

Opinion

Letters to the editor

Letter writers criticize campus police's handling of accident

Dear editor,

Why is it that before I've even turned off the engine of my illegally parked car, there are six Behrend Vice surrounding it, but when they are really needed there are none to be found?

Early Sunday, October 15, while returning home, we came across an accident a few hundred yards from the Behrend entrance. Of course we stopped to offer assistance. Seeing that the two passengers of the truck were seriously injured, three of us jumped into the car to go alert Behrend Police and Safety while one of us stayed with the victims. (This is the funny part.) On our way to the Police and Safety building, we saw a P and S car sitting in the Reed parking lot. Alas, our adventure was not yet over, for the car appeared to be abandoned and the Reed Building was locked. (Made sense to us.) Trying to draw attention to ourselves, we began honking our car's horn repeatedly, but no wandering "Vice-men" appeared. Again we hopped into our rescue-mobile and continued on to the Police and Safety building. Upon arrival, we were disappointed to find that although the lights and the computer were on, the door was locked and no one was home. (It's 2 am. Do you know where your policemen are?) Our next step was to go to the Niagara lobby to call the emergency number given to all Behrend students. We were quite surprised to find no Behrend Auxiliary Vice loitering in the lobby, hitting on our night assistant. After the phone rang seven times, a very sleepy woman made our evening and answered the phone. We reported the accident but before she called for help, she asked the name of the caller (which had to be spelled twice) and her phone number.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, our friend was all alone in the dark with a bleeding drunk and a girl trapped in the inverted Nissan

truck. We hoped he was having as much fun as we were.

We rushed back to the scene of the accident to find our friend and a few other Behrend students assisting with traffic; as yet no professionals had arrived. The sad part is the paramedics made it to the accident before Police and Safety even got off campus. When Police and Safety finally arrived we were relieved to see that they didn't bring any dogs with them. Soon the ambulances, paramedics, and State Police arrived and everything was under control. The incompetence of the Police and Safety officers showed made us wish we hadn't bothered to call them. By the way, to anyone it may concern, if the Behrend student Auxiliary are to be taken seriously they will really need to learn how to light a flare.

This letter has approached this episode from a very sarcastic point of view but in reality it wasn't a laughing matter. The accident was a traumatic experience for all of us. We had no idea how badly the victims were hurt and not being able to find any help made matters worse. There should always be someone on duty in the Police and Safety Building, especially on weekends. We realize the danger of illegal parking, delinquent night assistants and underage drinking, but we would really appreciate if during an emergency we could find just one Behrend Vice-man "standing tall." Because of this trying experience all four of us have decided to take up heavy drinking. No doubt there will be Behrend Police and Safety lurking around every corner.

Phoebe Bonfardine
Chuck Hoffman
Vicky Kohlmeyer
Layla Poch

The Collegian has offered Police and Safety Manager Randy Hoffman an opportunity to respond to this letter. Watch for his response in the next issue of The Collegian.

LOVE ROB

Butch, Bush and abortion

by Rob Prindle

"Can you believe all of these strange fluctuations, Rob?" It was my pal Butch. With our busy schedules we've just been too busy to get together and do any real complaining.

Ah, you must be talking about the terrible roller coaster ride that the stock market has been taking lately, right?

"Stock market, shmuck market. Now why should I care whether a guy makes a few million bucks or loses a few? The market has been continually rising for the past two years and if everyone got greedy then that's their own fault. What I'm talking about is our President's fluctuations."

Oh, you mean the abortion thing, Right? Yeah, our fearless leader certainly is a bit like watery Jello when it comes to doing anything logical with abortion laws.

"I think that we both know how we feel about abortion. Let women decide what women do with their own bodies, but as long as Bush is going to stick his nose in all this, the least he could do is keep his views consistent."

I know what you mean, Butch. First he says that there are only three reasons why a woman should be allowed to have an abortion: rape, incest and if the woman's life is at stake. And the government will pay for an abortion if a woman's life is on the line but then Congress decides to pass a bill that would allow public funding for the other two cases and Bush says that he will veto it. I'm thinking that our President is just a little tired of his job. Why else would he do something as shifty as this? Why else would he do something so asinine?

"Hey, I just figured it out Rob. I think that Mr. Bush (that name really fits the man, doesn't it?) might just be acting logically after all. Do you remember the platform that he ran on? He ran on the promise that everyone would be equal as long as they had a Gold Card."

"He got elected because white suburbanite zombies needed a leader and they needed a President who would tell them that they are superior to anyone who didn't own a Dodge Caravan. His stand does make sense after all. Thanks Rob, now I can't imagine what I found



Rob Prindle

so surprising about Bush telling people that it's fine for anyone to get an abortion because of rape or incest, but only if they can afford it themselves."

Of course Butch, you know as well as I do that Bush is screwing those same suburbanites in other ways.

"Yeah I know that, but that's okay because suburbanites have Blue Cross. They can afford abortions if Bush gets them in trouble."

EDITORIAL POSITION - The Collegian is now accepting applications from students interested in serving as editor for spring of 1990. Interested persons should apply immediately by placing letters of application in The Collegian mailbox. Letters should include information about your past experience as well as an explanation of your personal philosophy of running a student newspaper.

Editorial Policy

The Behrend Collegian's editorial opinion is determined by the editor, with the editor holding final responsibility. Opinions expressed in the Collegian are not necessarily those of the Behrend Collegian or the Pennsylvania State University.

Letter Policy: The Behrend Collegian encourages letters on news coverage, editorial content and university affairs. Letters should be typewritten, double-spaced and signed by no more than two persons. Letters should be no longer than 400 words. Letters should include the semester and major of the writer. All letters should provide the address and phone number of the writer 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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