

ARTS

“...Happy birthday dear Matchbox, happy birthday to you!”

By Michael Bilz
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As a first timer to these shenanigans, I feel compelled to enlighten the deprived souls who have not been privileged enough to witness the controlled chaos outside of McGarvey Commons on Tuesday night.

The entire campus was invited to the Matchbox Players 60th

birthday party, and they know how to throw a party.

Various games included Stage Directions; “That’s Not What Happened;” Questions Only; Party Quirks, the Alphabet

Game: Standing, Sitting, Keeling and Laying; Bachelor Party; and few others I was laughing so hard through I cannot remember their names.

One stands vibrantly in my

mind, kind of like Clue for grown ups.

One by one, the three enter to try and guess this charade, and then act it out differently to the following person. This continues until the last person enters and tries to guess what the first clues were, all having been interpreted three different ways.

In the end, one poor stripper lays slain from being attacked

with a tombstone at the zoo.

The free event served pizza, soda, and cake halfway through the performance for participants and audience members. Though people meandered in and out of the audience, at one point there were over 100 bodies watching the hilarity.

And if you dared to volunteer or get on stage, you could have a reputation by now. The host,

Ryan, did an outstanding job of keeping the flow going at all times, especially when Flipper entered the scene.

I only wish I could get more juicy details on what the arts editors mom was doing with the sports editor in a hot air balloon, you can guarantee I will be back the next time they host Improv Night.

“In the end, one poor stripper lays slain from being attacked with a tombstone at the zoo.”



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Professor Dail and actors excited for *The Dispute*

By Amber Williams
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“They’re a really strong mix of experienced Behrend actors and new faces,” director Chrystyna Dail said of her ten student cast for her first directed play at Behrend, *The Dispute*.

This play will tell a dark comedic story of love, which is full of action and little dialogue, and responds to who cheats first. Is it the men or the women?

According to Dail, this is a very physical show and “it will die without all the physicality. I’m used to directing musical theatre where everything is physical.” Aside from the very small studio theatre, Dail said, “the physicality and figuring out how to connect the youthfulness and innocence in the maliciousness of the play,” are going to be the challenges. The characters will have to go from being innocent to being almost conniving.

Another thing that Dail adds is

the fact that the cast will only have twenty-three rehearsals before they get into the technical work of their show.

At the auditions, Dail had 41 students show up and audition with a cold reading for the ten roles. The cast is an equal split of five males and five females. Dail said working with the actors is definitely her favorite thing about being a play director. Dail said that she likes working with good ensembles and also with those who may not have had much experience with acting and performing.

Also, Dail is excited about pushing the cast’s boundaries and watching them drop their egos and start working together as a group. Dail said that she is looking forward to the actors activating their characters. This play is going to “take a cast willing to experiment and be comfortable with sexuality.”

“I’m a newbie,” Dail said about directing student plays here at Penn State Behrend. This will

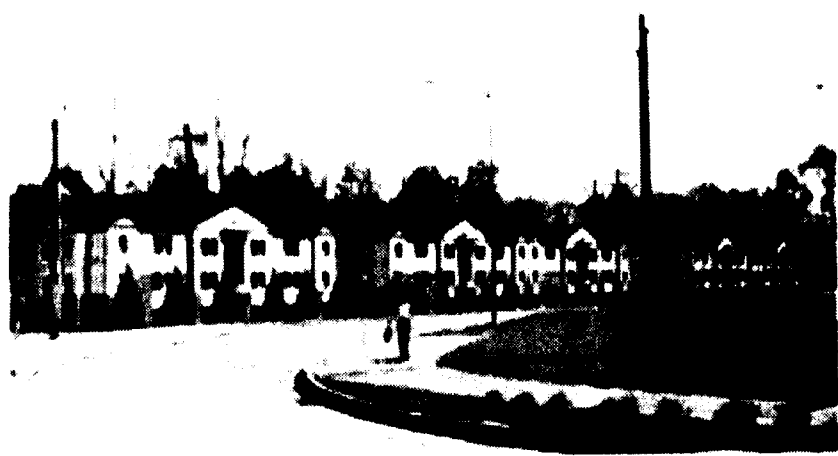
be her first semester directing a play for Behrend students. Dail hopes to tell the audience a story, educate them on genders in society, and of course, entertain the public. Also, Dail said that the audience should hopefully expect a good time. Dail said that she is adding a little twist to the end of the play; however, she would not say and/or give away what that twist was.

“I’m so excited for the show because it sounds like a play that college students can relate to,” an anonymous freshman said about the upcoming play that she intends on going to see.

If one would like to see *The Dispute*, the first of its seven public performances will be on Thursday, November 13. The shows will be running through Thursday, November 20, with no showing on Monday, November 17. Show times have yet to be announced. Tickets will be only five dollars for Penn State Behrend Students and the show is open to the public.

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Local Vermont scene is what my ears want to hear

By Jeff Kramer
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My name is Jeff and I’m from the Green Mountain State. That’s to say, Vermont. The North East. I like things like slam dancing, incense, Phish, tie-dye, video games, coffee and milk. My job writing this column is to share my love of maple leaves and Ben & Jerry’s with all of you out-of-staters. Maybe then you’ll understand how much we rock up in the middle of nowhere.

People usually define themselves by the music they listen to.

That’s probably why Vermont is such a different state from the rest of the world. Music is a different scene there. Around here, when asked about local bands, most people tell me about the Clarks from Pittsburgh and nobody else.

While the Clarks are pretty good, kids in Vermont high schools would tell you all about six or ten new local groups they just discovered—groups that are actually pretty good.

Around there, people listen to different music. Popular music consists of Lil’ Wayne, Ne-Yo, T-Payne, or anything else like that. I’m not saying that’s a bad thing, but I can’t tell the difference between any of them.

And I’m not saying people don’t like that kind of stuff in Vermont—plenty of people do. Even I’ll admit that “I Feel Like Dying” by Lil’ Wayne is a pretty awesome song, but I don’t listen to that kind of stuff. All my friends listen to Reel Big Fish, Grateful Dead, some kind of country, or any number of things. It’s a very mixed bag.

Rap and hip-hop just aren’t as popular. A lot of kids like country, and even the ones who don’t admit that Johnny Cash is awesome.

Most kids seem to be really into obscure, “undiscovered” bands—and if not undiscovered, at least local. But when it comes to Vermont bands, there’s more than just Phish; you have Crazy Hearse, Dirtminers, Orange Juice... oh the list could go on.

Radio is a pretty old medium, and most kids these days don’t listen to it. I myself am guilty of

that—the most I listen to radio is at work and on Sundays at 9 for the Grateful Dead hour. And on Sundays I stream it through the internet; I don’t even own a radio.

Like most students, I have my iPod, Zune or whatever MP3 player. Back home, though, every Saturday I’d tune into National Public Radio and listen to *Wait Wait Don’t Tell Me*, I’d listen to *Fresh Air* on weekdays after school, and I’d even listen to *Mountain Stage* from time to time. And most of my friends would do the same.

When it wasn’t NPR, we’d listen to 106.7 WIZN: The Wizard (the station with the Grateful Dead hour) or Champ Classic Rock (named for the lake monster in Lake Champlain).

For a true taste of Vermont music, acquire *Billy Breathes* or *Farmhouse* by Phish, or *American Typewriter* by Dirtminers; the other albums I’d recommend are more difficult to come by and not on iTunes.

Vermont’s music scene is one of the defining factors that makes it such a sweet place to live.