



Greeks give out bids tonight, Beta's back

Brian Cook • The TOWER



A Beta Theta Pi representative JB Scherpelz sits in the Benedum Commons looking for possible students to become a founding father as the Bethany College Beta chapter looks to recolonize after a three year absence on campus.

By **KELLY FRY**
TOWER staff writer

Being Greek at Bethany College shows pride, especially within a particular organization. There are

currently three female Greek organizations - Alpha Xi Delta, Phi Mu and Zeta Tau Alpha. There are also five male fraternities to choose from including Alpha Sigma Phi, Delta Tau Delta, Kappa Alpha, Sigma Nu

and Phi Kappa Tau. However, that is quickly changing.

Beta Theta Pi is returning to Bethany after a three year absence, which began in 2003. This was due to financial circumstances.

"We're very excited to bring back one of our oldest chapters. The College has been incredibly supportive as have the students. Our alumni are very engaged about the return," Beta Representative JB Scherpelz said.

Beta was founded in 1839 at Miami University located in Oxford, Ohio. They currently have about twenty males interested in joining. For more information, visit the Beta table located in the Cafeteria.

In addition to Greek Life being rich here at Bethany, it is also very old. The sororities have apart of the Bethany community between eighty and one hundred years. The male organizations, on the other hand, have a more broad age span. They are seventy-five to one hundred fifty years old.

Formal recruitment is in full swing right now. That is the process in which current Greeks, both men

and women, recruit new members. During the return of the spring semester multiple houses have been having Rush parties to help their recruitment. Rush parties are events where Independents, both freshmen and upperclassmen get the opportunity to learn about particular Greek organizations.

Bid Night will be tonight starting at 7:30 p.m.

Currently, 35 percent of all Bethany students are Greek. An additional 45 are either definitely going Greek or at least considering it according to the office of Student Life. After Bid Night 2006 is completed, around 40 of Bethany students will begin the pledging process to become a member of their respected Greek organization.

At one point in time, seventy percent of students were going Greek.

"We want to increase the number of Greeks on campus and hope we can make Greek life a big part on this campus," Director of Student

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Casino night, Jarhead success on campus

By **GARY GERBA**
TOWER staff writer

This past Saturday Bethany College's Student Activities Council opened up its spring campaign with their fourth annual Casino Night held in Renner Too, just below Phillips Hall.

The event, once again on the night of Jan. 21, turned out to be a huge success drawing in a crowd of more than 250 students and faculty alike. With over 120 people signing up to take place in the Texas Hold'Em tournament and only three taking home cash prizes from the event the competition was fast paced and well

'I went along winning a little here and there until I made it to the final's table.'

- Brett Bartholomew



played throughout.

Coming out on top at the final table was Brett Bartholomew with the grand prize of \$1,000. Chris Palo was runner up taking home \$500 and Craig Owens rounded out the top three collecting \$250.

"I was doing pretty good when I first started out. I went along winning a little here and there until I made it to the final's table, and once I did it as you can see turned out very

well," Bartholomew said after taking home the final pot.

When asked what he was going to do with the prize Brett quickly replied he would be sending the check to his parents as a sort of thank you for his new car.

The event also played host to SAC's very own craps table and slot machines which turned out to be a crowd favorite once eliminated from the tourney. Another cash prize given

away to those in attendance was the 'Half Hour Raffle' which gave away \$100 every half hour to the holder of the called ticket. Those taking home cash prizes from this give away included Palo, Anthony Taolatta, Luke Luallin, Mark Cummins, Coulter Lewis, Chris Simmons, Alicia Mader, Randy Gibson and Megan Pistorius.

Not to be overshadowed by the popular Casino night was the showing of critically acclaimed *Jarhead* on Friday night. The movie follows the trials and tribulations of a young marine enlisting just as his father and

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Gary Gerba • The TOWER



Bethany College students partaking in the Casino Night sponsored by Student Activities Council this past weekend Renner Too. The winner of the event, Brett Bartholomew, sitting second from the left took home the grand prize of \$1,000.

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grandfather had done before him. The young marine who eventually after making it through the constant drilling and training ends up on the sniper squadron of one Jamie Foxx. The eventual mission leads to their participation in desert storm which they quickly had found through all their training they were not nearly prepared for what lay ahead.

The movie, which sat roughly 150 people, was one of SAC's most successful thus far and they hope to

continue providing the Bethany community with high quality entertainment week in and week out.

The next SAC events will include HBO Def Jam poet J Ivy on Saturday, Feb. 4 for at 7 p.m. in Wailes Theatre. The following event will be SAC's second annual Mardi Gras party on Friday, Feb. 10.

