| The Behrend Beacon 4

Friday, December 5, 2008

CAMPUS NEWS

Plastics professor remembered

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"He was always willing to help anyone with anything," says Lynzie Collard, a senior majoring in plastics engineering who knew Dropik well.

Collard was in the REDC working on finishing her senior project when she found out about Dropik's passing Friday afternoon. She says that students began to group and talk about it as the word spread.

"He was one of those people you never wanted to upset...to disappoint," Collard says.

She set up a Facebook group for Professor Dropik. It has over 100 comments.

The following Thursday, over 60 people, including Mrs. Dropik, gathered at the Plymouth Tavern to celebrate the professor's life.

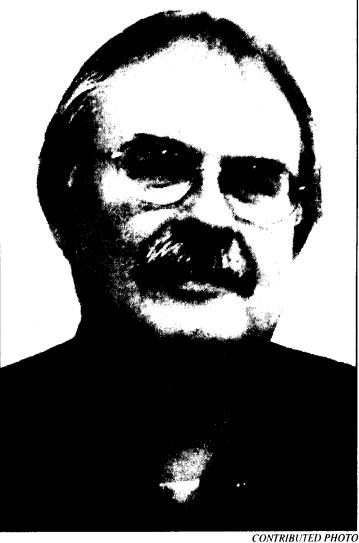
Mrs. Dropik says that teaching was an inseparable part of her husband. She says he was offered a job at Fisher-Price, his old employer, for a salary significantly larger than his teaching pay.

He turned the offer down.

But teaching was not his only love. Dropik was also a talented woodworker.

Beaumont says that both Dropik and him picked up the craft several years ago. Dropik would give much of his work away to friends and family. Beaumont's daughter has a bookshelf made by her "Uncle Marty."

Fishing was one of Dropik's other loves. He and two of his former Fisher-Price co-workers



Marty Dropik was revered by his students.

would occasionally rent a cottage and cast rods. They called themselves the "Hoosiers."

A remembrance of Professor Dropik was held at the Smith Chapel Thursday. Over 100 students, faculty, friends, and family attended to pray, remember, and share stories.

Friar Dan Arnold asked the students in the room to come up with one word that reminded them of Dropik. "Smiling," said one. "Awesome," said another.

At the front of the room, a collection of photographs of Dropik were displayed. Some of fish he had caught. Of darts games he had played. Of furniture he had made. His wedding.

All pictures of what some of his students would call "the man, the myth, the legend."

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Phil Stuczynski, a senior who attended the event in drag, sits on the lap of junior Andy Iams.

Phil Stuczynski, a senior finance major attended the show in a Britney Spears-esque school girl outfit.

"I have no idea why I dressed like this," Stuczynski said, "I'm – retrieve with their mouths. not even gay."

night was the host, Glitter. Performances during the show ranged from comedic, to energetic, to downright raunchy. Glitter began with one of the more conservative dances of the night, occasionally touching members of the audience and moving through the aisles of McGarvey.

Following Glitter was Lestat, a nine-year veteran of drag who was appearing at Behrend for the second time.

Lestat's performance took place in a variety of locations: on chairs, the floor, on top of tables, and on audience member's laps. At the end of his performance, Lestat again stressed the importance of tipping to audience members.

"I did two splits right there," said Lestat. "If you don't tip me, I'll come get it myself."

At first, audience members would simply hand their tips to the performer, but as the evening went on, tipping became more interesting. Some attendees would place bills in their mouths, which the per-

formers would then retrieve with their mouth as well. Some members of the audience would place bills in their waistline, which performers would also this time than last."

Following Lestat were per-The first performer of the formers which were all new to Behrend: Sasha, Ann Fu Yung, and Jezebel. All of the performers came from the Pittsburgh area.

> "I have no idea why I dressed like this. I'm not even gay." -Phil Stuczynski Senior, finance

Performing at Behrend was a change of pace for the queens, as Drag Shows usually take place at clubs.

"I love the Erie people," said Jezebel, who has been a drag queen for 21 years. "It's a cold place, but the people are warm. I hope I get to do this next time Trigon receives little opposition there is a show here. The kids here have a great spirit."

Many of the queens who performed at the show didn't attend the last drag show held on campus, but were enthusiastic about performing at any that may be in

the future.

"It's been a great time both times we've come," Glitter said. "There were a lot more people

"I want to come back next time, but I want there to be more people," said Sasha, who has been performing drag for four years. "I want there to be so many people here that I can't walk through the aisle."

A future drag show on Behrend's campus is likely, says Ryan Westwood, President of Trigon. "The guys are great when they come here," said Westwood. "I met them through a mutual friend and they love coming here."

Westwood, a senior majoring in general arts and sciences enjoys organizing the show.

"It's a lot of work but it pays off. There was somewhere between 100 and 200 people at the last drag show, but this year looked like it was over 300. I plan on doing another next semester, but I'm not yet sure when."

According to Westwood, in organizing the drag shows, and most students give them a positive response.

"People come cause they like it, or cause they're part of the family, or because they want to see something new."



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Glitter, the host of the Drag Show, is a former ordained minister

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continued from front page.

"This puts less stress on the victims as they don't need to make another appearance in court," said Farabaugh. "All that is left is the trial, where [Citriniti] will most likely plead guilty, since the charges are less severe. It's easier for everybody involved. [Citriniti] has never gotten in trouble before. So some of the charges were lessened and others were dropped completely."

With the hearing over, Citriniti's case will move to a trial to be held at the Erie County Courthouse. A date for the trail is yet to be determined.