

Cup-a-Ccino's: Somewhere to sit and sip

by Bobby Crockett
staff writer

As the average college student knows, there are too few hours in the day to accomplish all the tasks that a college student is asked to do. Often times sleep ends up on the short end of the stick, as it is substituted for such quick fixes as energy bars and cappuccino. Well, for the college student with the urge for a little caffeine or just looking for some place to hang out, Cup-a-Ccino's might just be the place to stop and enjoy a sip.

Cup-a-Ccino's is located in downtown Erie, at 18 North Park Row. "Cups," as the regulars that attend have nicknamed it, provides a rather wide variety of beverages that all contain ample amounts of caffeine or

espresso to keep the average college student awake during those long lecture hall classes. Depending on your mood or the ever changing Erie weather, you can order a warm beverage such as a cup of coffee, a cappuccino, or a cold beverage such as an iced tea or iced mocha. For those with an adventurous spirit, there is always the daily specialties, which have been concocted to give the drinker an extra special treat. Plus, those who do not want to venture elsewhere for something to eat can pick up a bagel or a cup of soup to satisfy their hunger.

While many people go to "Cups" for an energy boost, that is by far not the only reason to go. Fear of spilling a warm beverage on one-



Cup-a-Ccino's is a new college hangout spot

PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

self might be a reason that some people sit down with their drink, but for the most part there are always a couple of people holding a discussion and just generally enjoying the company of others. Teenagers can be found anytime sitting inside or outside of "Cups", even at times when others might wonder if they should be in school. Cups is located very close to the campus of Gannon. Many college students from Gannon stop in when taking a break from being in class or even taking a break from going to class. However, do not be surprised to see an occasional person who looks like they are on their break from their office job. On a whole, one should not be surprised at all at what they might see while hanging out at "Cups".

Do not worry, though, if you are claustrophobic or just plain anti-social, there are plenty of places to sit and enjoy your drink besides in "Cups." Right across the street from "Cups" is Perry Square Park with plenty of benches where you can sit and sip. If that is not your cup of tea, you are well within walking range of the bayfront or other downtown high-lights such as the Erie Art Museum. Although as the temperatures continue to drop, you might want to become a tad bit more social or start to overcome your fears.

So if you are in the mood or just in the area and need a temporary energy boost, or just want to prove to yourself that there are places to hang out in Erie, a stop in Cup-a-Ccino's might be in the cards for you.

Cruisin'

CASH

The vacation that wasn't

Picture a family of ten, ranging in ages from ages eight to sixty nine, leaving from Meadville, Pennsylvania, heading to the Outer Banks in North Carolina for a weeklong escape from reality. I had my heart set on hearing the waves, and sunning in the sand, alongside my beloved boyfriend, dreaming of the perfect getaway. However, as I drove onto Interstate 79 South, disaster struck in the very beginning, and a feeling of impending doom soon set in. I wanted some rest and relaxation, but I soon found myself lost because of apprehensive relatives that did not dare steer off that "AAA" map. Upon arrival to our beautiful beach-house, the complaining, "it's too hot," "I'm hungry," "there's nothing to do," "let's

see what's on The Weather Channel" and sheer chaos all began. Despite the best weather the Outer Banks had seen all summer, my family was reluctant to enjoy the sights and sounds North Carolina had to offer.

As in the summer hit, "Survivor," alliances soon began to take form. On the one hand, there was my boyfriend, Adam, and the "cool group" of relatives, made up of my Uncle Pete, Aunt Elaine, my Cousin Darcy, and my friend Krista and myself. The enemy group consisted of my two-faced Uncle Al, my worrywart Aunt Susan, my obnoxious Cousin Eric, and my Grandmother. Now although the enemy was outnumbered, boy did they raise hell! Pointing fingers, indecisiveness, and blaming the

"cool" group for every little mishap that took place were just some of the tactics used by the enemy to annoy us. Such examples of this include my uncle Al, who took Adam and I out to have some drinks one night, and then telling my Grandmother that we had "Sex on the Beach." Other annoyances were Eric's accusing me of slashing his stomach open, and my Aunt Susan demanding me to tape her adored soap operas, "can't miss my soap operas." There were many more, but you get the idea.