SAC meets every Wednesday night at 6 p.m. in the SAC lounge in Renner Union.

Aladdin looks to retain Bethany's business

Food service bids taking place

By RENEE COLEMAN
TOWER staff writer

Bethany College's food service provider Aladdin Food Services' recent updates may not be enough to keep their contract with Bethany, with competition from fellow food providers: Aramark, AVI Food System, Parkhurst Dining System, The Nutrition Group, Metz and Associates, Chartwells, and Sodexo.

Aramark at this point in time is the only company that has come to see what the student's desire. They were here one week ago strolling the cafeteria with palm pilots to see what the students had to say. The company plans on incorporating these suggestions and wants into their proposal.

Another company buying for the food service contract is AVI Food System out of Warren, Ohio. AVI currently serves students at Carnegie Mellon, Ohio State, and many other large universities.

Parkhurst Dining System, a division of the Eat'n Park Hospitality Group, has created their own brands of food to help with the large number of students that eat in a college cafeteria each day. Some of these unique brands are Pepperazzi, Bravisimo, Bento Bowl, East Street Deli and Wheatcroft's.

Bethany's current provider -- Aladdin Food Services -- has over 150 clientele in 17 different states. Some of these states include West Virginia, Ohio, Maryland and Georgia.

WV Governor pushes mining legislation

By BRIAN COOK
TOWER staff writer

A recent bill intended to improve safety in coal mines was passed with lightning speed through the Legislature, in a rare instance where state lawmakers upended their usually lackadaisical legislative process to get a bill done in one day.

Monday, just two days after the bodies of two coal miners were found in a Logan County mine, lawmakers in both the House and Senate bypassed the usual steps necessary to see a bill through passage. The coal mining legislation they passed was not studied by a single legislative committee prior to the session -- a rare occurrence for a government body that typically wrestles with even the least controversial bills for weeks.

Gov. Joe Manchin, whose office worked through the weekend writing the legislation, introduced the bill early Monday morning. Fewer than 10 hours later, it had been passed unanimously through both the House and Senate with only minor tweaking.

The bill now requires mine accidents to be reported at a much faster pace to state officials, requires mine operators to buy new electronic tracking equipment for workers and mandates larger air supplies for miners who might be trapped underground.

"It is a shame that it takes an event, like these past two mine accidents, to make this legislation come into play," Communication Professor Ted Pauls said. "When something as tragic as this happens it's nice to see a politician -- referring to Gov. Manchin -- at the forefront and not hiding behind a lackey."

Manchin said Monday that lawmakers couldn't afford to wait any longer to get available technology inside some of the state's most dangerous workspaces.

Monday's fast-tracking of the governor's mine bill won't mean the end of the Legislature's look at this

'I never want to tell another child that I'm not sure if Daddy has enough air,'



- Gov. Joe Manchin

month's coal disasters.

In the meantime Gov. Manchin has begun his battle with the federal government to follow up on West Virginia's lead with protection of coal miners nationally

"I never want to tell another child that I'm not sure if Daddy has enough air," Manchin told the Associated Press. "I don't want to tell another wife that we haven't found him yet but that we're still looking."

Manchin joined West Virginia's congressional delegation in calling for new safety laws and demanding that the agency that oversees coal mine safety be more aggressive about enforcing existing rules.

The group met with White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card and officials with the Labor Department and its sub-agency, the Mine Safety and Health Administration.

Deputy Labor Secretary Steven Law said federal officials were reviewing the mine safety legislation Manchin pushed through the West Virginia Legislature on Monday.

Senator Jay Rockefeller said immediate action should be taken by the mine agency to put extra breathing devices in the mines. "Now, we will do that by law if we have to," Rockefeller commented to the Associated Press.

According to the Mine Safety and Health Administration federal law currently requires miners to carry oxygen packs that provide about an hour's worth of air. There is evidence that some of the 12 miners killed in the Jan. 2 Sago Mine accident used their oxygen devices, however it took rescuers more than 40 hours to bring the victims above ground.

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Manchin polled most popular governor

TOWER staff reports

In the midst of what could shape up to be the toughest month of his tenure, Gov. Joe Manchin has been ranked the nation's favorite governor.

SurveyUSA, which does monthly political polls of residents in all 50 states, found more West Virginians are happy with Manchin's performance than residents of any other state are with their own governor.

Manchin's approval rating in the state was 80 percent as of this week, up from 67 percent just one month ago.

The poll began Jan. 13 and lasted through this week, as Manchin struggled with the aftermath of two deadly coal mine disasters that left 14 West Virginians dead.

