

Roos, Daquelente named royalty

by Ben Raymond
staff writer

On February 11, the Junker Center resonated with cheers during the first basketball homecoming. Both men and women's basketball teams took home victories and students Dave Daquelente and Jeannie Roos were awarded the honor of being the first King and Queen.

A total of 582 people were in attendance for the basketball games against Lake Erie College. The night was more than basketball games. There were other activities in the main hall like Tarot card readings and caricature drawings.

After performances from the dance team and the cheerleaders at halftime, the nominees took the court for the announcement.

Students were nominated from a number of clubs and organizations and voted on by the rest of the student body. After all the votes were tallied the runners up were announced.

Tabatha Chase and Josh Smith came in a close second place. Screams echoed from the stands as Daquelente and Roos stepped forward to receive their crowns and new titles.

"I was speechless," said Roos, PSYCH 06, with a huge smile on her face.

"This is really great. I think that this is a good idea although I'd like to see a little more structure for next year," said Daquelente, PSYCH 06.

This was the first year the Behrend has held a homecoming event for basketball. In years past there have been homecomings for soccer and softball. These events weren't quite as successful as hopes had been. This year's event

was a result of hard work by members of the Ohio Hall Council, who hope to form a homecoming committee next year.

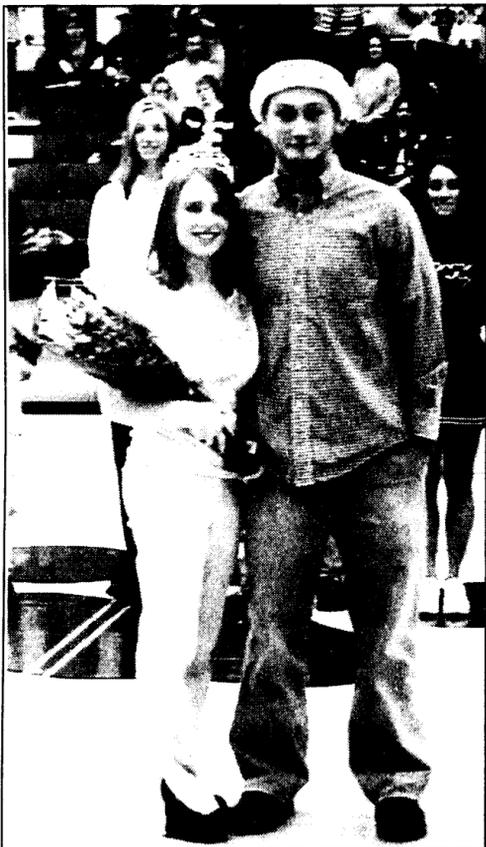
"I think this is a great idea. It reminds me a lot of high school and that's cool," said Kevin Forte, COMM 02.

It only took ten determined and hard working students who came together and planned and set-up the two days of events. The students collected donations from various local businesses and sold close to 100 tickets for the Homecoming dance held Friday night at the Avalon Hotel in downtown Erie.

"The kids did a really good job with the fund raising and just setting this entire thing up, and I'm sure they will do an even better job for next year," said Residence

Life Coordinator Jaime Russell.

Plans for another homecoming next year have yet to be made, but with the support of the student body this could be the start of an annual event.



2004 Homecoming Queen Jeannie Roos and King Dave Daquelente were crowned on February 4 during halftime of the men's game against Lake Erie.

PHOTO BY LAUREN PACKER/BEHREND BEACON

Meek and Streaker take home crowns

by Justin Curry
news editor

Isiah Meek, ACCTG 06, and Katie Streaker, INTPL 04, were crowned the new Mr. and Ms. Penn State Behrend on Thursday, April 8, in the McGarvey Commons.

The Mr. and Ms. Penn State Behrend pageant is hosted annually by social sorority Alpha Sigma Tau.

Last year's crowns were awarded to Adrienne Schermer and Dave Masilunas.

"I had an awesome time during my reign as Mr. Penn State Behrend," said Masilunas, PLETBD 08, "and I'm happy to pass my crown on to one of our own."

