

# Letters to the Editor

(continued from page 4)

wonderful folks I've met and the friends I've made through the years. The notes I received from the office staff were always a joy. The only thing that keeps me from crying is knowing you'll always be with me, in my heart and in my fondest memories.

I will be retiring on June the fifth, but I'm not leaving Behrend behind. I'm taking with me some of the most crazy, wild, wonderful times of my life.

I want to thank everyone I've worked for and with during my stay. I've enjoyed many laughs with you, had some good surprises, and some unusual ones. You've shared much of my family news with me and I want to send out a special thank you to the whole Behrend community for the tremendous support you gave me in the recent loss of my hubby.

For the past two years I've shared the dorm, Perry Hall from 7:00 to 3:30 daily, with 100 fine young men. As many of you know, I call them 'My Guys'. I'm so grateful to them for all their compassion and love. They've just helped and supported me through one of the most difficult periods of my life. My Guys are special, but they already know that.

I adore My Guys and I sure will miss their youth and enthusiasm. I wish you all a good fortune and remember, please: what you learn now will have a great effect on your future, and oh what a future it'll be!

I do thank God that you folks were in my lifetime, and in my life. I'll enjoy the memories all of you gave me. All of you, My Guys, the Behrend community, the staff and faculty, all of you are special. I will always love you all. God bless all of you special people.

**Del Koppes**  
Resident Hall Worker

## Thank you

Now is the time for evaluating the quality and effectiveness of the programs we have held throughout the academic year. Looking back, I realize how many student organizations and individual students have contributed to our efforts. Their help has been crucial to the success of several of our programs.

Beginning with the Fall Carnival at which 21 student clubs and organizations sponsored tables and continuing through the mocktrial, blood drives, the drinking demonstration, Mocktails at Bruno's, the S.A.D.D. speaker, the Health and Wellness Fair, Stairways Art Exhibit, Martial Arts Demonstration, and the Armor and Sturtevant coffee house, students have volunteered their time, creativity, and energy.

Because there were so many contributors we could not recognize everyone during the Awards Ceremony on April 26, 1992. We would therefore like to honor them at the next meeting

of the Health Advisory Board - May 7, 1992 at 9:00 a.m. in the Reed Conference Room. (Invitations will be sent to all certificate recipients.)

Certificates will be given to Kappa Delta Rho Fraternity, The Multi-Cultural Council, Delta Chi Fraternity, Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority, Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Martial Arts Club, Psi Chi Honor Society, the Psychology Club, the Matchbox Players, Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority, and Students Against Driving Drunk. Several individuals will also be recognized.

During the same meeting we will be discussing ideas for next year. We welcome all interested students, faculty and staff to attend this meeting and participate in planning for 1992-93. This past year student board members were very helpful in selecting speakers and programs that students enjoyed.

I hope we see an expansion of this involvement next year. Any student interested in improving student life at Penn State-Behrend is most welcome. I encourage student clubs and organizations who enjoyed participating in Wellness programs this year to send representatives to the 1992-93 Health Advisory Board so that they can be involved "from the ground up."

In closing I wish to thank everyone who participated this year in our wellness efforts. Please stay involved. We need you.

**Cathy Eck**  
Wellness Coordinator

## Quiet please

I walked into the library, pushing through the mass of people socializing at the door. The babble of the room was almost to the level of the Gorge at lunchtime. O.K., I figured, another typical day. I found the quietest section I could, beside two other students who appeared to be studying diligently.

Shortly after I gathered my research material and began my work, the two students beside me struck up a conversation about the relative merits of sleeping with this person as opposed to that person. I realize that this is an important scholarly subject, imperative to surviving the end of this semester, but I was annoyed at their choice of location for the discussion.

Still, I have come to expect this when I go to the library, so I did my best to ignore them. Then their friend with the squirt-gun showed up. I discovered rapidly that there is nothing more distracting than over-spray when one is trying to concentrate. Now I realize that there is some kind of squirt-gun survival game organizing on this campus, and it sounds like an excellent form of stress relief to me, but is the library really the place for this?

What has happened to the commitment to study on this campus? I realize that our library is not exactly a researcher's

dream, but it's the best we have. In case no one has noticed, there are a multitude of lounges on this campus where socialization is expected and squirt-guns are thoroughly enjoyed.

The library, contrary to popular belief, is not one of these, and I get annoyed when it is treated as such. Maybe this summer, Penn State needs to hunt down and hire my grade-school librarian. She had a face that could stop a clock, but she knew how to control the children.

**Michael A. Brenneman**  
Fourth semester  
English

## Proud bond

John Mack, James Ruhlman and Brian Silvis have recently expressed their opinions regarding the Greek participation in the SGA elections. They have implied that it was selfish and foolish.

Voting is our right, bestowed upon us through the efforts of many men and women who adamantly refused to accept the status quo. It is sad that more people do not vote in all elections. It is our opportunity to choose our leadership. Running a country or a student organization demands activism. Those who do not vote are only hurting themselves.