His level of popularity in the state is unusual for any governor. Last month, the top-ranked state leader was Jodi Rell of Connecticut, who came in with a relatively high 77 percent approval rating among constituents.

It's also rare for a West Virginia governor to lead the pack when it comes to approval ratings.

"West Virginia's never had a gov-

ernor like Joe Manchin," Nick Casey, chairman of the state Democratic Party, said to the Charleston Daily Mail.

Laura Ramsburg, Gov. Manchin's public relations director, said this week he has spent more than 90 hours this month in two rural counties either awaiting news about missing coal miners or grieving with family members and friends over the miners' deaths.

Manchin gave dozens of interviews to the national media, appearing on shows like "Today" and "Good Morning America" even during the tensest times when no one knew if miners were dead or alive.

Political analysts said his decision to take on the role of communicator during the disasters was a good one.

"Never underestimate the power of national exposure," Robert Rupp, a political science professor and historian at West Virginia Wesleyan College, said.

Manchin brought with him to Sago his family's own history in the coal mining industry. He lost an uncle and many friends during a 1968 coal blast that killed 78 miners in Farmington,

well known as the first mine disaster to attract national and international television coverage.

The SurveyUSA poll showed Manchin followed closely by Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman, who had a 78 percent approval rating this week.

SurveyUSA does public opinion polls for some of the largest television markets in the country.

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Activities, Brian Fernandes, said in an interview last week.

Many students are deciding to go Greek this winter. According to the Panhellenic Council, 175 women are currently active. Another 62 are attempting to become Greek. That is the size of an additional sorority on campus.

There are not as many males becoming Greek, as previously mentioned. Currently, there are 110 active men within the different fraternities on campus. This year, there are only 23 registered according to the Inter-Fraternal Council.



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A Guide to Reading Opinions

By HANK HAMPTON
TOWER staff writer

Greetings. I decided I would spend my final semester at Bethany College writing for The Tower.

First, I want to encourage you to read Zach Macormac's articles. He's incredibly intelligent and you might learn a thing or two. If you do decide to read these articles, here's a "warning label" of sorts.

Allow me to define what is an opinion. An opinion is nothing more than a thought. Though this is true, this gives me no right to write things for the sole purpose of making you mad. So instead of writing about how I hate penguins, I'll write about Bethany because the standard of an opinion matters.

Another concept I'll need you to grasp, since this is an opinion, facts don't exist, but factoids do. Let me give you an example. The Bison Inn serves underage. See that's a 'FACT.' But it's not really a FACT. To be a FACT it would have to be in, say, a Brooke County Police Department

report...then it would be a FACT. Since it's in the opinion section of The Tower...it's just a 'FACT.' With anything I write, the best thing you can do is check it out.

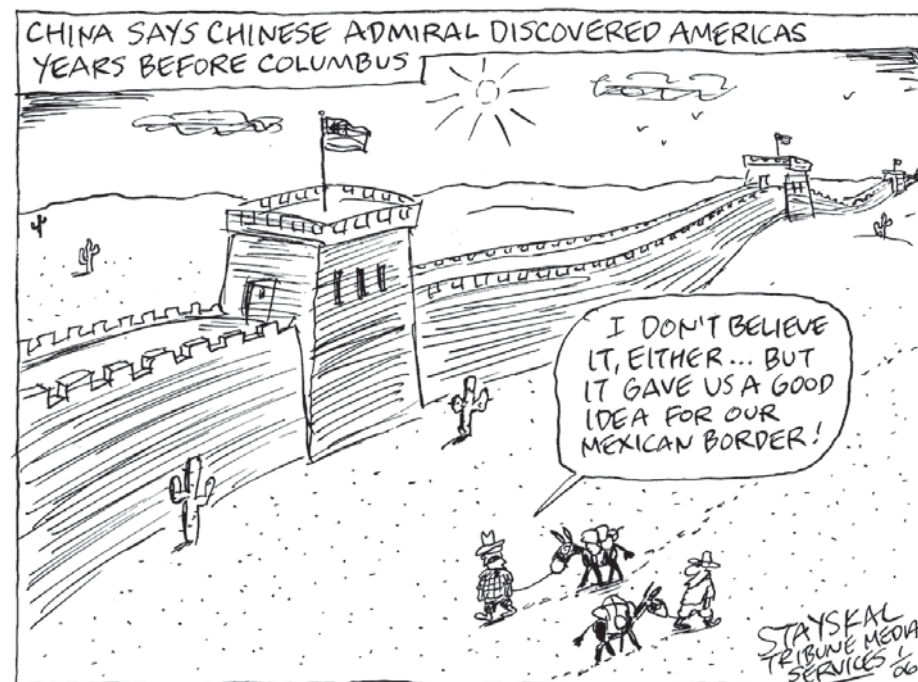
Sarcasm is writing one thing and meaning something different. Let me give you another example. 'I believe CV2 will stand the test of time.' See that's sarcasm (it's also a pun because I used the word "stand"). Seriously, I am proud of the few who remind us of their uncanny ability to be able to punch drywall. Certainly, quite a feat.

