

I like it on the newspaper

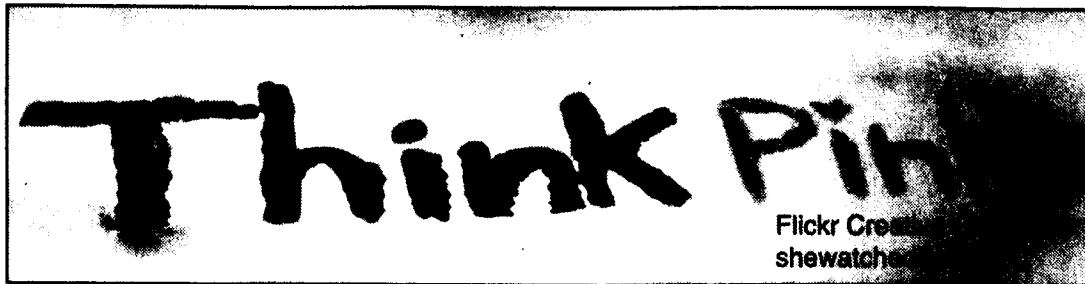
BRANDON BOYD
opinion editor

If you have browsed Facebook within the past week, it is likely that you have seen statuses such as "I like it on the chair" or "I like it on the floor."

No, the people posting these statuses are not revealing intimate details about their personal lives: it is part of a new Facebook status trend that women are partaking in to raise breast cancer awareness.

And yes, it is supposed to be sexually suggestive. The point of the statuses are to grab the attention of Facebook users during the month.

However, I cannot help but to think that the statuses are grabbing attention for all the wrong reasons. Yes, I find them funny, but I would not associate them with breast cancer at first glance. Any attention is good attention, I guess.



Let me say that I support the statuses -- they are humorous and any support for breast cancer awareness is good by me. Still, there has to be a better way of doing it.

It might not be as flashy, but a simple "I support breast cancer awareness" would work. It likely would not grab as much attention as "I like it on the stairs," but it gets to the point and lets the status reader know what they support.

Then again, maybe I am taking it too seriously. After all, it is Facebook.

Since we have breast cancer awareness statuses, I am

thinking we could expand it. A lot of women (and yes, some men) die of breast cancer, but there are other illnesses that people die of too. We seem to have more illnesses and diseases than colors - we should devote a status once a month to a cause we support.

If they're humorous, great. The "I like it..." statuses have helped breast cancer awareness gain attention during this month. With a clever status, we could see a rise in attention for diseases such as Autism, Chron's, Maracul Degenaration, and more. What we're on now, though,

is breast cancer. One thing besides the "I like it" statuses that I really like is when people make their profile's pink, or post a pink ribbon to their wall.

Still, as I've said, the joke has been successful. It has brought an awareness to breast cancer in a way that the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation probably couldn't. It's reaching the youth on a social media dominated by them. Though they will likely not be affected by the disease for quite a long time (hopefully never), it creates awareness for younger generations.



Having lots of "friends" is great

BRANDON BOYD
opinion editor

As of this writing, I currently have 367 Facebook friends. Those of you reading may have more -- I've seen people with several thousand friends.

The term "friend" is one I use loosely. I probably talk to maybe 50 of my friends on a regular basis. Probably even less, honestly.

Most of the others are either acquaintances or people I've met once or twice.

There are also the group of athletes I send friend requests to. Current Penn State players that I am "friends" with include Chaz Powell, Derek

Moye, Graham Zug, Stephon Green, and Curtis Dukes. I am also friends with former Penn State players Lavar Arrington, Jared Odrick, and Andrew Quarless. Current NFL players I am friends with: Darrelle Revis, Donte Whitner, Jairus Byrd, Jacoby Jones, LaMarr Woodley, Nate Byham and Scott McKillop.

This is not to brag - these people would not know who I was if I spotted them by first name and my hometown. However, it does show the

beauty of Facebook - being able to connect with those who you would never otherwise have the chance to.

I don't creep on these athletes by checking their every status and post. I do like saying that I am "friends" with them, even though saying so is a little misleading.

It's also a nice little ego boost to say that you have 367 friends. Maybe it's not true; maybe you never talk to anyone in real life. On Facebook,

it doesn't matter.

