Syria has been in the news a lot lately. But how did it really all start? In March 2011, small protests against Assad began and people who protested were arrested. By the next month protests had spread across the country and Assad's regime responded with violence. This caused a portion of the Syrian army to break off and become the rebel group known as The Free Syrian Army. Not long after this it developed into a civil war that is still gaining momentum and terrorizing the Arab world. For two years, the Western world sat back and let the conflict continue, as civilians and refugees were caught in the crossfire. On August 21, 2013 two suburbs of Damascus were the targets of chemical weapons. The American government along with other countries believe that the Assad regime utilized the chemical weapons in order to quell the uprising and prevent the rebels from attaining power. Many other countries, including Russia are more willing to believe that it was the rebels who instrumented the chemical weapons attacks in order to draw involvement from the Western powers. Since the chemical weapon attacks, we have heard an unending call for intervention from the military industrial complex here in America. Again, much like Iraq in 2003, we are encouraged to believe that the Syrian people are in need of liberation from a tyrant. Whether or not you believe this depends on your perspective on American foreign policy. Should America continue to be the world's police force?

Continued on page 2
Syria’s geographic location in relation to the world. (L’Americain)

Should this be left up to the United Nations? Should we be involved in the internal affairs of foreign nations? The main catalyst for those who wish to use military force in Syria was, of course, the recent chemical weapons attacks. Some of you may be asking “So what if chemical weapons were used? What’s the difference?” To answer that question: there is a treaty called the Geneva Protocol prohibiting the use of chemical and biological weapons in international conflicts. However, as Syria’s conflict is domestic rather than international, it is technically not breaking any international law in this regard. On the contrary, many people believe that because only seven countries in the world are non-signatories to this treaty, that it represents the world’s majority opinion that chemical weapons should not be used generally. Indeed, their usage has been condemned by most Western powers and even neighboring Middle Eastern countries. (Certainly, a country like Iraq wouldn’t want Syria’s conflict spilling over into their already war-torn country.) However, there is another option. Russian president Vladimir Putin has offered a diplomatic solution to the problem. According to the so-called “Russian plan”, Syria would open its borders to international weapons inspectors who would assess the Syrian government’s stockpiles of chemical weapons and aid the U.N. in deciding whether to vote to sanction Syria for their alleged use of chemical weapons. The Obama administration had previously been very vocal that no action by the U.N. was required and that the U.S. would perform our own intervention, however, in a break from previously stated policy, on September 10, Obama gave a speech stating he would do a temporary stand down from his position of international intervention in Syria in favor of a Russian led diplomatic solution of confiscation of Syrian chemical weapons.
The year is almost over but some of the best videogames have yet to be released. Gaming is all over our campus, whether it’s rounds of Super Smash Bros. happening daily in the Commons or sudden sparks of current top games that always catch my ear. A lot of people here at Penn State Wilkes-Barre are gamers, myself included. Whether we played them as kids or still do, games can attach themselves to us and let us enter a whole new reality. I’ll try not to let myself get too distracted from school by the following epic list, but hey, we all have to have a little fun and escape reality sometimes! Without further ado, here are the Top 5 Most Anticipated games for the remainder of the year:

#5 - Call of Duty: Ghosts (PS3, PS4, Xbox 360, Xbox One, PC, Wii U)
I’ll admit, I adore the Call of Duty series: the fast paced adrenaline slaughter, the feeling of relief when you finally get that kill streak, owning that 12 year old online who won’t stop screaming in the mic. It's satisfying. But it also pays its price with equal and sometimes overwhelming amounts of frustration. It wasn't a surprise when a new Call of Duty was announced for this year, but honestly I feel that the series is coming to a drag. The majority of people only play COD for its multiplayer function nowadays, which isn't necessarily a bad thing, but that's when the series starts to get lazy. I'll end up playing the game, but the Call of Duty series is starting to become an uninteresting endeavor and I find myself playing the older games more than anything. Nonetheless, this is only my personal opinion and since so many people love the series, it made the list. I'll stop it here before I end up ranting. (You know the dog in Story Mode is going to die, don't lie to yourself.) Release Date: November 5th.