Sure, the trip had its fill of bickering, but the tribes united the moment when Adam and I crashed during go-cart racing. After the impact, we all rushed to the emergency room for Adam to see a doctor. Regardless of the fact that the doctor urged him to get a x-ray on his injured knee, he being stubborn, refused. But the family reached out

with open arms for him, and the trip turned out to be an eye opener.

I came to the conclusion that I saw another side of my family while on vacation. We became closer because of the trip, and now my boyfriend is becoming a part of the family. Arriving back in Meadville, Adam saw a specialist for his knee, resulting in torn ligaments and also, for being diagnosed with leukemia. The care and support from my family showered over Adam has reached a new level, and as the old saying goes, "the love of a family shelters like a tree."

Sherry L. Stevenson

Contest Rules

Any Behrend student can submit a 300-500 word story about a road trip they have taken since the end of the spring 2000 semester. The trip must be more than 150 miles from the original location. A photo must accompany entry with sufficient proof that the trip was made. Insufficient proof will lessen chances to win contest. If more than one student took part in the road trip, only the student submitting the story is eligible, unless all members send name in with entry. If more than one student name appears on entry, prize will be divided amongst the students who entered. Send in entries as soon as possible to ensure publication in the Beacon. Only entries appearing in the Beacon will be voted on. Beacon members are ineligible and will vote on the winner.

Indians Invade Behrend's Studio Theatre

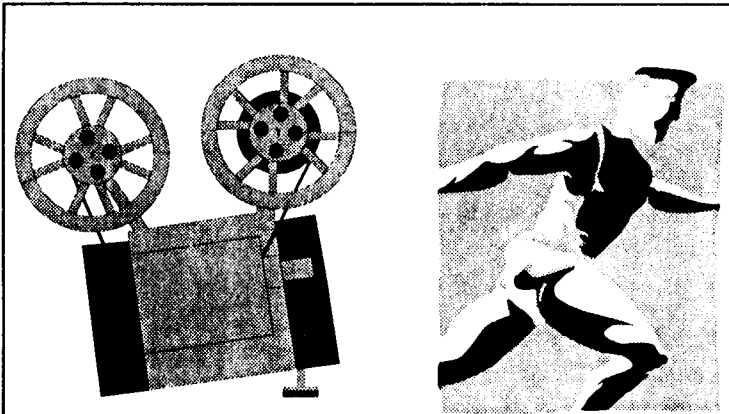
The Studio Theatre's fall production, *Ten Little Indians*, will open October 20 at 8 p.m. at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College. Under the direction of Tony Elliot, lecturer at the College, the cast features several Behrend students and faculty. Performances are scheduled for October 20, 21, 22, 24, 26, & 27 at 8 p.m., and on October 22 & 28 at 2:30 p.m.

A mystery-comedy by Agatha Christie, *Ten Little Indians* is set on an island off the coast of Devon, England. Eight unsuspecting guests have been invited for a weekend retreat to the Owens' home, though none of the guests ever met their hosts. Nor have the guests ever met each other. Even more bizarre, the household servants have never met their employers. And so commences a humorously baffling weekend that will soon turn bloody.

Tickets for *Ten Little Indians* are \$3 for students and \$5 for the general public. To reserve your seat, please call the Reed Union Building information desk at (814) 898-6242



The cast of *Ten Little Indians* at the Studio Theatre of Penn State Erie, The Behrend College, is shown here. The performance schedule for this Agatha Christie mystery-comedy is as follows: October 20, 21, 24, 25, 26, & 27 at 8:00 p.m., and Oct. 22 & 28 at 2:30 p.m.



Happenings in Erie

October 6

A Night of Silent Movies and Swinging Jazz, at the Erie Art Museum Annex, 8:00 p.m.

October 7

Erie Philharmonic "On Broadway," at the Warner Theatre, 8:00 p.m.

October 8

The Tragically Hip, at the Warner Theatre, 7:30 p.m.

October 12

Grace Thorpe lectures about Jim Thorpe and the Olympics, Mercyhurst College Mary D' Angelo Performing Arts Center, 8:00 p.m.

