

Meet Devlin and the **NEW** 2006 PSU football players

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Professor Spotlight



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Dr. Lisa Buenaventura, assistant professor of education and coordinator of special projects, has a degree in every combination of psychology and education. She has a bachelor's in psychology, a master's in educational psychology (school psychology in counseling) and her doctorate in education.

She was born in Honolulu, but considers her hometown to be Seattle since that's where she lived the longest. "Seattle," she said, "is basically mountains and water." "But it's pretty," she added.

Buenaventura first entered education when she was completing her psychology degree while working as a student in special education. She worked at the Children's Home Society and Residential Treatment Center in Seattle for emotionally disturbed boys. Here, she got to know a school psychologist who sparked her interest in school psychology and counseling which is what she went on to pursue in grad school for her master's degree.

Before continuing to her doctorate degree, she gained experience in the education world. "I went out into the field and worked in K-12 at Puget Sound Area in Seattle, as a school psychologist," said Buenaventura. Once she felt that she had enough experience, she decided to go back to school for her doctorate degree and soon after began to teach at the college level.

Buenaventura said that she enjoys teaching college students. "I really like it," she said. "I like teaching something I care about. I want to help others develop and gain respect for knowledge just the way I do."

She said that it's exciting for her when students are able to learn something that they didn't know about before. "I think it's great that I get to watch them grow and change into more knowledgeable human beings." Buenaventura also said that she considers herself lucky because she has the opportunity to work with people who share her interests.

She said that she probably wouldn't be where she is today without her father's influence. "He encouraged me to become educated and see learning as a never ending experience," said Buenaventura. Her father also encouraged her to take risks and be adventuresome. "His advice to never be dissuaded from challenges and to be persistent in everything stays with me all the time," she said. "And from this I later learned that what I say will impact the people around me, so it's a good thing to think about our surrounding community,"

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Together, we'll prevail



Photo by **ERIN MOSKALCZAK** / The Capital Times

Thousands of diamonds are formed throughout Rec. Hall as the final moments of THON come to a close. The Rec. Hall was packed to capacity with dancers and supporters, and all were cheering in the stands when the final total of \$4,214,748.18 was revealed.

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On Sunday, Feb. 19 at 7 p.m. in the Recreation Hall at University Park, it would finally all be over. The hallucinations of dancing stars would soon stop, the pain that began in the feet and traveled up the calves, thighs, and found rest in the lower back would start to minimize, and the ever-teasing fluttering of eyelashes as sleep fell like anvils would soon be able to shut indefinitely. Yet through it all, one thought was clear. It was worth it.

Each year, beginning in October, Penn State University begins to prepare itself for the Annual Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance Marathon, known simply as THON. THON is the culmination of months of fundraising efforts through traditional and non-traditional means. The actual marathon takes place the third weekend of February in which over 700 dancers pack into Rec. Hall and prepare to stand on their feet without sleep for 48 hours.

THON is completely student-run, making it the largest student-run philanthropy in the world. Every single aspect of THON, from security to catering to morale to public relations, is done by PSU students. Even though 700 students dance, the hundreds more that are necessary to make the event the success it has become makes THON even more overwhelming.

THON 2006 was different from previous THONs in that for the first time since 1992, all Commonwealth campuses were active in fundraising.

Some campuses, such as Worthington Scranton, only had a tiny committee of four to help them fundraise, and yet they still succeeded in raising \$3000.

This year, Penn State Harrisburg actively pursued fundraising and came up with plenty of ideas to help them raise money. Besides the infamous canning weekends, in which Penn Staters state-wide stand outside Wal-Marts, K-Marts,

cream to patrons, earning money for THON as pay for their wages. The event resulted in less than stellar enthusiasm from the student body, even after guerilla advertising tactics, so PSH THON Committee members had to think of other ways to earn some money.

The culmination of their efforts was the first annual Penn State Idol. Penn State Idol combined karaoke with two raffles, one for an iPod

Telecommunications, and Stephen O'Holla, senior Communications, to do their part. On their shoulders rode the pride and honor of PSH, as they were the two chosen dancers that would stand for 48 hours at THON.

