

The Behrend Beacon's

by Guy Reschenthaler, wire service editor

Fall 2001 Freshmen Perspective - Part 1

Introduction

Who are those kids? We don't know them. You don't know them. The American people don't know them. Why? Because they are freshmen. As another year is underway at Behrend College, new fresh faces are seen all over campus. But behind every new face is a real person who carries fears, expectations, impressions, and so many credits. The Beacon decided to take a look at some of the freshmen and to follow them throughout their first year in the last frontier known as college.

Erika Kummernus

Age: 18
Height: 5'6"
Major: Physics
Credits: 16
Favorite Foods: Ethnic foods, especially Thai
TV Show: "That 70's Show" and "Jackass"
Favorite Movies: "Amadeus" and "Life is Beautiful"

Erika is a graduate from Chippewa High School in Doylestown, Ohio, where she played volleyball her freshman year. At Behrend she plans to once again pick up her

athletic drive and join the ski club. She came to Behrend because it had a good physics program and it was semi-close to home.

She comments on housing: "It is a big change, I've never had to share a room with anyone before. But it is not as bad as I thought it was going to be." About the food she said, "It is not great and it is not putrid either so I think I'm going to survive."

Erika does not drink and does not plan on it, but she does have advice for those who do. "If you are going to drink, drink responsibly. Don't drive and be careful because a lot of things could happen."

Her expectations for college are to make a "B" average and to make a lot of good friends; she has already

made several.

About college in general, Erika said, "I thought college would be unfathomable and that I wouldn't be able to grasp it, but it is easier than I thought. It is just a lot more work at a faster pace, which I knew it would be but I can actually grasp it." Also, "Have your mom do your laundry; it sucks!"



PHOTO BY ROB WYNNE

Justin 'Tex' Lucas

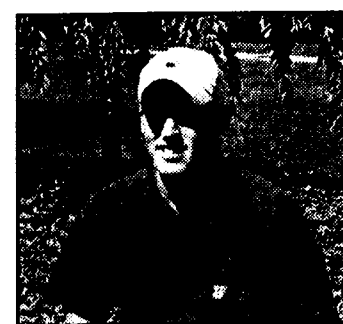


PHOTO BY ROB WYNNE

Age: 18
Height: 5'8"
Major: Finance and International Business
Credits: 17
Favorite food: Steak
TV Show: "Drew Carey"
Movie: "American History X"

Justin is from Houston, Texas, hence his nickname, "Tex." He graduated from Cypress Falls High School where he was on the swim team, as well as the baseball team. He made Second Team all state for swimming - a great feat considering he did not start swimming until his sophomore year. At Behrend, he plays water polo and plans on swimming. As for how he may perform at Behrend, he said, "I just want to do better; better than I've ever done before."

Justin said he picked Behrend "because it is a good business school. And it is away from home." He expects to earn a 3.5 and achieve all his goals.

Justin's favorite class at Cypress Falls High School was calculus. His favorite college class is also calculus. He hopes to put on the freshman 15 in lean muscle mass for water polo.

On the topic of drinking Justin said, "If it is what you want to do, go do it." He thinks the parties here are pretty good and has been to a few. Yes, he does drink. Of those parties several were fraternity parties. Justin said that he plans on pledging eventually; if not this year then next year.

Justin has been making a lot of friends in his first few weeks at school, more so than he thought he would.

'It sounded very interesting and I wanted to pick a small college, not one with 654,000 students.'

Tushar Patoka

Tushar Patoka is a foreign student from India. He attended a private school in his hometown New Delhi, India, named Modern School. There he played badminton and hopes to play the sport at Behrend as well.

He chose Penn State Behrend because "it sounded very interesting and I wanted to pick a small college, not one with 654,000 students."

He has a few expectations for college. He hopes to maintain a "minimum B+ average and also is planning on not succumbing to the temptation of drinking."

Tushar has a few impressions about college so far. He said he likes the dorms, which are "definitely better than the ones in India." But he has qualms with the cafeteria food in that it is good but does not offer a lot of options for a vegetarian like himself.

He says he has met a lot of nice girls so far, but he has not yet been to a

party although he plans on going to one soon. Prior to the interview he had never heard of a fraternity, but he said that he would like to experience one.

Tushar predicts that he will change in some ways as he fulfills his freshman year, but says he has not yet.



Elizabeth 'Liz' Lorenze

Age: 18
Sex: Female
Major: Psychology
Credits: 17
Favorite Food: Sushi
TV Show: "Sex in the City"
Favorite Movie: "Pretty Woman"

Liz's alma mater is a little place called Williamson in Lawrenceville, PA. She played volleyball in high school and continues to play at Behrend.

She expects to earn a high B or a low A average in college and also expects to make a lot of friends this year. She thinks she has more work in college, but feels that it is a lot more fun than high school.

Concerning drinking, Liz does, but has an important rule: only on weekends.

Liz does not see the freshman 15 as a threat. She feels that her athletic activities, volleyball and weightlifting, will fight off the extra pounds.

About choosing Behrend, Liz said she made the decision to come to Erie, "because I didn't want to pay \$26,000 to go to Drexel."

PHOTO BY PAIGE MILES

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

The weekly column that asks if there is intelligent life out there

by Mike Pingree
TMS Campus

YOU'RE ARRESTING ME? A 60-year-old North Carolina man, who apparently sees nothing wrong with growing marijuana in his back yard, confronted a young man at a convenience store for stealing some of his plants, prompting a shouting match. One thing led to another, and the marijuana grower called the cops to file a complaint for theft. He then obligingly showed them his garden which contained 27 marijuana plants valued at \$1 million. He was very surprised when they arrested him.

