

CHARTER DAY



OBSERVATION *OP* POST

A FREE PRESS — AN INFORMED STUDENT BODY

VOLUME XXXIII — No. 20

184

FRIDAY MAY, 10, 1963

CITY COLLEGE

Latin American Studies Center Set Up; Dr. Benitez Lauds American 'Socialism'

Benítez Addresses Celebration

By MICHAEL GERSHOWITZ
Latin America can wait no longer for a social revolution to align it more closely with the welfare measures of the United States, Dr. Jaime Benítez said yesterday in his Charter Day address.

The Chancellor of the University of Puerto Rico declared that this country already practices "one of the most advanced socialisms, in the non-Marxist sense of the word, in the world today," adding that "if this is capitalism, it is the most absurd capitalism in the world."

During the Great Hall ceremonies, which lasted just over an hour, President Buell G. Gallagher announced the formation of a Center for Latin American Studies at the College and attacked those students whom he said would curtail his academic freedom while demanding more for themselves.

The theme which pervaded the observance of the 116th Anniversary of the founding of the College was the cementing of better relations between the College and the Latin American world.

Flags of four ancient Latin American universities were unfurled in the Great Hall joining those of fourteen European institutions.

Dr. Benítez declared that Latin America was highly dependent on the United States, especially on the Alliance for Progress, for aid in "facilitating proper and well-behaved revolutions quickly and successfully . . ."

He declared that both American textbook publishers and Latin Americans were oblivious to and scornful of the highly developed socialistic state now achieved in the United States.

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Rector Jaime Benítez
Calls For Reform

Rector Denies Ban On Student Govt.

By BARBARA SCHWARTZBAUM
Student Councils exist on some of the University of Puerto Rico's campuses and where they do not exist it is because the students don't want them, Dr. Jaime Benítez told a surprised audience here Thursday.

Dr. Benítez' statement was made during a round-table discussion with student leaders and members of the College's Administration

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End To Hispanic Controversy Seen In New Program

By VIVIAN NEUMANN

The College's solution to the year-old Hispanic-Romance Languages controversy was presented yesterday when President Gallagher announced the creation of a Center For Latin American Studies at the Charter Day ceremony.

The Center, which is to be coordinated by Professor Jose Maria Chavez (Rom. Lang.) will be, according to Dr. Gallagher, "the liaison point for all relations between the Latin American University world and the centers of higher

learning on the one hand, and the City College in the other hand.

Quoting from a statement he made last October, President Gallagher noted that he had then not favored "a segregated Spanish Department, cut off from all others," but rather, "the creation of an in-

From Placards To Pitches

Softball

After the pomp and ceremony in the Great Hall was over yesterday, students and faculty members headed for the South Campus Lawn and some old-fashioned fun.

The center of the Lawn activity was a senior-faculty softball contest which had more color and enthusiasm than a Met game at the Polo Grounds.

Concessionaires wandered about the sidelines selling popcorn, soda, cake and other edibles for the benefit of the World University Service.

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Pickets

Seventy-five students here commemorated the College's founding on a picket line protesting Dr. Jaime Benítez appearance at the Charter Day ceremonies yesterday.

The protest action was initiated to draw attention to Dr. Benítez' fifteen-year ban on student government and political activity at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR), where he is Chancellor.

"Today's protest demonstrates that Mr. Benítez' activities run contrary to the values and traditions

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Pres. Buell G. Gallagher
Center to be Liaison

terdisciplinary center for Latin American studies, with Spanish and Portuguese language and literature fully integrated into the complex . . ."

"Instead of establishing a new and segregated department," said Dr. Gallagher, "the Center will cooperate with, make use of, and be of service to the many departments of the College which, from time to time, become involved—either in teaching or in research with Latin America affairs and concerns."

"As a first step in carrying out the establishment of the Center for Latin American Studies," Dr. Gal-

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OBSERVATION POST

BARBARA SCHWARTZBAUM
Editor-in-Chief

Varying Viewpoints

Reality as well as beauty is frequently relative to the eye of the beholder and Dr. Benítez' picture of life on the University of Puerto Rico campus; and the information we have received from *The New York Times*, several Puerto Rican newspapers, statements from the Puerto Rican Association of University Professors, and the National Student Association simply don't jive.

