

THE LA ROCHE COURIER

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Renowned journalist visits La Roche College campus



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“Women and girls aren’t the problem, they are the solution.”

- Nicholas Kristof

BY MARTIKA COOK

Nicholas Kristof, esteemed American journalist, shined a light on how women are the “moral challenge of the century,” and our role in correcting that.

On April 9th, La Roche College welcomed Kristof to a gym full of fans. He reminded people about rising, and often brutal, issues of discrimination towards women around the world and explained how important it is to pay attention to and correct them.

Kristof said that in his travels “you see some really terrible things sometimes, that remind you of the human capacity for evil, but side by side with the worst of humanity you can see the very best.”

Kristof said that it was after his journey to the Congo that he discovered that acts of evil might leave deep impressions, but it’s the acts of good that leave the deepest impressions. While in the Congo he said saw many disturbing things, but he also remembered a nun feeding starving kids, running a school and negotiating with a warlord.

“I have become such a huge fan of nuns,” he said. Kristof interviewed a warlord in the rape capital of the word, the Congo. “[The warlord] left a deep impression on me, but the person who left an even deeper impression was this extraordinary Polish nun,” he said.

Kristof talked about an Italian nun, Sr. Caroline, who ran an all-girl school in the Congo. She went after a warlord and his army after the warlord kidnapped 139 of her students. “At first they just ignored her, laughed at her and mocked her, she kept running after them and giving them an earful. They ended up releasing 109 of those girls,” he said.

Kristof asked the audience to vote on if there were more males or females in the world today. 98 percent of the audience, which was mostly female, said there were more females in the world. Two men said there were more men. “I’m afraid the two men were right,” he said.

Kristof said that in an equitable world there would be more females. “But the point is it’s not an equitable world,” he said. “In gender discrimination we tend to think of it in terms of unequal pay and inappropriate comments or touching. In much of

the world it’s lethal.” Things like gender selective abortion and the lack of basic medical aide during childbirth and the like thin the number of females in the world that we do not encounter in the developed world.

He said, “In much of the world when you don’t have enough to go around you feed your son and maybe you don’t feed your daughter. You take your son to get vaccinated, but you don’t take your daughter to get vaccinated.”

Kristof said this is not a case of men oppressing women. This is a case of deeply rooted patriarchal attitudes that are often absorbed and transmitted just as much by women as by men. “In a ten year period you have more girls who are discriminated against to death, than you have people who died in all the genocides of 20th century,” he said.

With this it is easier to see why women are the central moral challenge of the century. Kristof said while donating to charity and building wells in villages with toxic water is important, the best things the world can do is to educate these girls and get them in to the labor force. “Women and girls aren’t the problem, they are the solution,” he said.

Turf finally comes to La Roche

BY NATE MARSH
Co-EDITOR

The long talked about rumors of a turf field coming to La Roche College have “almost definitely” confirmed, as Athletic Director James Tinky has stated.

Tinky said that the immediate plan right now is to have a full turf field installed beginning this summer. The field will consist of soccer lines and both men’s and women’s lacrosse lines.

The plans for the field as of now, Tinky said, is to push the field back towards the empty field behind the current location. In doing so, where the field is now is planned to be turned into a parking lot. The school would like to move the field 50 or 60

yards away from the fire station to avoid any more balls being thrown over the fence from multiple sports.

Some plans for the final layout of the field are being held back. For a version of the plan, land behind the houses on the far side of the field must be purchased by the residents. These negotiations are still in progress.

“We’re excited about it,” Tinky said. “We’ve talked about it for too long. We’re recruiting kids that are coming from programs that have better facilities than we do, and we need to step up. I will help us in recruiting. It will help us with a lot of things.”

The expectation for completion of the field is for spring of 2014, in time for Men’s Lacrosse. Junior captain of

the lacrosse team, Dustin Reykdal, said that the addition of a turf field “will be a great improvement that has been anticipated for the last few years. The maintenance for a grass field in Pittsburgh is difficult with three teams playing on the same field almost year round. Hopefully it will be a good recruiting tool for the athletic program as well.”

However, because of the construction of the field, the men’s and women’s soccer teams will be without a home field for their 2013 season. Preparations are being made to play only conference games at home at local high schools like North Hills or Schaler. All other games will be played on the road as it seems at the moment.

Junior captain of the women’s

soccer team, Jessica Greco, said, “I’m glad the school finally is getting a turf field. It’s going to be a benefit to the soccer and lacrosse teams. I just wish they would have done it sooner so we could play on it this fall.

The entire plan for the field is to have field with full size bleachers, locker rooms, and public restrooms as well. “We want to create an atmosphere,” Tinky said. “A collegiate atmosphere.” However, many of these features are not planned on being installed in the first phase of construction. As of now, phase one is focused, most importantly, on the field itself.

Future plans also are to begin a women’s lacrosse team at La Roche to fulfill Title Nine requirements of equal opportunity for both men and women in sports and academics.

April is Autism Awareness Month

BY TARIQ SHABAZA
STAFF WRITER

Autism now roughly affects 1 in 88 children.

Approximately 67 million people in the world have autism.

Autism is more common than childhood cancer, diabetes, and AIDS combined.

There is no cure for autism. From the Greek autos meaning "self," autism literally means "alone."

Autistic people have many talents and abilities.

Studies suggest that

counties with higher precipitation levels have higher autism rates.