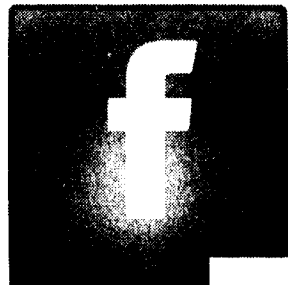
In fact, on Facebook, it seems like the most talkative people are those who are quiet in real life.

My advice might be horrible, but I'm going to say it anyway: friend as many people as you can. No, don't go searching the phonebook for people to friend. But if you know 'em, add 'em.

As the title says, having a lot of Facebook friends is great. It gives you a lot of posts to read, games to play, and time to waste.

Feel free to add me as a friend too.

After all, the more friends the better, right?



Success of Moss trade contingent on Favre

BRANDON BOYD
opinion editor

Randy Moss is back in Minnesota after five years.

As Joe Biden might whisper into Barack Obama's ear: "This is a big fucking deal."

The trade for Moss has put new life into the Super Bowl hopes of the Minnesota Vikings. The Vikings are currently 1-2, coming off of their early bye week. Their quarterback, Brett Favre, was playing as well as his age would suggest he would, and quite honestly, the team lacked heart.

Enter the stint (or maybe quadruple bypass) that is Randy Moss.

"I think this is going to be a fun ride," Moss told ESPN. "I'm very fortunate to be back home where it all started."

While Moss may be glad to be back where it all started, Minnesota's Super Bowl dreams start and end with the man in the number four jersey.

Thus far, the play of Favre has been abysmal. His quarterback rating is just 20 better than his age. He has thrown just two touchdowns, compared to six interceptions.

To be fair, the talent of the Vikings wide receivers is not the greatest. While Percy Harvin is talented, he was hampered by migraines in the

pre-season, and makes for a better second or third receiver than a first. Sidney Rice, their normal number one receiver, is out with a hip injury. The Vikings' other receivers, Bernard Berrian and Greg Camarillo, do not exactly inspire fear into the opposing secondary.

With the new acquisition of Moss, there is no excuse for Favre. He has a top target who, although on the tail-end of his career, is still very, very good. Tom Brady got to the Super Bowl with him just a few years ago - he can make the difference on a team.

And that's why the Super Bowl hopes of the Vikings

rests on Old Man Favre. If he plays well and distributes the ball to his receivers, they can go far.

If he continues to play how he is, the team will blow up: Moss will fight with the coach, with Favre, and the whole team will take an even bigger nosedive. There is no "C" grade for this trade: it's an "A" if they win the Super Bowl, an "F" for any other outcome.

I would expect to see Favre turn it around, and if he does, there is a decent chance you will see the purple and yellow holding up silver at the end of the year.

New technology

MEL HOUGH
staff writer

I can tell you right now: there is not a moment in my day when I or anyone else has not used some form of technology, whether it be a laptop, a cell phone, a camera, an iPod, etc.

Our generation is immersed in a society where we depend on something that can do things for us electronically. We have portable cameras which digitally record videos and pictures that can be uploaded and saved onto computers in a matter of minutes, and now cell phones can do the exact same thing!

Our laptops have built-in cameras that allow us to take pictures and video chat with friends and family. They automatically update themselves with what they need, and they inform you if there is something wrong with it. Even the new iPod is pretty much the same thing as an iPhone, and it has two cameras on it.

Have you noticed that what we want is never enough? We always want something newer, cooler, and faster and it never lasts more than maybe a few months at most? I mean, obviously one camera was not enough for a phone, talking to a person without seeing their face for a few minutes is not acceptable. Also, having to wait until you can reach a computer to find out that your friend publicly announced via FB status that

they needed to use the bathroom is something that you cannot live without.

Well ladies and gentlemen, your voice has been heard, and yet, surprisingly, it is still not enough. It still isn't fast enough (even though your phone Google's things faster than my laptop in my room), it is so old (even though it came out about a week ago), or I don't like the color (...really people?). The fact is that there is always something that could be better, and truth be told, it will never happen...or will it?

I read about this last year, and completely forgot about it until this past weekend when a friend of mine showed me a YouTube video about it. It is called The SixthSense, and has completely put to shame everything that has ever been created for our use. This new piece of technology can do all the things I have always wished one single, portable, light weight piece of metal and plastic can do. It does so much I cannot write it all out, so you should see it yourself: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mzKmGTVmqJs&feature=related>

Go to youTube.com and type in "Pranav Mistry (@TED; The Sixth Sense pt 1"

It lasts a total of about 15 minutes, but it is an unbelievable technological advancement that will, undoubtedly, alter new technological advancements forever.

