

Music Star: "I stopped World War 3"

Four Loko meets resistance

TOBY KELLER assistant news editor

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When US General Wesley Clark ordered British troops to seize the Pristina Airfield in Kosovo in 1999, James Blunt, then an officer in the British army, considered the order to "destroy" nearly 200 Russians carefully before he refused. The current singer and songwriter most notably known for his singles "You're Beautiful" and "Goodbye, My Lover," faced the possibility of being court-martialed for not carrying out the act that he, along with others, believed could have led to a major conflict.

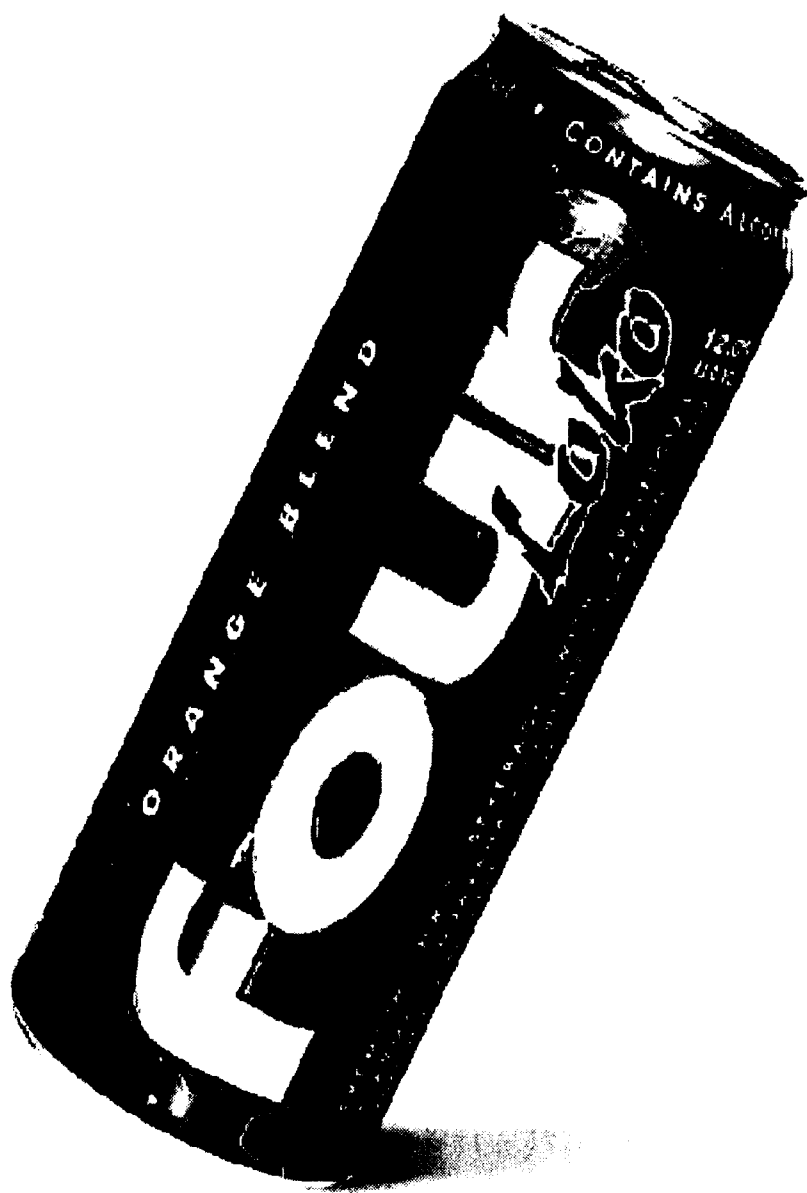
"I was the lead officer with my troop of men behind us," said Blunt in an interview with BBC. "The soldiers directly behind me were from the Parachute Regiment, so they're obviously game for the fight."

His decision to refuse orders stemmed from the unusual words used by General Clark and the obvious ramifications had they attacked the airfield.

British General Sir Mike Jackson, NATO Supreme Commander Europe, agreed with the 25-year-old Blunt and backed him by saying, "I'm not going to have my soldiers be responsible for starting World War Three."