Masilunas was referring on the fact that he and Meek are both members of the track team.

"I was nervous at first, when I saw all of the people," said Meek, "but I still went all the way and worked the crowd, and I really got excited."

And work the crowd he did. Meek's appearance during all three scenes was preceded and followed by a roar of

cheers from those in attendance.

"It felt really great to pass on the crown," said Schermer, COMBA 06, "Katie did an awesome job, and obviously, it showed."

Streaker felt similar to Meek at the beginning. "I was so nervous," Streaker said, "but I am really grateful to the judges for selecting me, I didn't expect this at all."

Both Streaker and Meek were well accommodated following their coronation. Both received a Penn State sweatshirt blanket, a leather Penn State portfolio and a \$25 gift certificate to Millereck Mall and \$25 in gift certificate to local restaurants.

All in all, 10 contestants were up for the title of Ms. or Mr. Penn State Behrend. The 10 had been selected following last week's change wars.

The other eight contestants were Amy Frizzell, Jenn Schwant, Courtney Straub, Karin Vejstrup, Matt Arch, Matt Martone, Brad Shamitko, and Matt Welsh.

During the pageant, contestants were judged on their outfits, neatness, appearance, presence, and the songs they chose

to walk the runway to.

All ten had to answer two questions as well, which weighed heavily on the decisions that judges Chris Fox, Diana Malinowski and Scott Soltis made. The questions were "What is your favorite thing about Behrend and why?" and "If you could put three things in a time capsule, what would it be and why?"

The pageant was emceed by AST President and Sweetheart Dianne Simgelski and Jefferis Peterson. Following the opening of the event, the 10 contestants showed off various outfits in three categories: casual, beach, and formal. All formal wear was donated by David's Bridal and American Commadore Tuxedo Rental. While the judges decided who the newly crowned would be, George Morgan gave a rap performance, highlighting the main aspects of Alpha Sigma Tau and its current active sisters.

"The formal wear section was definitely my favorite," said Streaker. "I absolutely loved my dress."

Meek agrees. "I think that the formal section was what put me over the top," he said "I was the only one who was

wearing a white tux, and I think that stuck out in the judges' minds."

This is second year for the pageant. Program chair Emily Waters, ACCTG 06, said that "last year's program was very unorganized, very thrown together." This year's planning began months in advance, and the sisters worked on a timeline for the event.

"Last year, we didn't even have a chairperson," said Waters, "everyone

TKEs lose privileges

by Courtney Straub
Greek page editor

Fraternity Tau Kappa Epsilon has lost pledging privileges for this spring semester and is on continued administration warning until the end of the fall 2004 semester. This punishment is a result of an incident that took place on Sept. 12, 2003, at 3316 Buffalo Road, the Delta Chi fraternity house.

The incident involved five brothers of Tau Kappa Epsilon, four brothers of Delta Chi and members of the baseball team. Both Tau Kappa Epsilon and Delta Chi declined comment on specific names of the individuals involved.

All three of the groups are recognized by Penn State Behrend so the University became involved.

First, all individuals went through the student affairs process to determine if a punishment was necessary.

"All the people who were involved from my organization had to go through student affairs. They were found not guilty," said Jon Stafford, Tau Kappa Epsilon president.

Next, the issue was taken to the Interfraternity Council (IFC) because Delta Chi and Tau Kappa Epsilon are both governed by IFC.

"Chris Fox, for instance, submitted the information as an incident that he thought that the IFC judicial board should look into. The IFC Vice President makes the decision whether or not it should go on to the hearing board," said Chris Rizzo, director of student activities in the Reed Union Building. The office of Greek Life reports to him.

Delta Chi and Tau Kappa Epsilon were accused of violating substantial university policy for off campus behavior.

According to Fox, coordinator of student organization and program development, behavior or actions of any individual or member of an organization, has a significant effect on the way the member represents their organization.

According to Fox, even when members of the Greek community are off campus, they still represent their organization and therefore if they do something wrong, their organization can be held liable.

