

NITTANY CUB

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Origin of the Mardi Gras

With Behrend's Mardi Gras carnival-dance holding the spotlight this week, the Cub felt that a bit of information on the background of this traditional get-together would be appropriate.

Shove Tuesday is the day before Lent, and in the course of history throughout all the Catholic countries of Europe, this day directly preceding Ash Wednesday held forth with merrymaking and feasting which contrasted with the fasting and denial of the Lenten season. In Germany the festive day became known as "Fastendienstag". An English custom of eating pancakes on Shove Tuesday caused it to be more popularly called "Pancake Tuesday" in that country. In France it was known as the "Mardi Gras".

The French brought their holiday to the New World with them,

where it underwent changes, but still remained equally popular, especially in New Orleans. The celebration was first expanded to include the time from New Year's Day to Shove Tuesday, characterized by ceremonies and pageant of shadowy antiquity and climaxed with a ball. The events survived the French, Spanish, and American authorities. "The Mystick Krewe of Comice" evolved from the former masked parades of the French soldiers, adding floats to the procession, and the now-traditional "King Rex", who has ruled the Mardi Gras of New Orleans since the year 1857.

The city's parade features pageantry consisting of events of history, and scenes from literature dominated by the king and his court. As in ages before, the gay and spectacular display ends in a ball.

Get Out and Vote

This past semester the Student Council acted as a target for a lot of adverse criticism from many Behrend students. The council was regarded as an ineffectual group that existed only for the purpose of causing trouble and inconvenience for the student body. Very seldom was the council mentioned without an accompanying sneer or expression of disgust.

Now certainly we're not claiming that the Council members' judgment was infallible, or that every decision they made was faultless; but we feel that this spirit of a blanket-indictment, of deciding that everything they did was a complete mistake, is one that should not be found among a group of college students who purport to be broadminded in their thinking.

The members of council are your fellow-students; they are making a sincere and earnest attempt to perform an often unpleasant job to the best of their abilities. Surely, they're going to make mistakes, and they certainly can't please everyone; but we know that an honest effort will be made to effect measures which will be beneficial for the majority of the student body.

As you should know, elections for several of the vacated council posts will take place shortly. It's too late for you to enter the race, but it is a chance for you to vote for worthwhile and conscientious candidates. If you don't vote, you will have no right to moan about the council later in the semester.

Remember: it's your council, and they're trying to help you. Think about the nominees, and then vote for your choice; you've had a chance to get acquainted with most of them this past semester. VOTE!

Welcome

At the end of every semester, many familiar faces disappear, but the presence of new ones is always welcome at the beginning of another term. Good friends made are friends never lost. That seems to be the spirit towards the new students, office workers, and faculty. So to all who have recently joined us, we say a sincere, "Welcome!"

AROUND THE FIREPLUG . . .

By Chenne

Hello once again, you poor humans. This is your old canine friend, Chenne, giving you a dog's eye view of the antics of the students at Behrend Center.

They say the youth of today is the world of tomorrow, but if this is true, look out. Take Jim Lay, for example. Go on, take him; no one else seems to want him. Maybe they're just hiding in case Jim wants to borrow something as usual. He's borrowed more stuff than England and France put together.

And here's a youth group—the "Coke" boys: Wally O'Neal, Ronnie Thomas, Dick Russell, Rodney Beals, Ross Caruana, John Kolpien, Earl Schriver, Joe Schmitt and others.

Not forgetting the females, we have pretty Joyce Gouger, Miss HO of 1954. She and Fran Ciccozi are both suspected of being good customers of Charles Antell.

And there are plenty of other characters to keep the above group company. Included are the world renowned "Fickle Five"—Jet Turner, Jane (lover of Chenne) Eisenberg, Donna Cramer, Nat Kobasa and Whitney White. These girls have probably recruited more boys than the U. S. Army.

I can only say that it's a good thing we have such steady and fine people as Max Peoples and Willie Storer to keep the world in shape. Aiy yi!

Bob O'Conner, one of the new humans at Behrend this semester, is really causing a rage with his "paint gray" hair. "He's such a doll! He's so masculine," the gals are saying. Bologna! My Sherlock Holmes' buddy, Hound of the Baskervilles, tells me Bob takes Serutan.

Sue Lockley sure doesn't look too sad about Jack's going to Gannon. Oh! I said a bad word. It is just like Mr. Turnbull says: "You have to look out for these women."

Question of the issue: When is the boys' basketball team going to win a game and thereby tie the girls' record? I've seen better kindergarten squads with weird actors like Bob "throw me the ball" Brandt, Chip "I'll shoot that one hander" Chappel, Joe "pachy, derm pivot" Schmitt, and Bob, "Is Sally on the sidelines?" Yeager playing first string.

