

VIEWPOINT ON LIFE

by Terry Anthony & Jim Hale
Collegian Staff Writers

Welcome to our demented and often psychotic world. This semester we will examine the college student's oneness with Behrend and the greater Erie area, as well as what possesses one (for one must certainly be possessed by some ancient evil Indian spirit) to choose to attend school in this, the closest you can get to a near Arctic environment and still remain in Pennsylvania. We will attempt to give you, the student, a behind the scenes look at Behrend as well as visit some of Erie's finest exotic locals. In other words we will try to define that elusive philosophical question that has plagued mankind for eons — What exactly is the Behrend experience?

For our first column, we have decided to clarify some of the terms contained within the Behrend recruiting brochure that enticed each of us to this, the garden spot of North America.

"...beautiful tree lined walkways..." really means "gauntlet lined by little psycho squirrels that bomb unsuspecting students with acorns as they travel to and from classes."

"...overlooks beautiful Presque Isle and Lake Erie" is implying "as the smoke from the local industries is blown away one can glimpse the murky waters of Erie's north shore"

"...offers many cultural events." They are saying "the annual elementary school Christmas pageant is free and open to the public."

"...modern computer facility" is really a place to learn creative new high tech four letter words from upperclass digitheads (a.k.a. MIS majors) as well as play and pirate the latest in computer games.

"...refreshing campus restores the spirit after a hard day of classes" or if that doesn't work, the Brookside offers a viable alternative.

"...active student body," cookies and condoms, a winning combination.

"...the Wintergreen Cafe" a Gorge by any other name would still smell like a Gorge.

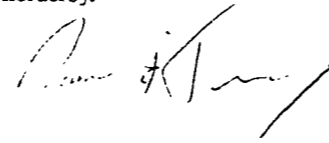
"...the library houses approximately 63,000 books" which means you can find a book on any subject except the one you need for tomorrow's speech.

"...one of the few campuses around that boasts it's own on campus ski slope." It has been rumored that some speed demon has actually reached speeds exceeding 5 mph down the face of Mount Behrend's treacherous 30 feet drop. If you know the identity of this masked wonder please refer them to the nearest RA for counseling.

"...Penn—State—Behrend fields nine varsity teams." All of which are represented by the Behrend lion, who is just some horny geek who can't find any other way to attract one of the school's 35 percent female population to dance or hug him unless he dresses in fur and wears a mask.

To celebrate the completion of their first real article, Jim and Terry now retire to the comfort and sanctity of the community atmosphere that is available only in university housing to ponder their long range career goals. What Jim and Terry are really going to do is sit around in their PSU boxer shorts, split a six pack, and engage in a roundtable discussion on the merits of female midget rollerderby.

Until next time Behrend, this Bud's for you!



Editorial: Book Blues

First things first. It's the beginning of a new semester and along with it are two new editors of the Collegian. James Martin and myself will be acting as co-editors in the place of the one editorial position. We are looking forward to the semester and we hope that you will continue to let us know your gripes, comments, etc. about the newspaper or its contents, via Letters to the Editor(s).

Now the real reason for this article.

When you walk through the Reed Lobby at the beginning of the semester, the walls are practically wallpapered with signs that read something like: **BOOKS FOR SALE only \$19.15.** I always make myself the promise that I'm going to be economical and buy my books from sources other than the bookstore. However, usually by the time I remember that I have those little slips of paper with peoples' phone numbers who want to buy or sell books, those papers are already in the bot-

tom of the washer because I neglected to take them out of my jeans. My point though, is not to talk about my dirty laundry or the decorum of the Reed Lobby, but to address a problem that we all face at this time in the semester. Books.

Unfortunately the new semester brings empty bank accounts and pockets because the \$250.00 worth of books that you bought last semester only fared about 25 cents at the Buyback Book Table. I'm sure all of us have faced this scenario during our college career and it happens all too often.