#4 - Batman: Arkham Origins (PS3, Xbox 360, PC, Mac)
Ever since Heath Ledger’s spectacular performance as The Joker in The Dark Knight, the popularity of the Batman series has exploded into a totally new, darker fandom. The so-called “Arkham” series first took place with the release of Arkham Asylum, in which Batman was sent to scale the complex and clear it of baddies as well as The Joker in an epic intervention in normal beat ‘em up type games. Using not only slow motion to precision hits, Batman uses a variety of gadgets to help take down foes including the ability to go into an x-ray mode and see through walls and even people. Arkham Origins offers the same idea but with more epic gameplay and a mind-blowing array of tools that Batman will use while having a price over his head and being hunted down by criminals. The game has a shot at being a best seller and the reason why it’s on this list is because the Batman fanbase has become so huge that even the videogames are becoming milestones, just like the films. Maybe TV’s Adam West will even be featured with some quirky Batman quotes. Mark your calendars; October 25th is the release date for this future gem!

#3 - Assassins Creed IV: Black Flag (PS3, PS4, Xbox 360, Xbox One, PC, Wii U)
The Assassins Creed series has became extremely popular in recent times, especially with last year’s release of Assassins Creed III, in which we got to remind the British once again how epic we were back in the days of ’76. The latest installment in the series now involves pirates! Assassins and pirates! Black Flag surprisingly impressed me during its trailer release. I figured it would’ve been a blunder, but Ubisoft's epic story-telling technique is still there and even though I’m not one to judge a game by its graphics, the visual element is absolutely gorgeous. Black Flag may be only Number 3 on the list, but it is certainly going to be one of the best selling games of the year. Robbing ships and sneaking through towns assassinating people? What more could you ask for?! Perhaps inserting Morgan Freeman as the narrator, but I digress. Get ready to hunt for some booty October 29th!
New Faculty on Campus

James Bell

• Position: Head Soccer Coach
• Hometown: Pittston, Pa.
• College Degree(s):
  Baccalaureate of Science in Sport and Recreation Management focusing on Business and Marketing. Currently studying for Associate’s Degree in Letters, Arts, and Sciences.
• Coming to Penn State Wilkes-Barre:
  Mr. Bell has been coming to the Penn State Wilkes-Barre soccer field since he was nine years old for youth soccer. He also attended Penn State Worthington-Scranton. Through the Penn State network with the Director of Athletics, he was able to apply for the position of Head Soccer Coach.
• Fun Fact:
  Owns own semi-professional soccer team in Scranton.
• Favorite Sports Team:
  Liverpool F.C.
• Favorite Quote:
  “You can’t have time, if you don’t take time.”

Dr. Renee Rosier

• Position: Biology Professor
• Hometown: Springboro, Pa.
• College Degree(s):
  Bachelor’s of Science from Lock Haven University in Ecology and Environmental Biology, Doctorate from Penn State University in Biology
• Coming to Penn State Wilkes-Barre:
  Dr. Rosier was a graduate student at Penn State’s University Park campus and elected to come to this campus when offered a job. She says the area reminds her of her western Pa. hometown.
• Fun Fact:
  Plays the bagpipe for the Nittany Highland Pipe Band
• Did doctoral thesis on:
  The Eastern Fence Lizard (Sceloporus undulatus)
• Favorite Quote: “Everything comes together in the end. If everything has not come together, it is not the end.”

On the Cover

Dr. Steven Puzel, Barack Obama, Bashar Al-Assad, Vladimir Putin, Bettye Lane, Les Miles, Nicholas Cage, Mr. Bean, Johnny “Football” Manziel.
Herps Alive was an interesting look into the reptile/amphibious side of the animal kingdom. It gave students a chance to learn about the many varieties of reptiles that were presented on the 27th of August. This interactive display featured boa constrictors, a baby alligator, two blue-tongued skinks, a pixie frog, five tortoises, and a few other cold-blooded creatures. Students were encouraged to hold several of these animals and a lot of them really stepped up to the plate. The alligator and tortoises were a fan favorite, the boas coming in a close second. As for the ones who weren’t as brave, they had access to cards filled with information on each individual reptile that was shown at the wacky tent event. It brought a bit of excitement to the campus at the start of this new semester and gave the freshmen a decent glimpse into how diverse the events at PSU W-B are. It was a great way to get the students’ blood pumping for this new semester as we dive back into our studies after such a long break. This was all made possible, thanks to Jackie, SAF, and of course, the student body!

