

Bravo to Matchbox Player's B.R.U.N.O.S.

by Valerie Trost
staff writer

The Matchbox Players first student created and produced musical was a wonderful and highly amusing success. *B.R.U.N.O.S.* sold out its six performances, packing the Studio Theatre with students. Student writers Joe Getway, 08 English, and Dallas Skeens, 04 Philosophy and Russian, devised a screenplay that brought to light the absurdities and hilarities of student life at Behrend college. The emphasized letters in the title stand for a different Bruno's then we all know, in this case it stands for six upperclassmen, a force to be reckoned, or more specifically, the Behrend Required Underclassmen Normal Operations Supervisors.

The setting of the play was the basement of the Otto Behrend Science Building and the imagination of the students, and the time: that dreaded time of year, Freshman Orientation. The plot revolved around two brand new Behrend freshmen played by Bethany Cummings, 04 Education, and Ryan Cannon, 02 English. They were lead by a group of upperclassmen who were trying to explain their "credo" to college life here at Behrend in order to break in these naive newcomers. This fast

paced lesson that these two freshman received included issues that every student (Behrend students even more so) no doubt found relative to their lives.

Topics such as: lack of money and food, homesickness, procrastination, test anxiety, English 15, and of course, the party scene, were told in such a realistic way that one could do nothing but chuckle at the familiarity they found in the attitudes and reactions of the actors on stage. Just as random and crazy as college life was the cleverly incorporated show tunes found throughout the performance. It is a safe bet that there was a piece from everyone's favorite musical. Songs were creatively mixed right into the script from musicals such as: *Hair, Cabaret, Guys and Dolls, Fiddler on the Roof, Annie*, and many more.

The upperclassmen, or the "supervisors" who are running the show and in charge of "molding" these freshmen were played by Erin Costello, 04 Advertising, Leo Hanley, 04 Communications, Jessica Dows, 02 Chemistry, James Washburn, 02 DUS, Stephanie Miller, 04 Psychology, and John Hoderly, 08 Economics.

Danielle Marshall, 06 Political Science, played the Finance Officer

who shows these two fresh faces what "really makes the world go round." Geoffrey Pieper, 08 Political Science, played the classic mind draining Chemistry Professor. The cast was then rounded out into a number of Behrend students including an appearance by English Professor Dr. John Champagne as the ghost of Otto Behrend and Dan Schressor, the coordinator of Residence Life, playing the dreaded professor who hands out the finals.

The production was directed by Tony Elliot and student produced by Gretchen Foust, 04 Management. The hard work of the students involved was evident and well paid-off. The lesson to be learned, illustrated on stage, is that all students should take every opportunity possible to start making some memories.

Student writers Dallas Skeens and Joe Getway took great risks writing the screenplay. *B.R.U.N.O.S.*'s co-author Mr. Skeens states, "It took a lot of revisions... but everything worked out in the end."

This article appeared in last week's issue of The Beacon, but not in its entirety. The Beacon apologizes for this error.



photo courtesy of Matchbox Players

Starring in the Matchbox Player's production of *B.R.U.N.O.S.* are (front row) James Washburn, Stephanie Miller, (middle) Erin Costello, Bethany Cummings, Ryan Cannon, Jessica Dows, (back) John Hoderly and Leo Hanley.

