Crisis: Shooter

How to Survive an Active Shooter

Picture it: You’re sitting in class taking notes during a lecture, or walking through the arboretum on your way to the commons, or perhaps you’re meeting with a faculty or staff member. Suddenly, you feel the sharp percussion of loud claps. “What was that?” you ask a bystander. Gunshots.

“What do you do?” You have mere moments to decide.

These are exactly the kind of scenarios that Bill Donahue, Penn State’s Director of Commonwealth Police and Security, and Campus Security Director Gary Beisel outlined to students and administrators on the Wilkes-Barre campus recently. When it comes to a situation like this, Donahue says, you can be part of the “solution or part of the problem.”

In his presentation, “The 5 Outs: Surviving an Active Shooter”, Bill Donahue offers several real-life, viable actions anyone can take when met with a gunman whose singular purpose is to harm. “The objective is to buy time. Having a game plan can mean the difference between someone becoming a victim or a survivor,” he explained.

Shooting tragedies across the country, like Columbine, Virginia Tech, St. Louis, Texas, and Sandy Hook, have occurred in an academic setting, and Donahue is trying to ensure survival by taking this common-sense message to all of the University’s campuses.

—Time’s up. The shooter is approaching. You need to act now.

Get Out

This is, coincidentally, the most natural and best option you have. The farther away you are from the shooter, the less likely you will become a target. Don’t take anything that can weigh you down, except a mobile phone. Leave the area only if it’s safe to do so, and then take cover behind a solid object.

Call Out

Once you’re safe, call 911. If you don’t have a cell phone, use any phone on the campus. Just dial 911 (no outgoing prefix is needed). Give as many details as you can: direction or location including building names, description of the shooter and your location. Stay on the line with the emergency operator until you’re told otherwise.

Hide Out

Running is not always an option, but you can hide. Avoid hallways and open areas; if someone can see you, the shooter can too. Your best bet is to get into a room and turn out the lights to make the room appear vacant. Then take cover away from the door and out of sight. Stay quiet, and turn down your cell phone ringer.

Keep Out

Locking or jamming the door (Donahue points out that binders work exceptionally well for this) will prevent the shooter from entering the room. If you can’t lock or jam the door, barricade it. Use tables, chairs or equipment to

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Reader Reaction

From: “DEBRA JANE GILDEA”

Dear Benjamin & Ross,

I am writing in regard to your article “Fashion Do’s and Don’ts For College Students” in the latest issue of The Revolt. In general, it was a good article. I believe you gave some thought and did some research in composing your article. There were many helpful suggestions for college students regarding what to wear and what to avoid.

However, I really don’t understand why you chose the photo caption for your end of semester example of what not to wear: “End of semester: Not a single f**king thought was given before leaving home.”

First of all – the sentence makes no sense – “Not a single f**king thought was given before leaving home” makes a little more sense. But, come on, you are college students, are you not? Surely, you are aware of the myriad of adjectives that live a click away on your computer screen. How about one of these: “Not a single stylish thought was given before leaving home.” “Not a single thought to personal appearance was given before leaving home.”

We do understand why you chose the word’s idiomatic usage to mean “unconcerned” and that the dictionary does recognize the phrase as meaning “not at all concerned or interested.” However, as a professional publication, the execution of our work must be professional. This is at heart a publication aimed at college aged individuals, and professional publication differs in several ways from the more traditional methods employed by those institutions. Because many of our pieces are more opinion than actual news, including the article that was the subject of your original letter, we have more free reign in injecting our personal writing styles into our works thus allowing for an admittedly more unorthodox style of media that is more representative of and accessible to the students of our campus.

This leads us into the topic of your letter, the use of our language in the newspaper. You yourself stated in regards to the info-graphic “that particular word is so over-used now that I would think its shock value is long gone. I was under the (perhaps misguided) impression that the purpose of a college newspaper was to give college students interested in journalism a chance to experience what is involved in creating a professional publication. This is not evident in your December 2012 publication.

And, then there’s the cover “Don’t Dress Like S**T!” Really? That’s the best you could come up with?

Ever hear the expression “Penn State Pride”? You are Penn State students. You can be better than this.

Respectfully yours,

Deb Gildea
Staff Assistant
Academic Affairs

Dear Ms. Gildea,

First of all, allow me to apologize for the lateness of this response and thank you for your readership of The Revolt’s December 2012 issue. Although we do appreciate receiving criticism of our work from the Penn State community, we feel that there are some issues in your letter that merit addressing.

We do understand why you would be concerned with our use of expletives, especially due to the fact that our newspaper is regarded as a mouthpiece of this campus. As to the purpose of our publication, you stated in your letter “the purpose of a college newspaper was to give college students interested in journalism a chance to experience what is involved in creating a professional publication”. We at The Revolt disagree slightly with your impression of our purpose. We prefer to think of ourselves as a creative outlet for Penn State Wilkes-Barre students who are interested in writing for a publication. Although we do have several people who are interested in writing for a more professional publication, the execution of our publication differs in several ways from the more traditional methods employed by those institutions. Because many of our pieces are more opinion than actual news, including the article that was the subject of your original letter, we have more free reign in injecting our personal writing styles into our works thus allowing for an admittedly more unorthodox style of media that is more representative of and accessible to the students of our campus.

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Respectfully yours,

Deb Gildea
Staff Assistant
Academic Affairs
The Death Star Petition

The “Death Star petition” was created in November of 2012 to reflect the American people’s demand for jobs and national security.

The petition topped out at 34,435 signatures. The White House pledged to respond to “any” petition gaining at least 25,000 within 30 days.

Paul Shawcross, who is the Chief of the Science and Space Branch at the White House’s office of Management and Budget, wrote the official response to the petition.

While the creation of a real Death Star would provide countless jobs branching from it’s hundreds of different functions, it would give a new meaning to national security as well. With comic irony, Shawcross adds that, “the administration does not support the destruction of planets.” All jokes aside, both ends have held up logical arguments, however, the people at the White House have made up their minds.

