



THE BEAVER NEWS

**WEEKEND
WEATHERWATCH**
Saturday - Hot, Humid
Sunday - Chance of Rain
Monday - Sunny, Warm

VOL. LIV, NO. 1

BEAVER COLLEGE, GLENSIDE, PA.

Saturday, September 1, 1979

WELCOME BEAVER FROSH!

For those of us who wandered into the frightening reality of Beaver College's freshmen orientation three years ago, the information about to be offered here would've been greatly appreciated. No matter how cool or self confident you may be, fear and apprehension grips every incoming frosh, from the very first instant their parents drive them through the college gates. And when we tell you we really feel for you collegiate recruits, believe it. To prove it, we're herein offering a sampling of some of the things we wished we had known back then: little tidbits of info that would've made the college transition a hell of a lot less nerve-racking for us. Hopefully, what we present here will serve to make things just a touch easier for you.

We wish we had known: (and hope you'll bear in mind); that putting on a secure act would not help overcome insecurity. Only by being yourself can you truly learn to be secure and self-confident around new people and new surroundings.

We wish we had known; that college isn't as tough as we had expected. Professors are always willing to confer with you and help you with material and there is an abundance of student tutors available to help you out.

We wish we had known: to jump out of the shower quicker when someone yelled "FLUSHING!"

We wish we had known: that most of your hallmates will be friendly and outgoing; that upper-classmen don't act superior or look down to you and that it's super-easy to get actively involved in extra-curricular clubs and activities.

We wish we had known: that it's important to the future of your wardrobe to separate the laundry by colors so as not to bleach your jeans and tie-die your underwear.

We wish we had known: that living away from home means coping with different types of people; that your roommate won't always be your closest friend and that sharing a room meant giving up certain things you were used to.

We wish we had known: that when we told someone we went to Beaver, we'd hear a lot of dirty jokes and get plenty of strange looks.

But most of all, we wish we had known that as scary as orientation was, everything would work out fine, that Beaver would be the first place for you to truly experiment with your individuality, that it wouldn't **always** be a bed of roses but that, after four years here you'd wish to God that it wasn't time to leave.

Are You A Freshie???



The Write Choice At Beaver

By Babette Czynszon

Although this is only your first weekend at Beaver, you have already participated in one of the many facets of the Beaver College Writing Program. The English Placement Test that you took over the summer was a part of the program. Throughout the years you spend at Beaver, you will find yourself involved in many aspects of the program, most of them much more pleasant and helpful than the Placement Test.

For the past five years or so, the faculty at Beaver has shown a great deal of interest in the process and quality of students' writing, and to help further that interest, in 1977, Beaver College received a three year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The purpose of the NEH funded Beaver College Writing Program is twofold. It serves to remind all instructors in all disciplines of the importance writing has in any liberal arts education, and in reminding themselves of this importance, instructors now place a greater emphasis on the student writing done in their courses. What makes Beaver

unique though, is the fact that we, the students, are **taught** to write, whereas, at other educational institutions, students are more often than not, simply **told** to write. The Writing Program as it is known, is under the direction of Dr. Elaine Maimon, and has met with mounting success in the past few years.

Under the grant, a number of programs have been instituted which as freshmen and upperclassmen you will be able to take advantage of and benefit from. One of these programs includes "course clusters" which are two or three courses in different disciplines all of which have a similar theme or themes. The benefits of "course clusters" are one, that you are getting a number of different view points on the same material, and two, you are often able to cut back on your workload by reading the same books or writing one paper for two courses. Watch for "course clusters" when making up your schedule. One "course cluster" open to freshmen is the combination of Mrs. Bomze's English 101 class with any of the General Psychology 101 classes. In this

particular "cluster" you will be able to share much of the same reading material, and at least one paper.

Another program started under the grant is the Writing Center. The Writing Center staff is comprised of a group of students who are available to help other students who are having trouble writing papers. It is not a tutorial agency. It is free and open to all students.