"I was somewhat nervous because 48 hours is a long time to be on my feet. However, ever since I found out about THON, I wanted to be involved and dancing is the top of the THON pyramid and I was happy to be honored to dance for this campus," Moskalczak said.

Moskalczak and O'Holla crammed into the backseat of junior Matthew Mahoney's Dodge Dakota for the trip to University Park on Thursday evening to get a good night's rest and prepare for their upcoming marathon. THON Chair Maruja Rosario, who bid them a hopeful and inspirational farewell, then escorted them to the Rec. Hall on Friday morning, where Moskalczak and O'Holla received gifts from Nike, Apple iTunes, Cold Stone Creamery, Geico, and other sponsors.

After standing in the freezing cold to form a chunk of the Human Tunnel, PSH filed into the Rec. Hall stands in order to support the dancers from above. The spot in the stands they chose that Friday afternoon remained PSH's spot for almost the entire weekend, with the only variation being when most of the crew assembled in a tiny spot close to the dance floor.

At approximately 7 p.m. on Friday, Moskalczak and O'Holla stood up and began THON. "I remember that the only thing I thought of after the



Photo courtesy of a THON dancer

From left: Dancer Steve O'Holla, Michael Edwards, Augie Bravo, Aerial O'Malley, Maruja Rosario, Matthew Mahoney, and dancer Erin Moskalczak. The dancers and their supporters pose for a fun photo memory.

and median strips holding cans and accepting donations. PSH held Cold Stone Creamery days every last Wednesday of the month.

On those days, students would assume the hat and apron of Cold Stone Creamery and serve ice

Shuffle and a 50/50 raffle. The event was a huge success, and students generously gave over \$400 of their hard earned cash.

With approximately \$7000 raised in five months, it was time for Erin Moskalczak, sophomore

Parking Problem

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You get to school with minutes to spare, take two tests, pay \$1.79 for a single slice of pizza, sit through one more lecture, a lab period, and then you finally get to your car only to find a ticket. Maybe you should have invested in that parking permit.

In a pamphlet readily accessible to all students found in the Vehicle Registration Office of the Swatara building, it states, "All students having vehicles on campus are required to register their vehicles each semester or session."

It goes on to state that students are encouraged to mail in their registration. If a registration form is mailed in students are more likely to have their passes before school even starts, eliminating the worry of ever having a ticket before driving to campus.

A motor vehicle isn't solely limited to a standard car, SUV or truck. According to the definition provided by Vehicle Registration Services a motor vehicle is defined as anything driven by a motor. This includes anything from a motorcycle down to a mini bike or moped.

This policy is in line with the Vehicle Code of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which is also in effect at all Penn State locations.

The cost of a parking permit for students varies based on how many credits a student is taking. If a student is taking 12 or more credits, he or she is required to pay \$40 for a single semester parking pass or \$75 for two concurrent semesters. If a student is taking 11 credits or less they are required to pay \$20 for one semester or \$35 for two concurrent semesters.

Any vehicle that falls under the classification of motorcycle has a \$10.00 annual flat rate.

An option not many students are aware of is to buy a car pool pass. The cost is the same as a full time student. Only one pass is issued, but that pass is registered to every vehicle that is part of the pool. The only stipulation is that only one car is permitted on campus at a time.

Students aren't the only people required to pay for parking registration. Faculty, staff and all other employees that work at PSH are required to pay a parking permit fee. Full time employees are required to pay \$10 per month, which is withheld by payroll deduction.

Professors are rated by how many credits they teach, and further staff breakdowns are made based on the percentage of full time work that they do.

Often students will notice professors taking the long walk to Wharton Avenue, which is the closest place for parking where permits are not required.

Without a parking pass properly displayed in the rearview mirror of a vehicle a student can expect to have a ticket posted on their windshield. The fee for the ticket is more than the cost of the pass itself, \$50.

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