

Theatre Callboard

By: Paula Penco

Behrend's Studio Theatre is set to kick off their second play of the season with *The Diviners*. It is a moving drama that is liable to bring tears to your eyes.

The story takes place in a small town in Indiana during the 1930's, right in the heart of the depression. It revolves around the life of a fourteen year old boy, Buddy Laymen.

Buddy has been classified as an idiot boy because of the terrible loss he endured when he was a small child. His mother drown while trying to save him, and as a result he was never the same.

The story centers around buddy's fear for water, his amazing ability to predict rainfall, and find water with a diving rod.

Buddy is befriended by C.C. Showers and ex-preacher man. He enters into the small Indiana town and causes drastic changes in the lives of the townspeople.

Starring in this production are Fred Becker as Buddy Laymen and David Scribner as C.C. Showers.

Other returning faces to the Behrend stage are Jennifer George, Tamara Rabinovich, and Matthew Donovan.

Making their Behrend debut in this production are: Michael Tkach, Wendy Shinn, Andy Ansell, Kevin Moore and Robin Gaige.

Paul C. Iddings is directing the show with Sue Rupp as the student director.

The show is scheduled to open Friday, February 24. It will run from the 24th until March 3. Free previews for all Behrend students will be February 21 through the 23rd.

So mark these dates on your calendar. *The Diviners* is an excellent play that shows much promise. Be sure not to miss it.



Dan Kamin

Cultural Series Offers Variety

by Greg Geeza

Whether you're looking for cultural enlightenment or just looking for a different way to spend an evening, look no further. The Student Union Board sponsors a Cultural Events Series, which provides a varied menu of films, plays, entertainers, speakers, and musicians. The months of February and March are no exception, with no fewer than seven scheduled events.

Mime and comedian Dan Kamin will present his show on

Monday, February 6 at 8 p.m. in the Reed Lecture Hall. Next is a film in the Classic Film Series, *La Dolce Vita*. This film by Federico Fellini is claimed to be one of the major Italian films of the sixties. It will be shown on Wednesday, February 8, at 8 p.m. in the Reed Lecture Hall.

The Pennsylvania Dance Theatre will be on campus Thursday, February 23 at 8 p.m. in Erie Hall. This young (only four years old) dance company will feature a program of modern dance. They

are said to appeal to both dance aficionados and newcomers of dance appreciation.

Behrend's own Studio Theatre Company will present the play *The Diviners* by James Leonard. This play won first prize at the American College Theatre Festival's 1980 play writing competition. Dates for the show are February 24 through February 26, February 28, and March 3. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., and showtime is at 8:00 p.m. Reservations must be made.

It's Mime Time!

Courtesy of Student Activities Office

The Penn State-Behrend Student Union Board Cultural Committee proudly announces the appearance of well-known Pittsburgh mime Dan Kamin Monday, February 6, 1984 at 8 p.m. in the Reed Union Building Lecture Hall. The performance will be co-sponsored by the Arts Council of Erie and is made possible by a grant from the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts. Admission will be free and the public is invited to attend.

A most unusual performer, Kamin is brilliant as mime, comedian and satirist. After four years of arduous training in mime technique, Kamin embarked in 1970 on nationwide solo-concert tours. His success has been credited with helping create a re-

cent explosion of interest in mime. In addition, Kamin has gone beyond the traditional forms of classical mime to explore his uniquely American comic vision. Words, sounds and props - including a life-size doll which joins him in an elegant dance - are now important parts of a Dan Kamin mime concert.

Mr. Kamin's ease in creating high quality original work has resulted in commissions to solo with leading ballet companies and symphony orchestras. In addition to having written a well-respected book, titled *Chaplin in Motion*, Kamin has appeared in several films and has been featured on such national television programs as "Camara Three" and "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood." His

ability to relate to audiences in many different settings has helped Kamin become, since 1976, a featured performer in the Affiliate Artists, Inc. program of community residences.

In 1978 Kamin was selected by his mime colleagues to perform and lecture at the first "Festival of American Mime." He has also performed for the Theatre Association of Pennsylvania, the state Arts Council, and for Governor and Mrs. Richard Thornburgh.

Two Dan Kamin specials are currently in circulation on PBS. "The Pantomime Man" is a children's program, and "The Mime Idea" features Kamin in concert before a live audience.

