

FEATURING THE MITRONOVASES

By Beverly Smith

I'm sure that everyone on the Behrend Center campus knows, or has heard of, Fred and Walter Mitronovas, though there may be some who don't know them well. So here's the low down.

Walter and Fred were both born in Lithuania; Walter is the oldest by two years. They went through the second grade in a school where Russian was spoken from second through eighth grade. The boys also attended a school where they spoke Lithuanian. Though they lived in Germany during the war, the only German they learned was from their neighbors' conversations.

The Mitronovases came to the United States by ship via Venezuela and New Orleans, and then landed at New York City on April 12, 1950. Both Walter and Fred commented on the nice weather they had on the trip over to the States, and on the flying fish they saw while on the Caribbean Sea.

From New York City they went to Indiana (the state, that is) where they lived on a farm for four months. They moved to Erie in the summer of 1950 to live with relatives and have made it their home.

The boys said that the only thing that handicapped them when they arrived in the States was the English language; they attended Columbus School in Erie for the main purpose of learning English. After attending Columbus for a year they started the ninth grade at Erie East High School, where they graduated in the Spring of this year. Fred commented that the schools in the United States are "softer" than in Europe and that after four years of leisure time (high school) they had to learn to study all over

again for college.

At Behrend, Walter is majoring in Geophysics and Geochemistry in preparation for his chosen career, which is that of a Geophysicist. Fred is studying to be a Civil Engineer; he names as his favorite class Engineering Drawing.

Walter and Fred agreed that the United States was different from what they had pictured. They were surprised to see that our country was as advanced as it was at the time. They also mentioned how different life in the United States was from that in Europe.

When asked what their favorite sport was, Walter answered right away that his was ping pong (what else?). Fred doesn't have any special sport but likes them all.

Now you know a little more about the Mitronovas brothers, and maybe someday if you feel real game you might challenge one of them to a ping pong match.

Dorm Chatter

By Sylvia Kunkle

Before Thanksgiving vacation began, the girls got the idea to change their rooms; it seems they were tired of the same old drab rooms. Everyone was well pleased with the results except Mrs. Ring.

Becky Wilson has been having a hard time since the day she went home on the bus for vacation. Becky just about missed her bus. In fact, the bus driver drove around the block to pick her up. Recently, Mr. Kochel asked Becky if she had lost something, as he handed her a pair of something white that was frozen stiff. Did Becky lose something?!

Why does Sue Hansen, Linda Hamer, and Marilyn Pringle play "bride" at 2:00 A.M.? Could it be that they are looking forward to the future?

Just to mention some fun that goes on in the dorm: the girls are constantly having battles; physical, water, and the latest, . . . snow. It really is fun to sit in bed and throw snowballs across the room.

Some of the dorm girls have started to decorate for Christmas already. Harriet and Dot have Christmas bells on their door, while Beverly, Sally, Sylvia, and Donna have a snowman and a snow-woman on their mantle.

Gretchen Muth and Eileen Kowalczyk lived up to their reputations as social butterflies when they attended the Gannon Junior Prom where they enjoyed dancing to the music of the well-known Sauter-Finnegan Orchestra. Both girls said they had a wonderful time and are willing to do it again any day.

Well, that's all for now. Until next time when we chatter awhile again, here's wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Clinically Speaking

By Patty Peck

Hi!

I hear tell that everyone had a very nice vacation with lots of chicken and turkey and all the trimmings.

Four of our eight boys went hunting, with luck running against them. There was a lot of snow and all the bucks hid. Don went down in Venango County to hunt and, although his luck wasn't with him, never let it be said that Don is a quitter. He soon returned and got his buck this time. Bob was lucky and saw 50 to 70 doe (so he says) in Jefferson County and Kane. He gave up, though, and came back to school on Tuesday. Tom hunted deer in 18 inches of snow at Tidioute, Penna, and slid back to B. C. on Wednesday night. Art and his brother went hunting too, although not for deer. They went duck hunting in Cranesville, Penna.