To put it simply, the people had the numbers, and the White House honored their word to respond to such numbers. A large number of politically charged Star Wars fans saw an opportunity to push the government envelope. The people that signed were barraged with a “face-palm” of unfortunate truths.

The main reasons for the opposition to the Death Star are as follows. First of all, “the creation of the Death Star has been estimated to cost more than $850,000,000,000,000,000.” That is Eight-hundred and fifty-quintillion dollars. Shawcross adds, “We are working hard to reduce the deficit, not expand it.” Once more, “The administration does not support blowing up planets.”

Shawcross continues his response by revealing how close to these technologies we actually are. He refers to the massive international space station that is currently orbiting earth and helping humans learn how to “live and thrive in space for long durations.”

Perhaps the Death Star is not the answer to our unemployment problems, but the people gave the petition a good run.

Now that you know what to do, there are a few things you should NOT do in these circumstances.

Don’t
-Run toward or make sudden movements at the police. They’ll probably have their guns at the high-ready, and may not assume you are a “friendly”. Just keep moving, unless otherwise directed.
-Pull the fire-alarm. This will incite panic, or severely limit your situational awareness. It can help to give away your position. But overall, it can add to the panicked situation at hand.

Leave the immediate area. This may seem contrary to the ‘Get Out’ step, but emergency services will be coming in through the same entrances. Additionally, administrators, professors and friends will likely need to verify everyone’s safety following the event.
-Call your friends or loved ones. If you’ve called 911 already, they may call you back. If someone is hiding, ringing their phone can give away their position. But overall, it can add to the panicked situation at hand.

While we hope not to encounter such situations, and though they are exceedingly rare, surviving such a crisis comes down to one’s preparedness and ability to act. In 1998, a woman opened fire with a rifle in the HUB at University Park, killing one student and injuring two others. She was tackled by another student as she reloads. Like many victims, students milled around in their daily happenings, and never thought such a thing could take place. Yet, it did.

Crisis
Continued from cover

On the Cover

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Joans, Mimi L., Dear Abby, Gabby, Henson, Lance Armstrong, James Earl
From Let: Amanda Leporez, Chaddion

3
The Empowerment of Women

It is proven that investments in the empowerment of women help raise economic productivity and reduce infant mortality. It also contributes to improved health, nutrition, and it increases the chance of future generations receiving an education. If all of this above information is true, then why are women constantly violated and discriminated against around the world?

To give you an idea on how widespread discrimination against women is, here are some research statistics from the Half the Sky Organization:

• Every year, at least 2 million girls go missing worldwide because of gender discrimination.

• One out of three women is sexually violated in some manner.

• In the US, 1 in 48,000 will die in childbirth. As citizens of the developed world, we tend to ignore these striking statistics because these issues are not too common in our society, but that doesn’t mean it isn’t still present in our world.

In many parts of the world, women are viewed as property rather than human beings. This treatment towards women stems from each country’s cultural ideas on women, which in most cases, have persisted for thousands or hundreds of years. Most of these countries have high percentages of sexual violence and social oppression towards women.

These actions against women are quite astonishing given that there is a direct correlation between the overall success of a country and their investment in women’s interests. The higher the amount of financial investments a country makes on women, the greater the chance the country shall be economically and socially successful.

When a woman is given a proper education and more opportunities to succeed in life, they tend to contribute more to their community, family, and the education of their children. These investments not only affect women, but they better the lives of many others. For example, the children of respected women tend to be healthier and their households are often better managed when the woman is in charge. Studies show that households in which the woman is in charge financially have more economic stability and greater chances of increasing a family’s social status.

Whether people want to accept it or not, women are very important influences on the state of any society and country. If more women were treated in the same manner as men, there’s no doubt the world would be a much better place. Women are an important part in the variety of solutions for most of the world’s issues, so now it’s time to protect their freedoms. Over time, these investments in women’s issues will greatly affect the world in every way.
Imagine you had the power to simply create new money out of thin air and erase all of your debts. Wouldn’t that be great? That was exactly what the United States government was proposing over the last month in regards to our outrageous national debt.

The goal was to “circumvent the debt ceiling by minting a trillion dollar coin in an attempt to make shit up,” said Jon Stewart of The Daily Show. New York Times columnist, Paul Krugman, refuted Stewart by stating that it is “unprofessional to not take the coin seriously.”

The idea behind the coin was to create a “free” way to bail out the banks, by simply creating the money. The White House had proposed to eliminate its debt by minting the coin and giving it the value of one trillion dollars. The Federal Reserve refused the idea by stating, it would not accept the treasury’s coin as legal tender.

How on earth can the government do this? Well, the White House staff found a little-known loophole in the laws regarding minting new currency. While there are fixed limits under the law on what value the Mint can give to coins made of gold and silver, there is no such limit on coins made of platinum. Therefore, the Mint can make a small coin out of platinum worth… well, whatever the hell they want! In this case, the U.S. government wanted to mint one worth one TRILLION dollars.

So, it may be legal after all! But, as we all know, just because it’s legal doesn’t mean it’s the right thing to do. Sure we could pay off all our national debt in sixteen quick and easy payments of one trillion dollars, but what would that do to the value of the US dollar? You may remember from history class what happened to Germany after the First World War. Burdened under massive war debts, the government printed more money. Because (like ours) their money wasn’t backed by any precious metals, the value of the German mark was crushed by hyperinflation. In order to buy a loaf of bread, you would need a wheelbarrow full of Marks. Do we really want to see that happen here? Our currency is only backed by the “full faith and credit of the United States Government.” What happens when there’s no more faith or credit? What happens when respondents? Is Vogue really that desperate for attention? People on the other side of the argument praise the photos. Maybe they were truly meant to celebrate the first responders. Perhaps Liebovitz wanted to inspire her audience by doing it the best way she knew how, or Vogue may have been aiming to bring awareness to the ongoing struggle of the areas hit hardest by Sandy.