Beaver College is fast becoming nationally known for its unique and successful Writing Program, and this distinction will prove to be a valuable asset to you when job-hunting time rolls around in four years. All students, no matter what their major, will have had four years experience writing when they graduate from Beaver, and that experience may prove to be the only difference between you and another job applicant with the same major. In the meantime though, you will no doubt do a great deal of moaning and groaning about all the writing you have to do, but just remember that the job market is tight, and you are going to need every little advantage you possibly can.

Beaver's Vernacular Vogue

College, it has been said should offer students a chance to explore new fields of academia, reach new heights in personal relationships, and perhaps most importantly, make it possible for formerly inarticulate people to add enough new words to their vocabulary to participate in everyday discussions without a liberal sprinkling of "like" and "umm." However, it seems that our language here at Beaver is actually evolving into a lingo of abbreviations occasionally highlighted by whole words. To make it easier for new students to understand this vernacular vogue here are a few of the most commonly heard abbreves:

CA: Commuter Assistant. Undergraduate student available to assist commuters.

RA: Resident Assistant. Undergraduate student available to assist resident

students.

RD: Resident Director. Person who is responsible for the residence hall.

OL: Orientation Leader. Undergraduate student available during orientation to help whenever possible.

SPB: Student Program Board. Organization that works to improve the social life on campus through activities such as films, discos, and concerts.

SGO: Student Government Organization. Organization that works to maintain students rights and responsibilities.

ALA: American Language Academy School whose purpose it is to teach foreign students English.



GET CAUGHT IN THE BEAVER ACT

By Al de la Cuesta

Have you ever felt the excitement as the curtains go up? You feel the crowds anticipation as the lights slowly reveal you and the other actors on stage. A light hum whips through the crowd as friends and relatives recognize certain familiar features that give you away despite the makeup. Then the adrenaline inside you swells and sends a wave of energy through your opening line.

If you have, and even if you haven't you should be glad to know that here at Beaver we have the most explosive theatre company this side of Three Mile Island, the Beaver College Theatre Playshop.

This year promises to be our most challenging so far. Directed by our very talented and capable chairperson of the Theatre Department, Dr. Rosary O'Neill, our first production will be the "Mad Woman of Chaillot" by Jean Giraudoux.

If you're at all interested in learning how to act, or

improving your acting skills your best bet is to try out for the play directed by Dr. O'Neill, or better yet take one of her acting courses (a definite plus of the campus). If you are still a little uncertain of your acting abilities there are plenty of opportunities to get involved behind the scene, where stage fright and forgetting a line would not be a worry. You can join in and help build the sets, help with the musical arrangements, or designing the costumes.

Try outs for the "Mad Woman of Chaillot" are on September 6 and 7 at 6:00 p.m. and are being held at the Little Theatre. There are 25 characters so there will be plenty of parts. It's always a good idea to read through the play and decide on which part or parts you are most attracted to. To pick up a copy of the play contact Dr. O'Neill September 4 anytime during the afternoon.

If you're wondering exactly what the Theatre

Playshop it is the club/organization that runs the theatre here at school. The Playshop has officers (Executive Producer, Joann Balazs; Treasurer, Denise Roberts; and Housemanager, Trudy Berkowitz), who are in charge of holding meetings to vote on the plays for each season and other jobs such as budgeting, publicity, etc.

If you're curious and would like to find out more about the plays and the Playshop you are invited to come to an informal meeting on September 4, at 2:00 p.m. in the Little Theatre. Come on over "You Ain't Seen Nothin' Yet!"

Freshmen Fats

By Suzanne Thompson

Wait until you see how much you'll indulge in fattening delights at Beaver. You may not believe it now, but you'll find that your lifestyle is going to change.

You see, for some reason, college life is conducive to munching. I guess it's all that studying or maybe it's those hours you spend staring at Bio notes and when nothing is sinking in, you are suddenly hit with a lightning bolt that says "FOOD!" And maybe you think Beaver offers little in snacks, but listen to this.

First of all, there's Classic's, an Italian sandwich shop that delivers. Yes, delivers, which means all you have to do is dial the phone and a half-hour later receive your steak sandwich or pizza with mushrooms via a roly-poly Italian man. That's if you're really feeling the urge.

But if you like the thick, rich, creamy taste of ice cream, you may find that HoJo's will become your favorite place to munch. Although the service can get depressing, they are only three minutes away and offer twenty-some varieties of ice cream.