NO NEED FOR A COMPOSITE SKETCH HERE: Trying to beat a \$4 fare for a limousine ride, a passenger reached over the back seat and scuffled with the driver who slammed on the brakes and fought him off. The assailant fled, but authorities feel he shouldn't be too hard to find. He left 14 snapshots of himself and his family in the back seat. The search is on.

MONKEY SEE, MONKEY RELAX A LITTLE: Sunny and Cheena, a male and female chimpanzee, were put into the same cage at a zoo in India so that they would mate, but, instead, they fought with each other for months. Officials at the Prince of Wales Zoo in Lucknow finally solved the problem by installing two mirrors in the cage. They now pass the time by looking at their images and trying to communicate with them. They are also getting along much better with each other.

SHE'S JUST A GIRL WHO CAN'T SAY NO: A 35-year-old mother of five expressed remorse for having sexual relations with two boys, ages 13 and 15. Interviewed in a California jail, the woman told a reporter that she was sorry that she romped with the lads in her bedroom, bathroom, the chicken coop, the rabbit cage and under bushes on her property. Characterizing herself as a "naturally weak person," she said, "I just wish I was strong enough to say no."

FAMILY GATHERINGS COULD BE TENSE NOW: A 19-year-old man, arrested for burglary, called his father from the jail in Van Buren, Ark., and asked him to get the stolen money he had hidden in his bedroom and bail him out. Instead, the father, a law-abiding citizen, alerted the authorities and turned the cash over to them as evidence.

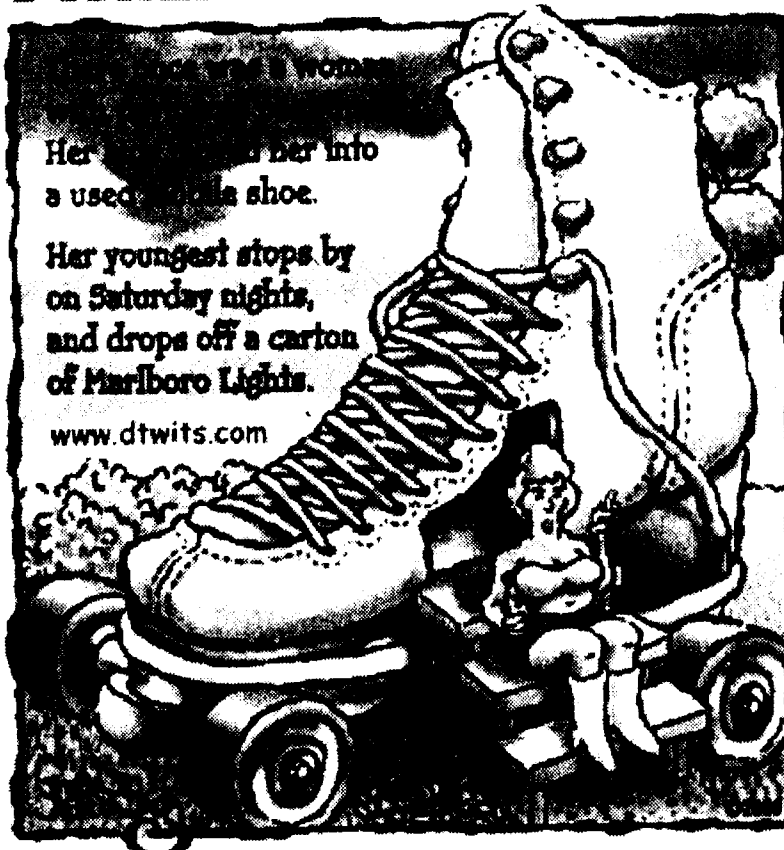
WE ARE UNABLE TO COME TO THE PHONE: Heavily in debt, the Baggaley, Pa., Volunteer Fire Department announced it was declaring bankruptcy and stopped answering emergency calls.

REALLY EXCELLENT CRAFTSMANSHIP: Seventeen convicts escaped from a Brazilian jail by convincing a guard that they had a gun. The weapon was actually made of cardboard, and had been made in the prison's arts and crafts workshop.

Check us out on the Web!

www.clubs.psu.edu/beacononline

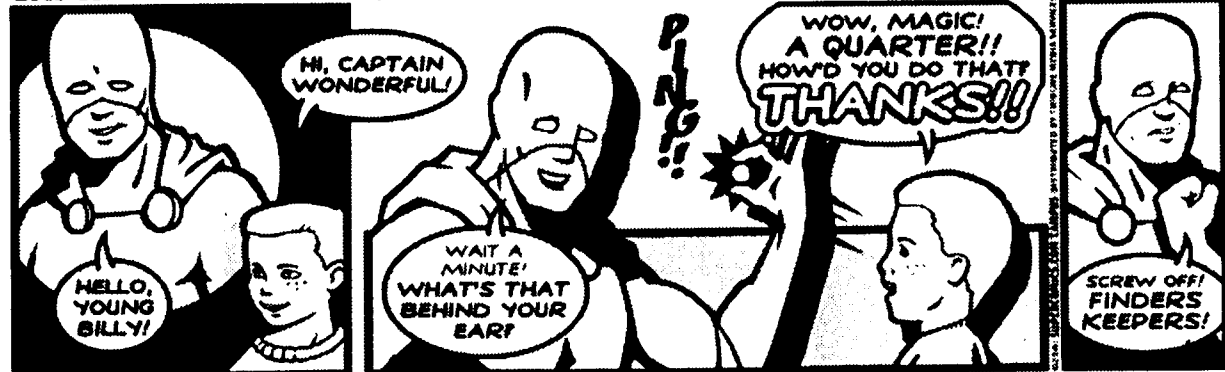
DITHERED TWITS by Stan Waling



The Weekly Funnies

CAPTAIN RIBMAN in Magic Moments

by Sprengelmeyer & Davis



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