

# Opinion

## Editorial Communications Problem

Its been called to our attention that we may have mistakenly mislead some people.

When we reported the university was imposing enrollment controls in the School of Communications, we ran a headline that read "Communications Program Closes its Doors." While the story went on to explain that Behrend majors will not be effected by the change, we realize our headline may have been misleading. For that we apologize.

Let us say again, the Behrend Communications Program has not closed its doors. It is the the University School of Communications which is being reduced.

Except for a misunderstanding with the headline, the information contained in the story was accurate to the best of our knowledge. No doubt we would have been wise to make the state of Behrend's Communications Program more readily apparent. Hopefully we'll be able to avoid such misunderstandings in the future.

## GOP Goes KKK

by Pete Weichlein  
Collegian Staff Writer

David Duke is seeking a legislative seat in Louisiana. If you have no idea who David Duke is, this will not be shocking news. The whole picture changes tremendously, though, if one is made aware of the fact that up until 1979 David Duke was a national leader fo the Ku Klux Klan. There should be no objections to Mr. Duke running for office, since this is a democracy and every citizen has the right to participate in the government. The problem is that David Duke right now holds first place in a seven-candidate field for one vacant House seat.

### Pete's Perspective

So a man who up until ten years ago was grand wizard of the KKK, a man who is now president of the National Association for the Advancement of White People, a man who advocates "Aryan preservation" and racial separation, such a man might in the near future be a law-making part of the state of Louisiana. Nice.

But why is Duke winning so much support? The reasons are both economical and social. Louisiana has had the nation's highest unemployment rate for quite some years now, and loosing more then 100,000 jobs since the oil bust hasn't improved matters either.

The number of black-on-black crimes has soared in New Orleans's public housing projects and if Louisiana voters were to look for a scapegoat for their economic and social plight, the state's blacks would present an easy target. But it is incidents like a much publicized attack by black youths on white spectators during a parade celebrating Martin Luther King's birthday which earn the black community a bad reputation.

This is how Mr. Duke wins his supporters. There have been major efforts to educate the voters

about David Duke, yet the number of his supporters seems to grow and grow. Is this a white community's statement about racism, or just the normal support any young Republican candidate with new, radical ideas would receive?

Duke would certainly bring non-conservative ideas to the office. He plans a welfare reform, which includes monetary, public housing, and other "bribes" for welfare mothers who consent to stop reproducing, mothers who pledge never to have children again. Duke's plan also includes less public support for those who don't. He embraces such traditional Republican causes as an end to affirmative action and less taxes.

His opponents are worrying that his election would cause the rebirth of all-out racism and of violent anti-Semitism. Not to mention the bad public relations across the nation Louisiana would receive with a Duke victory, Louisiana isn't known as the least racist state in the Union in the first place.

So what can be concluded from the political happenings in the state of Louisiana? Public racism is on the rise again and its acceptance in society is worrisome. Discrimination has also found new victims. Sex or race are no longer a factor determining one's safety from racism. Anybody might be discriminated against. Sometimes the sufferer is white, sometimes black.

It would seem that in this country, where everyone is so fast to state that racism is a thing of the past, an old problem which has caused a civil war over a hundred years ago still exists. Racism is a definite part of our lives, influencing our thinking in unimaginable ways. And racism goes both ways. We have reached a point where instead of eliminating racism out society has created even more discrimination. White hates black, black hates white, and David Duke might someday join former Klan member Robert Byrd (D) in the Senate.

# LOVE ROB

## Nervous News Breakdown

by Rob Prindle

I was having this discussion in a taxi heading downtown. And, to borrow some lyrics from Paul Simon (the singer, not the guy who ran for president), I was rearranging my position on this friend of mine who had a little bit of a breakdown. You probably all know that I'm talking about my buddy Butch.

All of Butch's friends have come to know him as a staunch liberal. Under normal circumstances Butch would never be caught with anything but a 'save the world' message on his lips. Unfortunately, these are not normal conditions. Things have gotten pretty strange lately.

The Russians don't act like Russians anymore, they act like liberals. That would be strange enough by itself, except it is made stranger by the fact that our conservative president gets along just fine with them. Gorbachev has turned into some kind of ruskie flower child telling everyone that he wants world peace and free love... well, at least he says he wants the peace.

The strangeness of the world doesn't stop there. Just a few weeks ago, Pennsylvania raised its minimum wage. And can you believe that Oliver North is finally going to be tried? Everyone figured the old war-monger would get a presidential pardon, right? The world was starting to look like a really good place.

**Can you believe that this is the same liberal who said that if the Supreme Court ever outlawed abortion, he would personally impregnate all of the Justices' Granddaughters? Butch may not be eloquent, but he is nothing if not liberal.**

So you can see how Butch may have been shaken up. Everything was going his way. Everything was going great, until a couple of days ago. I think that what happened last week finally make Butch snap. He started taking all the terrible news that was flooding CNN and Nightline and he twisted it into.... Well I'll just tell you what he has been saying.

When Butch heard about the controversy over the book "The Satanic Verses" he started talking crazy. The book was written by a man living in England named Salman Rushdie. It seems that Rushdie's book was somewhat upsetting to followers of Islam. Iran's Ayatollah Khomeini promptly ordered the author killed and offered to pay the lucky marksman 5.2 million dollars for ridding the world of the fiction writer.

As soon as people heard that the Ayatollah didn't want anyone to read the book, it turned into a best-seller. You would think that Khomeini would have learned something from the Last Temptation of Christ incident.

So, Butch snapped when he heard this. He started humming Islamic hymns and lighting incense to honor Mohommed. He cursed Rushdie for ever having tried to write fiction about his prophet. He said that Rushdie should be tortured for having thought he could write a book that would upset Moslems. Rushdie, according to Butch, is a troublemaker.

Can you believe that this is the same guy who called George Bush the Antichrist? Can you believe that this is the same fellow who called organized religion a good way to make a



Rob Prindle

living if you can't do anything better? Can you believe that this is the same liberal who said that if the Supreme Court ever outlawed abortion, he would personally impregnate all of the Justices' Granddaughters? Butch may not be eloquent, but he is nothing if not liberal.

So he was obviously in the middle of a breakdown when he said that an author had to answer to fanatic religious leaders for publishing a work of fiction. Butch's madness didn't stop with that piece of disturbing news, though. When Butch heard about David Duke he almost turned into a racist.

Duke is a former KKK Grand Wizard who recently won a seat in the Louisiana State House on the Republican ticket. He is a devout White supremacist and a staunch anti-Semite. and apparently, in Louisiana that is enough to get elected. Butch saw the lighter side of the travesty. He said that it was about time that Republicans finally come out of the closet and admit what they really are.

The bad news just kept flooding in and Butch just kept rationalizing it. When he found out that African human rights activist Winnie Mandela's body guards were actually a bunch of thugs who's main job was to beat in the heads of people who disagreed with her, he said that he thought it was good news. He said it showed that Mandela was finally assimilating into the Apartheid state of mind.

I am happy to say that Butch finally got back to normal. I am, however, sad to say that it took a truly terrible piece of news to bring him back. He heard that in Africa, people were killing helpless elephants and cutting off there tusks with chain saws. At first Butch tried to rationalize by saying that the elephants probably deserved it, but once he saw a picture of one of the dead pachyderms he started crying and screaming that the world was a cruel, terrible place.

It is good to have my friend Butch back to normal, but it is terrible to see that the world is also back to normal.



*Love Rob*