Expression of their anger in defeat has not stopped with their comments. It has manifested itself in our student government. When they subordinate the goals of the student body to their own selfish purposes, they embarrass themselves and neglect their electorate. When unprincipled means are employed (Ruhlman's inaccuracies regarding Schmoyer's use of student money for copies), a shadow is cast upon all those who attempt to make Behrend a little better.

Lastly, try to understand where the Greeks are coming from. We are a brotherhood and a sisterhood that combine our strengths to overcome our weaknesses and strive to be more. Do not hate us for being active. We do not infringe upon anyone's life. We do not impose our way of life on others. We seek and demand to be heard. We live here and attend school here. We, therefore, pledge our effort to maintaining what is good and correcting what is lacking.

The members of TKE are infinitely proud of our bond. We are proud of the lengths we have traveled to achieve it. This pride cries out for devotion, and effort is our answer. Most other organizations have some bond in which they are proud. They too should take advantage of their greatest assets, their members. Participation is of utmost importance.

To those who are trying to strike out at the Greeks through SGA; just don't screw it up for the rest of the student body. To John Mack and James D. Ruhlman; you appear to be power hungry children who care more about what people can do for you than what you can do for people. You will make great politicians, but damn poor leaders. Let's put our differences

aside and look to the next year.

Good luck to all those leaving Behrend. To my brothers, you will all be greatly missed, your shoes are hard to fill.

**Brian Conboy**  
Fifth semester  
International Management

## Good bye

In my past three years at Behrend, I have never let my thoughts be heard by the campus as a whole. However, since I am graduating, I have decided to share my opinions of Behrend.

As I recall these past three years, I feel a sense of joy and wonderment. I believe that Behrend has had a positive impact on my life, and I regret not spending all four years here. Behrend engenders not only the legendary slogan: "the small college with the big degree," but its also engenders a unique sense of unity.

The people I have encountered on this campus are all special in their own right. I have learned much from all of them. I have especially enjoyed my time working in the Office of Student Activities. Both on the clock and off, I have made some very unique friendships, that hopefully, will last a long time.

I will miss Behrend when I move on, opening another chapter in my life. For it is the people at Behrend that make it as special as it is, from the administration to the students.

The experiences I have gained from being involved in student organizations have been very educational. I believe my socialization skills have improved along with learning to work with people of different backgrounds.

I believe that one should actively participate in student activities in order to augment their education. For it is not only a way to meet people, student participation will teach one better time management and to cope with stress.

Thus as I walk across the campus these last couple of weeks, it slowly becomes difficult to leave and start a new life in a new setting. I'm confident that I will make new friends wherever I go, but I have doubts that these new friendships will be as special as my current ones.

So I say good-bye to Penn State-Behrend and all of its idiosyncrasies. With saying this, I will also add that I am glad that I did not travel to University Park to finish my degree. The personalized education received and the comfortable setting of Behrend have made my college experience so much the better.

**Jason Bates**  
Eighth semester  
Political Science

## Go social

Since the recent SGA elections, *The Collegian* has endured a steady flow of letters protesting the results of the election.

The unsuccessful candidates

seem to be discontent unless they are blasting their opponents. The most prolific author seems to be John Mack (SGA presidential runner-up). In Mr. Mack's opinion, his opponent, Joe Mycka, is unqualified to represent the student body. He says Mr. Mycka is not in touch with the students' needs.

Mr. Mack, perhaps you should re-evaluate your own involvement in student life. There is more to college than coming to school, going to class, then going home. Sitting on an SGA committee or heading the Commuter Council, while noble efforts, do not sufficiently constitute student involvement.

Being involved means attending athletic events to show support for Behrend athletes. It means showing support of the Studio Theater by attending plays. It means participating in intramurals. It means joining one of the many social clubs on campus.

There is far more to college life than the classroom and SGA office. I believe that you are missing out on vast opportunities to learn about yourself as well as the books you read in class. Run again next year, after becoming truly involved. You may just find success.

**Donald Alpern**  
Sixth semester  
History

## Both false

This letter in response to that of William Koch which appeared in the April 23 issue of *The Collegian*. Mr. Koch, I have major problems with your major problems, namely that they are both false!

First, while my campaign did have its negative aspects, I also included my planned agenda and prior experience on my posters in addition to pointing out the unethical behavior of my opponent, thus making my campaign well rounded. Also, are you blind? My campaign was not the only one with negative aspects, such tactics were also employed in the SGA presidential/vice-presidential race.

Second, you are absolutely right that Mr. Schmoyer's posters were billed to Delta Chi. You must be blind! I clearly stated on my posters that they were billed to a student organization. You are also right in your statement that SGA does not fund Delta Chi (which is due to the discriminatory nature of the Greek system). However, Mr. Koch, ALL photocopies made on the SGA copier are subsidized by SGA, as the 4 cents/copy billed to the student organizations doesn't even cover the cost of toner, paper, electricity, and copier rental. SGA is funded largely by the tuition payments of students!

Furthermore, Mr. Koch, I suggest that you take your own advice and "research your facts and make sure that they are accurate", because this time they were not.

**James D. Ruhlman**  
Fourth semester  
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