Studio 29: Erie's Newest Theatre Experience

by Carolyn Brust

Studio 29 is the newest theatre experience to take place in Erie. Under the direction of Lucian Zabramny and Tom Murabito, the only repertory theatre in Erie was created. Imagine a theatrical company performing various art forms such as plays, musicals, poetry, etc., on a regular basis and you will have the precise definition of a repertory theatre which is exactly what Studio 29 is all about.

The theatre is located at 1505 State Street (2nd floor) and was originated in early October of 1983. At this time the first three shows of the repertoire were performed. They consisted of Leonard Gershe's *Butterflies Are Free*, Renee Taylor & Joseph Bologna's *Lover's And Other Strangers*, and *Six Rooms Riv Vu*.

Following the theatre's successful opening, Studio 29 continued to enhance Erie audiences by performing children's theatre -

Ed Graczyk's *The Rude Mechanicals*, as well as an evening of original music and poetry by Pam Verity Harris entitled *One Bird's Song* and John Ford Noonan's *A Coupla White Chicks Sitting Around Talking*.

Currently in repertoire is *The Madman And The Nun* by the Polish playwright Stanislaw Witkiewicz and *Chicago*, a hilarious musical comedy by John Kander and Fred Ebb.

A unique aspect of Studio 29 is

versatility. The productions vary from light-hearted comedies to controversial dramas. For the song and dance lover, the studio provides enjoyable evenings of comical musicals. But perhaps even more intriguing is the idea of Erie artists performing their own original music and poetry and allowing dedicated, competent people to try their hand at directing a show of their choice. (As in the case of *A Coupla White Chicks*, directed by David McNeil).

Anyone interested in joining Studio 29 is welcome to audition for any of the shows which are listed in the Showcase edition of the Erie Times Newspaper. For information concerning production dates, reservations, and free subscriptions of monthly repertoires, contact the Box office at 452-4444 between Monday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and one hour before performances.

Don't miss the chance to experience Erie's newest idea in theatre.

Student Opinion: "What Are Your Feelings About X-Rated Movies Being Shown On Campus?"

STUDENT OPINION: "What are your feelings about X-rated films being shown on campus?"

1. **Jim Lay** (2nd semester, EE)

"I'm obviously for it, since I'm the co-chairman of the SUB film committee. Main campus has been showing them for several years and the films have been quite popular. I feel that Behrend has too conservative an image, and this will help to modernize it."

2. **Kecia Conley** (5th semester, MIS)

"I think it's an inappropriate activity for a college organization like the Student Union board to help sponsor. By bringing it to

this college, it's as if we condone it. It presents a bad image for the college, and to the organization which sponsors it."

3. **Sham Mansour** (4th semester, Engineering)

"Go for it! It will broaden the horizon of naive students at Behrend, and bring them to reality. Plus, it will be a good money-maker."

4. **Gina Petrini** (2nd semester, Political Science)

"I don't like the fact that SUB is bringing the film here. I feel that this type of film exploits women. It's a form of discrimination. Still, everyone has their individual preferences."

5. **Ann Young** (8th semester, Accounting)

"Behrend's image, on the

whole, projects conservative morals, and the film somehow doesn't fit this atmosphere. Although, of course, every individual has the right to view what he or she wants, the community will probably frown upon this aspect of Behrend College."

6. **Frank Swartz** (4th semester, Engineering)

"I'm for it. It's everybody's choice. We're all legal adults, and this type of movie brings variety. We should try it, to see if it draws well. If it does, keep it. If not, we won't have any more."

7. **Janet O'Hare** (2nd semester, DUS)

"I think it's pretty liberal - people have a choice. If you don't want to see it, you don't have to. It doesn't bother me. But

everyone's different, so it's up to the individual."

8. **Mike Bosak** (8th semester, History)

"The showing of this film goes so much against what I believe. There's enough evil in society already, without having to bring it to Behrend. This type of film just reflects the leniency of American values today."

9. **Faith McKeone** (2nd semester, Business)

"I feel that it's everybody's choice if they want to see it or not. I, myself, won't see it. I don't think it's worthwhile. I think the majority of X-rated films exploit women more than men. But everybody should use their own personal values to decide."

10. **Michael Henderson** (8th

semester, History)

"I don't criticize X-rated movies. However, I don't feel that the university is the proper forum in which to show them. Ideally, a college film series should possess a genuine artistic quality rather than mere genital gratification."

11. **D. Regis Brown** (4th semester, Finance)

"As chairman of the SUB film committee, I felt obligated to bringing the program out of operating under deficit, as was the procedure in the past. The decision to show the film was based purely on business, and I feel confident that the move will turn a profit."

Interviews conducted by Phyland Robertson