Then there's the Chat, Beaver's very own snack shop which is generously open until 10:00. The nice thing about the Chat is that you can charge your munchies with your Beaver ID and let your parents pick up the tab.

And in a late night emergency, there are candy and soda machines in every dorm. For 25c, you can let a Reese's peanut butter cup melt in your mouth or refresh those tired brain waves with a Mountain Dew.

You know, there's an old wives' tale that says you gain weight at college. Just let me say that forewarned is forearmed.

Freshman Council

Freshman Council is a representative organization whose purpose is to work toward uniting the Freshman Class. The Council is also responsible for planning and organizing all Freshman activities throughout the year. Three dollars of your activities fee goes into the treasury of Freshman Council so get involved as an FC officer or SGO senator.

Bits and Pieces

By Mike Kirby

Welcome, all you eager lads and lassies! It's too late to turn back now. You're in college now, residing amongst the rolling lawns, melodic hills and damp, musty gargoyles of quaint, old Beaver College, ideally located amidst the charm and sophistication of beautiful, downtown Glenside.

For those of you who are completely baffled by this enigmatic mish-mash of type, innocuously settled under the non-descript heading of "Bits & Pieces," you have now been inadequately forewarned. And further still, if you don't yet know who I am, well, may God have mercy on your salivatory quirks and gastric disorders. This is the infamous column, friends; that insidious bit of journalistic jargon that has already put Beaver's upper-classmen on an intellectual plane just slightly above that of a luded-out water rat.

Now, contrary to popular opinion, I was a freshman once, too. An innocent, freckly-faced lad who just happened to mistakenly wander into the hallowed halls of the Castle one bright Spring morn, only to be deviously snatched up by a deranged admissions counselor who held a Dining Hall hamburger in front of my face and threatened to feed it to me if I didn't enroll. I quickly surmised that there was a severe shortage of able-bodied males on campus so I enlisted.

Anyway, I went through frosh orientation just like all of you are, and all through it I kept wishing, "Boy, I wish someone would write a bright, fast-paced, outrageous and witty column directed just at us kids, which would give us the inside dope on what Beaver is really all about!"

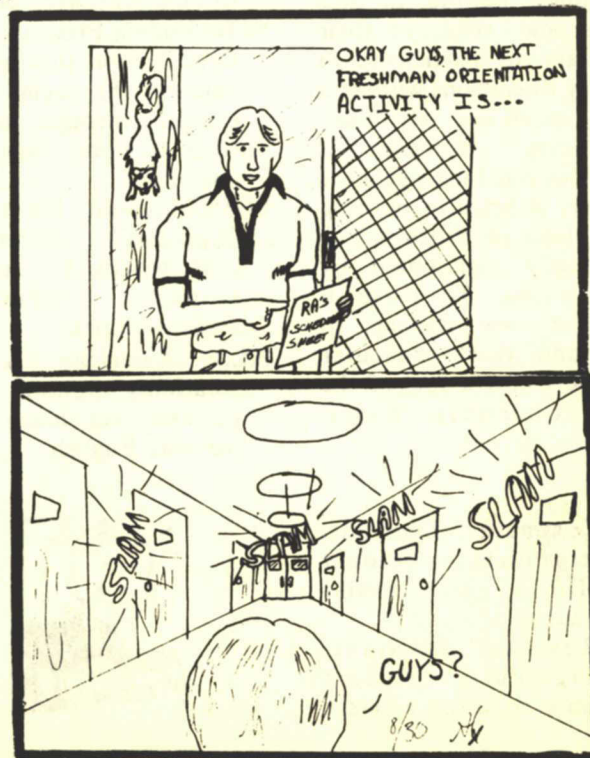
Well, I'm the real inside dope, at your service, prepared to offer you oodles of dull and useless information which will eventually enable you to qualify as one of the school's more stimulating conversationalists. Here goes!

The first impression you probably had of this place was that of a wild and hopping campus, filled with all-night parties, sex drenched orgies, booze, pot, pills, Red Dye No. 2! Unfortunately, your assessment is just slightly off the mark. Cause lets face it; only a nerd would expect that sort of normal entertainment on a campus of nine million girls and five-and-a-half guys. But don't fret, gang. I'm gonna let you in on where the real action is - if you know where to look.

