

and more *Evidence* SPIN/GR

The Negative reaction toward commuters who attended Sunday's meeting was characteristic of the attitude that exists between dorm and commuter students. Both sides have a distorted view of each other and their position in relation to the campus. Dorm students see commuters as apathetic, uncommitted, and only in the academic side of college life. Commuters often feel that dorm students are cliquish, irresponsible, and expect too much from a small town and campus (Erie will always be a small town, no matter how large it becomes.)

Both sides need to learn more about each other. Sunday's meeting commuters heard about the problems of dorm life. Those who attend the next meeting will hear about it again. For many, in fact most, it is the first opportunity to hear exactly what the problems are.

But nothing was done to relate these problems to the vast majority of the non-resident students. Lack of activities, inadequate transportation, the isolation of resident students, administrative red tape---these are problems to concern the entire campus, and it's not true that commuters don't care about them. Perhaps they do not feel as much a part of Behrend as the resident students, but this is understandable.

Much time and work were put into Customs and Orientation Week to initiate the freshman into the Behrend community. The attempt failed. Through living here, the dorm students have learned that Behrend's shortcomings affect them drastically. The group who booed Kangaroo Court from the dorm lounge in September was probable among those who met there Sunday to discuss their campus. They have begun to care about their campus, but it has taken them ten

weeks to realize enough to make their

concerns, especially Freshmen, more than just an opportunity to complain. Now, needless to say, there are plenty of commuters in larger organizations. If resident students feel that commuters look up at campus activities, I would like to ask them a question. If you were allowed to have cars on campus, where would you be during all those basketball games and dances? And I'll tell you. You'd be at anthologies, leafs, and hellrais. You don't come to support your school, you come because you have nothing else to do. That's not school spirit, that's desperation. You are angry, disappointed, and frustrated. That's not school spirit, so don't confuse it. It is just one step better than apathy. Now you have to back it up and work for the improvements you want. [not just for your dorm associations, but you personally].

If you put forth such effort as the commuters did this summer and first term, you will be getting somewhere. If you talk to freshmen commuters and convince them to come to your next meeting, you will have started to bridge the gap between you. Commuter students need you to convince them to care. You need them to back you up.



CUB STAFF +
FIGHT FACULTY

(at a basketball game to
be held in)

ERIE HALL @ 4M

Saturday, Jan. 25, 1969

8:00 P.M.