A few days after the incident, the Russian forces occupying the airfield ran out of supplies and agreed to share the airfield with the British without devastating consequences. These events have been largely documented and examined, but it was only recently that James Blunt spoke about his involvement.

"There are things that you do along the way that you know are right, and those that you absolutely feel are wrong, that I think it's morally important to stand up against, and that sense of moral judgment is drilled into us as soldiers in the British army," said Blunt, who continues enjoying success as a musician.



"I don't care if it's heroin in my cup, it's my cup, so fuck you."

Lil Wayne's famous words on his "Behind the Music" VH1 special hold a sentiment that rings true for an emerging generation of anti-authority young adults. Behind the never-ending battle over the legalization of marijuana, a new war has started over the legality and safety of "Four Loko," an alcoholic, energy drink sold by Phusion Projects. Propaganda from both sides has appeared on almost every news outlet throughout the country, with reports of deaths and entire households being found with occupants incapacitated from supposed use of what has been dubbed a "black-out in a can."

On Nov. 13, the FDA released a statement notifying almost 30 manufacturers whose products contain a combination of alcohol and caffeine that they will be investigating the effects of the drinks, and will rule on their legality, stating that it has not yet approved the use of caffeine in alcoholic beverages, therefore, drinks such as

"Four Loko" cannot be lawfully marketed until it has been approved by FDA safety regulations. These companies have 30 days to file any studies or claims about their products, of which the FDA will consider before making a final ruling.

Phusion Projects, the manufacturer of "Four Loko," has issued a statement saying, "Consuming caffeine and alcohol together has been done safely for years. Our products contain less alcohol than an average rum and cola, less alcohol and caffeine than an average Red Bull and vodka, and are comparable to having coffee after a meal with a couple glasses of wine."

Although Four Loko's made their debut in 2008, recent reports of hospitalizations and even deaths have created a hysteria surrounding the product, only escalating its usage as students "stock up" and begin waving the drink's banner around under the scrutiny of the FDA and college sanctions like a rebel flag. Who will win is hard to say, but it seems like everyone has something to say about it.

What people are saying about Four Loko via Twitter, Facebook and various blogs:

rymenoceros: Did i just stock up on four lokotoday because it was banned yesterday? Yes, yes i did

heyjeannie: Banning Four Loko only means we have to drink twice as much Two Loko. #lokoislouder

Sam_J: RT@djstephfloss: When The Browns win, I will drink my first 4 Loko.#GoBrowns

SuperMari64: #truthfullyThe orange flavored 4 loko taste like orange soda...Who loves orange soda

MissSabrinaSin: They're trying to ban 4 Loko. This means I need a case of it.

SirJofHoss: RT@eleven8: RT@djstephfloss I might try a 4 Loko today. «« have 911 on speedial...cuz ur gonna die.

Gordoneats: Just curious, where can I get a 4 Loko? It being all illegal in NY now.

Marvyross: RT@djstephfloss: I might try a 4 Loko today.(get you a nice 20 piece to go wit it and you will b good lol)

jgeant: There's gonna be a run on Four Loko in the next few weeks, people are gonna stock up :Four Loko banned From New York

Keel1017: RT@423_MONEYMARC: A4 loko is the liquid version of a Mc Rib

iah8neW: Oh lordd lolRT@ djstephfloss: I might try a 4 Loko today.

assMADfat : @DreLaLaVuittonlmaooooo. you be drinking hella Four Loko in ya spare time. alcoholic

