

Eye On Campus

STAR POWER? Celebrities Shine Dimly with DUI Allegations

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Celebrities are role models to people of all ages. They show us how to dress, look, and act. People have been following celebrity news for decades, which is not hard to do because they are under 24 hour watch by the paparazzi. Celebrities are known for many different aspects of life which include singing, modeling, and acting.

The most recent celebrity mania reports would be the hot subject of celebrity arrests. "Normal" people love to see celebrities at weak moments in their lives because it shows their imperfections, like many would wish to portray. Although it makes us feel better about our own lives, what is this teaching the people who look to celebrities for guidance?

Celebrity arrests happen every day, although some are more high-profile than others. The most recent and high-profile cases would include the likes of Lindsay Lohan, Mickey Rourke, Paris Hilton, Nicole Richie, Lane Garrison, and "Lost" stars Daniel Dae Kim, Michelle Rodriguez, and Cynthia Watros. Although celebrity arrests happen every day, many are un-reported and when they are, their

penalties are nearly non-existent. The fame these stars receive in the tabloids is out of this world, and it's sad how their popularity level rises.

People model themselves to be just like these famous stars, which might explain why in 2006 there were 15,047 DUI arrests in Pennsylvania. It seems as if DUIs are becoming almost accepted in society, maybe even popular. This is a frightening thing when realizing that last year there were 13,616 alcohol-related crashes and 545 fatalities. Yet these statistics aren't what we see in the papers - what we see are top-notch celebrities serving 84 minutes in jail for their second DUI offense. This will not stop people from drinking and driving because if they see celebrities getting away with it they think they can too.

As a community, Penn State Brandywine is doing many things to raise awareness of this epidemic, but how much can we really do as commuter campus? When the students leave for the day, anything can happen. We need to not look to celebrities for the way to act, but to look to each other instead. Many people drink - that is not the problem. The problem is the choices people make while intoxicated. A \$10.00 taxi ride is nothing compared to the value of life.

ANDY REID TAKES HEAT FOR SONS

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The city of Philadelphia has long been known as a tough city to play or coach professional sports in. Philadelphia's infamous sports fans have been starved for a championship since 1983 when the 76er's basketball team won the NBA championship. The fans take their frustration out on the star players, coaches, and even occasionally on Santa Claus. The Philly sports fans are never afraid to voice their opinion. This year is no different with the Eagles not playing well and Head Coach Andy Reid's family life under scrutiny.

To recap, the Reid children, Brit and Garrett, were both arrested in the spring on the same day for possession of illegal drugs and weapons charges. After they were sentenced, the judge described the Reid home as a "drug emporium" when it was searched by police.

In addition to Reid's family troubles, the Philadelphia Eagles are having a disappointing season with Donovan McNabb back from his knee injury starting at quarterback.

The combination of Reid's family troubles and the Eagles not playing as well as expected has caused the rumor mill to start churning out reports that Reid should resign as head coach. However, Reid's resignation would not help his children. His sons need to take responsibility for their own actions and serve their jail terms.

Reid's family troubles have helped to shed light on NFL coaches' lives. This is just the most recent of events that have showed how families are affected by the long hours and expectations of coaching that started with the suicide of Indianapolis coach Tony Dungy's son.

It may be too late for time off to help the Reid family. Brit and Garrett will just have to serve their time and hopefully be better people for in the end.

ONE CAMPUS, ONE BOOK

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The existence of global warming is now acknowledged by most every average citizen of this country, although the same average citizen may or may not know what it is, precisely, and on November 13, the Penn State Brandywine campus was treated to a lecture to help answer questions and dispell myths.

The students that attended the presentation "The Convenient 'Truth' of Global Warming" sponsored by the *One Campus, One Book* series, were informed about the history of global warming and its evolution over the past century. Such causes involved the industrialization of countries around the world, primarily in the United States with the emergence of the car and plane as modes of transportation. With the rise in use of fuel and carbon dioxide emissions, the temperatures of the atmosphere have risen in amounts small yet significant enough to destroy the ice caps and raise the sea levels. These rises in such levels would destroy massive amounts of land and push the populations inward in their respective nations.

As a whole, the presentation was not so much a focus on the ways that global warming can be resolved, but instead more of a proof and understanding that it is not a piece of fiction devised by scientists, but is instead a thread on the world as we know it.

Jackson films *Lovely Bones*

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Based on the best selling book by Alice Sebold, "The Lovely Bones" is the story of a 14-year-old girl from suburban Pennsylvania who is murdered by her neighbor. She tells the story from heaven, showing the lives of the people around her and how they have changed all while attempting to get someone to find her lost body. Interestingly enough, the book is being made into a movie, and filming is set to begin in the coming months at the MacDade Mall in Holmes.

Visionary director Peter Jackson is teaming with longtime collaborators Fran Walsh and Philippa Boyens to adapt author Alice Sebold's best-selling novel which tells the story of a young girl who was senselessly murdered. Susie Salmon watches from heaven as her family attempts to cope with their devastating loss, and tracks her killer as he stealthily covers his tracks and prepares to claim his next victim.

Not much is happening at the MacDade Mall now, as they still have a lot of work to do in the next few weeks. They will film after hours when the mall is closed (generally that would be around 5 or 6 p.m.). Having no interference from any existing customers who still happen to shop gives the crew the time needed to complete filming. Look to *The Lion's Eye* for more information as filming starts to progress.

Comedy Break: Roy Wood Jr.

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Alright, now Penn State Brandywine does not have the largest student body in the college realm. However, when comedian Roy Wood Jr. visited our campus this past Tuesday, December 4th, it seemed like our campus had less life than a battlefield after a war between some Spartans and everything alive. However, there can be nothing but respect for Wood as he took an awkward situation and crafted into something conversational and relaxed. His act tore away from the "fourth wall" boundary that can isolate and limit a performer's routine.

While completely unorthodox, this lax approach towards a performance worked exuberantly as Wood stood leisurely in the corner of The Lion's Den, passive and honest. His comedy was unrelenting and realistic. It was obvious that Wood wasn't trying to fool anyone into thinking he was anything more than just a man with a microphone.

One joke that stood out in particular was his story about when he and a friend "found" a girl's credit card. The joke had it all: SWAT teams, blue jeans and a grenade. Probably the funniest part of the joke, though, was that fact that it's all true. It also surprisingly was Wood's inspiration to start comedy. "After my probation," explains this Alabamian, "there was a chance I was going to prison...I decided to do a list of things I've always wanted to do... [Comedy] was at the top of the list." As his performance grew, so did the number of filled chairs in the Lion's Den. By the end of the show, the amount of laughs being emitted from the campus's modest lounge was no joke and neither was the comedy of Roy Wood Jr.