

The man behind the myth

by Susanna Jalosky
Collegian Staff Writer

Sitting in the lobby with hands full of crumpled ones and loose change—money that was probably meant for the laundry machine or stamps—are students from every residence hall on campus. These kids have just made a phone call to one of the many pizza establishments in the surrounding areas. They sit for a period of time that is in direct proportion to their hunger. Finally, in he walks. You know him. You love him. It's Bill the Barbato's Man!

Bill Wager is a 24 year old Erie resident who enjoys hockey, golfing and dancing. He attended Ohio State for three years studying cinema and television productions. Everyone knows him as "The Pizza Man."

Bill would often return to Erie on vacations from school and usually visit friends Rob and John Barbato. Bill said that he'd been pushing the idea of a delivery service while on these visits, but it wasn't until the Spring of 1985 that anything was done about it.

Bill set up the whole system. There are presently five delivery men. In order to fill this position, a

person must be mature, responsible, own a car and communicate well with customers. The financial side of being a delivery man is not a dark one. Bill says that a delivery man can "live comfortably in the mid-income bracket."

Each delivery has a charge of \$1.00 which the delivery man keeps. Employees must also punch-in and punch-out on a time clock.

and punch-in once they have returned to the restaurant.

The delivery service is said to cover the broadest area in Erie and Wesleyville. The service covers Wesleyville, East Lake Road, and Harborcreek High School to Interstate 90. This service brings approximately 40% of the business.

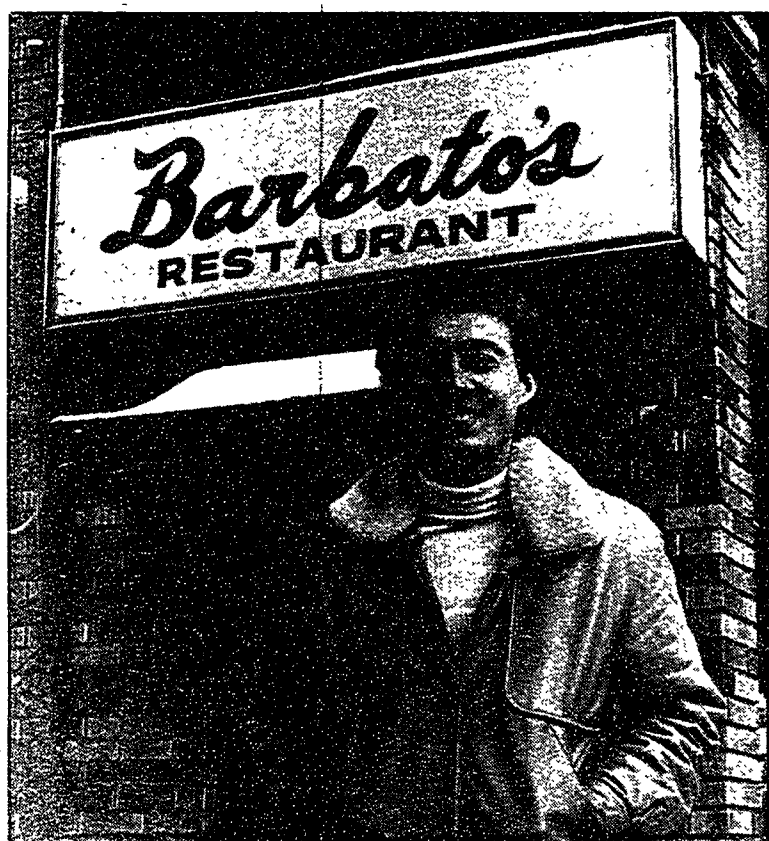
Bill claims that the goal of this service is convenience. Barbato's delivers dinners, fried foods,

Bill has his own ideas about his future. He expressed a genuine interest in his work. He's entertained ideas about expanding the business outside of the Erie area. His experience in T. V. production is a far cry from marketing or business, which he said he'd like to study, but it taught him an important lesson. Communication is of great importance to the business world; it's an extra edge. If Bill doesn't "make it big" in the "Wonderful World of Pizza", you may see him playing hockey. He says that hockey is a very real goal for his future. He is presently playing for a team sponsored by a local tavern.

Whether it's hockey or going back to school for marketing, Bill is content doing what he does best... delivering pizza. He said that he loves driving, meeting interesting people and a career that doesn't tie him to a desk.

