

# The Nittany Cub

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## EDITORIAL OPINION In Loco Parentis?

by Ray Geiger  
CUB Editor

Visitation has been granted and yet denied. The administration has seen fit to grant only a limited visitation program for the students at Behrend while maintaining the fundamental concept in Loco Parentis.

In our time, when the maturity of students and of all young adults is being reemphasized by their concern for their nation and community, should not this maturity be embodied in the attitudes and organization of Behrend Campus. But by granting only a very limited program of visitation directly under its supervision and guidance, the administration has denied the maturity and responsibility of the Behrend students. They have said, in effect, "You are not ready to govern your own lives. You are not capable of making individual moral or social decisions. We know what is best for you. Trust us!"

But trust is not a one way street. It requires mutual respect and open lines of communication. We know that the administration is concerned. But concerned about what? About peace, quiet, order and their control on the Behrend Campus? Or about encouraging the students to develop their own personalities, to learn and above all else to act in a responsible and mature manner? In their "bestowal" of visitation "privileges" they seem to have incorporated the former and to have denied the latter.

Even though they may deny our maturity we will not confirm their denial. Maturity means not only to exult in victory, but to persevere in spite of defeat? And persevere we will! As mature and responsible Penn State students, we, at the Behrend Campus, will take what we have as bitter a pill it may seem to be, and make it work. Although our administration may repudiate the visitation program already implemented at our main campus, we will continue in our efforts to have it initiated here. We will do this by making what we have obtained work; work so well that no one can deny our ability to govern our own moral and social lives; work so well that no one can question our responsibility and maturity. We will not defend our maturity. It needs no defense. We will assert it by our responsible action.

But if we as students will seek to make this limited visitation program work, should not the administration labor to extend this program to make it compatible with that at the University Park Campus and with the hopes and desires of the Behrend students.

If we will listen, they must hear. They must be responsive to the students requests or else take the responsibility for EVERYTHING on this campus. Either they will heed our responsible action, or, like the parents of infants, take the responsibility for everything that the child does, or speaks or is.

They seem to have confused passivity for respect, disdain for love, indoctrination for education. How long can this continue?????

## EDITORIAL POLICY

The editorials appearing in this newspaper will be opinionated and therefore subject to criticism. All letters that are typewritten and submitted to the newspaper staff will be printed with the exception of those that are repetitions or in poor taste. The staff reserves the right to

correct or delete portions of the letters or publication purposes.

All letters must be signed, but names will be withheld upon request.

Signed columns represent the view of the author only and do not reflect the editorial policy of the

# Letters To The Editor

All letters published reflect the views of the authors, and are not in any way to be construed as indicative of the editorial views of the Nittany Cub.

Dear Nittany Cub,

We sat and watched the infamous Behrend student Gov't aid our procrastinating administration in another successful attempt at neatly avoiding another issue. We were dazzled by their diplomatic means of using unrelated testimony to confuse the issue, and scare off intellectual confrontation. We could be describing any issue, at Behrend, but we are referring to VISITATION.

The superb incorporation of the technique "the run-around" caused an undesirable feeling of frustration, but that is nothing new. How long must we sit back and let our Administration toy with us? Are we so blind that none of this has any effect on us? We elected the SGA to represent us, but they have in no way applied the necessary pressure on the Administration to get things done.

Our SGA has failed us, must we also fail ourselves? It is too late to pressure a decision on visitation before February 1, but we can influence an affirmative decision. We must once again unite and work towards a positive goal. Speak, as a group; as an individual, but we must SPEAK OUT!!!

What are we going to do if they say no to our proposal? Must we once again suffer because we are silent? Must we bend to the desires of our famed puppeteer?

We must live here, is it unreasonable to desire comfort?

Ed. note: This letter was written January 20, but was not published then for political reasons.

Students:

Ten minutes ago the SGA meeting was adjourned. Ten minutes ago I did not know exactly how I felt about reacting to Mr. Kochel's decision on visitation. And now I still don't. I may be a commuter, but the issue of visitation affects the entire campus. I do have a definite view on Mr. Kochel's decision though. To put it simply, his plan stinks. What then should be done about it? That is where I get hung up.

Apprehension has been in the air over visitation for the last four months and continuously growing. It reached its boiling point tonight. The feeling was the "Kochel screwed us." But then the question again: "What should we do?" With my emotions, and those of nearly everyone else, reaching this boiling point, would the resulting action be rational or emotional? I think of a boiling cup of coffee and realize that you have to wait until it cools off before you drink it. Emotions are the same way. You have to cool off before you can rationalize the best way out. And right now, I'm trying to cool off.

Maturity and responsibility is the key. That is what we were working with to open the door to visitation. Our proposal was rejected. But let's not lose the key, or we will never be able to open that door. Just because we are treated like kids, let's not start acting like kids. Let's show that we are the stuff that is going to make this campus progressive.

If anything should be done, it should be to eliminate all the obstacles facing this progression.

And the first and foremost obstacle would be Mr. Kochel himself. He has spoken of autonomy and future, expansion and progression for Behrend, but he is continually the force opposing these trends. If he can't adjust, then he should be eliminated. If we act out emotion rather than reason, if we ignore the maturity and responsibility that we are basing our struggle upon, then we will be eliminating ourselves. And if we eliminate ourselves, what hope will there be?

Doug Brower

Students,

We have existed at Behrend under a very childish system where girls and boys are put into separate buildings and told that they cannot visit a student of the other sex in his or her room. The students had finally awakened to this archaic rule and had drawn up a visitation policy of our own and submitted it to the administration.