Now that's a value statement. Opinion articles are full of value statements. Personally, I think it's stupid to punch holes in a place you live...especially when you pay thousands to live there. Apparently, there are some people who would disagree with me, they live in CV2.

I'm just the opinion guy. I throw stuff out there for you to talk about during lunch. I don't write so you can

read during your 9am class. Focus on the professor at the front of the room. They are trying to teach you useful information and they deserve your

respect since they are the lowest paid when compared to the fifteen closest schools. Is that sarcasm, 'FACT' or opinion...well, wait till lunch.



Hillary's slip is showing

By MICHAEL GOODWIN
Knight Ridder Newspapers

With her bizarre claim that the House of Representatives is "run like a plantation," Sen. Hillary Clinton has turned a harsh spotlight on herself. Speculation is hot and heavy about why she made the inflammatory remark on the holiday honoring the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., especially when she has been taking steps toward the political center.

As with all things Clinton, the conventional wisdom is that the moment was calculated. Appearing with the Rev. Al Sharpton and other far-out Dems, this theory goes, she was feeding the crowd red meat to get its applause and Sharpton's approval. She obliged, and so did they.

It's a reasonable guess at her motive, but it's at least partly wrong. I don't think Clinton planned to use the word plantation because she didn't say it in her prepared remarks, according to my colleague David Saltonstall.

Instead, I think she panicked after a tough questioner said Demo-

crats had been spineless and cited her record as an example. She was looking for an escape hatch and the race card was handy. She played it not because she remotely believes House rules are akin to slavery, but because she knew the word plantation would manipulate the black crowd and let her avoid explaining her support for the Iraq war.

Think of it as a cheap trick.

Of course, her panic is no excuse for rancid race-baiting. Indeed, it points up an even deeper problem with Clinton's "triangulation" strategy for her presidential run in 2008. All this zigzagging from left to right and back again on abortion, health care and national defense is supposed to make her look like a centrist.

It's just making her look confused.

At worse, it suggests she's having trouble figuring out who she is. And if she doesn't know who she is, how are the rest of us supposed to?

John Kerry demonstrated that an identity crisis can be fatal in 2004 when he gave the Bush team enough ammo to make the flip-flop charge stick. Kerry should have won, but his muddled stance on Iraq, terrorism and pretty much everything else allowed the GOP to paint him as unprincipled and unreliable.

Al Gore had the same problem in 2000. Remember those reports of his hiring a consultant to tell him how to dress like an alpha male?

Clinton is flirting with the same problem. Part of the reason is that she keeps her more moderate and leftist tendencies segregated from each other. The result is that she often seems to be two different people instead of one person with a principled coherence.

I've written about her habit of saying things that are, in substance, as radical as a Howard Dean rant. But she doesn't say those things in front of mixed audiences. Her most strident attacks on Bush come at Demo-

cratic fund-raisers. The next day, she'll talk publicly about the need for bipartisanship while she poses with a Newt Gingrich.

Then there's the race issue. Last September, she stood mute as Rep. Charles Rangel called Bush "our Bull Connor." The reference to the Alabama police boss of 1960s infamy was below the belt, but Clinton uttered not a peep of protest. It would be nice to ask her what she really thinks about such things, but our senator rarely grants on-the-record interviews to New York journalists. Maybe she's trying to decide who she is.

Or maybe she's afraid some of us already know.

Have an opinion and want to see it published?

e-mail it to
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Comedians Tell Dirty Joke In Documentary

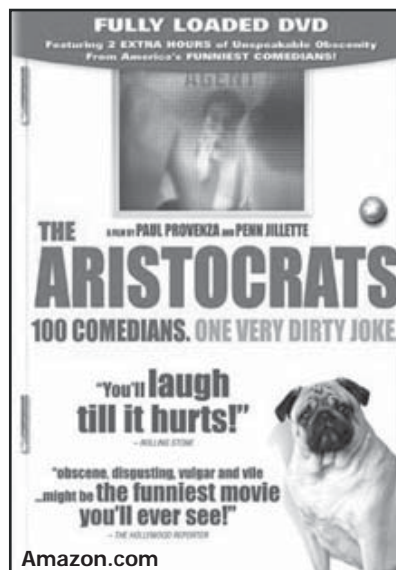
By SEAN CROSSLEY
TOWER lifestyles editor

On January 24, the documentary "The Aristocrats" was released on DVD. This film showcases one hundred comedians telling their own versions of the dirtiest joke there is.