By Marissa George and Alyssa Horvath
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In Hackenberg We Trust

The Nittany Lions kicked off the season with a 23-17 win against Syracuse at the New Meadowlands Stadium in East Rutherford, New Jersey. Coach Bill O’Brien named true freshman Christian Hackenberg as starting quarterback and what a good choice it was with Hackenberg’s 278 yards through the air, a pair of touchdown passes, even a punt of 42 yards into the end zone on Penn State’s opening possession. Local wide receiver standout Eugene “Geno” Lewis (Wyoming Valley West) made his Penn State debut memorable by going deep for a 54 yard pass that would eventually land him in the end zone, and land the Lions 6 more points.

In the home opener in Happy Valley, the Lions put on a show. Christian Hackenberg set a Penn State freshman record for passing yards in a single game. Hackenberg overcame frustration from starting the game 1 for 4 with a fumble that was returned for the only Eastern Michigan points of the game. Hackenberg overcame frustration from starting the game 1 for 4 with a fumble that was returned for the only Eastern Michigan points of the game. Christian ended the afternoon 23 for 33 and 311 yards with an interception and a touchdown. We have learned that Penn State’s offense can be explosive despite a rough start, and the defense complementing with a three quarter shutout in the 45-7 victory vs. Eastern Michigan.

Continued next page

Penn State Wilkes-Barre
Fall 2013 Soccer Schedule

<table>
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<th>DATE</th>
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<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>October 5th</td>
<td>PSU-Beaver</td>
<td>Lehman, Pa.</td>
<td>1:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 6th</td>
<td>PSU-Mont Alto</td>
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<td>October 12th</td>
<td>Penn College</td>
<td>Williamsport, Pa.</td>
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<td>October 22nd</td>
<td>PSUAC Champs.</td>
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<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 30th</td>
<td>USCAA Champs.</td>
<td>Asheville, NC</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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GOOOOAL! Players run down the PSU-WB soccer pitch.
However, it’s not all, “Happy Happy Happy” (Phil Robertson) in Happy Valley as the Lions lose senior tight end Matt Lehman for the remainder of the 2013 season due to a left knee injury. Lehman’s knee buckled as he attempted to make a cut in the open field during the first quarter against Syracuse. Junior linebacker Mike Hull also went down in the first quarter in the season opener with an apparent knee injury. His right knee was then braced as he reentered the game. Hull came back to the sidelines before halftime and remained there for the entire second half in street clothes.

A week later, Mike Hull suited up for what would be Penn State’s first loss of the season: 34-31 to Central Florida. The workhorse running back, Zach Zwinak had 21 carries for 128 yards and 3 touchdowns. However, his fumble late in the fourth quarter proved to be costly as the Lions’ offense could only get their paws on the football for one last drive for the remainder of the game. With 2 minutes and change left in the game, Central Florida wide receiver J.J. Worton caught a pass for 13 yards and a first down before he was forced out of bounds by a swarm of Penn State defenders. The clock continued to tick away as coach Bill O’Brien and the rest of Beaver Stadium was losing their minds, for the clock should stop after the player with the football goes out of bounds. Nevertheless, Bill O’Brien and Penn State suffered their first loss of the season to O’Brien’s mentor- Central Florida head coach George O’Leary. In the rain-soaked Beaver Stadium, the Lions hosted Kent State for their week four matchup. Penn State’s three running back attacked proved to be effective as Zach Zwinak, Bill Belton, and Akeel Lynch combined for 278 yards in the ground. Zwinak had three touchdowns for the second consecutive week; bringing his total to 8 on the year.

