

Silvis clarifies parking rules

Manager of Police and Safety attempts to explain complex parking regulations, current construction adds to parking shortage

by Shirl Climpson
The Collegian

The shortage of parking spaces for commuters, residence hall students, and faculty members continues to grow as construction work for new parking lots continues.

Larry Silvis, manager of Police and Safety Services, says he has taken steps to remedy Behrend's current parking problem.

Silvis has comprised a letter reiterating previous parking regulations and establishing new ones. It is an effort, says Silvis, to "create some uniformity in Behrend's parking system" and

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Raspberry fears society coming unglued

Celebrated journalist criticizes special interest groups

by Rob Prindle
The Collegian

Expressing major concerns about America's inability to make long range plans for the good of the whole, nationally syndicated columnist William Raspberry said "America, as a society, may be coming unglued."

Raspberry, who has won the Capital Press Club's Journalist of the year award and whose column appears in 175 newspaper including the Erie Morning News, spoke here last Thursday. His speech, "Perspectives on America," was part of Penn State-Behrend's 1990-1991 speaker series.

"It's almost as though there is no national interest," according to Raspberry who feels the whole society seems to be disintegrating into special interests. Raspberry

cited Congress' recent problem with passing a budget as an example.

Raspberry argued for more statesman and fewer politicians

"Each generation has gone farther, but that steady march of progress may have peaked with my generation and that scores the hell out of me."

- William Raspberry
syndicated columnist

who have a hard time seeing past the next election. Saying "I don't think we have worse people in Congress than we used to have,"

Raspberry explained sometimes the political situation makes it impossible to do the right thing.

Elected officials constantly feel the pull of special interest and minority groups who seek "special privileges and exemptions" and who promote the "politics of difference" where one group demands compensation whenever another group gains an advantage. Raspberry sees an important difference between "a search for inter-group justice and a search for group advantage."

On the subject of racial intolerance, Raspberry feels that you cannot complain about racism the way you "shriek about the weather in Erie." He stressed that the "struggle against racism needs to make sense." Raspberry argued that it would be foolish to call on racists for solutions to the basic problems facing many black Americans. "Why look to

the Devil (racists) for my salvation?"

On education in America, Raspberry sees a "new seriousness about learning." But he also expressed concern on the problems of racism on college campuses. Again Raspberry cited group interests as part of the problem. He communicated his amazement at how often groups look after their own interest and how seldom any group sees its mission as "knitting the campus into a community." Raspberry sees a bleak future if "college kids can't live in harmony."

"Each generation," Raspberry said, "has gone farther, but that steady march of progress may have peaked with my generation and that scares the hell out of me."

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