



Contributed Photo
Casey Moore during her 11-month tour in Iraq.

Portrait

continued from front page.

Among those classmates was Erin Manges, who perhaps more than most feels the gaping hole that tragedy has left.

"She was my everything," said Manges, a second-year nursing major who was very close friends with Moore. "She did everything for me."

Beyond the illustration of a caring friend and good classmate, Manges also illuminates a tough-as-nails side of her best friend that many came to love.

"We went to a Browns Steelers game in November - which the Steelers lost - and after the game, a

Browns fan bumped into her," Manges said. "She threw down her hat and put her hands up, and just said, 'You wanna go?' She would get really passionate about two things: standing up for her friends, and her sports."

Still, Manges said, she never would classify Moore as a violent or aggressive person; rather, as someone willing to lend a hand. Even if that hand was changing "poopy diapers."

That often happened; Manges and Moore babysat together for Erie resident Jill Confer. The two boys which Moore looked after lovingly referred to her as "Aunt Casey."

"She was part of the family," said Confer, who attended Friday's memorial service surrounded by Casey's family and friends. "She was a free spirit - with Casey, there was

never a dull moment."

Moore had spent eight years in the U.S. Army Reserves, including an 11-month tour in Iraq. She had recently chosen to re-enlist, her friends say, because she "couldn't abandon her boys."

"She chose to call and tell us while we were away in Florida," said her mother, Julie. "She knew we'd try to talk her out of it. Which, of course, we'd never have been able to do."

Tea Randolph, a classmate of Moore and a second-year nursing student, didn't try to convince her out of re-enlisting either; she tried to convince her to switch branches.

"I'd always try to pull her over to the Air Force," she said. "But she'd never do it. She'd say, 'I gotta stick with my boys!' And with the Army, you're really on the front line. Hard work, bravery, extreme conditions,

that's all part of what she dealt with on a daily basis.

"She would give you her last. She was a truly special person."

Several of her friends and family stood, at both her funeral on Monday and memorial service on Friday, to share memories or traits they will remember of their fallen friend, sister, or classmate. Though the experiences differed, they all painted the same portrait.

Casey Moore, they said, was a tough, caring girl who would protect friends as quickly as she'd tutor them in math. Casey Moore, they said, would give you a "Casey Look" one minute, but relax and hang out the next. Casey Moore, they said, embodied what Penn State is through her life, her indomitable spirit, and the memories and inspiration she leaves behind.

POLITICS

Student Democrats, Republicans face off in 2v2 debate

SHAWN ANNARELLI
managing editor

Legalizing marijuana in hospitals is the one topic Behrend's College Republicans and Democrats wholeheartedly agreed on during Behrend's second annual debate.

"Legalizing marijuana could have great economic and health benefits," said college republican Victor Williams. "Maybe it can support Obama's health care plan."

The debate covered a variety of significant topics from U.S. involvement in the Middle East to Obama's push for universal Health Care.

Williams, College Democrat Jake Bowen, College Democrats President Joshua Snyder and College Republicans Vice President Daniel Smith countered each other's points for over an hour.

"College Democrats have the upper hand in campus debates," Williams said. "As people get older they tend to get more conservative."

The debate covered Presi-

dent Barack Obama's pledge to end, "don't ask, don't tell," which prevents homosexuals from openly performing in the military.

"It does not matter to us soldiers," Smith said. "We all should have the freedom to be who we are."

"This is just a disadvantage of a minority to have to be under certain policies," Williams said.

The next topic discussed in the debate was whether or not airports should be allowed to use TSA machines to scan passengers for threatening possessions. The issue at hand is that the American Civil Liberties Union believes TSA machines may be able to pick up graphic body images.

"We need strict security, but this is taking it too far," Snyder said.

"Terrorists can use certain methods to get around lesser security," Smith said.

One hot issue came up when each party was asked what they thought about federal Reserve Board Chairman Ben Bernanke raising the monetary supply.



Shannon Ehrin / The Behrend Beacon

From left to right: Democrats Jake Bowen, Joshua Snyder; Moderator Zachary Goncz; Republicans Victor Williams, Daniel Smith.

"Something had to be done," Snyder said. "The problem is there are not enough teeth attached to it."

"If a business fails, it fails," Williams said. "This is capitalism and a business should not be bailed out for its failures."

Obama's national health

care plan aspirations were another important concern of the debate.

"Something will get passed," Snyder said. "If nothing gets passed it is a huge loss for Obama, because this is one of his top priorities."

"Obama's health care plan

cannot be passed, because it is not economically feasible," Williams said.

The last real hot topic was the United States' involvement in the Middle East.

"The military is in Iraq to maintain security," Smith said. "Obama did a good thing sending more troops

to maintain security where most of the mission in Iraq is complete."

"I do not want to be there to spread democracy," Snyder said. "If we were there to supply security and spread democracy we would be in a lot more places other than Afghanistan and Iraq."

THIS WEEK'S WEATHER

WEATHER.COM

monday tuesday wednesday thursday

36₂₉ 30₂₀ 26₂₂ 24₂₂

rain/snow showers

snow showers

mostly cloudy

few snow showers

Writing for your school newspaper is a great resume-builder. The Beacon is always accepting new reporters. If you are interested, contact

Shawn Annarelli at
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We are currently seeking writers for breaking news, news events, feature writing, and sports coverage.

2ND ANNUAL MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY

FREE PIZZA AND DRINKS!
Featuring a special presentation by our Army ROTC Color Guard.

A brief ceremony to honor our troops in college, at home and abroad.



SATURDAY, JANUARY 30TH, 2010

1:00 P.M. - WOMEN'S BASKETBALL
3:00 P.M. - MEN'S BASKETBALL

JUNKER CENTER

HOSTED BY

SENIOR AIRMAN DANIEL J. SMITH FROM THE
171ST SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON - UNITED STATES AIR FORCE



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