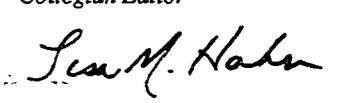
I used to think that the bookstore was the big villain in the neverending book turmoil. This for the most part is untrue. Number one the publishing companies are the ones who are there at that table outside the bookstore and give you pennies when you think you should at least get a couple hundred dollars. The real problems that most of us run into when buying and selling books, are because of publishers.

new book that you can't even get a cent back for (ie. Chem 011). This is usually due to a change in an edition or because the book doesn't work well with the class, but where does that leave you. Nowhere. We are all ultimately at the mercy of publishers because they have to make the price high enough to cover the cost of their materials (paper, printing, binding, etc.) and still make a profit.

What can be done you ask? Nothing really in terms of getting publishers to lower their prices but there is always hope. For now though you can look for those wonderful little yellow stickers in the bookstore that signify you are getting a used book. I know I'm always happy to find them. The other solutions? You can practice the "Buddy System" (as they say in Girl Scouts) or buy your books from others. Or, when selling them back you can help decorate the Reed Lobby with your **BOOKS FOR SALE** signs or try and

flirt (if you're a girl) with the book man from the publisher. But then again I thought it would work and all I got was an extra quarter.

by Lisa Hahn
Collegian Editor



Instructors request the books for their courses but they have no way of knowing or controlling how much a book is going to cost. Granted, sometimes the instructor changes the book for the next semester and you and about ten other people you know just paid \$35.00 for a brand

Editorial Policy

The Behrend Collegian's editorial opinion is determined by the Editor, with the Editor holding final responsibility. Opinions expressed on the editorial pages are not necessarily those of the Behrend Collegian, The Behrend College, or The Pennsylvania State University. The Cory Journal, the publisher of the Behrend Collegian, is a separate corporate institution from Penn State.

Letter Policy: The Behrend Collegian encourages 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. 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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STRANGE DAZE

by Ed Mesita
Collegian Staff Writer

Here are some earth-shaking, late breaking news stories from the last few days of 1987, in case you might have missed them.

From Washington:
"A confused elderly woman who apparently spent seven days lost in a department store without food and water, was in good condition but unable to tell how she survived her Christmas week ordeal."

It's too bad she didn't get lost in a supermarket.

From Los Angeles:
Everyone's favorite actress, Susan Richardson from Eight is Enough, filed a federal lawsuit saying she was lured to South Korea to make a movie, then was sedated and held against her will. She was also forced to work near live ammunition and is suing for \$10,000.

I think the United States should pay her that amount on behalf of her kidnapers, since they were kind enough to keep her off of our television screens for that long.

From Harare, Zimbabwe:
National airline officials have given stewardesses six months to lose weight or be grounded. Airline officials said that it was "Unacceptable...we have these big, ugly amazons pretending to be air hostesses. Some of them are so big, their thighs knock against the passengers as they are moving between the aisles."

Maybe they should start serving the passengers more beer. At least it would make them look thinner and better looking.

Also in the airlines, in Los Angeles passengers on a cross country flight, enraged by a smoking ban, lit up anyway and shoved attendants who asked them to stop, forcing the pilot to radio for police. They were taken into custody when the plane landed.

I hope they were allowed to smoke in jail.

And here are the best statistics of the year, courtesy of Parade magazine:

Pepsi must sell almost two hundred million cans of soda to recoup the cost of its Michael Jackson advertising campaign.

Five percent of Americans think the afterlife will be boring.

Thirteen Americans are currently frozen in the hope of one day coming back to life. Unfortunately, Michael Jackson is not one of them.

Thirteen percent of American women consider themselves pretty, while twenty-eight percent of American men consider themselves handsome.

And here's one more story. Joe Paterno say's he was out coached in the Florida Citrus Bowl on January first. I'm glad he clued us in. I was wondering what the hell went wrong.

Tell me something. Am I going crazy or is everyone else?



The Collegian would like to wish Mike Chiteman a very Happy Birthday

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