Many consider these photos to be inappropriate and distasteful. One might ask: why are they parading glamorous models in the wake of such devastation? Why display the models at all: why not just feature the Foreign governments see that we’re cheating our way out of debt? Remember how we all felt when the American government’s credit rating was dropped from “AAA” to “AA”? Let’s not let our credit rating go to ‘CCC junk’.

A message to our leaders in Congress: how about instead of trying to cheat our way out of debt, you put some realistic policy proposals forward to do something about the national debt instead of trying to weasel our way out of it. In a time of recession, people are being forced to cut back. How about you show some solidarity with the American poor and reign in governmental waste before its too late!

Hurricane Sandy was one of the worst natural disasters to hit the U.S. and its devastation can still be felt along the east coast. Communities continue to rebuild their homes with the help of emergency responders and other volunteers. The compassion and hard work displayed by those lending a hand is truly inspirational. This inspiration might rally one to pitch in with their own act of support and kindness. The fashion magazine Vogue certainly took notice and it inspired them to “celebrate” the contributions of those giving their all to save the areas hit hardest by Hurricane Sandy.

Vogue.com reads: “When Hurricane Sandy hit, the city’s bravest and brightest punched back. With the area now on the mend, we paid these stalwart souls a visit, dressed up in the best of New York collections. Call them New York’s other finest.”

Within the pages of Vogue Magazines February issue, you will find a photo spread called “Storm Troopers: Celebrating Hurricane Sandy’s First Responders.” The images, taken by photographer Annie Leibovitz, feature supernovas in lavish clothing and gowns created by prominent fashion designers. First responders of Hurricane Sandy are also highlighted, including the Coast Guard and the NYPD.

Vogue’s intention could have been an honest attempt to celebrate the heroes of Hurricane Sandy, but did they miss the mark? Did they unintentionally cross a line and create something completely inappropriate, or did they do it to benefit their own agenda? Whatever their intention, they certainly ignited some heated conversation.

The February issue hits newsstands nationwide on January 22nd and is available now as a digital download for the iPad®, Kindle Fire, NOOK Color™, and NOOK Tablet™.
Preserving the Huber Breaker

Pennsylvania’s rich history can’t be fully appreciated unless you realize the hardships that were involved with the coal mining industry, and the appalling conditions that these many men and boys faced every day until death. Hundreds of miners, possibly thousands, throughout the decades of coal mining were ripped apart and shattered in the brutal anthracite mines that were scattered around Northeastern Pennsylvania. Miners had to not only work in ridiculously hazardous conditions, but they were paid poorly, usually a few cents for every enormous cart of coal they produced throughout the dragging day. Veteran miners usually retired with asthma or the “Black Lung” from inhaling too much dust, and would return home every day with sore hands and backs, and blackened faces. My grandfather and great-grandfather both worked in the same mine, and luckily both survived its hell. When workers died, their bodies would be shipped home to their loved ones and set on the front porch, left until someone properly prepared them for burial. Miners were also usually immigrants, and a language barrier would not be of help especially if there was a disaster, like the common cave-in, stray dynamite blasts, or poisonous gases caught frequently leaking into the tunnels. Work would only cease after many brutal years of service, or if you somehow managed to escape the cruel coal world by dying. If you aren’t familiar with this area and its captivating history, I suggest looking towards the Huber Breaker in Ashley, Pennsylvania, which is visible just off I-81 heading into Wilkes-Barre. One of the last remaining breakers (a coal processing plant), the Huber Breaker was built in 1938 and replaced the old Maxwell #20 Breaker on coal mining land that had been used since the late 1800’s. The Huber Breaker, named after company chairman Charles F. Huber, was up and running until being shutdown in 1976 when its owner went bankrupt and the demand for coal declined. The building, now, has been left in ruin with a massive debt over its head. At the time of its construction, it was the most advanced breaker in the world, producing thousands of tons of coal per hour. Huber’s coal was spray-painted blue for advertisement, promoting the famous “Blue Coal” era, which didn’t actually affect the coal itself. Like mentioned, it was only used as a sales pitch. The only other standing breaker today is the St. Nicholas breaker outside of Mahanoy City, PA. These two breakers are the last of their kind in the entire world.

Preserving the Huber breaker itself is a lot easier said than done. The reason this building needs to be preserved is because it is one of the last ones in the world, and it is a symbol of Northeastern PA’s history and hardship. I recently interviewed the current president of the Huber Breaker Preservation Society, Mr. Ray Clarke. Ray told me that preserving the actual building is virtually impossible. The current owner of the land is “Eleven million dollars in debt and money can’t be put into it. Money can’t be raised and put into something you don’t own.” Raising eleven million to pay off the debt would be very hard, and it’s a shame that one of Northeast PA’s greatest icons can’t even be preserved, one of the last ones in fact. It is so unfortunate that the building can’t be saved because these breakers are what made this area famous. What these miners had to go through was absolutely horrible and almost inhumane. Ray predicts that the Huber breaker “won’t survive another 20 or 30 years.” Weather is causing it to “significantly deteriorate”, and the poor landmark is already cluttered enough with debris. The building is falling apart and is in hideous shape, which is why tours of it are not provided. They were at one point, but unfortunately Mr. Clarke has said that the “trustee that’s in charge is not allowing anyone on the property”.