The student body agreed to send this proposal to the administration and the SGA agreed unanimously to back the proposal. We received an answer to this proposal Wednesday night at the SGA meeting. The answer was an attempt to win over the confidence of the student body without really giving us much.

We must not accept this compromise, but instead, must stand together as one united force and stop the administration's manipulation of us. The administration has once again denied us of our rights and we must not let them fool us with their administration-oriented compromise.

Al Quirlan  
SGA Representative

Well people the Behrend hierarchy has done the expected once again and true to the stereotyped administrative past the students needs have not been dealt with. Our diplomatic reasoning and rationale has worked up the boil-type 'correct' channels for the past three months and here we have the pussy head of the situation.

Right-on with changes Mr. Kochel and whoever else may be behind you!

Listen kids and listen good: the Behrend administrators know how to deal with you and their tactics have worked 'oh so fine!' in the past. Witness the 'Behrend Three' confrontation (sic) of Spring term 1970.

For those of you who were here let me refresh your memories a bit and for those of you who weren't here let me tell you a little tale...

...Once upon a time there were three college professors who dared to rock the boat. All the other deckhands (professors) sat back passively and guarded their jobs. (after all swabbing of the deck and catering to the captains demands keep you into the pay.) Onward...

At the time the captain of the ship hinted that maybe the mutineers just "didn't fit in with the Behrend mystique." Well I'd say the captain had a point there seeing as how it seems that anyone who takes an interest in students is as good as a nigger-lover. (To me the word nigger knows no one race, it just isn't a racist term in the sense I'm using it.)

These three rebels were very meddlesome...one had the audacity to speak out for better visual aids...one worked actively with the Moratorium efforts of that Fall...they all were active in the surrounding community...one defended students charged with conduct unbecoming to a Penn State student...they also often dabbled in the black-magic of politics...they took time out for students to just sit and rap with them, as well as to spend their own time helping students with their studies...one created the gravest error of keeping students awake in class by maintaining their interest and he actually taught students to think...

Here you can at least get the idea of the horrid things these 'Three' were up to. Anyone doing these things couldn't help but to meet the end of every person who dares to knock the system.

These 'Three' were condemned in the democratic spirit of the good ship Behrend...without a trial they were sent into exile...

The passengers on the boat rallied to the 'Behrend Three's' cause when word of their plight finally leaked out, but when the time for action came all the loud-voiced supporters hid away in the silence of their cabins below the deck. Here they were safe and sound and the 'Three' were left to their fate.

As the 'Three' went down they

spoke last words to the passengers- voice and here are some of their words, as valid now as they were then... "the administration is afraid of change and will only allow those changes or advancements which don't seriously affect anything...The atmosphere at Behrend allows so much change as can occur without affecting attitudes.

...Kochel administers a junior college extremely well. But Behrend can no longer afford to be a junior college...In regards to the question of change Spielmann spoke highly of Kochel's ability to keep things stable and well-run for the past twelve years, but he felt that changes are now needed and that by not changing with the times that Kochel might find himself subject to 'a ruder shock someday than that which I received.' ...Cohen feels that Kochel's role of 'system maintenance' was in keeping with his goal of maintaining a status quo in many areas...As it stands now Kochel feels that students have no right to know what is going on... (Note at that time in Mr. Kochel's own words he felt "that it is not in the genuine interests of Behrend Campus for the situation to be given any attention." How much has anything changed since that statement?)... (Cohen speaking). I don't fear change or revolution. I think it's time that society began to worry less about its happiness and more about its freedoms...

...End of tale people, but seriously, listen again; Mr. Kochel is an expert at handling you, at running you around, and in general serving needs which do not appear to be in our best interest.

Did you catch the SGA meeting that the Advisory Board and Mr. Kochel attended? If you did you saw how interested the 'Advisors' (sic) appeared. The one guy seemed to be very involved with checking out those present in the middle section of the lecture hall. The 'Advisors' appeared really touched by Jim Crawford's excellent remarks...so touched that they looked just barely concerned with what was being discussed.

Director Kochel appears to be acting in our best interests also. Right-out of Dean Lane's office direct and in person right to your parents...one of the most slanted letters explaining (putting down) visitation that I have ever seen. How's that for a stab in the back kiddies?

You work with the ever-ready administration in drawing up the visitation policy, follow all the correct 'diplomatic' channels and where does it get you? "Everybody Knows This Is Nowhere..."

If Director Irving Kochel handles this situation in the typical manner he will ignore any actions we may decide to take. By being unresponsive he will irk some of us, but with a student body such as Behrends the odds are with Mr. Kochel that by ignoring the problem it will go away.

Don't let things pass! Get it on with some form of action. Possibly the best form of action would simply be for everyone to hold visitation at designated times and hold it steadily until the administration turns an attentive and responsive ear in our direction.

All Power To The People!  
Gary Thornbloom

Dear Sirs:-

Over the past two years I have listened to the Bleep. It's a high-pitched electronic tone given off on the hour for approximately three to five seconds. I wanna know what it is, and I want everyone else to start listening. You can hear it particularly well in Perry Hall and the O.B. although I once heard it on the soccer field. By the way, it ain't no pansy muffled, irritating, demeaning and abusive sound like those put out by our clocks. It's the real thing! Brainwashing, Mind-blowing, disorienting-what is the true nature of the bleep?

(Continued on Page 3)