The IFC executive board made the decision that the information given by Fox should go to the IFC judicial board. The IFC judicial board is chaired by the Vice President of IFC and the vice presidents from each fraternity chapter.

The hearing took place on Dec. 4, 2003. Many members from both fraternities were present at the hearings. Rizzo served in the role as adviser to the board which means he helped to advise the board on issues of due process and points of order within their constitution.

The IFC judicial board found members of Delta Chi not guilty and found members of Tau Kappa Epsilon guilty.

According to Rizzo, the sanctions are defined within the scope of their constitution.

"I don't think the punishment fit the crime. Let's say that I just hope it doesn't give people any negative view because if you look at all the good things we do for the community, for our organization, for Greek life in general, it far outweighs few little things like this," said Stafford.

Steve Funaiock, Delta Chi president, issued a written statement on what his fraternity thinks of the outcome.

"As the president of Delta Chi I am speaking on behalf of the chapter. Our chapter feels that the school's Judicial System did not do an adequate job with the investigation. We feel the sanctions given to the organization and the individuals were insufficient. These sanctions are hard to enforce and therefore we do not believe that they will be followed. I also do not think there was an ounce of truth to their testimony and our standpoint should have been considered in determining the sanctions. If sanctions like these are given out on serious issues, what is the point of the system?," wrote Funaiock.

Penn State Behrend is unique because it is one of the two locations in the university system that Greeks hear judicial matters related to other Greeks. The other location is University Park.

"In terms of fairness, in terms of understanding context, in terms of understanding how the culture of Greek life works, Greeks are probably best suited to hear cases involving Greeks," said Rizzo.

According to Stafford, Tau Kappa Epsilon still plans on being very active on campus and in the community. This semester they held their annual Ice Plunge to raise money for charity.

The IFC president at the time of the incident and hearing was Brian Volant, president of Kappa Delta Koo, and he feels that "Greek unity right now is going well. [Fraternity and sororities are working together.] It wasn't just a Greek matter and while Greek members were involved, I don't see anything arising from it."

just took care of everything." With the addition of the chairperson position, however, came a little added stress.

Commenting before the pageant, Waters said, "I've been flipping out all day, I'm really getting nervous."

Even though she might have felt stressed out before the event, Waters feels that the chairperson was a good addition to the program, as well as the fact that the sisters had a year's experience to go on with the pageant.

"I feel that this year was a lot easier than before," said Waters. "We were able to build off of our successes from last year, and work on some things that needed worked on."

The sisters' first inclination of success came after the change wars, which were held the first week of April. The first round of contestants, 20 in all, went head to head to see who would make the top 10.

Throughout the week, the sisters collected double of what they had last year, reaching over \$300.

All money raised through the event goes to the sorority's philanthropy, the Pine Mountain Settlement School in Harlan County, Ky.

"This is definitely going to become an annual event at Behrend," said Waters, "We got a lot of positive feedback from last year's pageant, as well as a decent turnout."

Last year's attendance was around 100 people, and Waters was hoping for more this year, which she received, with the majority of the Commons being packed.

Once the event was over and done with, Waters was "relieved, yet happy."

"I think that the AST sisters are awesome. They're some of the sweetest and nicest girls I've met," said Streaker. "I met the majority of them tonight, and I feel like I've known them for a while already."

Meek feels that the pageant was a great success this year. "I think that with a year under their belt, they knew were they doing," said Meek.

When asked if they had any advice for the recently crowned duo, Masilunas and Schermer offered the following advice.

"Always remember, don't hate ... participate," said Masilunas.

"Live it up," said Schermer.

Streaker and Meek's titles will be upheld until next April, when they will pass them on in the third issue of the pageant.



Isiah Meek, ACCTG 06, and Katie Streaker, INTPL 04, were crowned the new Mr. and Ms. Penn State Behrend Thursday evening in McGarvey Commons. The Mr. and Ms. Penn State Behrend Pageant is sponsored by social sorority Alpha Sigma Tau.

PHOTO BY JUSTIN CURRY/BEHREND BEACON