



Manatee "bur-gled" from Glenhill Farmhouse

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Nickelodeon Studios torn down

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Behrend lecturer and radio personality subpoenaed in Filippi case

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Penn State Erie's journalism professor Kim Young may soon find herself in a court of law after recently being added to the witness list for the upcoming trial of former Erie Mayor, Rick Filippi. Young conducted an exclusive interview with the former Mayor on Jan. 18, 2006 for WQLN, and now the state is trying to find what exactly, if anything, former Mayor Filippi may have said to Young off the record.

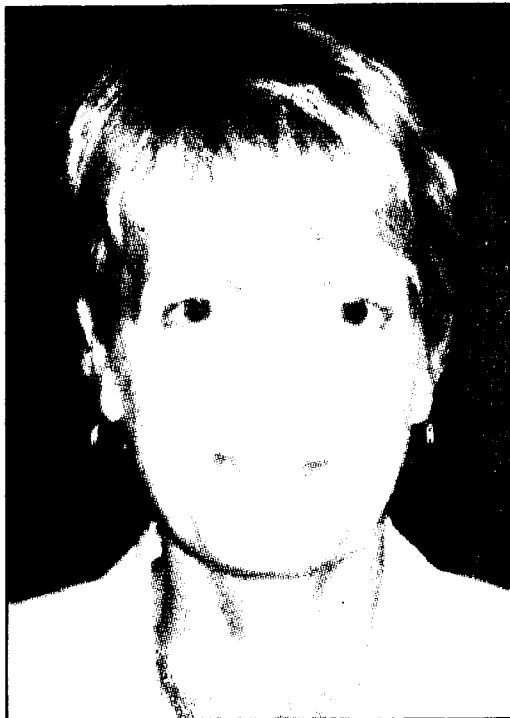
It is quite possible that Young, a journalist for 25 years who is "very passionate" about her work, could face jail time if she refuses to reveal information may have been given to her in confidence. Young states, "I would protect any and all private conversations given off the record and any conversations I had with a source." She continues by adding, "I will not answer anything without the advice of legal counsel, so I will know exactly how to respond." When asked if she would be ready to go to jail, Young replied, "Absolutely." Young says she believes if she were to cooperate that she would be jeopardizing her future as a journalist. "If I went on the stand and violated the trust of a source, who

would ever talk to me again?"

If Young were to go to jail for contempt of court, it would not be the first time a journalist has been imprisoned. Judith Miller was recently jailed on July 5, 2005 for refusing to give up a source in front of a grand jury that was looking into the leak of a CIA agent's identity.

Many journalists believe that being asked about information given in confidentiality is a violation of their first amendment rights, which grant freedom of the press and protection from government interference. Dr. Speel, the head of the Political Science department, explains that this belief is incorrect.

"There is nothing in the first amendment providing blanket confidentiality for a journalist and [his or her] source. Journalists have often refused to testify at trials and hearings to protect sources but have been required by judges to testify anyhow." He continues by stating, "I do not feel that asking a journalist to testify about off-the-record conversations violates



Jerry Pohl/THE BEHREND BEACON
Kimberly Young is to testify in the Filippi case.

about issues that would have never come to light otherwise, such as "criminal or sleazy dealings by government officials." He also feels that individuals

freedom of the press. Freedom of the press allows for journalists to report to the public about anything without the threat of censorship or prior restraint (attempts by government to stop news coverage)." Dr. Speel is not quite sure how he feels about the issue and explains that there are two sides of the issue to consider. He states that allowing journalists to protect their sources allows the public to be informed

participating in criminal activity should not be protected by the press. "If a source requests a journalist to speak off the record and then the source tells the journalist of a murder committed, should the journalist be allowed to protect the confidentiality of that information?"

Former Mayor Filippi, law partner Rolf Patberg, and campaign manager Eric Purchase were officially charged on Dec. 8, 2004 after using inside information in an attempt to profit from the purchase of four properties near the former site of Hammernill. Filippi was lobbying for M-T-R Gaming of West Virginia to develop the location of the vacant industrial lot into a horse racing track and casino. While he was working on this, Aiko Acquisition LLC, a company owned and operated by his associates, was acquiring real estate adjacent to the site. After the Times News broke the story, the group sold the land for a \$700 loss after purchasing it for \$164,950. Filippi is being accused of investing \$8,000 in the company.

The trial, originally scheduled to take place in Erie, has been moved to Washington County after Judge Ernest DiSantis ruled that a hometown jury would be influenced by all of the publicity the case would create. The trial is scheduled to begin March 13.

Getting booked on Facebook.com

By Rachael Conway
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After an exciting weekend of partying on campus and hitting the bar scene, many students are eager to create a new photo album for their Facebook profiles to showcase their drunken moments. While it might be funny to post pictures of your friend doing a keg-stand or of yourself after doing 21 shots on your birthday, posting these pictures, along with other personal information, can potentially be a very harmful thing to do.

More than 8.5 million college students visit Facebook.com each month, and students need to be aware that personal information and pictures that are posted on websites like Facebook.com and Myspace.com can be viewed by college

because posting personal information can be potentially dangerous.

