved a lot of headaches. I won't be completely satisfied until it becomes a permanent situation and is blacktopped." Snow removal from E-lot has been, "No problem...but (E-lot is) not as easy to clean as a paved lot."

John Ream, Director of Operations, comments on the future of E-lot: "The lot will continue to be used. It is our hope to be able to blacktop it."

E-lot was proposed to University Park in two phases. The first phase being the construction of an emergency limestone and gravel lot for this semester to relieve the immediate problems. The second part, which has yet to be approved, includes paving the lot. This paving would ideally take place during summer school so the lot can be closed without restarting the parking congestion.

Chief Johnson is concerned about spring thaw: "Right now, with the hard ground, there is no problem. This spring (the lot) might be muddy..." The Chief continued, "It's doing a good job...it hasn't taken away the whole parking problem, but it certainly puts a dent in it."

Energy Center Offers Services

by Julie Reynolds
Collegian Staff Writer
The Pennsylvania Energy

Center for Northwestern Pennsylvania is opening at Behrend College. This is one of 10 centers

throughout Pennsylvania whose purpose, according to Mrs. Marianna Masteller, is to promote energy efficiency.

The center has a number of functions, one of which will directly involve students majoring in Energy & Environmental Technology. The center will serve as a clearing house for a broad range of energy saving topics, hold workshops on energy saving methods and products, and provide a referral service by having its activities coordinated with other agencies and organizations.

The center will also provide free on-site surveys to businesses, multi-family residences, local government buildings, and non-profit organizations.

Students will be trained to be members of Energy Efficient Teams and help organizations use energy more efficiently and find areas where improvements can be made. Students will be paid a nominal fee in addition to mileage cost, and they will gain valuable experience in their field.



Marianna Masteller at the Energy Center located in the Behrend Building.

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