Everyone is welcoming Joe Benacci back. How about a swim, Joe?

I notice there's a new club on campus, The Mr. Shields Fan Club. Charter members are Jack Rimp, Franny Nielsen, Freddy Loell, Dot "that's an editor?" Kaliszewski, Norma Michael, Jody Borkowski. That's one way to pass his class. Of course, I must admit I wander in occasionally to hear one of his well-seasoned jokes, too.

Smiling Don Fuhrman is still about, I see. You can avoid seeing him?

The other day, having finished the bones Mrs. Schell and Mrs. Fiedler had swept under the carpet, I wagged my way down to the Student Lounge. What a deal! If you're lucky enough to find the place open, you have to be a good friend of Jim Culbertson to get in and then once you're in you have to sit on that hypothetical furniture that the Lounge was going to get. (You hadn't better

MEET YOUR FACULTY

By Jane Eisenberg

An instructor of math and chemistry, Mr. Norman Patterson, has been selected by the Nittany Cub staff as the faculty personality of the issue. Brownville, Penna., was honored by his presence until his graduation from high school.

Choosing Penn State as his Alma Mater, "Mr. Pat", to the many B. C. students, received his bachelor's in chemistry in 1949, and his master's degree in math in 1952. Employed at the Bausch and Lomb Optical Co., in Rochester, New York, for a year, Mr. Patterson resigned to accept a position at Behrend Center. His studies at Penn State were interrupted in 1944 by the draft board, and he served twenty-seven months in the Army Medical Corps, specializing in Chemical Warfare. Stationed at Daytona Beach, Florida, during his service months, Mr. Patterson feels that the weather in this section of the country could be greatly improved.

Well liked around the campus, it is only natural that Mr. Patterson be active in student affairs, being appointed by the administration as an advisor to the Student Council. He also acted as faculty advisor for the now temporarily inactive Gun Club. Among numerous hobbies, Mr. Patterson is best known for his photography work, his pictures often appearing in the Nittany Cub and the Erie newspapers. Since photography is his favorite



Norman Patterson

hobby, Mr. Patterson does all his own printing and developing. The Perry Plaza Bowling Alleys are often graced by his appearance in hopes of raising his average.

As for pet peeves, Mr. Patterson says he has a million of them, but at the time of the interview he wasn't peeved and couldn't think of any outstanding ones. After two years at Behrend Center, Mrs. Longnecker is still trying to find his favorite food. Unmarried at the present moment, Mr. Patterson did not enlighten the girls as to his future aspects, and he remains living in his bachelor quarters in Erie. Yes, we certainly believe that our "Mr. Pat" is one of the outstanding faculty personalities on the Behrend Center campus.

Behrend Center Presents . . .

By Pat Ingersoll

Jane Eisenberg, our campus personality for this issue, is a petite, five foot, two inch co-ed who is a bundle of energy. Born in Punxsutawney, Pa., she attended grade school and one year of high school there. When she moved to Erie in 1950, she started her sophomore year at Strong Vincent and graduated from there in 1953.

Jane began her college career at Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pa., where she was a Bible major. At Behrend, she is a first semester sophomore and is majoring in Liberal Arts, with English and journalism her favorite subjects.

Most of Jane's free time between classes is spent in the cafeteria where she drinks tea, plays scrabble, and converses with a few of her many acquaintances and friends. Her favorite method of entertaining them is by singing some of the unusual Broadway show songs she knows. Her fondness of Bermuda shorts

print this, Editor; "Curly" Jim will cut your newspaper allotment).

Predictions of things to come: I predict:

1. That Joan Throop will finally give Larry Arduini a chance.
2. That Bob Detisch will at last admit he uses a crystal ball to pull such grades.
3. That Charlotte Flack and Dick Webster will reveal their secret engagement.
4. That Don Catlin will win the "Ugly Man" crown at the Mardi Gras by nosing out cherubic John Fogleboch in the finals.
5. That Diane Fagan and John Churchill will soon be going steady.



Jane Eisenberg

and knee socks is apparent, as she feels most comfortable when wearing them or when discussing color combinations of the two that will suit her.

Her tastes in food definitely lean toward the French cuisine. French fried onion rings and cheese souffles are the foods that can prove it. As part of her daily routine, listening to records and playing cards are a must. An avid bridge fan, she is very active in the Behrend Center Bridge Club and holds the post of president pro-temp. She can also take a great deal of credit for starting the heart game fad this fall.

One of Jane's main ambitions is to visit the Continent someday in the future, especially the city of Paris, France. Future to Jane means sometime within the next twenty-five or thirty years. We hope that she will realize her ambition, and with Jane's personality and winning way, we're predicting that her dream will come true.