Paul and Mike both worked hard during their vacation, while Melvin and George took it easy; Melvin went to two dances.

Shirley and her family had a very unusual Thanksgiving dinner. They ate in smorgasbord style at "A Little Bit of Sweden".

Mary Lou visited Murphy's to see if they were keeping her counter as neat as she did when she was there.

Mary Jane and Pat, along with everyone else, agreed that it was good to get back to the old grind once again.

Round The Town

By Madge McKee

"Icicle Point" (better known as Behrend Center) really is prepared for Christmas. Its tall evergreens, holly bushes with bright red berries, and bushels of snow would make perfect subjects for any Christmas card (including those of the Photo Club).

But winter has its bad points too. For verification, why not ask some of the many B. C.'ers who have been pelted with snowballs under the leadership of Gibby, Raleigh, and Chief.

Calvin Caldwell and Leo Burlingame, who commute from Cambridge Springs and Corry, respectively, are hoping they receive ice skates for their cars on Christmas morning. They feel it would be more fun sliding around on these than on just plain tires.

Cars, in general, just don't seem to run too well in "Brr" weather. Earle Dhus' Dodge (which really is a fine car) refused to budge one Tuesday after botany lab. In order to get it out to the Gospel Hill Garage, he had to utilize the combined forces of such Good Samaritans as Chief Thomas, Bob Chapman, Lee Helmer, and Dick Russell and yours truly pushing.

There are several girls who will be thankful when the mad rush of holiday shopping is over. They are those who clerk in downtown stores. Nancy Hendershot holds the mobs off at Grants, Phyllis Stadler sells baby clothes at the Boston Store, and believe it or not, Martha Mulligan sells men's underwear at P. A. Meyer's!

Here's hoping your Christmas "Round the Town" is a merry one.

Cheerleaders Hold Practice Sessions

By Willie Weed

While Mr. Simon and the team are preparing for an active basketball season, another group is making plans to assist the team in making each game a success.

Every team recognizes the fact that cheerleaders help to build up confidence in the players and create team morale. Our Behrend Center cheerleaders have been working for some time now, meeting weekly and often during the week. Since many of the girls have never worked with a cheering group, a great deal of training is required. For this and other reasons the group has decided to start without any regular Penn State cheers and begin gradually to add the Penn State and original cheers. The training of cheerleaders can very well be compared to the training of the team for cheerleaders must know what to do and the right time to do it. Like the players the group must work together well.

These peppy girls may be seen leading the cheers in their blue and white outfits at every game. The girls are divided into two different squads which will alternate at the games starting January 11. The leader of one of the two groups is Gretchen Muth and the rest of the girls in her group are as follows: Barbara Bell, Becky Wilson, Marilyn Buchanich, Eileen Kolwaczyk, Janie McGeary, Sue Hansen, and Marilyn Pringle. The girls in the other group are: Karole Panameroff (leader), June

A LITTLE BIT OF HUMOR

A fanfare of trumpets . . . a roll of drums . . . an expectant hush falls over the audience . . . and William R. Weed marches triumphantly into class to begin another of his famous extravaganzas. Willie has combed his hair over his eyes, trying to portray his character of the day, a mad musician; and when he plays the first notes on his trumpet, there is no doubt that he has succeeded in his role. Who else could turn a review of the Complete Opera Book into such a radical production? Who, indeed, but the same Willie Weed who, in the character of a mad politician, turned an hour lecture on Income Taxes into a one-man vaudeville show.

But then, this is not a new experience for Willie. The slightest opportunity to speak is sure to bring forth from his vast imagination a performance worthy of theatrical production. Willie acts as his own technician, props man, and orchestra. Where humor is

concerned, he overlooks no detail; not a chance for a chuckle escapes him.

Ever since his third grade teacher told him that he had an imagination, Willie has been writing and performing. In the course of his career, he has written over ninety mystery stories and a profusion of political articles, in addition to his well known extravaganzas.

Why does Willie do it? He says it's because he likes to see people laugh and to go all out for the sake of comedy. When he does, Willie's only near rival is Cecil B. DeMille.

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