Wayne Student Makes Prime Time

Wayne College post-secondary student Fred Gryzbowski has one unique hobby: bouncing. T h a t’ s right, the 18-year-old Rittman High School Senior managed to grab the attention of music band OK Go and Jay Leno with his pogo stick. Gryzbowski is asked for the pogo when he was just eight, and for the past 10 years he’s been perfecting dozens of unique tricks.

Gryzbowski can perform back flips, flip dismounts, and bar spins on his pogo stick. The bar spin, he said is just spinning the stick. This, however, is pretty easy for him to say. He is incredibly comfortable with bouncing in the air, flipping, and landing on his feet again.

Last fall, he flew to the set of Jay Leno’s Tonight Show for their segment, Teenage Wasteland. It was there that he displayed his skills in front of the whole nation in just about 20 seconds. It was enough to entice the crowd, though. However, despite the roaring crowd and the interview with the famous talk show host, Gryzbowski said he was not too nervous. “It’s what I do everyday, so it’s not a big deal,” Gryzbowski said.

Gryzbowski made a little more prime time with OK Go’s music video, “Do What You Want,” which was released several weeks ago on MTV. In the video, Gryzbowski and another pogoer were dressed in the same material as the wall paper in the video. Gryzbowski has gained more pogo sticks than he can count, but he’s not complaining. “It’s fun, keeps me in shape, and it’s different,” Gryzbowski said.

Snowy Student Wreck: Preventable?

February 13 Northeastern Ohio saw the greatest snow storm it had seen in years. The blizzard began early in the morning and blew with a vengeance by afternoon. Despite the masses of snow and ice on the road, Wayne College students still braved the storm because the facility did not shut down until 3:00 p.m. The University of Akron campus closed at 3:00 as well.

One of those students managed to flip her car just to turn in an English paper. Amber, a freshman at Wayne was not speeding in the frozen conditions, but just wanted to make one massillon Road, near the trailer parks. The 19-year-old said younger inexperienced students should be considered on such snowy days.

Some G.I.’s Stuck with the Bill

An e-mail was recently received at the college concerning current student who is a Navy Veteran. To his surprise, his G.I. Bill benefits are going to expire in August of 2007, leaving him, “stuck with the bill,” for the remainder of his college career. There are a few variations of time limits depending on a student’s status of service, ranging from 10 to 14 years after separation.

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Some G.I.’s Stuck with the Bill

by John Bernadine, writer

Charlene Lance is Wayne College’s contact for veterans. “I feel there should not be any time constraint on the benefits for our veterans,” Lance said. “In fact many of them must pay into it to get it.”

Charlene Lance also stressed the importance of utilizing the government websites to fully understand what the Veterans are entitled to and for how long. To see this time limit greatly lengthened or eliminated, contact an elected official and let them know any concerns. Find elected officials by logging onto USA.gov.

Sites for further information:
www.gibill.va.gov
www.va.gov
http://firstgov.gov

Wayne College student Fred Gryzbowski produced an English paper in the video. OK Go’s music video, “Do What You Want,” which was released several weeks ago on MTV.

The Academy Goes Green

The red carpet has been rolled up and the winners have been announced. If you missed the 79th Academy Awards that aired on Feb. 25, 2007, you missed a night of glamour and surprises. The Departed took home four awards that included recognition as best picture and Martin Scorsese awarded as best director. Helen Mirren was awarded best actress in her role in The Queen. Best Actor was awarded to Forest Whitaker in The Last King of Scotland.

The Academy set the stage for a new and improved evening by going ‘Green’. With assistance from the Natural Resources Defense Council, a non-partisan environmental and advocacy organization, the Academy learned that going ‘Green’ was fairly easy. Recognition awarded to An Inconvenient Truth as best documentary feature continued the environmental highlight, which focused on global warming. Al Gore took a moment to rally support during the acceptance speech.

“We need to solve the climate crisis. It’s not a political issue, it’s a moral issue,” Gore said. “We have everything we need to get started, with the possible exception of the will to act, that’s a renewable resource. Let’s renew it.”