Now this joke may not seem like a joke when someone hears it. Basically it starts with an entertainer telling a talent agent that they have a great idea for a talent act. This is where the begin. The comedians think of the nastiest, most disturbing things a person could do and say them out loud. This could go as long as the comedian wants. It could go a few minutes or last for hours. Once they

get to the punchline, the audience maybe so disturbed that they expect the punchline to be the same way. However, this is not the case and can leave some dumbstruck.

Now on to which comedians make up the all-star cast in "The Aristocrats." First off the creators of the film are Penn Jillette (You know who he is when "& Teller" is added after Penn) and Paul Provenza. Other



notable comedians include Jason Alexander, Hank Azaria (Moe in "The Simpsons"), Lewis Black, Drew Carey, George Carlin, Billy Connolly (Il Duce in "Boondock Saints"), Andy Dick, Whoopi Goldberg, Gilbert Gottfried, Eric Idle ("Monty Python"), Bill Maher, Howie Mandel, Penn & Teller, Paul Reiser ("Mad About You"), Bob Saget

verman ("School of Rock"), and Jon Stewart. There are other famous actors/comedians that were completely unexpected (like Carrie Fisher and Carrottop).

Included on the DVD are two hours of special features. These include Filmmaker Commentary, "Aristocrats do 'The Aristocrats' Highlight Reel," and a "For Johnny Carson" clip.

If you are someone who faints when hearing certain four-letter words and despicable acts in vast amounts "The Aristocrats" is definitely not recommended. However, this film is a must see if you need a laugh and can take extreme amounts of vulgar humor.

Here's Romance, Now Where's My Chemical?

By JOHN-MARK KING
TOWER staff writer

My Chemical Romance. Just reading that name tells you who they are. If you do not then you must have been living under a rock for the past year and a half. These boys have been blowing up nationally and internationally with their new hit CD "Three Cheers For Sweet Revenge." "Three Cheers" contains fast energetic songs that seem to be almost perfect in their own uniqueness and the album is an amazing leap forward from their freshman album "I Brought You My Bullets, You Brought Me Your Love." For those of you who do know about the band, get ready to learn even more about the band that you love or hate.

My Chemical Romance began in 2000 when vocalist Gerard Way asked best friend and drummer Matt Pelisser to write some songs with him. Gerard later asked guitarist Ray Toro to write some guitar to their songs. With the addition of Gerard's younger brother Mikey to play bass and friend Frank Iero, My Chemical Romance was soon under way to become one the most famous bands in today's alternative rock scene and the help of living the

New Jersey music scene helped the band push forward in their career rapidly. My Chemical Romance seems to be more than just a band with more of punk-rock's musical aggression and confessional lyrics. This is why they are compared to bands like Thursday, who are also New Jersey natives. With this combination of music the band would move on to record their first album.

"I Brought You My Bullets, You Brought Me Your Love" was recorded by New York-based Indie label Eyeball Records in 2002. Geoff Rickely, vocalist for Thursday whose band had also recorded their first album with Eyeball Records, helped the band create the CD they wanted by producing it for them. Geoff's help on their CD would also be a big help on the band's popularity grow through the nations alternative/indie scene. Soon enough the band began touring the US and realized the follow-

ing they created. Unfortunately the band's original drummer would not join them in the recording of their second album and would, due to certain circumstances, have to leave My Chemical Romance.

Following the two years of touring came the birth of the latest and

greatest musical invention the band could have thought of at the time. My Chemical Romance's "Three Cheers For Sweet Revenge" is a rock-opera, meaning that the entire album is one huge story (for those who weren't sure). In an interview with "Alternative Press Magazine," Gerard discusses how the album tells the story of two lovers, in which, the girlfriend dies and the man makes a deal with the devil to do his dirty work. The devil tells him he must murder a thousand men if he ever wants to see her again.

The album art for "Three Cheers"



is Gerard Way's own free hand graphic design. He requested to draw the album art because before the band, Gerard wanted to be an animator. It is even rumored that he tried getting his own show with Adult Swim featuring talking fast food (something similar to Aqua Teen Hunger Force) but was turned down because it wasn't what the network was looking for at that time.