Contact us

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GANNON

Campus Connection

A look at what's up at campuses at Erie's other colleges



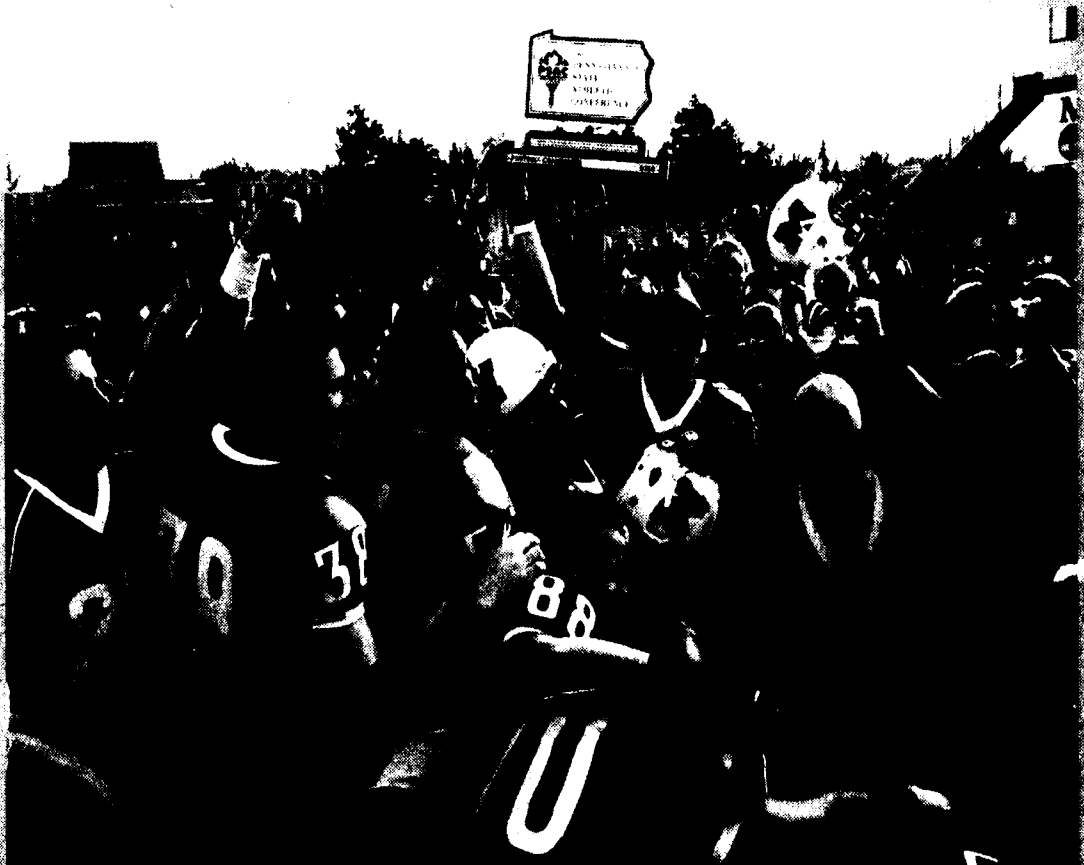
Mercyhurst

Garibaldi resigns

Garibaldi's resignation during the search for a new president of the University of Detroit Mercy's first lay president. "I am honored to be selected as the University of Detroit Mercy's first lay president," Garibaldi said. "I look forward to working with the faculty, staff, students and trustees as we continue to advance that academic excellence and student-centered emphases that are reflected in the UDM mission." The Gannon and Erie communities showed him their support with a standing ovation after his speech. Transition returned up the reception by saying that Garibaldi believed and that the search for a new president will not be an easy one.

of some of the major challenges we're having in the community. "While tenure will cast a big shadow over the presidency of Gannon, Garibaldi said he is excited to make his mark at the youngest school. "I am honored to be selected as the University of Detroit Mercy's first lay president," Garibaldi said. "I look forward to working with the faculty, staff, students and trustees as we continue to advance that academic excellence and student-centered emphases that are reflected in the UDM mission." The Gannon and Erie communities showed him their support with a standing ovation after his speech. Transition returned up the reception by saying that Garibaldi believed and that the search for a new president will not be an easy one.

Mercyhurst wins PSAC



Mercyhurst College's football team celebrates its first-ever conference title, as it won the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Saturday with a 58-37 win against Bloomsburg at Tullo Field. The Lakers advanced to the NCAA Division II playoffs as a No. 2 seed in its regional bracket and will host a second-round game Nov. 27. College's football team celebrates its first-ever conference title, as it won the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Saturday with a 58-37 win against Bloomsburg at Tullo Field. The Lakers advanced to the NCAA Division II playoffs as a No. 2 seed in its regional bracket and will host a second-round game Nov. 27.