Joining the HBPS costs $15 a year, and the money being raised will help restore the memory. Money is being raised by the society and is going towards a miner’s memorial park. According to the Society’s website (huberbreaker.org), the park will include, “walking trails through landscaped scenery, benches for relaxing, and educational kiosks with information on the history of the Breaker and the Anthracite Coal Region.” The HBPS is a wonderful organization, and becoming a member would aid in making a difference in this community by helping to preserve a striking landmark. How does

Continued on page 8
It doesn’t take a newspaper to tell you that we Americans love our guns. Rates of gun ownership in America are the highest in the entire world with 88 guns per every 100 residents. This is nearly twice as many as in the second runner up, Yemen. In most countries around the world, gun ownership is severely restricted by the state. Weapons, especially large caliber or high capacity guns are nearly impossible to obtain unless you’re in the police or military. Why is it that we can obtain assault rifles freely and Europeans jump so many governmental hurdles to obtain even a small handgun? Some say it’s got to do with personal safety and the lack of comprehensive police protection in rural areas, but one thing is for sure: gun deaths in the U.S. far exceed those in the majority of other world nations according to the Organization of American States. This, along with the increasing frequency of gun violence lately, shows a need for greater restraint over who gets firearms and how to control their misuse.

Gun control has taken the national stage lately as the Federal government tries to pass legislation to control guns on a nationwide level with a dysfunctional Congress. President Obama has passed some sweeping executive orders, but we can’t effectively limit gun ownership and usage without Congressional approval. Several states, including New York have passed legislation to limit access to assault rifles and force background checks on those who purchase guns, however, Pennsylvania seems to be taking a back seat in this national discussion.

In Pennsylvania, you can still buy a gun and keep it in your home legally without a license. If you buy from a private dealer, no background check is mandated. When a background check is mandated, the questions on the forms are all self-reported, including the ones regarding criminal records and psychological evaluations. Even if you wish to obtain a conceal carry permit, oftentimes the state doesn’t perform the required background check or call the listed references.

In a country that likes to call itself the best nation in the world, something needs to be done about the growing trend of gun violence by criminals or the mentally ill. We need to bring ourselves up to standard with the rest of the world. If not now, when?

Benjamin Picariello
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With the increase in popularity of social networking, there is a decrease of meeting people “the old fashioned way.” As many of us get older, we find ourselves wanting to be in a relationship to find that potential partner to settle down with. Since some people find it hard meeting someone in person, they turn to dating websites such as Match.com, Eharmony.com, Zoosk, and other dating profile websites. How can we be sure the person on the other end is real?

Yaniv “Nev” Schulman is a photographer from New York and the main character in the documentary “Catfish.” Schulman had an online romance with a female from Michigan. He and his friends decided to go to Michigan to meet this girl. They filmed their entire adventure and made it into a documentary. When he arrived, he found out that the girl he had an online relationship with was actually a different person.

What is Catfish and what does it mean? The term “catfish” came from a story of a ship delivering cod. When the ship arrived, some of the cod would be almost lifeless. They decided to put catfish in with the cod so the cod would remain lively. Schulman said in an interview with Jay Leno, “In life, there are people that keep us on our toes, keep us moving, and keep us guessing much like the catfish does to the cod.

One of the most publicized catfish stories came to life from Notre Dame star linebacker Manti Te’o. Te’o met a woman online that he developed feelings for. They talked for almost two years. During the football season in September, Te’o’s grandmother sadly passed away, and then only six hours later he learned that his girlfriend had passed away as well. In a bizarre twist, Te’o received a call a few months later from a person claiming to be Lennay Kekua, the woman he believed he was dating and whom he thought died a few months prior. Since then, he figured out it was hoax and that this person didn’t even exist to begin with.

This example just shows that you never know who you are going to meet online. You think you’re talking to a genuine person but in reality, they turn out to be a fraud. There are a few things you can do to prevent finding yourself in this situation: If it seems too good to be true, it probably is. Ask questions and compare the information on the profile. Try to communicate through voice and face to face programs such as Skype, Oovoo, and Facetime to make sure the face matches the picture on the profile. Remember to remain alert and secure when meeting people online and hopefully, you can prevent yourself from being scammed.

James Taylor
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Android vs. Apple, battle of the Smart-phones

Can you remember when the majority of cell phones were used for just making calls? It was about ten years ago that I made a call and texted someone for the first time from my ancient Nokia 3350. It had a green screen, black text, a calculator and snake, which I played daily. Things were simple, but we’ve progressed so fast; it’s only been about 10 years since cell phones developed into what we now call “smartphones.”

Today, smartphones are made to operate on two major operating systems, Android’s Jellybean 4.2, and Apple’s notorious iOS 6.1. A recent study by New Media Trend Watch indicates about 53% of all cell phone users in America own smartphone and use them as their main communication device. With new phones and phone operating systems constantly updating, this percentage will only grow over the next few years. Eventually the new will push aside the old, contracts will run out and those users will need to switch. So which is better?

Android Operating System: Android 4.2 Jellybean

At first glance, Android’s Operating System sounds like a bakery. Since April 2009, Android Operating Systems in order: Cupcake, Donut, Eclair, Gingerbread, Honeycomb, Ice Cream Sandwich and the most recent Jellybean, have run Android powered phones. Each of the recent updates has made the interface of the phone better and better. Android’s OS runs a Linux based system with the help of Google. Android’s Google Play (app market) offers the user around 617,500 downloadable apps.

Since the beginning Android phones have focused on customization. From the layout of the apps to widgets (Android only apps, very accessible to view), to backgrounds and other user friendly options, the Android Operating System offers an endless amount of possibilities for the user to choose from. All options intertwined offer a more user friendly, and customizable phone.

With the most recent update, Jellybean 4.2, new features include: A quicker touch response on the brighter screen, a HDR (high def resolution) camera mode, a new status bar on top of the screen to access notifications, along with an “application tray,” which allows the user to view and close/open apps. One of the best features is the use of widgets on the lock screen, such as weather widgets or news. Android also created a better keyboard system, which also has the ability to use “gesture typing,” which allows the user to glide a finger over the letters to type.

Google also updated their search bar as well as introduced a new application “Google Now” to Jellybean 4.2. This change makes Google’s search even quicker, easier and more personal. Google Now notifies the user based on preferences on its own, whether it is breaking news, current weather, the next movie ticket, or the score of the game. The search bar which is voice operated was updated, making searches even easier and more precise to the voice.