At his informal conference with students and administrators yesterday, Dr. Benítez asserted that: there were student councils at his University, where they didn't exist it was because the students didn't want them, students and faculty had accepted his ban on political activity and other policies. *Observation Post* in past weeks was informed that there is no student government at the University, that it doesn't exist because it was abolished by Dr. Benítez, and that many students and faculty members were highly displeased with some of the Chancellor's policies, including his ban on political activity and his reportedly centralized control of UPR.

Having no on-the-scene observer it is, of course, difficult to judge between such conflicting reports, but several questions do immediately occur to us. Why, for example, if students and faculty at the University are so content with the situation at the University does the pro-Benítez Puerto Rican newspaper *El Mundo* print front-page stories and hard to disbelieve pictures of several student demonstrations for University reforms in the past two months? Why also did a recent vote by the University's Academic Senate split almost fifty-fifty on whether the Chancellor's powers should be curtailed? Those who thought they should be reportedly lost by a handful of votes.

If the faculty is as satisfied as Dr. Benítez indicated, why did the Middle Atlantic States Association of Colleges issue a report in 1959 urging a "democratization" of the University in regard to the powers of the faculty?

Dr. Benítez made no mention of any of these facts during his conference with students yesterday, and because of the number of questioners and the length of his introductory remarks, it was not possible to cross-question him on more than a very few issues. The Chancellor also stated that students could have a student government any time they want. We admit that we were unaware of this (and so apparently were numerous sources with whom we checked this point) but the Chancellor's explanation appears somewhat oversimplified.

Although Dr. Benítez did not make mention of it during his remarks, the University of Puerto Rico's Dean of Students informed us that such a council would have to be of a post-1949 variety, which is a departure from many councils at other Latin American universities. These universities allow for student representation on the Administrative body of the university. This is the type of council that the students at the University of Puerto Rico apparently want from Dr. Rivera's description of the situation. Although such ideas are foreign to us, they are not to the students at UPR who until 1949 had such a "voice and vote."

The situation then, seems to be somewhat more complex than Dr. Benítez indicated. As to the councils that do exist, even here we remain confused. What, for instance, are "class organizations" and how to their powers compare with those of the Student Council?

These and other questions occurred to us during our conference with Dr. Benítez yesterday, and we are not at all sure that he might not have been able to answer them and give us a more complete understanding of his policies.

Unfortunately, no questions remain in our minds about President Gallagher's Charter Day statement concerning the "small student group" who "vehemently championed the right of Gus Hall to speak . . . but not Jaime Benítez. Although we have now made the statement three times in our columns, it appears we will have to make it once more. *Observation Post* has never opposed and would never oppose Dr. Benítez' right to speak here. *Observation Post* simply felt that Dr. Benítez was not a wise choice for a Charter Day speaker. We could have told Dr. Gallagher, if he had asked us, that we wouldn't consider Gus Hall an appropriate Charter Day speaker either. But apparently not enough questions were asked this week about the entire Benítez controversy.

LETTERS

UNFORTUNATE

Dear Editor:

Just one year ago *Observation Post* fought strongly to have the then current speaker ban rescinded. In view of this, the noncommittal stand expressed in the "Common Sense" editorial of April 24 seems very unfortunate. You claim to be against censorship of speakers at club meetings, but then say that "Dr. Benítez has not been invited to the College as an ordinary speaker . . ." The implication drawn from this is that you are not against censorship on certain levels. Unfortunate censorship is by its very nature arbitrary—where do you decide what type of speakers should be subject to censorship?

Dr. Benítez has already been invited to speak here on Charter Day. Surely it cannot hurt any of us to hear what he has to say. Perhaps it may serve to make the students here even more aware and appreciative of the freedoms which they enjoy at City College.

Lawrence Weissmann

VALUES

Dear Editor:

The time has come to expose Dr. Gallagher's dangerous policies towards campus organizations, and towards the student body in general. When Dr. Gallagher invited Dr. Benítez to be the representative speaker of Charter Day, he tried further to control and dictate which values will be accepted at CCNY. He has *de facto* told the student body that Dr. Benítez, who had not allowed any of his students at Puerto Rico University to organize political clubs on campus, will represent the values of the students at City College on Charter Day. Such a declaration attempts to stifle student activities on the CCNY campus and insults all those who value the right of students to freely organize on campus. Such a policy will open the door to reactionary elements in our society to destroy all campus activity at CCNY.