The real surprising start to the year is Sam Ficken’s 7 for 8 on field goals thus far into the season (including his career long 52 yards against the Golden Flashes); a major improvement from the 1 for 5 attempts including a missed extra point in the 17-16 loss to Virginia just a short season ago.

continued from page 3

#2 - Watch Dogs (PS3, PS4 Xbox 360, Xbox One, PC, Wii U)

All over the internet this is all I hear people talking about (other than Grand Theft Auto.) But there is good reason! The game takes place in a futuristic crime-ridden Chicago. Using the ability to hack anything, Aiden Pearce becomes a vigilante in information warfare. Like Assassins Creed, the game is open world, features augmented reality, has stealthy parkour and offers notorious puzzles that will keep the gameplay constantly intriguing. Did I mention it’s a third-person shooter? Already in high anticipation for almost a year now, Watch Dogs will finally be released November 19th. It’s time to get your hacking sKillz ready!

#1 - Grand Theft Auto V (PS3 and Xbox 360).

Facebook, YouTube, heck even toddlers are begging for it. Obviously, the game is already out by now! (Release date was September 17th). The series most of us grew up with now finally returns with a totally new, mind-blowing experience that is sure to rock the videogame world. GTA 4 offered hours of endless fun. Getting bored in that game is like the Cubs winning a World Series. GTA Five has come to steal the show. By the time you get done playing, you’ll be asking yourself, “What year is it?” The game follows three main characters, Michael, Trevor and Franklin (including your own online avatar) in an effort to pull off multiple heists and become wealthy. GTA Five now offers multiplayer functionality too in which 16 people will get to reenact story, co-op or competitive mode. To wrap it all up, as many have been saying: “who needs real life when you have GTA 5?” The only problem I have with the game is that it was released after school started.

So there are the Top 5 games to look forward to this school year! Videogames are a great way to relax after a rough day on campus, however they shouldn’t become too distracting. Gotta keep that GPA above a 3.0 after all.

Happy gaming!

By Ryan Sotelo
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Open Letter: 
Jobless in Wilkes

Now, we all know how annoying, frustrating, and nerve-racking job hunts can be, but we all need to make some extra cash. Jobs are very hard to find anymore, especially in such a small town, and a lot of college students try to find one that reflects their major. This can prove to be nearly impossible and rejection letters are truly heartbreaking.

“Help Wanted” signs show up in store windows all the time and your face lights up when you see one for a place you like to shop or hang out at. “Maybe this place will hire me”, or “I possess the skill-set necessary for this job” runs through your head. Then you fill out the pain-in-the-butt application and they ask you a million questions that seem completely irrelevant to the job you are applying for. After a month of waiting, you get called in for an interview, nervous, sweating, maybe you stumble over your words a bit. Then the heartless rejection letter comes in the mail. Sure it sounds really nice and says things like “Although you have extensive experience in this department, you were not the proper fit for our company”. What they mean by this is, “Someone more qualified and less sweaty showed up so we gave him/her the job, sorry.” They then proceed to make an attempt at restoring your self-esteem that just dropped three levels because you thought you had this job “in the bag”.

There are also those people that do not pass the background check, for whatever reason. These people get so surprised that their dirty laundry gets dug up. Students, if you want to get a job, be careful about what you are doing on your free time. Do not post pictures of that epic party you got wasted at. Believe it or not, companies don’t really go for that sort of thing; it makes them look bad.

So just a bit of advice to you, “Jobless in Wilkes-Barre”, try hard on the application, practice for interviews, and keep your personal lives out of public view; more than just the companies will thank you for it!

By Marissa George
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College Cuisine: Avoid the Freshman 15

The typical college student diet consists of a cup of Ramen noodles and a late night run to a fast food joint or restaurant. In many cases this results in weight gained in addition to a hectic lifestyle. Many students resort to these foods due to a few factors: A low budget, limited meal choices, or they are simply too lazy to make a healthy meal. For those who fall under this category, there is help for you! Not only is it easy to make better choices for your cuisine cravings, but it’s fast too. Here are some tips to help avoid that freshman 15, or simply set a healthier diet.

