



THE NITTANY CUB



Vol. XVIII No. 15 EXTRA

Behrend Campus

February 22, 1967

STATE TOURNEY HERE FRIDAY

Friday and Saturday, February 24 and 25, we will be hosting the State Junior College Basketball Tournament for the first time in the history of the Pennsylvania Junior College Athletic Association. Behrend has earned the right to host this, the 22nd annual PJCAA basketball tournament, by competing league play with an unblemished 6-0 record. Last year the tournament was hosted by Eastern Division winner, York Junior College, so this year it is being hosted by Western Division winner--Behrend!

This year's tournament will see four teams competing for the State Championship and the right to represent Pennsylvania in the Regional Tournament, which will be held at Baltimore Junior College, Baltimore, Maryland, March 2-4. Behrend and Johnstown (U. of Pitt) will represent the Western Division; while York Junior College (6-2 in league play) and Pierce Junior College from Philadelphia (5-3) will be here from the East.

Bus trip to Baltimore??

There is a possibility that, should Behrend win the tourney, a bus could be chartered to take interested fans to Baltimore for the Regional Tournament. However, Coach Sweeting has emphasized that two things must happen first--our team must win the tournament, and we must have student backing for this week-end's tourney to avoid financial disaster. Unless Erie Hall is filled to capacity by Behrend boosters both Friday and Saturday nights, it is doubtful that money will be available to send our team to Baltimore. Good attendance would make such a trip financially feasible.

Winning the tournament will be no easy

matter, as York has along history of tournament successes and will be the tallest team this year. Behrend has several things going for them, including the best seasonal won-lost record, the home floor advantage, the home crowd advantage, plus six returns for our year's team that played in the tournament at York, which was won by Point Park Junior College.

Back Your Team

Team members and the coach seem to be optimistic about chances for success in this year's tournament. Scoring balance is excellent, with starters Joe Williams, Ron Hornyak, Barney Etzel, Tom Taylor, and Howie McGregor all having scored over 200 points each this year. In addition, Bruce Reinhart, Rich Dylewski, Randy Lachowski, Bob Locke, and John Pyle usually see action, Reinhart and Lachowski having started on occasion. The big doubt seems to be the reaction of the student body to this opportunity to display "college spirit." This doubt is based on repeated failures of the Behrend student body to show enthusiasm for campus activities. Coach Sweeting said it best: "We have a team good enough to win this thing. WYNN radio is broadcasting it, and we have a tremendous opportunity to prove to the people of Erie that Behrend really does have a campus and campus life. Our public image will be dealt a severe blow if we show that we aren't even interested in our own team. The key to the whole tourney is held by the 'average Behrend student.' Speaking for the team, we hope he comes to the games."

Tickets may still be obtained at \$1.50 for students for both nights at the table set up in the cafeteria. Cost for individual games will be \$1.00 each at the door.