"But," he added, "I wish people knew my name, instead of 'the pizza guy's here!'"

Well, Bill, rest assured. The Behrend community knows your name, knows your face and knows that every time you come through those residence hall doors, someone is getting delicious food from Barbato's.



Bill Wager poses in front of his second home.

Photo by Paul Duda



In the case of the delivery personnel, twenty to thirty hours could be spent on the job in a week. The policy is that each time a "run" is made, the deliverer must punch-out

chicken wings, sub's and of course, pizza. Barbato's is a growing chain. There are presently two stores and a third is scheduled to open in November.

Is adventure your bag?

by Melissa Youkers
Collegian Staff Writer

There is a new club on campus called the Behrend Adventurer's Guild. Its constitution has just recently been passed by SGA and it is now a recognized organization on campus.

The "BAG" is an organization open to students, faculty and staff who play a selection of role playing games including Dungeons and Dragons, Rolemaster, Gamma World, Traveller etc. These games combine imagination, chance and the skill of decision-making to provide alternate atmospheres and pseudo-realities for the characters each player chooses to animate.

The fundamental goals in any role playing game are to overcome the various obstacles created by the gamemaster and to keep one's animated character alive throughout the game. According to character traits, subgoals may also be viable, such as accumulating wealth, weapons, skill or respect of other characters.

The most popular game, Dungeons and Dragons, was considered dangerous or even "demonic" by some concerned parents in 1971. When asked about this, Mike Peters, "BAG" president, laughed aloud. His comment was, "Most everyone involved with D & D read the article (regarding the dangers of D & D) and it caused quite a scare in parents all over the country, but D & D is hardly demonic." He went on to add that "Players don't take it seriously enough to kill themselves or anything like that... it's just an anxiety release."

Dungeons and Dragons can become a rather expensive hobby. Some players have spent over \$500 on equipment for the game. Dice cost one dollar a piece and pewter figures range anywhere from \$5 to \$50. There are also books of description and rules that cost \$15 to \$30 each. The club has made provisions for a library of these books including a book entitled "Roberts Rules of Order" according to which the games will be run. Members of the club will be required to pay a small fee for use and upkeep of the BAG library. The fee will be \$10 per semester or \$15 per year.

Although in some clubs throughout the nation, players actively participate in real life adventures, BAG will not sponsor any type of adventures that would endanger members by playing the game in the woods, caves or abandoned houses, mines and the like.

Meeting times will be posted throughout the campus. Organized games are open to those interested and will be announced at the meetings.

Students find comfort in lobby

by Melissa Youkers
Collegian Staff Writer

The Rub Rats are a colorful bunch of people who get together in the Reed Union Building for various reasons. There are 31 Rats and several mice. They like to "hang-out," relax and just have fun in the lobby outside the Wintergreen Cafe. One can almost always spot a few of them in that lobby at any point in the day.

Why outside the Wintergreen Cafe? It is the best surrounding for the purpose of getting together, many of the rats are commuters who cannot afford to go home between classes, they eat there, study there and even sleep there. Others, dorm-dwellers, prefer the space and company of their friends to the

"18'x15 foot cell" they sleep in. Contrary to circumstantial evidence, the rats do attend classes and education is a main priority among them. The average GPA of the members of the RUB Rats is 3.0. The full range is from no lower than 2.5 to 4.0.

The RUB Rats exercise the concept of "a friend in need is a friend indeed." When one of the rats was having problems at home in Maryland, they all chipped in for his ticket to see his family and work things out. There was no pressure on him to pay them back. Whenever he had money, he settled part of his debt. Some of them even refused to take the money saying only: "That's what friends are for."

The RUB Rats are always eager to lend a helping hand to faculty as well as other students. They have helped set up the Wintergreen Cafe a number of times before performances and when Chris Rapach was victimized in the RUB desk robbery they were the first to lend a hand to put the situation in perspective and calm Chris down.

The RUB Rats are not a clique, in fact, if anyone begins to show up outside the Wintergreen Cafe for any length of time, they may be christened "mice" and may be inducted into the Rats by the other members. The induction ceremonies are quite short, in fact, all one must do to become a rat is take the oath and acquire a rat-given nickname. Of the people interview-

ed, not one knew the oath or perhaps they aren't permitted to repeat it to non-rats, however, they jokingly raised their right hands and said, "I swear to do whatever the oath is."