1. Eat Breakfast! If you find yourself falling asleep during your first class, it could be from not eating or from having an unfulfilling breakfast. A simple bowl of cereal can change all that. However, sugary cereals such as Captain Crunch and Fruity Pebbles will only send you back to sleeping in class and will not sustain your energy in the morning. Try eating whole grain cereals like Cheerios, Corn Flakes, or Wheaties to give you that extra boost. Energy drinks are a big no-no in the morning as well. Instead, try drinking milk or fruit juice. Overall, eating breakfast will not only give you the energy to go on with the day but it is a great way to start the day on a healthy note. Remember, breakfast is the most important meal of the day.

2. When it comes to lunchtime, make smart decisions. If you go out to eat lunch, go to Subway, where the healthy possibilities are endless. If you are eating lunch at home, make a sandwich, but do not overload it. Pack your sandwich with meat, veggies and cheese. This will ensure you have more protein and energy for the rest of the day. A cup of...
It has been said by many that there is nothing to do at Penn State Wilkes-Barre: that the only things students have to look forward to on a Saturday night is looking at trees and listening to crickets. While that is sort of correct, there is some cool stuff to do around here if you are willing to get off the computer and go do it.

Still stumped? No idea where to look? Here are some great ideas for your weekend activities that are safe, fun and in the college price range.

**Feel like being true to your school?**
- Catch a PSU Athletic Event (see pg. 6)
- Check out an SGA sponsored party at the Student Commons
- Drop in for a Movie Night in the Science Building

**Want to explore the naturally free outdoors?**
- Go hiking/biking/camping at Ricketts Glen State Park
- Mine into some Local history at the Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour

**Want to spend a little money for a lot of fun?**
- See a new blockbuster at Movies 14 in Wilkes-Barre
- Have a milkshake at Hillside Dairy
- Roll on down to Classic Bowl in Dallas for some glow in the dark bowling
- Go ice skating at The Ice Rink on Coal Street in Wilkes-Barre
- Feel retro with classic roller skating at Rollaway Skating Rink in Dallas
- Dance the night away at the 21 and under night (Thursdays) at the Woodlands!

Of course, if you just want a quiet night in with some friends, just swing down to a Red Box Movie Rental location or have a game night (totally not lame). Either way, you are a college student; you are here because you are intelligent. I’m sure if you put a little thought into it, you’ll have more to do this Saturday night than look at trees, listen to crickets, and play games on your computer.

By Sonja Rossi
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low fat soup as well as fruit and yogurt are also quick healthy options. Always remember that food without added sugars or sky rocketing sodium amounts will keep you on the right track.

3. Snack tips: We all get a little hungry between lunch and dinner so here are some choices to satisfy your nittany nibbles. Pop a bag of low fat popcorn; it will keep you satisfied until your next meal. Yogurt and fruit can apply to this category as well. Other choices, such as an apple and peanut butter combination, grapes and cheese, or crackers and peanut butter will give you the same effect as eating popcorn—just don’t over do it!

4. Do not miss meals. When dinner arrives, many college students find themselves with a growling empty stomach due to the fact they have not eaten throughout the day and have consumed all of their energy. This wears your body down. A perfect meal to make for dinner is whole grain spaghetti. The ingredients you would need for this meal are whole grain pasta, vegetables added to the sauce as well as mushrooms, squash or even chicken. Another meal is meat or soup made in a crock-pot. Crock-pot recipes are incredibly easy to prepare. They can be prepared the morning before class and will be ready to eat when you come home for dinner! You would be able to find some recipes on the computer, preferably the Food Network’s home page. Another meal would be a chef salad. You can buy a bag of lettuce from the store and simply add cucumbers, tomatoes, and any other vegetables you like. To add flavor, buy some low fat dressing and use cheese and ham to top the salad.

By Kathleen Ritter and Alyssa Horvath
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GOT OPINIONS?
WANT YOUR VOICE TO BE HEARD?
INTERESTED IN PHOTOGRAPHY OR DESIGN?
WANT A BOOST ON YOUR RESUME?
THEN JOIN US AT
THE REVOLT

MEETINGS ARE TUESDAYS & THURSDAYS AT 12:10 IN HAYFIELD 302.

WE’RE ALWAYS ACCEPTING NEW STAFF, SO COME ON IN!
“Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.”
- Albert Einstein