"Three Cheers For Sweet Revenge" became the band's breakthrough. Although it was recorded in 2004 it didn't seem to gain recognition until around early 2005 when their video for the catchy and addictive song "I'm Not Okay" hit MTV. Just like any band that gets on MTV, everyone is going to find out about them. The video depicts the band as being outcasts at a preparatory school where jocks pick on them constantly. By the end of the video the band decides to get their revenge on the jocks by fighting them with croquet mallets and chains. "I'm Not Okay" is not the only catchy song, the CD also has such songs like, "To The End", "Give 'Em Hell Kid", and "It's Not A Fashion Statement, It's

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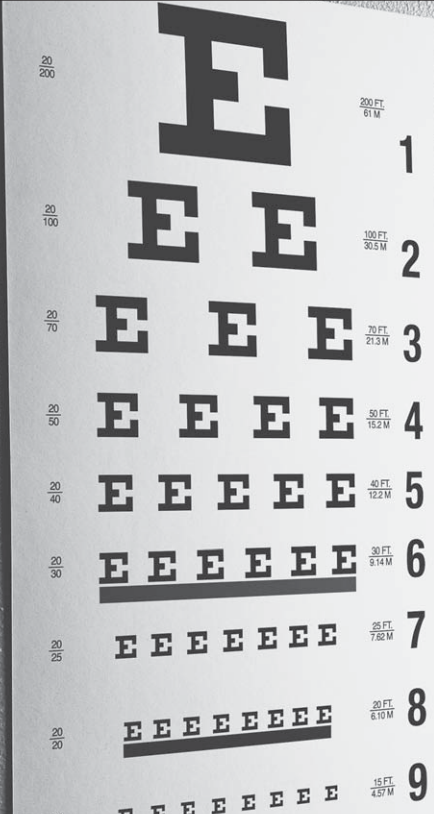
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A Death wish." The entire album will be stuck in your head making you want to know Gerard's exact lyrics so you can hum them to yourself. Not only are the lyrics catchy, the guitar parts that Frank and Ray combine together will make your jaws drop at their solos during "Thank You For The Venom" and in "I'm Not Okay". The CD even has guest vocals with Burt McCracken from the Utah-based band The Used, whose popularity is also on a high rise.


My Chemical Romance is currently now recording their third full-length album, which fans are hoping to be as good or be even better than their latest album. Their first ever full-length DVD features a documentary on the band with footage of the band when they first began all the way to the present. The "Life On the Murder Scene" DVD will contain two DVD's and one CD with live tracks. Both DVD's will also have all of their music videos and the making of those videos for such songs as, "Ghost of You" and "Helena."

In the month of April the band will be taking a break from recording to headline the "Give It A Name" festival for two nights in London and Manchester. Their new CD should hopefully be completed and in stores sometime in fall of this year but no one is quite sure of when the release date may be. Until then, keep listening to what this band has created because the music these boys produce will probably be just as addicting as sniffing a black magic marker. Don't play coy; you know you've done it.



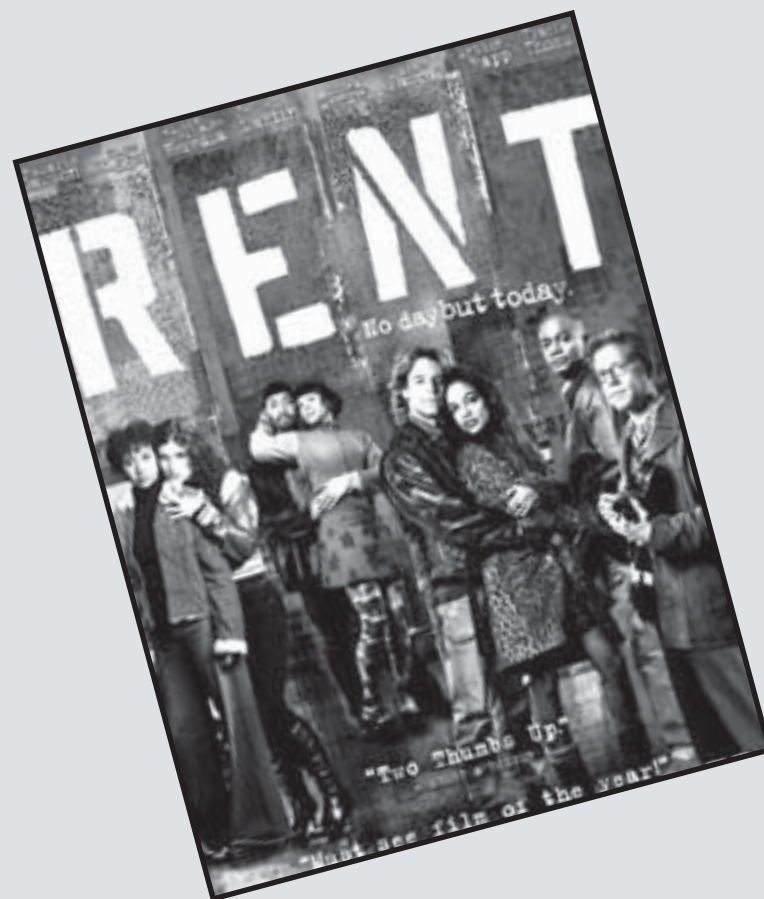
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Women's basketball team runs away with the win