Dr. Gallagher claims that all students would "do honor to Puerto Rico . . ." to welcome cordially a

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distinguished visitor [Dr. Benítez]. This "distinguished visitor" was denounced by a demonstration of over one thousand students in Puerto Rico, and by teachers and people from all over Puerto Rico and New York.

Dr. Gallagher tells us that to take any other attitude than honoring Dr. Benítez on Charter Day would be discourteous to the Puerto Rican community. Is Dr. Gallagher trying to say that such a man, who has been a political oppressor of students in Puerto Rico, has actually been honored by the Puerto Rican people. Is he trying to impress this perversion of truth on the student body?

In defending this disgraceful invitation, Dr. Gallagher, as a last refuge, turned the student "Ban the Ban" movement upside down and justified the invitation by claiming "freedom of inquiry" for all, a claim totally irrelevant to the issue.

Pierre Meisner,
President Asian Studies Club.
Dian Suffin,
VP Asian Studies Club

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CARNIVAL

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BOOTHS — PRIZES

Wagner Vows Tuition Fight

Mayor Wagner warned Wednesday night that the Rockefeller administration is putting the heat on to abolish the free tuition principle at the City University.

Speaking before the Hunter College Alumni Association, he said the State had threatened "drastic reprisals" if the municipal colleges did not institute a tuition fee.

Pledged Free Tuition

Nonetheless, he pledged to maintain free tuition "as long as I am Mayor, if I have anything to say about it."

The Mayor called for a "crusade" to fight the advocates of tuition in the City Colleges. The fight had been successful this year, he said, but the "Sword of Damocles continues to hang over the head of free tuition."

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'Latin America Blind To US Socialism'

(Continued from Page 1)

While praising this nation's political and economic advances, he chided it for its racial backwardness. "I shudder to recall," he said, "that awful picture a few days ago on the front page of *The New York Times* . . . of the Shepherd dog setting its teeth on a young Negro demonstrator while held in leash by a Birmingham policeman enforcing segregation."

President Gallagher disclosed that as he was preparing for the morning's exercises, he received a telegram from the International Union of Students (IUS), "a Soviet-controlled student agency with headquarters in Prague, Cze-

choslovakia," which expressed "solidarity with FUPI [a Puerto Rican student independence group] protest against invitation Benítez, instrument colonialist regime which dishonors Puerto Rico and Latin America."

He said he replied immediately with a cable stating: "Having already permitted FUPI speaker on campus without protest or limitation of any kind, President of City College of New York respectfully rejects attempted interference with academic freedom by IUS secretariat."

He also summarily dismissed pressure by several groups at the College which have urged him to

withdraw the invitation to Benítez because of Benítez' political record. The President asserted that at the time of the ban on Communist speakers in the Fall of 1961, "the same small student group" clamored for academic freedom.

"The College and its President," he asserted, "have precisely the same right to enjoy academic freedom as do the students. The President refuses to establish a censorship of speakers unless compelled by the law and the courts to do so."

Dr. Gallagher and Benítez spoke before almost 1000 students, faculty members and officers

Benítez Meets With Leaders

(Continued from Page 1)

about his policies at the University of Puerto Rico. The Chancellor acknowledged that he had banned political activity from the UPR campus, but disclosed that two of the University's four campuses have student councils and the other two "class organizations."

Dr. Benítez' comment contradicted reports that his University has had no student government since the one he abolished in 1948.

"The University Administration has absolutely no objection to students organizing student councils," he said, "but it is not for us to do it for them."

The Rector was referring to an attempt made by the UPR Dean of Students in 1960 to reinstitute a University-wide Student Government. This attempt failed, according to the Chancellor, because students who worked on the new Council by-laws asked for "co-administrative power" in the running of the University. Dr. Benítez said that their demands were rejected by the University's governing board and the new student government never materialized.

Dr. Rivera, the University's Dean of Students, explained that students had played a role in governing the school in the past. He

said that the "voice and vote" formerly given students in the University junta was abolished along with Student Council in 1948. "What the students wanted is no longer possible under the new law," he said. A bill now before the Puerto Rican legislature, however, would return the student's representation in the University's governing body.