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Huber Breaker
continued from page 6

one join this charitable society? By simply attending their meetings which are held the every 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Earth Conservancy building on Main Street in Ashley. It is near the abandoned breaker itself. Meetings usually begin at 6:30 PM and until they end varies. The exoskeleton of the building is one of the last things we have in preserving the old anthracite coal world. When this building is eventually destroyed by Mother Nature, the old echoes of the thousands of workers that were incorporated with it will be lost too. But there is hope: the memorial park may prove to be the last stronghold in preserving the memory. Machines now replace the immigrant workers, and the old coal generation is coming to a close. For now, the Huber breaker continues to stand strongly as an icon of the brutal anthracite domain; its soiled, fragile walls and shattered windows symbolize how devastating the mining world was, and how it has been forgotten by man in recent times. It’s an honor to say that I had coal miners in the family, hearing about the horrifying lifestyle that they had no choice but to cope with, and it’s almost as honorable as having a veteran in the family. The actual Huber breaker itself cannot be preserved but through the efforts of the HBPS, the memory of it and the entire anthracite coal mining world will be conserved forever.

Visit huberbreaker.org for more information.

Written By: Ryan Sotelo
(RMSS774@psu.edu)
Android vs. Apple  
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command.

Apple Operating System: iOS 6  
The first iPhone was released in 2007; it ran off of a 2G network and featured Mobile Safari, Maps (GPS), iPod, and Visual Voicemail. Since then Apple has revamped the system fully a total of 6 times, bringing it currently to iOS 6, (most current 6.1). They have brought so many new features in just 6 years. You can usually expect a new update when the new generation is released, although updates usually happen every few months at most. Apple’s iPhone is currently in its 5th generation.

Apple has continued to follow its roots when it comes to design, layout, and accessibility using iOS through the generations. The app store currently has about 755,000 apps, with around 40 billion downloads, about 10 billion ahead of Google. The layout of apps is pre-set to a 5x5 row and column layout with the bottom row being utilized for most used apps (phone, mail, web, music). The layout along with Apple’s touchscreen makes iOS extremely versatile because the phone and iOS depend on the screen, putting the focus on making the keyboard as crisp as possible. Apple’s iPhone never had a physical keyboard, it has always been virtual.

The most recent update iOS 6.1 is the newest of iOS 6. Many features of the iPhone 5 have been updated and improved since it’s release last September. iCloud is the most productive of the newest applications in the iOS 6 update. When synced, it will upload all pictures, video, contact information and other apps into iCloud, which acts as a storage space for all of the user’s media. The biggest of all of the upgrades is the LTE (long term evolution) capability which will let the user surf the web wireless at 4G LTE speeds (currently the fastest wireless connection available).

A new update to the “Siri” application lets the user post Facebook status’s or order movie tickets by talking to Siri. The original iOS 6 did not feature Google Maps, which caused many complaints from apple users. Google and Apple eventually decided to re-release it this past December. A new update of Google Maps is planned for iOS 6.

S3 vs. iPhone 5  
The defining difference between Android and Apple ultimately lies in the phones themselves. Android powers between a dozen smartphones, the Samsung Galaxy S3 being the best currently; All of which are different in shape, screen size, virtual/physical keyboards and processors. Apple on the other hand just has the iPhone. What Apple lacks in diversity of phones makes up for in one product, which gives it a fighting chance. When you look at both companies, the two most popular phones on the market are the Samsung Galaxy S3 and the iPhone 5.

The S3 sports a 4.8” wide screen while the iPhone 5 is a 4” rectangle. The feel of both phones greatly differs as well. The S3 is made out of plastic, while the iPhone is made of glass and aluminum. Internally the S3 works off of a quad core processor while the iPhone uses a dual core processor. Both phones have an 8 MP (mega-pixel) camera and both are fully touchscreen.

When set side by side, the only major difference is the price. The S3 is available for $99.99 with a two year contract where the iPhone 5 is at a steady $199.99 with a two year contract. Both phones mimic each other in speed and capability, but greatly differ in style, layout and physical design. Android is bargain friendly, whereas Apple is pricey. It is tough to pick Android devices or Apple devices based on the stats when side by side; it all comes down to personal preference.

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Lattimer: The Birth of a Movement

Picture this -- the year is 1897 in Lattimer, PA, a mining village in Hazle Township just outside of Hazleton. Mine workers, oppressed under a new tax passed by the Pennsylvania legislature and forced to work extra hours without pay, marched from Lattimer to Main Street in Hazleton. They were unarmed and peaceful. Suddenly, several armed men with Winchester rifles, deputized by the sheriff of Luzerne County, as well as the sheriff himself, broke up this peaceful labor strike with bullets and death. You now have a rough mental image of the Lattimer Massacre.

On January 24th of this year, students and faculty gathered to watch and listen as Penn State Wilkes-Barre’s Communications professor, Mr. Bachman, presented a radio show concerning this important event in the history of Northeastern PA. He outlined the subsequent trial that saw the Luzerne County sheriff and his deputies charged with the murder of miner worker, Mike Cheslock, and their eventual acquittal. These events sparked a movement, that would last the next forty years, to better the working conditions of industrial workers and other blue-collar laborers throughout the United States.

With the use of audio, in the style of an old-fashioned radio show, Professor Bachman painted a mental picture of turn-of-the-century Pennsylvania. The presentation included mock interviews with mine workers and witnesses to the massacre voiced by several students and faculty members. The show demonstrated the corruption present in the state government and how the trial was influenced by mine owners that resulted in the acquittal of the charged sheriff’s deputies. Throughout the show, there were hints of the hypocrisy native-born Americans displayed towards new immigrants. America is supposed to be known as the land of opportunity and wealth for everyone. The American system of justice and due process is supposed to be infallible. Where did we go wrong? One likes to believe with reform, government has become more transparent and accountable since the late 1800s, however, this was comically underscored by a comment made by professor Bachman regarding his research. He was trying to find the court transcripts for the aforementioned trial at the local courthouse and was told the records were missing. His response? “The trial transcript was lost; but then again, this is Luzerne County.”

