

STUDENT LIFE

Box Office Breakdown Sept. 7-9

1	3:10 to Yuma	\$14,035,033
2	Halloween (2007)	\$ 9,513,770
3	Superbad	\$ 7,551,822
4	Shoot 'Em Up	\$ 5,716,554
5	The Bourne Ultimatum	\$ 5,673,850
6	Balls of Fury	\$ 5,652,852
7	Rush Hour 3	\$ 4,883,334
8	Mr. Bean's Holiday	\$ 3,413,785
9	The Nanny Diaries	\$ 3,194,396
10	Stardust	\$ 1,800,127
11	Hairspray	\$ 1,745,369
12	Death Sentence	\$ 1,676,156
13	W A R	\$ 1,494,499
14	The Simpsons Movie	\$ 1,319,878
15	Harry Potter	\$ 1,031,339
16	Underdog	\$ 881,071
17	Becoming Jane	\$ 853,910
18	Chuck and Larry	\$ 834,060
19	Ladron Que Roba A Ladron	\$ 728,952
20	Death at a Funeral	\$ 721,041

*Statistics courtesy of BoxOfficeMojo.com

West and Jackson fight record sale battle

By Scott R. Muska
student life editor
srn5082@psu.edu

Hip-hop superstars Kanye West and Curtis Jackson, aka 50 Cent, have begun what will be arguably the biggest battle in music history. Both immensely popular musicians released their eagerly anticipated third full-length albums on Sept. 11. The two artists have been verbally sparring throughout the past month over who will sell the most albums.

There have been many highly-publicized instances of "beef" between artists in the rap genre, more commonly referred to as battles, but there has been nothing yet of this magnitude. The stakes are very high, because the highest seller will be crowned as the king of hip-hop. Jackson has more to lose, it seems, since he has claimed that he would retire from his career as a musician if he fails to move more records than West in the first week of sales. Jackson has been in top form, allowing his signature cockiness to show through as it never has in the days leading up to the release of his record, *Curtis*. "My first album was the highest-selling LP of 2003, he told music magazine *Rolling Stone*.

"That album sold something like 1.14 million in four days. Jay-Z's last album sold something like 1.6 million. Kanye works for Jay-Z. Kanye is a worker bee. He's never been able to generate a fraction of the interest that I have." He even went as far as to compare himself to a gorilla, when he said in the same interview that, "I'm King Kong. Kanye is human. Humans run when they see King Kong, because they're scared." He has also insinuated that all of the current hype surrounding West and his third full-length album, *Graduation*, should be

attributed directly to the attention he has gotten him with his retirement ploy.

West, who is known to have a tendency for obnoxious outbursts (he said that he believed George Bush didn't care about black people at a concert shortly after Hurricane Katrina and flipped out at a European awards show when he didn't win), has been surprisingly quiet throughout the entire process, letting Jackson run his mouth. Jackson does, after all, have more to lose. West has made no comments about retiring if he doesn't win the sales battle.

This battle involves two artists who are extremely popular in their genre, but very different. Jackson comes off as the tougher of the two stars,

referring often to his difficult childhood that included drug dealing and a drive-by shooting during which he was hit with bullets nine times. His lyrics focus mostly on wealth, women, and violence and are more blatantly harsh than West's.

West comes off as the pretty boy of hip-hop. He is often seen wearing peculiar clothing that isn't

normally seen in the world of hip-hop style, or anywhere else for that matter. In the video for his most recent single, "Stronger," he wears a pair of aviator glasses with plastic bars going over the lenses. He is also known for the complexity of his lyrics that often discuss political issues and controversial subjects. One of his most well known songs, "Jesus Walks," deals mostly with his religious beliefs.

Though Jackson and West obviously operate on opposite sides of the spectrum, it will rarely be argued that they are innovative, influential, and entertaining artists. That's what makes this battle so heated. They have split the world of hip-hop basically in two, and given the consumers the opportunity to decide who has a wider fan base.

On Thursday night, West was currently in the record sale lead over Jackson, with country music star Kenny Chesney closing in at third place, hinting at the possibility that by Sept. 18, West and Jackson won't have the top and second spot.



West (left) and Jackson (right) do battle.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

iPhone becomes more affordable for Behrend students



Students at Behrend use Macintosh products.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By Liz Carey
staff writer
eac5110@psu.edu

Penn State Behrend students are among the thousands of eager consumers preparing to take advantage of the new price drop for Apple's iPhone. Freshman Communication major, Keegan McGregor explained, "No one is denying that the iPhone is a cool gadget but before the price drop, when it was \$600, I could never imagine spending so much on a phone, but now that it is only \$400 I might look into it."