Chancellor Benítez said his main reason for barring political activity from the campus was "to keep the



Rector Jaime Benítez
"P. R. Has Student Government"

issue of partisan politics from interfering with the normal functioning of institutional life." He stated that this ruling has been accepted by most students and faculty members. "They understand perfectly well that they can do agitating and activities outside of the University, but inside its walls we will exercise a basic degree of responsibility in regard to political participation."

Dr. Benítez' ban on political activity was imposed in response to turbulent student demonstrations in 1948. The demonstrators were protesting his Administration's refusal to allow a Puerto Rican Nationalist leader to appear on campus. The Chancellor stated that Pedro Albizu Campos had caused a riot and the subsequent death of four people when speaking at the University once before.

Commenting on the Chancellor's remarks, President Gallagher said that if he were "in Dr. Benítez' shoes" he would not be "at all certain" of what he would do. "I do not sit in judgment on my colleague," the President said. Dr. Gallagher added that "if the situation in Puerto Rico were such that student government was possible, it would exist at the University."

New Center . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

galler also announced the selection of three new faculty members.

These are Dr. Angela Blanca Dellepiane, a teacher of graduate courses in Spanish Philosophy and Literature at the University of Buenos Aires and at Fordham University, appointed as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Romance Languages; Professor Rafael Oliver-Bertrand, author and former professor at the University of Barcelona and the National University of the South in Argentina, as special lecturer; and Dr. Enrique Rodriguez-Fabregat, former Minister of Education and Minister of Justice of Uruguay, 1962 candidate for Uruguay's presidency, and teacher in the universities of Uruguay, Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, and Quito, as Visiting Professor in the Romance Languages Department.

Picket . . .

(Continued from page 1)

of a free and democratic university, and that he therefore should not be honored on our Charter Day," said Marxist Discussion Club President James Rivers.

Rivers, who organized the picket, added that the protestors did not oppose Benítez' speaking here, only his appearance as an esteemed guest of the College on Charter Day. "Benítez has a right to speak," Rivers noted, "and so do Puerto Rican students."

Ramón Arbona, president of the Puerto Rican Federation of University Students for Independence, told the picketing students that the Charter Day invitation to Benítez "dishonors the Puerto Rican students and professors who are now fighting for the most elementary academic freedoms."

Softball . . .

(Continued from page 1)

Nobody seemed to really care what the score was, although one girl was pretty sure it was "astronomical." Umpire Joseph Taffet (Economics) did say the game finished an 8-8 tie. He throw doubt on the accuracy of this estimate, though, by explaining that a tie was necessary in order to preserve "good will between the faculty and students."

The highlight of the game wasn't the scoring, however, but shenanigans. At one point Dr. Carolyn J. McCann stole first base by calmly picking up the bag and strolling down to second. She claimed that she couldn't be out because she never left first.

The honesty of the umpire was questioned in the third inning when he accepted a bribe from a teacher at bat. Professor Taffet solved the problem by taking an equal payment from the student pitcher.

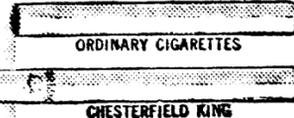
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Beavers Face Wagner In Twinbill Tomorrow

The 1963 edition of the College's baseball team has won more games so far than in three previous seasons, but Coach Al DiBernardo claims the team could have won more and still can finish as high as second place in the Met Conference — if they sweep a doubleheader from Wagner tomorrow.

The Beavers will face the Staten Island team in a twin bill starting 11 AM at Macomb's Dam Park. The Sea Hawks this year have compiled a 3-10 record but they are better than their record indicates. They have a young team comprised of sophomores which, as coach Herb White said, is a team of the future.

The Beavers' 11 probably face two of Wagner's top hurlers. One should be senior Jim Morio, a hard throwing southpaw. In the other game Harry Nelson, a fireballing righthander is scheduled to pitch.

DiBernardo revealed an injury suffered by Beaver Vinny Calfapietra. The loss of this top hurler for the rest of the season is a big blow, possibly costing

the team a win or two. Calfapietra severely injured his leg in practice a few weeks ago.