But will THIS be enough?

The future of radio

ASHLEA INNIS
staff writer

The podcast is the greatest thing in entertainment since the iPod and if for the rest of my life I had to live with only one source of entertainment, I would choose podcasts.

For those of you who don't know what a podcast is, it is basically a radio show. In my experience, they typically consist of two or more hosts discussing random topics that all fit under one broad theme.

My all time favorite podcast, "The Sick and Wrong Podcast," is a weekly competition to find the most sick and wrong news story in the world. I've listened to this podcast since its beginning in 2006 and over the years it has covered everything from infanticide to cannibalism. Needless to say, it is not for the faint of heart.

If that's not your thing, no worries! There is literally a podcast out there for everyone. Want to learn Italian? There's a podcast for that! Do you like "World of Warcraft?"

There's a podcast for that!

Maybe you just get a kick out of listening to everyday people argue, drink, and discuss current events. There's more than one podcast for that.

There are even podcasts for astronomy lovers and people who have questions that only a ninja can answer. It is absolutely ridiculous that more people don't listen to podcasts and that they don't get more publicity, especially because podcasts are free. Subscribing to a podcast takes as much time and costs as much money as following somebody on Twitter or subscribing to somebody on YouTube.

So I'm calling you out! Go to iTunes, search through the pages of podcasts, and be entertained! If you don't have iTunes, don't fret! Make your way to www.podcastalley.com or podcast.com and enjoy.

There's a whole world of free entertainment out there and it's waiting for you to discover it. So what are you waiting for?



Flickr Creative Commons: AstroStar10

annoys me.

This empty space is waiting for you.

Join the Beacon today!

bmb5290@psu.edu

4701 College Drive, Erie PA 16563
Reed 3

THE BEHREND BEACON

Telephone: (814) 898-6488
Fax: (814) 898-6019

Executive Board

Editor-in-Chief:
Connor Sattely
editor@psu.edu
Managing Editor:
Adam Fracassi
als5589@psu.edu
Web Editor:
Stephen Fylich
stf5026@psu.edu

Business Manager:
Dan Whiteford
djw5236@psu.edu
Faculty Advisor:
Inkyu Kang
iuk14@psu.edu
Marketing Manager:
Katie Cook
kic5293@psu.edu

News Editor:
Katie Duffy
ked5211@psu.edu
Sports Editors:
Eelse Merkovsky
eam5217@psu.edu
Alec Italiano
aji5037@psu.edu
Opinion Editor:
Brandon Boyd

Copy Editor:
Shannon Ehrin
sbe5017@psu.edu
Senior Layout Editor:
Evan Koser
emk5110@psu.edu
Showcase Editor:
Nathan Carter
nrc5069@psu.edu

Editorial Board

Julie Morrissey
jmm6164@psu.edu
Lindsey McCoy
lgm5040@psu.edu
Videographer:
Mike Fultz
mjf5204@psu.edu

Photo Editor:
Stephen Fylich
stf5026@psu.edu
Asst. Photo Editor:
Amanda Snyder
ams6122@psu.edu
Engineering Editor:
Ryan Frankowski
rsf5054@psu.edu

Business Editor:
Arica Christman
acx981@psu.edu
Humanities Editor:
Alli Heitzenrater
ah5369@psu.edu
Science Editor:
Ryan Gula
rgg5029@psu.edu

Editorial Policies

Additional copies can be purchased with permission of the editor-in-chief for \$1.50 each. Opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those of all students, faculty or University administration. Opinions expressed in columns, cartoons, and letters are not necessarily those of The Behrend Beacon unless otherwise indicated.

Any letters intended for publication must be addressed to bmb5290@psu.edu, be no more than 350 words, and include the writer's name and phone number. Letters may be edited for content or length at the editor in chief's discretion.

The Behrend Beacon does not publish anonymous letters to the editor. If students want their letters to be published, they must include their name.

The Behrend Beacon is editorially independent from the Penn State system. The Behrend Beacon operates partially on Student Activity Fee, and partially on advertising revenue. It is published every Friday during the school year except for before and during scheduled vacations, with exceptions for special issues.

The editor-in-chief has the final authority on editorial decisions, including, but not limited to, all columns, editorials, and letters to the editor. Complaints regarding Beacon coverage of school events should be directed to the editor at editor@psu.edu.