This seemed to be the general reaction to the CEO of Apple Computers Inc., Steve Jobs, press conference when he slipped the news of the price drop in with the release of a whole new generation of iPods.

After the price plunged there were plenty of prospective buyers who were delighted to rush out and purchase an iPhone, proven on Sept. 10 when the millionth iPhone was sold, only 79 days after its initial release. Unfortunately, not everyone was as excited; previous buyers felt swindled out of their \$200 and Jobs received hundreds of complaints. Upon receiving the infuriated e-mails, Job's decided to reimburse every iPhone owner: \$200 if he or

she had purchased in the last two weeks and \$100 for everyone else.

Apple's reign began in 1999 when the iMac conquered the computer world. Two years later the iPod stole center stage by reinventing the music nation, and now it is rumored that the iPhone will dominate the mobile phone realm; but it was never a secret that Apple products are expensive. \$599 for a phone seems outrageous for most people, especially for the average college student who desperately desired the newest technology, but could not afford the high prices. This is proven by taking a survey of students asking a simple question, "Do you know anyone who actually has an iPhone?" Only one in six did. This helps to show that the main customer for the iPhone is not college student.

In a public letter Jobs explained the main reason behind the price drop saying, "First, I am sure that we are making the correct decision to lower the price of the 8GB iPhone from \$599 to \$399, and that now is the right time to do it. iPhone is a breakthrough product, and we have the chance to 'go for it' this holiday season. iPhone is so far ahead of the competition, and now it will be affordable by even more customers." This excerpt from Jobs letter explains that Apple wants the iPhone to be in a lot of stockings this holiday season.

Question of the Week:

Whose record would you buy first?

- A) 50 Cent
- B) Kanye West
- C) Kenny Chesney
- D) The Bacon Brothers

*E-mail answers to: mjs5387@psu.edu

Cell phone troubles at Beaver Stadium

By Matt Schwabenbauer
assistant student life editor
mjs5387@psu.edu

Cell phone and communication issues abounded at the Penn State/Notre Dame game on Sept 8. The game was held at Beaver Stadium in University Park, and was a big win for the Nittany Lions. This game was, indeed, a big event for the entire town.

The streets were packed the night before and the day after with fans waiting in anticipation for the big match. It was nearly impossible to count the number of tailgaters on the way to the stadium, and equally as hard to tell one person from the next. It just so happened that this game was "white-out night" for Penn State fans meaning everyone in attendance was urged to wear white.

Because of the similarities in dress, it was easy to get separated from the group you went to the game with. Adding to that issue, cell phones rarely worked. With the substantial amount of people in attendance at the game, the cell phone networks were flooded with usage, rendering them feckless.

The first thing that is noticeable when coming in to view of the field is the wall of bright white wrapping around the whole of Beaver Stadium. The second, is the constant deafening roar of the crowd. With 110,078 in attendance of the game, all cheering in unison, trying to talk to anyone around you is pointless. At a few points during the game, the

crowd was so loud that Notre Dame couldn't hear the count, and jumped off sides. In some ways, it wasn't the Penn State defense or the fact that this was his first starting game that was the biggest obstacle for freshman quarterback Jimmy Clausen; it was the Penn State crowd.

In fact, the whole Notre Dame team had their hands full at the game. Their only touchdown was scored due to an interception thrown by Penn State quarterback Anthony Morelli. Not an optimistic start to the season for Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis, but what great retribution for Penn State fans. This game was an important and satisfying victory for the Nittany Lions, considering they lost 41-17 to Notre Dame last year in South Bend, Indiana.



Cell phone use is difficult in Beaver Stadium

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The crowd rejoiced while emptying Beaver Stadium. They had overcome the "Fighting Irish," winning 31-10. This was a big win for the Nittany Lions, advancing them to be the number 12 ranked team in the nation. The small town of State College enjoyed a celebratory night with packed streets and bustling restaurants, everyone commending the big win. It wasn't until early the next morning, when everyone had to return to business as usual, when the excitement died. The rest of the season looks bright for the Nittany Lions, starting off with a 2-0 record. It remains to be seen if Penn State can keep this momentum going all season, but facing off against Buffalo this week shouldn't be much of a challenge.