A typical Saturday night might begin with a thrilling Frisbee competition on one of the male halls, while the more serious-minded med majors prefer to congregate in Dilworth lobby to play "Whos' Got The Most Expensive Calculator." Girls traditionally begin the evening with a four hour marathon toe-nail painting session. Now as soon as you sense boredom beginning to set in (or rigor mortis, which ever comes first) head on over to the Eugenia Deadwood Library. Here you can partake in a veritable cerebral feast of literary knick-nacks. What better way to spend a Saturday night than to lose yourself in a big thick volume on Byzantine Architecture or Cuban Economics!! And as an added treat, you can usually find Keith Bonchi, John Holton and Mike Stein all huddled together in the Browsing Room. If you're lucky, they might let you join them in a discussion on The Morality of Showing Pornographic Films to Laboratory Rhesus Monkeys or The Effects of Tidy-Bowl Cleaner on Guatemalan Sewer Workers.

Now all of this might sound kind of boring to you right now but believe me, it isn't. Dull, maybe. But c'mon kids, lets not get our gonads in an uproar. I've been here three years already and there have been plenty of nights when I've found hot, erotic excitement - even if it did mean having to pull the staples out of the centerfold with my teeth.

So if you're already finding yourself sitting listlessly in your dorm room every night, counting the tiles in the ceiling or looking in the mirror to watch your hair grow, don't despair. Sure it may be bad now, but trust me. It'll get worse!



EDITORIAL

By Mike Kirby

As I begin my senior year at Beaver, I find myself in the challenging position of editor-in-chief of the **Beaver News**. If anybody had told me during my freshman orientation that I'd wind up three years later behind the editor's desk, I'd have called them 'crazy.' Yet, here I am, in one of the most prestigious and influential positions a student could ever hope to find himself in.

I remember vividly how I felt when I first got to Beaver. I thought I was a nobody, a little freshman peon among hundreds of unfamiliar faces. I figured there was no way in hell for me to contribute to college life. I didn't even have any aspirations to work on the school paper.

So how did I get where I am today? Well, I sure didn't start off on the right foot. During my first year-and-a-half at Beaver I did absolutely zilch in terms of getting involved. I did my schoolwork during the week and I went home on the weekends. It all seemed completely normal to me until one day during my sophomore year, when I woke up and realized that I was pissing away the four most valuable years of my life. So, I forced myself to join the **Beaver News** and before I knew what hit me, I was in love with working on a newspaper. A year later, with hard work and a lot of luck, I found myself in the editor's chair.

You might say that my attitude about getting involved in campus activities had done a complete 180 degree turnaround since I first arrived here. I used to think joining a club was a boring waste of time and generally considered it a lot of rah-rah bullshit. But it was only after I finally did get involved that I realized that college didn't

become truly worthwhile for me until I got involved.

Probably the biggest advantage of becoming involved in a campus club is the new friends you make. Through my tenure on the **Beaver News** I've been able to become close to Gale DiGiorgio, Dean Landman and our college president Dr. Gates.

I've also been able to establish many valuable relationships among faculty, staff and administrators. (Not to mention the fact that my name is a household word among the students here!) And, as corny as it might sound, you gain a sense of real satisfaction when you work with a group of people and help achieve something. Every time the **Beaver News** comes out, I get a tremendous feeling of self-worth witnessing my vision become a reality. You'll really feel like you're a complete person if you get involved, because you'll be doing a little more than just partying and going to classes (hopefully, not in that order!)

I guess my biggest hope is that you incoming freshman won't be intimidated by all the upper-classmen and the strange surroundings. The longer you're at Beaver, the more intimate the campus will feel to you. The people here (faculty, staff and students) are tremendously helpful and more than willing to go out of their way to assist you in any way they can. So don't run and hide. Make yourself visible. Speak up. Ask questions. Invest your time and energy into your next four years like your whole life depended on it. Don't let fear and apathy blow it for you. You'll be glad you gave it your best shot.