Benjamin Picariello  
(bop5132@psu.edu)
In January of 2006, I ignored all of the signs posted at a local community college and walked onto the campus with a gun. Walking into class with what I now call a “wardrobe malfunction,” the gun became exposed. People saw it and the gig was up. Within an hour, I was handcuffed by police. Though I appeared no different than any other student, I had learned the tactics of an expert marksman. I had gone to war twice. I was a trained killer. But my goal was not to hurt others…it was to protect. My story, while complicated and unorthodox, is the result of life-threatening circumstances. After years of constant duress in a combat zone, I believed that death lurked around the corner unnoticed. I no longer felt safe without a firearm. After the handcuffing, the searching, the explaining, and the subsequent suspension from college, I faced a wake-up call. Though I had not broken the law (I have a permit to carry a concealed weapon), I understood that carrying a gun made people uneasy, and I would have to address my anxieties in a new fashion: unarmed. Later, I would find that my experiences in wartime, the same that caused my mortal fears, would eventually be my solace. I had taken for granted that I, more than most, had an intimate view of a person trying to kill, as well as someone trying to survive. In light of the shootings that have happened recently, I want to share some insights with you. While it is no substitute for actual combat training, I’ll present the most crucial points in the hope that you too can use it effectively.

Before a Shooting

Prevention

The Director of Commonwealth Campus Police and Security, Bill Donahue explains that there are often warning signs before an active shooter crisis. “They don’t just snap,” he says. “They usually have a plan.” A ‘dynamically individual,’” Donahue continues, “tend to show signs.” From financial or relationship stress, to mental health issues, to depression and despair, there are usually indicators. This seems to be evident with individuals like Jared Loughner (Tucson, AZ), and James Holmes (Aurora, CO), yet such signs are rarely exposed in time.

How do we intervene before a shooting? If someone gives you cause for concern, is acting suspiciously, or mentions the intent to harm self or others, tell someone. The campus has a Behavioral Threat Management Team, as directed by the University, who investigates these reports and, often times, intervenes with crucial support and resources. In my own case, though I did not intend to harm anyone, I was encouraged to seek therapy to address my own fears and anxieties, and eventually faced my PTSD head-on. So reporting may not only save one life, but many lives.

Situational Awareness

This tenant of tactics is the core of war fighting. Without awareness, we find ourselves unprepared in the dawn of a potential threat. It helps to know your surroundings: hallways, rooms, exits, doors. If you’re in a classroom in the Academic Commons, there may only be one escape route. But what if you’re in the Hayfield building? It has four levels, several wings and nearly a half dozen exits.

Penn State Wilkes-Barre’s Director of Security, Gary Beisel, points out the difficulty of securing our campus: “Not all doors lock the same way. Some won’t lock at all without a key.” What then? Does the window open? Do you have a viable hiding spot? These are questions you should ask when entering any building or room; you may not have the time later.

During a Shooting

“Fight, flight or freeze”

Every time I’ve been on either end of a gun, my body changes in the same fashion. Everything slows down. While some people describe it as a “Matrix” effect, I know it to be the brain’s natural response to adrenaline. Though I won’t get into chemistry, the results are important to understand because both the shooter and the survivor go through this physiological process.

In reality, nothing slows down; everything speeds up. Once adrenaline is released into the body, heart-rate, blood pressure and respiration increase. This allows the body to temporarily become faster and stronger, but it decreases frontal cortex function and limits the ability to think clearly. Most people go into the fight, flight or freeze” mode. I know it may be difficult to overcome your body’s natural response, but the last thing you should do is freeze. Your best option is to flee the scene of an active shooter, your worst option is to do nothing. At best, you’re in the way, and at worst, you become a target in the open. Get down and out. Remove yourself from the shooter’s line of sight. This is also a potential benefit if you need to resort to the “Take Out” step. In a fight for your life, quick action can become the deciding factor between life and death.

For the Shooter, this effect means less control of the gun. If you watch the footage of the Florida School Board gunman, he fires two shots directly at the board’s chairman and misses. This is partly due to his poor shooting stance, but if you watch closely, he jerks the gun—result a of a twitch caused by adrenaline.

Tunnel Vision

Under normal circumstances, the human eye sees about 120 degrees, and can focus on about six degrees at any given time. Under the influence of adrenaline, peripheral vision is severely limited. Soldiers and law enforcement call this effect “tunnel vision,” because everything outside of the focus span begins to blur.

If you’re fleeing, this effect may hinder your ability to see obstacles or people in your path. Additionally, it may prevent you from actually identifying the shooter, so be mindful of your surroundings.

As a marksman, I can tell you that shooting with tunnel vision is extremely difficult. An active shooter may only be able to engage what he sees in the six degrees of focus, making the transition from one target to another less fluid and reducing accuracy.

Cover vs. Concealment

One of the first things I learned in the Army was the difference between cover and concealment. Cover is defined as an object able to hide your person and protect your body from bullets or shrapnel. Similarly, concealment can remove you from a shooter’s line of sight, but it lacks the protective aspect of a cover object. Would you rather hide behind stone or drywall? Personally, I’d choose the stone.

When choosing cover or concealment, throw out the preposturous ideas purported by action films. Couches and tables will not stop bullets. You will not
be able dash out into the line of fire to take a better location. Stay put and don’t move unless you absolutely have no other choice.

Weapons of Opportunity
I stopped carrying a gun; I continued to carry a pen. This was an old soldiers’ habit anyway. Following the Virginia Tech shooting, I was floored to hear that the gunman had time to reload and kill more students. In talking to a veteran friend, I asked: “Why didn’t anyone stab him in the eye?” Though I was being facetious, there was some seriousness to my question.