In 2005, many Penn State students were apprehended by the police for illegally rushing the field after a victory by the football team. They were not caught at the game, however. Some of these students proudly joined the Facebook group, "I Rushed the Field After the OSU Game (And Lived)!" The police used Facebook.com and this group as a tool to catch the perpetrators.

Some students are far too open when posting information about their lives. It is one thing to list favorite movies or television shows, but it is another thing to list addresses and phone numbers. College students need to realize that anyone can easily gain access

"Facebook can sell information about students to marketers and can use and display their contributions, including photos."

~Washington Post

to sites like these and view this personal information. College students sometimes take part in immature or illegal acts due to peer pressure or for attention. Pictures of things like this are commonly posted on personal blogs in order to get a reaction from peers or to get validation. These kinds of acts include underage and/or binge drinking and dressing provocatively. Future employers can access these sites, and an inappropriate blog could potentially cost you a job.

A good rule of thumb to think about the next time you are creating an online photo album or writing about your weekend is: would you want your grandmother or future boss to see or read it? If the answer is no, then it would be in the best interest of your personal safety, professional future and reputation in general to just keep it to yourself. Use your brain and make smart decisions. (But if you are really, really proud of that keg-stand, you could carry the picture around in your pocket.)

Brokeback backlash

Movie spurs controversy

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The new release of Brokeback Mountain is pushing the moral limits of some American states.

Brokeback Mountain, starring Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal and directed by Ang Lee, is a low budget, highly publicized Western film about two homosexual cowboys and their passionate love story in Wyoming. This seems like a typical movie you would find in the year 2006; however, states like Utah are not permitting this film to be viewed. Some celebrities like Randy Jackson on American Idol are poking fun at the film. For instance, when Jackson stated the phrases, "How do I quit you Simon," which was taken straight from the film with a character name change.

There has been much publicity over this film because of its blunt approach to the love between two male characters. Top media figures including George W. Bush and Jay Leno have focused on this new possible box office hit.

When Bush was asked his opinion at Kansas State University, he simply stated, "I haven't seen it...I'd be glad to talk about ranching, but I haven't seen the movie...I've heard about it." Jay Leno is having "gay cowboys on his show". The USA Today asked, "What's so funny?"

Many people in society are uncomfortable with the film's homosexual overtones. Eighth semester Penn State Erie student, Brooke Springer said that while she most likely won't be attending the film in theaters, "It [the subject matter] would be a reason to see it, because it's the first high profile film on the subject."

Springer makes a valid point there. The film was purposely produced on a low budget, so the American public would slowly be exposed to its controversial nature according to the Untel Today publication. But the push of two high profile main characters, Ledger and Gyllenhaal, obviously made that plan impossible and forced Brokeback Mountain into blockbuster status.

Jokes will be made. San Antonio TV anchor Chris Marrou stated, "Why didn't they just give one of those guys from Brokeback Mountain best actress?" Others will share the same opinion Earl Gordon of Penn State Erie has, "It's not my type of movie, I'm more into action." The film will be accredited with the praise it deserves for the talent contained in this feature.



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Gametap taps college gamers

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Young adults have a new option for playing the games they grew up with. A program provided by Turner Broadcasting called Gametap allows subscribers to play games from various consoles and gaming systems. The games are from multiple genres and include games from as early as 1981. Age old favorites such as Pacman are available, as well as titles more recent such as "Prince of Persia, The Sands of Time." Gametap offers over 350 games on multiple gaming consoles for gamers of all ages to enjoy. Gametap General Manager Stuart Snyder writes "Our goal is to create the ultimate gaming network - a one stop shop - for everyone from the casual gamer to gaming experts." Gametap has certainly seemed to create the ultimate gaming network for their clients, offering a graphical user interface (GUI) system that operates each console within itself.

For many years gamers have used programs known as ROMs and Emulators to imitate a game console using a computer. The "emulator" recre-

ates the console using a software program, then a ROM is loaded into that software. The end result is the video game as it was originally intended to be played. Behrend students are among the groups of gamers that have used emulators for years. Jon Paul a tenth semester Physics major says that Gametap doesn't interest him as a gamer. "You can download the emulators for free anyway," he states, showing his disinterest in the service. He also

added "Why would I pay for something that I have all the original cartridges of." Eric Bell, an eighth semester Math major, expressed several disinterests with Gametap. "It [Gametap] is over-priced and has a limited supply of games." He also added, "If you're on dial-up its worthless." Despite criticisms from Behrend students, Gametap and Turner Broadcasting managed to receive a Best in Show award from the Electronics Entertainment Expo (E3) at the October 2005 convention. GameTap General Manager Stuart Snyder also added "GameTap puts an entire library worth of games-both current and classic -at your finger tips. The game community, and for that matter the Internet itself, has never seen anything like it."

In addition to the games offered on Gametap the program also has a feature called the "Mediaplex." In the Mediaplex, gamers can learn fun factoids about their favorite consoles and games, as well as watch video interviews and shorts related to the gaming industry. All of these services are available for a two week free trial period. After that subscribers are charged a small monthly fee for their use of the program.