In upcoming Wagner contests, DiBernardo expects to start Howie Friedman in the nine inning opener. Howie Smith will hurl the seven inning nightcap.

DiBernardo is optimistic and is looking for a sweep of the twinbill. He thinks Wagner is a good team. Despite their record, but so is the Lavender. Questioned about the effect of the new strike zone this season, the coach couldn't see any notable difference. "The umpires are just as blind as ever," he said.

Lacrosse Defense — "Now Let Us Pray"

It's the "if" time of the year for the College's lacrosse team now. The "if" is Harvey Leshnick, the Beaver's tough defense-man.

Leshnick's has a pulled hamstring muscle. Right now it's a pretty important muscle. The stickmen played without Leshnick Saturday and lost to Colgate, 12-7; before that they had won five games in a row, topping Army "B" and undefeated Stevens Tech.

As it stands now Leshnick has worked out all week and he'll make the trip to Wesleyan, Saturday. This is the first time the Beavers will be playing Wesleyan in several years. The Beavers will put a 5-3 record on the line while Wesleyan will be out to break its even-up 4-4 record.

Wesleyan has a new coach in Al Sotir, who coached MIT for two years before moving to Middletown. His top men are attackmen Ed Russell, 10 goals and Phil Allen, 7 goals.

Against this the Lavender has Andy Muller with 25 goals and 6 assists. But Sotir thinks he may be able to hold Muller with his defenseman Dave Schneider.

Baron knows exactly what he'll do if Leshnick doesn't get into action. "We'll do the same thing we did against Colgate and pray."

Trackmen Looking For CTC Crown

Several of the College's usual track rivals will be at the Metropolitan Championships Saturday, so the Beaver runners have a good chance to capture the Collegiate Track Conference (CTC) crown.

Coach Francisco Castro figures the US Merchance Marine Academy (USMMA) is the only team left to worry about. However, considering that the Lavender lost to USMMA in this season's duel meet, the favorite's role goes to the Sailors.

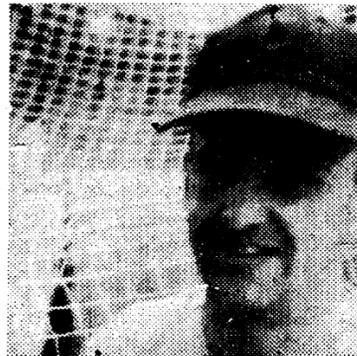
On top of everything else Owen Masters, the College's record-breaking sprinter, will be scholastically ineligible. His absence will cost the Beavers at least ten points.



Sol Mishkin



Bobby Sand



Frank Seeley

Motion To Reconsider

By STEVE ABEL

Every term there are a few big news stories. Last year the basketball team beat Fordham, Andy Houtrakruyer made all-America in soccer and Vito Mannino did it in fencing.

So far this year, Mannino made all-America again. But the really big sports story of the year will break Monday. The Physical Education department will name the new baseball coach. And top level rumors have penciled in the name of Harry R. (Bobby) Sand, or Sol "Skip" Mishkin.

Who are Bobby Sand and Sol Mishkin? Both worked at the College before the biggest athletic scandal since the Black Sox affair rocked the College to its very foundations. Both, in effect were told to "get lost" after the affair was over. That was 1952. Their stories are slightly different. Mishkin was coach of the baseball team and rolled up 67-60 record in his seven years at the College. In addition, he won the only Met Conference pennant in the history of the College. But the won-lost statistics hide his personality.

First, he knows almost all there is to know about baseball. He worked as a Yankee scout, played in the Pacific Coast League and knows baseball inside out. In an era when athletics were in disrepute he turned out batting champs, all-star pitchers and top-notch fielders almost with ease. At the beginning of this season when Al DiBernardo was sick, Mishkin was called in like the trusty country doctor.

The boys loved him, and he in turn gave them his all. Maybe it's just coincidental, but the team turned in some pretty impressive wins, including a pair of terrific upsets over NYU, while Mishkin was in charge.

Mishkin was lost to the College when the Athletic Department had to cut back its program because of the loss of revenues from Madison Square Garden. They decided, in 1954, that all coaches would have to teach and Mishkin couldn't do it so he was fired.

Now the Department may be relenting, and a nine-year old wrong may be righted.