In the event that your life is threatened, the use of a makeshift weapon could save your life. Use a letter opener or scissors to injure soft tissue on the face or below the ribcage. Striking the head with a blunt weapon can stun or disorient your attacker. If you have nothing else, use your hands, arms, legs or feet.

After a Shooting

[Wo]man Down
Help can take time to arrive, and in the aftermath of a shooting, there may be people injured around you. Now, I’m not a certified medic, nurse or doctor, and due to legal liabilities, I cannot tell you what to do if you come across a victim with a gunshot wound. I will, however, tell you what I would do.

To begin, I would assess the seriousness of the wounds, treating the most serious first through a series of escalating steps. (Exit wounds are generally larger than entry wounds, and should be addressed first.)

Field Dressing
1. Tie a makeshift bandage, apply, and secure it (knot-away) over the wound
2. Ensure good circulation to the extremities.
3. Elevate the limb, if possible.
4. If the bleeding does not stop after several minutes, I would apply a manual pressure for five to ten minutes.

If bleeding continues, I’d escalate to a Pressure Dressing

Pressure Dressing
1. Ball up cloth (socks, shirt, etc.) and place over wound.
2. Apply a second bandage, placing a non-slip knot directly over the ball of cloth.
3. Ensure good circulation is present. (No numbness or discolorations should occur)

If the bleeding persists, particularly if it is bright red (sign of arterial bleeding) I would apply a digital pressure (with a finger).

Again, this is what I, a non-medically trained person, would do if I found someone severely injured and help wasn’t readily available.

Debriefing
I’ve seen and done things at war that many people could barely fathom. As I said above, it has taken its toll on me; I would never want anyone to experience such an event. Though it may never be far from my mind, I feel it is important to note that the support and therapy has made all the difference in my life. If you ever endure a trauma like we’ve discussed here, it’s important to contact mental health support staff and receive help. If someone you know is suffering, contact the Behavioral Threat Management Team through Kathie Flanagan-Herstek (kfh2@psu.edu). By doing so, we might prevent the cyclic violence that may enter our lives.

Written By: Julie Haller (jrh5335@psu.edu)

Michael Calore (je5136@psu.edu)

Student Spotlight
with Jill O’Connell

Jill O’Connell is a Penn State Wilkes-Barre Business Major. She is secretary of the SGA and member of the Business club. Even with all the time and hard work she dedicates to school, she has managed to create a successful career for herself. In 2010, Jill received her cosmetology license and she is now a senior stylist at Sakari Salon. Sakari is an award winning salon and was voted “Best Salon and Spa 2012” in the Weekend. Jill has used her talents for many fundraiser events, such as Locks of Love, and is gearing up for Prom on the Runway, a benefit fashion show, which will be held on February 17th.

To book an appointment with Jill, please call Sakari Salon at (570)287-4045

Written By: Julie Haller (jrh5335@psu.edu)
Penn State Wilkes-Barre
2013 Baseball Schedule

Date       Opponent                      Location       Time
3/13/2013 – Wed PSU Worthington-Scranton* Home 3:00 pm
3/16/2013 – Sat PSU Worthington-Scranton* Dunmore, PA TBA
3/20/2013 – Wed PSU Schuylkill Home 2:00/4:00 pm
3/23/2013 – Sat PSU Fayette Home 2:00/4:00 pm
3/24/2013 – Sun PSU Greater Allegheny Home 12:00/2:00 pm
3/28/2013 – Thurs PSU York York, PA 2:00/4:00 pm
4/2/2013 – Tue PSU Worthington-Scranton Dumore, PA 2:00/4:00 pm
4/6/2013 – Sat PSU Beaver Monaca, PA 2:00/4:00 pm
4/7/2013 – Sun PSU Hazleton Hazleton, PA 12:00/2:00 pm
4/10/2013 – Wed PSU Mont Alto Home 12:00/2:00 pm
4/14/2013 – Sun Marywood University Scranton, PA 12:00/2:00 pm
4/18/2013 – Thurs PSU Brandywine Home 2:00/4:00 pm
4/20/2013 – Sat Penn College Home 2:00/4:00 pm
TBD       PSUAC Championship TBD TBD
5/6-10/13  USCAA Championship McKeesport, PA TBD

Super Bowl Shut Out

The battle of the brothers. The legends’ last game. The phantom from nowhere.

The Super Bowl is the most watched sporting event in America. Whether you’re a fan of one of the teams playing, a fan of football in general, or just going with the crowd, when that special Sunday comes, everyone is watching. This year was no different, and the many headlines made that evident. Which headline would prevail in the end?

The battle of two brothers coaching against one another in the Super Bowl, is it the conclusion of a legendary career, or the beginning of another?

The game started and the Baltimore Ravens, headed by veteran linebacker Ray Lewis, looked to be dominant. They jumped out to a commanding lead and looked to have a firm grasp with the score at 21-6 at half time. The same continued to start the second half when the Ravens took the opening kick-off 108 yards for a score. With the score at 28-6, the San Francisco 49ers took the field needing to make something happen. Suddenly, something did happen that wasn’t the cause of the 49ers. For the first time in Super Bowl history, the lights went out in the stadium. This blackout lasted for approximately 30 minutes and ended up being a defining moment in the game. After the blackout the 49ers dominated the game scoring 17 unanswered points putting them within one score of tying the game.

However, the sudden surge wouldn’t be enough to crush the deficit they had already created for themselves. The Ravens got back on track and the game ended with a Baltimore victory 34-31.

This will be the last game for the Ravens future hall of fame linebacker Ray Lewis. Lewis, who is known for his leadership ability, announced his retirement when the playoffs began. He will now go out in the best fashion possible. Lewis will be missed by the Baltimore Ravens, the NFL, and football fans everywhere.

