

OPENING GAME VICTORY 62-60 SPARKS CUBS

By Ron Raymond

What a game! What a finish! Wonderful — Ah, wonderful! Recently the Behrend Center Cubs successfully opened their basketball schedule for this year with an exciting 62-60 victory over a strong McKeesport team. It was a hard-fought and well-deserved victory for the home team.

Taking advantage of weak passing and opening night jitters, the visitors managed to muster an early first quarter lead. The Behrend five soon settled down, however, and at the end of the first half were ahead by a 29-21 score.

As the second half began, the Cubs held their own, but the visitors were far from being finished. When two fast breaks brought them within one point of the leaders, it took a pair of jump shots by Wes Carter to temporarily quell the storm. Soon the Pittsburghers were at it again, and with thirty seconds remaining, a foul shot knotted the score at 60-60. As the clock moved on, the ball changed hands a number of times while both sides frantically tried to tally. In the final ten seconds a Wes Carter pass set Mike Nagel up for his game winning hook shot.

Although slightly lacking in height, our Behrend boys held their own under the boards and gave their loyal supporters something to cheer about. Actually, the game was won at the foul line where they made 24 foul shots to the visitors 12.

Mike Nagel paved the way with 27 points and carried the bulk of the rebounding. Bud Seiffert, with 11 points and Wes Carter with 10 also added to the cause. All in all, however, it was a team victory and an exhibition of fine basketball. Certainly, the game provided valuable experience which will aid the Cubs in future games.

With this optimistic viewpoint, we are looking forward to an exciting and successful basketball season.

Our Christmas Customs

Our custom of holly as a Christmas decoration dates back to the time of the ancient Romans who used holly in connection with the celebration of their Saturnalia which occurs about the same time as Christmas. Since the leaves of the holly tree were always green and it was most beautiful at a time of year when other trees were barren, holly is hateful to witches because of its thorns and was therefore used on doors and windows to keep evil spirits away, and down through the years it has become one of the leading symbols of well-being at Christmas.

Another custom, that of the yule log, originated in ancient times when the Teutons and Celts celebrated the Yule period. Since it occurred at about the same time as we observe Christmas, it has become customary for us to consider Christmas as the Yuletide. The age-old custom of burning a large log of hard wood at this period became a festive occasion. Great ceremony was developed, such as pouring wine on the log and decorating it with ribbons and flowers. Each year a brand was saved to start the Yule Log the following year. From this early origin we get the custom of the Yule Log as we know it today.

We are all aware that it was much to Dr. Smith's horror when she first discovered that the Behrend Pine was not a pine at all but a pretty spruce tree. In order to justify this grave mistake, the editors have done a considerable amount of research to find out why the spruce tree in the circle is called a pine tree. But after many, many weeks of questions with no satisfactory answers, the editors just about decided to give up the whole idea and allow Dr. Smith to think that some botanical fool merely walked around campus and named every tree he saw a pine tree. However, one of the editors struck upon a unique way to find the reason for the misnaming of the tree. We simply asked the tree and the tree simply told us. Here, for the first time, as told by the Behrend Pine to your feature editor, we present for Dr. Smith, all botany students and the whole campus, "The Legend of the Behrend Pine."

"Once upon a winter starlight at the annual Harpstring Council, the Christmas angels gathered to discuss the choice of the Christmas Tree of Honor. This year was chosen as the Year of the Pine; and, according to custom, it was the privilege of the youngest angel of the council to select the Honored Pine. As fate would have happen in this Year of the Pine, the youngest angel was indeed young. In fact, he was so young that he hadn't even completed his angel college course in "Earth Treeology." Naturally, a completed course on Earth Treeology was a necessary requirement; but in all the confusion none of the older angels noticed

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that the youngest angel was unqualified for this privilege of choosing the Tree of Honor.

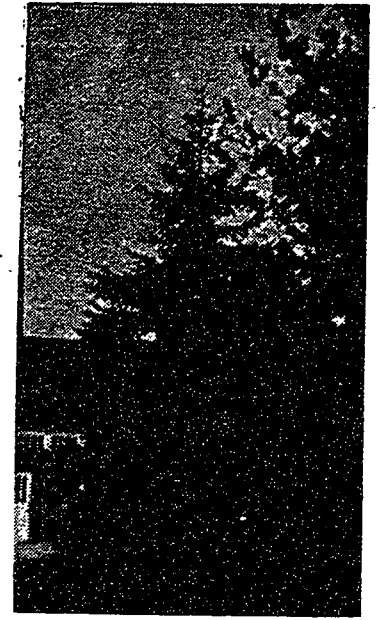
Our youngest angel's name, as it should be, was Xlykmozrqa.* Xlykmozrqa, himself, was so excited about going to earth to choose the Christmas Pine that he, too, forgot about the incomplete course.

Therefore, in the Year of the Pine, Xlykmozrqa rocketed from his silver-blue cloud to earth.

After a second of scanning the earth a number of sputnik times, the youngest angel spied a beautiful evergreen tree in the northeastern part of Pennsylvania. Thinking that this evergreen was a pine, Xlykmozrqa snatched the tree and returned with it to the Harpstring Council.

But, praise be to Aunt Minnie's ostrich soup, the pine was not a pine at all but a spruce tree! Toot the angel horns! Conference—conference of the Elders!! Xlykmozrqa has mistaken a spruce tree for a pine! Never, never in the history of the Harpstring Council had the angels mistaken the Christmas Tree of Honor.

Well, naturally only one way remained to clear the scandal. The tree must be returned. And regretful or not as it may seem, the angel who returned the tree never finished his college geography course and could not distinguish between east and west. Thus he hastily dropped the spruce on the opposite side of Pennsylvania into the Behrend circle. And with these words, 'Spruce tree, henceforward thou shalt be known as pine,' the angel vanished into the winter starlight and left the Behrend Pine majestic on the cold Christmas Eve."



The Behrend Pine

Ed. Note—Xlykmozrqa, translated into English means "Little brother of the higher spirits to McGregor XIOL."

Abstract Painting Causes Comments

The current art display in the library, in addition to adding to the cultural atmosphere of the campus, has been causing much comment. Included in the display are a work of Maud Miller's, "Areas of Waiting", Carole Lazarus' "Abstract," oil paintings by Janet Warren, Sandra David, Al Kuhns, and also an unhibited work by Frank Hursen entitled "My Dog and Me."

The winning photographs of the recent photography contest were Mr. Patterson's "Night Light" and "February Shadows." Three tickets to the recent "Othello" presentation at Villa Maria Auditorium were awarded to the winners of the Othello contest, Carole Laveelyn Bernhard and Sandy David.

A Christmas-tree trimming party was held in the library. Among those present were Ron Raymond, Fred Monoco, Fred Faulk, Frank Hursen, Dave Lord, Clyde Beatty, Evelyn Bernhard, Sandy David, Carole Lazarus, and the hostess, Miss Filer.

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