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Should campus police be armed? Police and students have difference of opinion

by Cindy Craig
Collegian Staff Writer

Randy Hoffman, manager of Behrend Police and Safety, in marked disagreement with much of the student body, thinks his officers should be allowed to carry firearms.

"If you're going to ask people to do police functions, shouldn't you give them the tools to do so?"

- Randy Hoffman
Police & Safety Manager

"I don't want to do the thing where I wave the magic wand and all of a sudden everyone's wearing guns," Hoffman told The Collegian. But Hoffman would like to see the force become armed in the near future.

A poll of 170 students

indicates most are opposed to armed officers on campus. When asked, 131 students felt Campus police should not carry guns. Students expressed concern that campus officers might not have the proper training to carry firearms. Hoffman acknowledges this problem, but notes officers would be trained in proper use of firearms.

"Weapons are a potential headache. You can't just issue a weapon. I don't advocate the wholesale statement 'give them (police officers) guns'."

At present, all but one of the current officers employed by Behrend have worked or still work for other police forces where they carry guns. The training they have received is the same as that of Wesleyville, Lawrence Park, and City of Erie police officers.

Many students said they feel that guns have no place on a college campus. This may be true, concedes Hoffman, "but crime has no place on a college campus (either)," he said, noting

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Police and Safety Manager Randy Hoffman says he doesn't think guns should be routinely issued to campus police officers without proper training procedures.

Report to SGA questions food prices; justification offered

by Mark Owens
Collegian Staff Writer

Lorenzo Paul, a Student Government Commuter Senator, presented the SGA with a report last Wednesday that questioned prices and hours at the Wintergreen Café.

Paul said the purpose of his report was to see how much of a price difference there was between the Café and other stores. He also was trying to get the administration to justify the price increases and reduced hours. He commented, "I'm not head hunting, I'm trying to get them to say 'this is the reason.' I want them to tell us why."

The report compares the Café

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Price Comparisons

Item	Wintergreen	Country Fair	Giant Eagle
Apple Jacks (15 oz.)	\$5.69	\$4.35	\$2.99
Chunky Soup	\$2.22	\$2.09	\$1.47
Folgers coffee (12 oz.)	\$7.57	---	\$5.19
Miracle Whip (32 oz.)	\$2.38	\$1.69	\$1.75 (64 oz.)
Scope (6 oz.)	\$3.04	\$3.09	\$2.66 (24 oz.)
Tide (42 oz.)	\$4.41	---	\$2.55
Ramen Pride Oriental Noodles	\$0.41	---	7/\$1.00 (Food Club)

Gergen at Behrend

David Gergen, Editor at Large for the U.S. News & World Report, told an audience at Reed Lecture Hall last night "Why the Democrats Won't Win the House Soon."

Besides the fact that the Democrats have lost five of the six last presidential elections by a landslide, Gergen notes that both the Democratic party and the way they are viewed by society have changed.

Once considered to be the party of "the average worker," Gergen states, "Democrats are straying from the mainstream." This has resulted in the loss of 130 top Democrats to the Republican party in the past year.

Republicans shouldn't be complacent," said Gergen. They're not challenging the nation. They're not going after the key issues.