To my mind, Mishkin is the perfect man for the job and I hope his name is on the contract. In fact, according to one of the proverbial "reliable sources,"

Mishkin's name is already there.

The case of Bobby Sand is a little different. When the scandals investigations were finally over, Sand came out as the scape-goat. He was the assistant coach, and according to at least some members of the team that won the NIT and NCAA crowns, he was the man who really did the coaching. Much as the fault may have been a step or two higher, Sand was suspended for "conduct unbecoming a teacher." In 1954, after the furor had died down, the BHE reinstated Sand as an instructor.

Until this year though, secret instructions kept Sand from any teaching post. Instead he did a terrific job in the Bureau of Planning and Design. He worked on the new Tech building and the proposed new science building.

Then last fall, possibly in a test move, after ten years in limbo, Sand took over the Evening Session basketball team.

Now, thirteen years later, it's realized that even at the height of the basketball scandals, the worst crime Sand was ever accused of was an error of judgment. His honesty and morals were never in question. If Sand, after being left in the cold for ten years, wants the job, it should be his.

But according to baseball coach Al DiBernardo, who is leaving to teach in an upstate college, nobody in the department wants the job. He pointed to the long hours and six day a week nature of the mentor's position as the main drawbacks.

Frank Seeley, the Freshman baseball coach is another possibility. But if DiBernardo's statements about the job are anywhere but in left field, Seeley won't take the spot.

Of course there's the possibility that the Department will bring in a complete outsider. Two of the best coaches, Francisco Castro, track, and Edward Lucia, fencing, came here from outside colleges. Still, the rest of the coaching staff is home-grown or else have been around so long nobody remembers where they came from.

And as one higher-up in the know put it, "Maybe they'll hire Casey Stengel." Naw, the Yankess think he's too old.

FRED GROSPIN:

From The Backwoods To All-America

"We were walking along the side of a woods when this skunk suddenly ran out. Well, it was just a question of who'd shoot first, me or him. I got him."

Fred Gros-pin, the College's newest All-American doesn't think there is much connection between hunting and target-

shooting, yet one wonders whether his hunting background didn't help just a little bit.

Gros-pin, who was named to National Rifle Association's all-America team this week, has an average of 290.1 out of possible 300. This is like batting .450 and fielding 1.000 at the same time.

20/20 Vision Doesn't Help

The slightly-built sandy-haired junior has 20/20 vision. But there are men on the team who wear glasses, and Gros-pin figures the old "dead-eye" version of riflery is dead. The rifle range marksman has plenty of time to aim, reset his position and shoot.

Although there's little physical action while shooting (which makes it a very uninteresting spectator sport), Gros-pin notices

that he's usually dead tired after the meet. He figures it's a sort of nervous exhaustion.



Fred Gros-pin
All-America

Gros-pin got his start shooting woodchucks during summer vacations around Vermont and Pennsylvania. He got his first real rifle, "a squirrel gun," when he was 11 years old, but even before that he had "a collection of BB rifles and pellet guns."

Didn't Shoot In High School

During high school, at Morris, he couldn't do any shooting because the Bronx school doesn't have a rifle team, but Gros-pin kept up his interest during the summer. Then he came to the College and joined the rifle team where he's been a consistent leader.

Shooting a 300 is about 10 times as rare as a 300 in bowling. But Gros-pin figures he might hit the perfect score someday; "it's not impossible."

Beaver Pirates At NYSMA Today

If the College's tennis team sinks the New York State Maritime Academy as effectively as they sank the Merchant Marine Academy, they may change their nickname to the Pirates.

The Beavers face the Privateers in their season finale this afternoon at Fort Schuyler.



Coach Harry Karlin
At Fort Schuyler Today

The Privateers, coached by Lieutenant Gene Galina have won only one meet in five this season. Their top man, Bill Preeg is a good player, despite a deceptively poor won-lost percentage.

Soccer . . .

Soccer coach Harry Karlin invites all lower freshmen interested in competing on next season's freshman soccer team to meet with him to find out about the Soccer team.

The coach can be found in the Wingate pool, Thursdays from 12-2. Other times he may be reached on the Finley tennis courts. Discount tickets to pro soccer games at Randalis Island may also be obtained from Coach Karlin.