By RENEE COLEMAN
TOWER staff writer

The Bethany Women's basketball team (6-12) slowly trampled over the visiting Wolverines of Grove City College (6-12), Saturday with a 66-57 victory. This victory snapped a two game losing streak, and tied Bethany with Grove City in the PAC's with a 2-3 record.

The first half was anyone's game with neither team giving up much ground. The biggest lead for most of the half was a meager four points held by the Bison. But junior forward Courtney Irwin began tearing into the Wolverine defense by tallying up six consecutive points in a 9-2 Bethany run. Then Grove City managed a 9-0 run but they still trailed 29-28 going into half-time. The game almost became tied with less than six seconds left when Grove City's Bethany Anderson connected from the 3 point arch.

With only one point separating the two teams the second half battle became even more fierce as they swapped the lead 10 times and tied the score seven times.

Then with less than seven minutes left senior guard Renee Shehady gave Bethany the lead permanently with a three pointer. Grove City tried to put a dent into the 52-49 score with a quick basket but a steal from senior Jenny Place only two minutes later halted the Wolverines attack. Place took the steal the length of the court and layed it up for a easy two points. The basket put Place in the Bethany history books as the 14th women's basketball player to score 1,000 points.

The Wolverines again tried to cut down the Bison's lead with sophomore Rachel McCoy sinking two free throws with 1:21 left on the clock and Anderson dropping in her two free shots, freezing the clock at 1:04. Bethany was once again in dan-

ger of losing their lead as the four free points they gave to Grove City shrank the score to within one (58-57).

With two seconds left of the shot clock freshman Caelyn DiSanti struck gold at the top of the key to give Bethany a 60-57 lead. Grove City feeling the pressure of the clock committed fouls against Shehady, Place and Irwin. All three players sunk their two foul shots a piece with only 21 seconds left in the game, making the final score 66-57.

As a team the Bison had a season-low 14 turnovers and also commanded the foul line going 26-28. Putting up big numbers for the home team was Place and Irwin. Place scored 23 points making it her third game out of four and her ninth game of season with 20 or more points. Irwin went eight-for-eight at the line and had a total of 16 points with 11 rebounds. Grove City was lead by McCoy with 19 points and seven rebounds.

At press time the Lady Bison were traveling to Thiel to play the Lady Cats. Tip-off is at 6 p.m.



Senior Renee Shehady brings the ball up the court to start another play.

Bison head to Thiel to mark halfway point of PAC schedule

TOWER staff reports

In the nightcap, Bethany's men (14-4, 5-0) will be looking for their third double-digit win streak in two years. A win over the Tomcats would extend BC's streak to 10 games, one short of the 11-game winning streaks the team put together twice during last year's 24-4 season. The school record for longest winning streak dates all the way back to 1963-64, when BC won the final game of the 1962-63 season, then went a perfect 18-0 during the 1963-64 campaign.

Bethany's ninth win in a row came Saturday with a 92-58 triumph over Grove City. Although the Bison had their school-record streak of consecutive 100-point games end at four, they set a new standard for consecutive games with 90 or more points at five. Senior forward Matt Drahos (Wheeling, W.Va./John Marshall) amassed 23 points, nine rebounds, five assists, four blocks and three steals, while his brother Mike recorded 18 points and became just the fifth BC men's player to go over 1,500 for his career.

"It was good to keep the momentum going," said Bison coach Aaron

Huffman. "We shot the ball very well again and we played better defense in the second half."

A key player in Bethany's season has been junior Chris Stephens (Wheeling, W.Va./Wheeling Central). He is averaging 8.1 points, 3.7 rebounds and 3.4 assists during the year and posted his second consecutive game with double-digit scoring Saturday with 12 markers against Grove City. While he may fly under the radar from recognition, Huffman says his contributions do not go unnoticed.