The American Red Cross and STOP Cancer, a volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to funding cancer research, was also recognized by Sherry Lansing who received the Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award. Ellen DeGeneres even gave a plug to myspace.com

The Academy Awards has expanded beyond its mission of recognizing outstanding achievements in the motion picture community, it has become a forum where politics are voiced, causes are supported and the expansion of cultures and diversity will continue to evolve.
International Women’s Day was first celebrated in Europe on March 8, 1911. Women’s rights soon became a prominent political topic both abroad and in the United States. By the 1970s, there was a growing concern that history, as taught in school, did not depict a holistic view of the contributions by women. In 1978, a California education task force began a “Women’s History Week” celebration. In 1987, the National Women’s History Project (NWHP) led a coalition that resulted in Congress expanding the week to a month.

Women’s History Month has been designed as an opportunity to increase awareness. The NWHP continues to support this throughout its yearly activities. “The theme for Women’s History Month 2007 is Generations of Women Moving History Forward. This theme celebrates the wisdom and tenacity of prior and future generations of women and recognizes the power and impact of generations working together.” Today, schools host programs highlighting this event, colleges offer women’s studies and women are becoming more prominent in society.

During this month of reflection, let’s remember some of the great moments that impacted the history of women:

• 1911: Women’s rights in Europe on March 8, 1911. Women’s rights amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified. It states: “The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.”

• 1925: Mrs. Nellie Tayor Ross of Wyoming becomes the first woman governor in America.

• 1932: Amelia Earhart is the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic.

• 1950: Althea Gibson became the first black American to play in the U.S. Open.

• 1955: Rosa Parks refused to relinquish her bus seat and was arrested for violating Alabama’s segregation laws.

• 1969: Barbara Jo Rubin became the first woman jockey to win a race.

• 1986: Oprah Winfrey was the first African American to host a nationally-syndicated talk show.

• 1991: Kristi Yamaguchi wins World Ladies Figure Skating Championship.

• 1992: Dr. Mae Jemison became the first African-American woman to orbit the earth.

• 1997: Pamela Gordon is elected the first female prime minister of Bermuda.

The author claims that anyone from Mother Teresa to a drug dealer (who, by the way, deserves whatever misfortunes befall them) can be taken from wherever they are without reason, without the ability to obtain legal council, or even the chance to call their mommy. Wow, that is scary! What the author fails to mention is that this law is part of the President’s amendment to our foreign affairs policy which only applies to people thought to be terrorists due to their involvements in terrorist type organizations and activities.

The author also claims that either President Bush “lied to us concerning weapons of mass destruction” or “he is an inept administrator, surrounded by incompetent yes-men and ideologues, that he was incapable of thoroughly researching the CIA and the military intelligence about Iraq.” Who cares if Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction? It is a fact that he aided in the September 11th attacks on the U.S. I don’t know about you, but that’s enough for me to warrant taking this guy out. I am not fully informed on the matter, but it seemed to me the whole “weapon of mass destruction” concern was intended for US citizens to debate. It was for other world powers to consider so the US government could gain their support in its decision to go to Iraq. President Bush to answered what to he heard loud and clear from nearly everyone during the time on September 11th: take out anyone and everyone who had a hand in this attack.

And now, listen to us! It’s been too long, I guess, since we’ve had a real war where people actually died in numbers greater than 382, and lasted longer than 43 days. It seems these days we are spoiled and a lot of us don’t have the sand to do the hard stuff and the heart of good of others. All too often we want life to operate like a fast food restaurant, where we make orders for what we want but never stay from our comforts to obtain it or spend any of our precious time waiting or putting any effort forth for it. We have become a society of convenience, which breeds impatience. We want this war pre-cooked, microwaveable, and packaged in a container that won’t burn our hands when we touch it. We then want to scarf it down and throw away our disposable container so we can move on to more important things.

Now don’t get me wrong, I do not wish for our troops to perish, but we need to remember there is a high price to pay for freedom and liberty. Regardless of what political party was in office at the time of the September 11th attack, we would still be at war. As a nation, we demanded a response to the terrorist attack; rightfully as a nation, we should see it through.

Women’s History Month
by Jackie Hart, writer

The Wayne Mirror is the student newspaper of The University of Akron Wayne College. The opinions expressed in the Wayne Mirror are not those of Wayne College administration, faculty, or staff. Rather, they are those of the individual writers, contributors, or columnists.