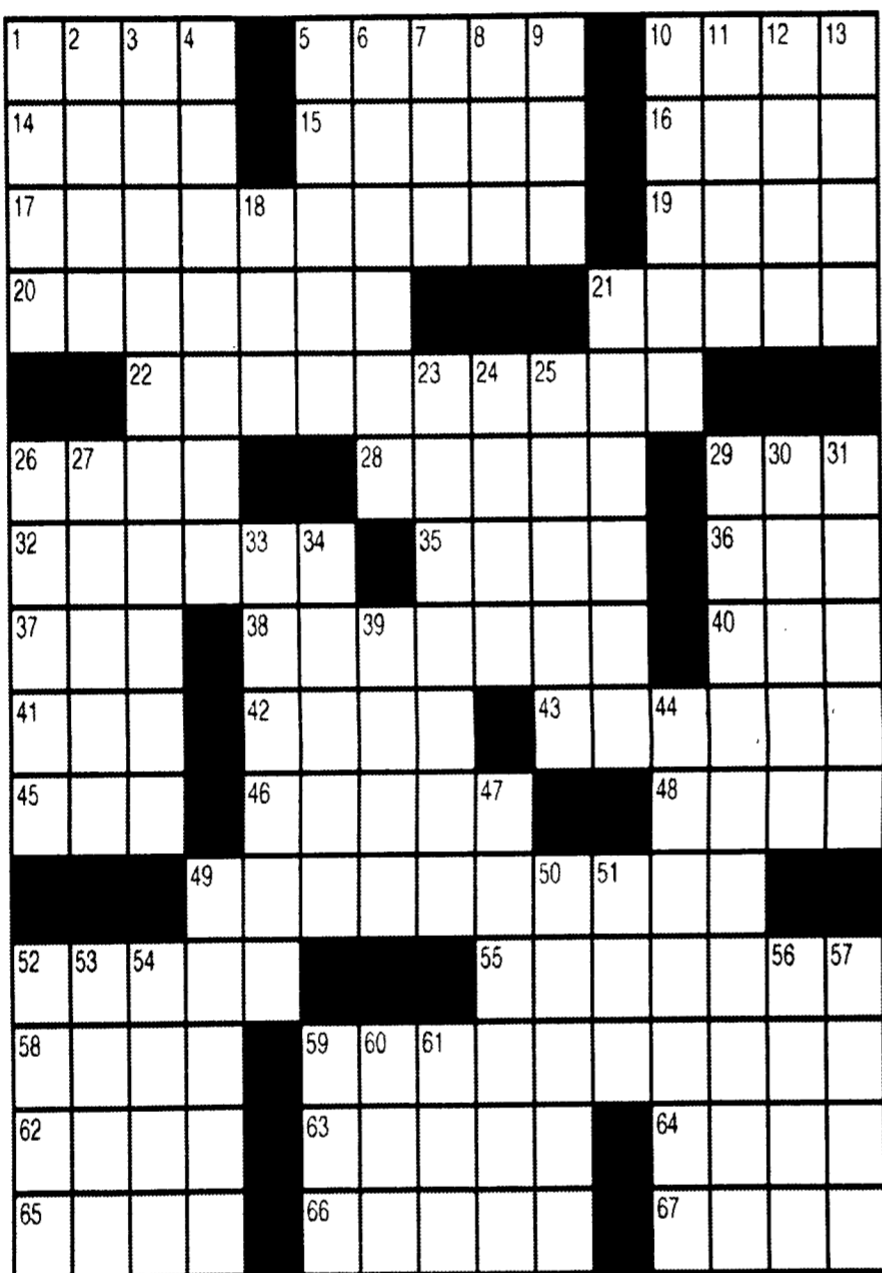


Students majoring in everything from engineering to psychology will have their artwork on display in the Reed Union Building Wintergarden at the Behrend College from April 16-30, 1999.



More than 70 students from the International Management class at Penn State Behrend recently hosted their first annual international dinner. The event featured displays and cuisine from 18 different countries in Western Europe. Two hundred members of the community attended and heard remarks by international traveler Dr. Richard Lundquist and viewed a performance by Irish dancers Rince NaTiarna.

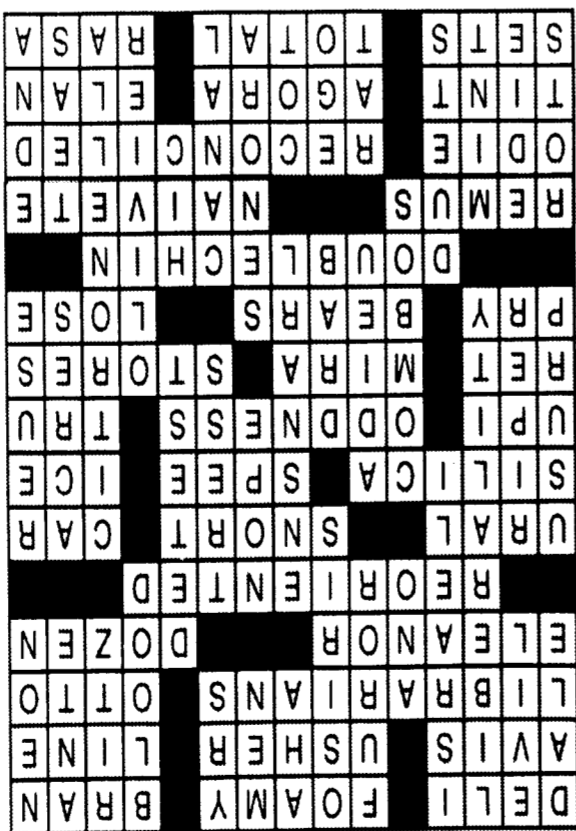
- ACROSS**
- 1 Cold-cut palace
 - 5 Like shaving cream
 - 10 Cereal grain
 - 14 Rara __
 - 15 Show to seats
 - 16 "What's My __?"
 - 17 Bookkeepers?
 - 19 Von Bismarck or Klemperer
 - 20 Mrs. Roosevelt
 - 21 Twelve
 - 22 Got one's bearings back
 - 26 Caspian feeder
 - 28 Contemptuous sound
 - 29 Automobile
 - 32 Glass ingredient
 - 35 "Pursuit of the Graf __"
 - 36 Crystalline water
 - 37 News agcy.
 - 38 Eccentricity
 - 40 Play about Capote
 - 41 Like Gen. Powell, now
 - 42 Actress Sorvino
 - 43 Puts away
 - 45 Snoop
 - 46 Grizzlies
 - 48 Mislays
 - 49 Fat neck
 - 52 Twin of Romulus
 - 55 Artlessness
 - 58 Garfield's patsy
 - 59 Made compatible
 - 62 Delicate color
 - 63 Athenian marketplace
 - 64 Pizzazz
 - 65 Tennis units
 - 66 Bottom line
 - 67 Tabula __



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- 8 Fellows
- 9 Time meas.
- 10 Dracula's drink
- 11 "Puttin' on the __"
- 12 Contribution to the pot
- 13 Las Vegas light
- 18 Pedro's year
- 21 Dislike intensely
- 23 Tangle up
- 24 Slangy negative
- 25 Lock of hair
- 26 Stage a coup
- 27 More mature
- 29 Mosquito repellent
- 30 Estate measures
- 31 Put into service again



- 49 Pieces for two
- 50 Kiel or Suez, e.g.
- 51 __ jacet (RIP)
- 52 Goes bad
- 53 Actress McClurg
- 54 Julep garnish
- 56 Pekoe and Earl Grey
- 57 Author Ferber
- 59 Rodent pest
- 60 I problem?
- 61 Army bed

- DOWN**
- 1 Landscape dip
 - 2 Wickedness
 - 3 Generosity
 - 4 Kibbutz resident
 - 5 Frenzy
 - 6 Egyptian judge of the dead
 - 7 Now I get it!

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