"Chris has brought a serious energy level to this team since his freshman year," said Huffman. "He does all the little things, from drawing charges to getting his hands on balls defensively to making the extra pass to get someone a wide open look. He may go unnoticed sometimes but not by those on this team because what he brings to the us is invaluable."

Although the Bison will be taking on a Thiel team that is 2-15 and 0-5 in the PAC, don't look for the squad to look past the Tomcats, especially on the road. Bethany has a history of struggling in Greenville. Last season,

Thiel took the Bison to the wire before BC pulled out a 78-72 win. Two years ago, Bethany was 7-1 in the conference before being shocked 64-63 at Thiel, which cost the Bison the top-seed and home court advantage in the conference tournament. And in 2002-03, Huffman's first year at the helm, Thiel won two meetings on its home court with the Green and White, including a win in the PAC Tournament semifinals.

"It can be a tough place to play and we have to be focused when we go up there," said Huffman. "I mentioned it to our team after Grove City, but I don't want to overemphasize it. It doesn't matter what their record is, we just have to get ready to play."

Thiel will enter Wednesday's game looking to break an 11-game losing streak. The last Tomcat win came back on Dec. 8, a 107-59 victory over Penn State-DuBois. Their five PAC losses have come by an average of more than 18 points per game, including an 83-71 defeat to W&J Wednesday. The Tomcats fell behind 47-30 by halftime and couldn't recover, despite 21 points off the bench by forward Geno Biancho.

The Tomcats recently suffered a major blow, as leading scorer and rebounder Joe Herrman is no longer on the team. That means the burden

**see Thiel
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Senior Mike Drahos is the current PAC leader in rebounding with 9.3 boards per game.

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of picking up the offense falls on freshman guard James Beedle, who is second on the team in scoring at 10.8 points per game and has hit 39 percent from the arc. The Tomcats like to hoist the three-ball, as six different players have hit 11 or more triples this season.

"Thiel has been struggling lately, but they are the type of team who will turn it around at some point and most likely, it will be at home," said Huffman. "I'm sure someone could look past this game, but we don't take teams for granted. We see Thiel as standing in our way of getting another PAC victory and we will go up there with the mentality that we have to take care of business."

The bison will be back on the road this Saturday going up against Waynesburg (3-2). Tip off time is set at 7:30. Think about taking a small road trip this weekend and go support our boys as they battle on for the PAC title.



Junior Chris Stephens has turned into a player to watch in the upcoming games.

The Penguins continue downward slide

By ASHLEY NEWMAN
TOWER sports writer

The Pittsburgh Penguins' woes continued with a 2-1 loss Saturday at home against the Philadelphia Flyers. Flyers goaltender Robert Esche held the Penguins to just one goal on 33 shots.

R.J. Umberger, a Pittsburgh-area native, got the Flyers on the board with 5:51 to go in the first period. The goal, coming on a Flyers power play, was Umberger's eighth of the season.

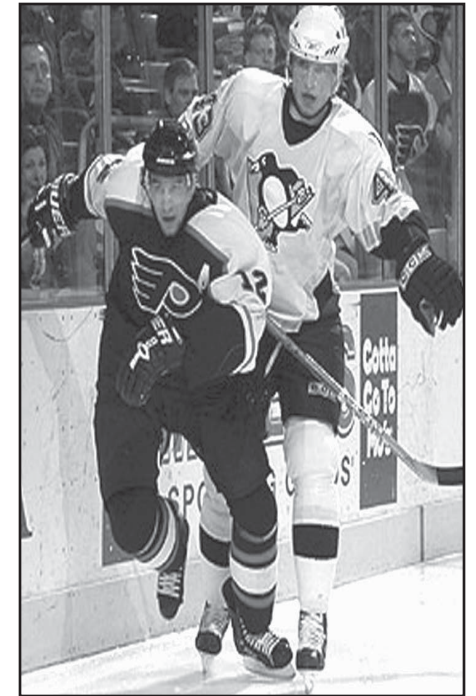
The game remained 1-0 until the 5:56 mark of the third period when Jeff Carter scored his twelfth goal of the season and gave the Flyers a 2-0 lead.

The Penguins finally got on the board when rookie Colby Armstrong scored his fourth goal of the season with just 3:49 to play. However, the Penguins could not get any closer.

Pittsburgh has now lost nine straight games and ten of its last eleven, putting them in last place in the Atlantic Division, with a record of 11-28-9.

The Penguins take to the road to face the New York Rangers on Saturday at 2:00.

NHL.com



Penguins left wing Tomas Surovy fights for position, against Simon Gagne on last Saturdays game.

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