Written By: Casey Drake (CWD5303@psu.edu)
Valentine’s Day Survey

In an attempt to get our students in the Valentine’s Day mood, I asked several boys and girls what they think is wanted.

- Alex C – “Girls want you to empty your wallet for them.”
- Kyle C – “Girls want to have a good time, because girls just want to have fun.”
- Alex B – “Girls want chocolate on top of a nice romantic date.”
- Tyler F – “Girls want to be showered with gifts.”
- Palmer D – “Girls want dinner, chocolate, jewelry and to be wined and dined.”
- Jillian L – “Boys want to be wined and dined, just like us.”
- Kelsey H – “Boys want chocolate too, like candy smidgens.”
- Meg M – “Singles want to go to the club and get some, and coupled boys just want to make the girl happy.”
- Marrissa G – “Boys want to be seduced for being romantic, paying it forward.”
- Audaliza N – “Boys want to be dined… with extra dessert on the side.”

By: Kenneth Bond (kwb5171@psu.edu)
Red roses, chocolate and teddy bears are all part of the traditions that come to mind when thinking about Valentine’s Day. Why do we do this, where did the idea of giving these type of gifts on this day come from? Valentine’s Day is a holiday that started in the Catholic Church. There is believed to be three different saints named Valentine, or Valentines, and several different legends surrounding them. The most popular story about the patron saint Valentine involves him being martyred for performing marriages. Valentine was said to be a roman priest in the third century. At the time Claudius II was the emperor of Rome and outlawed the marriage of young men. He believed that young men made better soldiers as single men instead of married with a wife and family. Valentine heard the emperor’s decision and realized the injustice of the matter: he continued to marry young couples in secret within the church. Claudius II discovered what Valentine had been doing and demanded that he be put to death.

Another tale about the patron saint insists that he was helping Christians escape harsh roman prisons and he himself was imprisoned. It is said that while imprisoned he fell in love with his jailor’s daughter, who often visited him and had sent her the first ever Valentine greeting. This is where the tradition of exchanging cards with romantic poems or rhymes to our loved ones started.

Now, why is February the chosen month to celebrate this holiday? There is not much history about why we celebrate Valentine’s Day this time of year. One popular theory is that Valentine died during the middle of February so we celebrate on the fourteenth in commemoration of his death. Others believe that it was celebrated on the fifteenth due to the pagan festival of Lupercalia, which is the Roman celebration of the god of agriculture.

The United States, the United Kingdom, France, Australia, Mexico and Canada all partake in the celebration of Saint Valentine. It started to become popularly celebrated in the seventeenth century. By the eighteenth century it became common for lovers and friends to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes on this day.

In the eight hundreds, a woman by the name of Ester Howland began selling the first mass produced valentines in America. To this day she is known as the “Mother of Valentine’s.” She used things like real lace, ribbon and scrap to create Valentine’s Day cards, which is very similar to the modern day greeting card. According to the Greeting Card Association, one-billion Valentine cards are sent each year. Eighty-five percent of these are purchased by women. This makes Valentine’s Day the second largest card sending holiday of the year, right behind Christmas which has a whopping 2.6 billion cards sold and sent per year.

Written By: Ken Lakkis (nvl5058@psu.edu)

Here she is, Mr. Penn State Wilkes-Barre

It was a beautiful February day when Penn State Wilkes-Barre held their annual Mr. Penn State Wilkes-Barre.

The event is to raise money for THON and give everybody in attendance a good laugh. There were six lovely entrances that tried to dance, sing, and laugh their way to the crown.

One girl in particular shined; her name was “Esther” or better known as Ethan Rosenstein, who raised the most money for THON and would be crowned “Mr. Penn State Wilkes-Barre!” Esther yodeled in her/his Daisy Dukes and raised over $50. In total these elegant women/gentleman raised over one hundred and twenty dollars for THON.

The other contestants also showed their talents with a saxophone, ukulele and mandolin show case.

Then it was the evening gown portion, where all six lovely girls/boys came out strutting in their best evening attire. They would then answer the questions from both the judges and audience. One question was: “If you could have a maid, a chef, or a driver for the rest of your life, which would you have?” The most memorable answers came from “Sexy Brenda,” AKA Seth Andes, which was: “I wouldn’t like a chef because I like to ‘eat out’ if you know what I mean…” got a huge rise from the audience and making the bills flow into her/his can.

Regardless of the outcome it was all for a good cause and all those ladies/gentleman gave it their all (including their dignity).

Kelsey Misparron (km5438@psu.edu)

Roses Are Red

Written By: Kenneth Bond (kwb5171@psu.edu)

Spring Break!

- Before -

This month I asked students on campus what they plan to do for Spring break in March. This survey will be followed up in next month’s issue with the comparison of what the students had planned to do, as opposed to what they actually did. Here is what our students had to say about their Spring break plans.

- Jillian L. – “I plan on relaxing hard and eating some good food.”
- Kelsey H. – “I want to go to a nearby beach or have fun outlet shopping.”
- Meg M. – “I plan on completing my short story, relaxing and escaping from reality.”
- Alex C. – “I want to head north to party and snowboard.”
- Alex B. – “I plan on hooking up with some old friends and rocking some D&D!”
- Marrissa G. – “I plan to go to NY with some friends, to attend a 9/11 memorial service for a friend.”
- Tyler F. – “I plan on trying new things with some friends, as well as finish a short film.”
- Palmer D. – “I am going to take some time off work and head to the beach.”
- Kyle C. – “I plan on relaxing, partying and staying out of trouble.”
- James T. – “I am going to be working and heading back home to Philly for a bit.”

Written By: Kenneth Bond (kwb5171@psu.edu)

Penn State Wilkes-Barre: A Touch of Technology

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Kelsey Misparron (km5438@psu.edu)
Mr. Penn State Wilkes-Barre
Under certain circumstances, profanity provides a relief denied even to prayer.

-Mark Twain