Some of the nicknames the rats have acquired due to things said, done or overall personality are as follows: Ben Salinas is called "Chi Chi" due to his Spanish heritage and also the fact that he is presently employed at Chi Chi's Restaurant near Millcreek Mall. Brian Sarno is dubbed "Pops" because he is constantly looking after someone and because Pops is part of his legal name. "Froggy", Gail Brown, received her nickname because of physical traits, "She has bug eyes and her tongue is hanging out God knows how often," one of her fellow rats explained.

The rats are avid fans of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* which plays every Friday and Saturday night at the Millcreek Mall Cinema. The rats dress up and imitate the various characters from Rocky Horror. They go almost every other week and know the dialogue verbatim.

There is no hierarchy in their group. They're just a number of individualists getting together and having a good time. Since there is no Reigning Rat or Mice Monarch, there is little cause for unrest in the rat's nest.

As you walk by the lobby of the Wintergreen Cafe, watch where you step. There are rats all over the place.



The reclining RUB rats show their unity.

Photo by Paul Duda.

Verses flow at poetry reading

by Chip Susol and Kim Krynock
Collegian Staff Writers

"... all those nights, Those murmuring voices, Clear in the bedroom. They were there and we were both responsible." Cheryl Bell from "Wind in the Trees, Something There."

The music of language filled the air at the Behrend Studio Theater on Tuesday, Nov. 11, when Roundtable, SGA and the Mary Behrend Cultural Fund brought another poetry reading to campus.

Poets Cheryl Bell and Michael Tkach were received by a near-capacity crowd. They read their poetry, told stories and answered questions from the audience after the reading.

Cheryl Bell is Program Coordinator for Niagara-Erie writers, a literary organization serving six New York state counties. She is one of the founding editors of Buffalo Arts Review, a magazine which publishes articles that combine theoretical and applied approaches to the arts. Her poetry has been published in journals such as Earth

Daughters, Pure Light and Blatherskite.

Michael Tkach, a former Behrend faculty member, teaches creative writing, literature, and composition at Villa Maria College in Erie, where he is also the director of the Writing Center. His poetry and fiction have appeared in College English, Poet Lore, Hudson River Anthology, and other magazines. He has worked for some time in Literary Magazine Review and South Florida Poetry Review.

Earlier in the day, Cheryl Bell gave a seminar on arts administra-

tion. She addressed the difficulties of promoting the arts in urban areas where there is limited financial support. She expressed the satisfaction of accomplishment in overcoming these difficulties. She also spoke of her personal commitment to keeping the arts alive in her community.

Although the audience was made up of people from all levels of literary sophistication, from well-read faculty to new readers from arts 001, everyone took part in keeping the art of poetry alive.

Crossword Companion

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ACROSS

1. Mineral springs
5. First man
9. Sleep stage (abbr.)
12. Domesticate
13. Dealer's used car
14. _____ Maria
15. Take as one's own
17. Belongs to same family
19. Sweet grape
21. Continuous mark
22. Instrument
24. Edward's nickname
25. Army Post Office (abbr.)
26. Flightless bird
27. Occurrences
29. Egyptian sun god
30. Man's nickname
31. Man's nickname
32. Reversal (pref.)
33. Impersonal pronoun
34. Cloth scrap
35. One-half em
36. Sable animals
38. Uncle
39. Edge
40. Alternating Current (abbr.)
41. Record
42. Uganda president (1971-1979)
44. Acid or vinegar
46. Satisfied
48. Aquatic animal
51. Office holders
52. W. Indian indigo plant
54. Ardor
55. Female deer
57. Ever (Poetic, pt.)

DOWN

1. Station (abbr.)
2. Cushion
3. Enamored
4. Leaf like part of flower
5. Public announcement (abbr.)
6. Mock
7. So be it
8. Molecular (abbr.)
9. Proportional relation
10. Same
11. Native of ancient Media
16. Titanium (abbr.)
18. High mountains
20. Cut
22. Distance (pref.)
23. Prophetic sign
25. Attention (abbr.)
27. Cheese
28. Daughter of one's brother
29. Inclined passage
30. Awry; askew
34. Person who reacts
36. Origin of money
37. Maneuver
39. Remove suds
41. Name of article
42. Sharp; caustic
43. Alone, single (pref.)
44. Former copper coin of India
45. At
47. Dine
49. Night before
50. Legal point
53. Light (abbr.)