The Obama administration spent 211 million dollars for autism research.

Research suggests that having an older father may increase a child's risk of autism.

Dogs have been shown to improve autistic children's quality of life, independence, and safety. The presence of a trained dog can reduce aggressive behavior, calm the child, and serve as a link to the child's community.



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THE LA ROCHE COURIER

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Sports

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Redhawk basketball teams find success

BY RACHEL BACHRI
STAFF WRITER

Both the men's and women's basketball teams had winning seasons this year continuing the recent years of success.

The men's team ended this season with a record of 17-11. They made it to the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (AMCC) Tournament Semifinals, losing to Penn St.-Behrend, 55-48. Regardless of the loss in the end, the team played at their best throughout the whole season. Regarding the teams' success, junior Neal McKown said, "We have long lines of tradition set forth by Coach Lang and that is the legacy that the men on our team try to show each day and pass on to our new comers."

Senior Joel McIntosh and junior David Jackson were named AMCC All-Conference Second Team Performers for their accomplishments during this season. During his four years playing for La Roche, McIntosh was one of the best centers in the AMCC and is ranked 11th in the AMCC for points, 10th in rebounds, 9th in offensive rebounds and 9th in free throw percentage.

Jackson was an All-Conference Second Team selection last season as well. This season he ranked as one of the best defensive players in the AMCC. He led the conference in defensive and offensive rebounding and finished in the top 10 in blocked shots and defensive rebounds.

The team was also invited to play in the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Tournament. They again made it to the semifinals but then lost to Albright 82-71. Sports Information Director, James



Stranding from left: Brittini Evans, Howard Dorsey, Erika Benson, Demetria Coleman, Brianna Gibbs, LaShauna Brothers, Shantaya White, Kam Gissendanner
Seated from left: Leslie McPherson, Jessica Pitts, Amanda Garland, Casie Cygan
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Finley said, "Despite the loss, La Roche Men's Basketball enjoyed a fantastic season. They won their second AMCC Conference Regular Season Championship and reached the ECAC Tournament Semifinals for the second straight season."

The Women's Team ended their season with a record of 24-3. This is also the third consecutive year that they have won the AMCC Conference Championship. The AMCC championship game was against Penn State-Behrend in which the Redhawks were victorious, 63-58. After winning the AMCCs they advanced to the NCAA Tournament but lost against DePauw University, the number one team in the country, in the first round, 73-43.

The team also had a new head coach this year, Kamela Gissendanner. Gissendanner came to La Roche after coaching at St. Francis University. She is a Penn State University basketball alumni and went on to play for the Los Angeles Sparks in the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA). She also played a season in Norway's Kvinnenligaen League where she was the leading scorer and MVP.

Before the season, James Finley quoted Gissendanner saying, "Coach Benton has done a great job laying the foundation for the program and we have a great core group of girls who are ready to be successful in the classroom as well as on the court." Junior Casie Cygan stated, "It felt

great to be apart of the third straight championship team. Although, this one felt a little different because we won it with only eight players and a new coach." Even though it was a little different from the previous years, the team was able to continue playing strong throughout the whole season.

There are no seniors on the team this year and as a result everyone will be returning to play again next season. Cygan also explained, "I think the style we play and types of players we have is what sets us apart because we're just an overall quicker and stronger team than the rest of the teams. We have no seniors so the full team will be returning as we look to win 4 in a row."

Revamped pitching staff offers new hope

BY STEVE YOUNG

The Pirates have added some depth in pitching and are looking for a winning season in 2013, the first in 20 years.

At the beginning of last August the Pirates were sixteen games above .500 and were competing for a wild card spot, but by the end of the season they fell to a .488 win-percentage. The batting and pitching slumped and the Pirates finished in their 20th consecutive losing season.

A.J. Burnett leads off the starting rotation. He was the team leader last season with 16 wins, 180 strikeouts, and a 3.51 ERA. The rest of the starting rotation consists of Wandy Rodriguez, James McDonald, Jonathan Sanchez, and Jeff Locke.

Jonathan Sanchez is a new acqui-

sition and will be the starting left-hander in the back of the rotation. He had an ERA of 8.74 last year, but his spring training ERA is 5.50 and hopefully he will do better than Erik Bedard did last year. Sanchez is filling the spot formerly held by Erik Bedard, who finished the season with 7 wins and 14 losses.

The Pirates have three pitchers recovering from injuries that could end up in the rotation in the second half of the season. Jeff Karstens and Charlie Morton are familiar faces that could earn a spot in the rotation. Injuries kept both men sidelined last year.

The Pirates also signed the injured Francisco Liriano, who is recovering from an injury to his non-throwing arm. He is a left-hander with a career ERA of 4.40. Liriano may end up in the starting rotation, providing he

is fully recovered and depending on how well Jonathan Sanchez plays.

Joel Hanrahan is gone and veteran Jason Grilli will be the new closer. He finished last season with 32 holds and was the most consistent reliever in the bullpen.

The acquisition of reliever Mark Melancon will add some strength to the bullpen as well. He finished last year with an ERA of 5.59 and joins Jared Hughes, Tony Watson, Justin Wilson, Chris Leroux, and Jeanmear Gomez in the bullpen.

The depth in pitching could be the strength that leads the team to a winning season. Burnett had a solid year last season, however James McDonald only did well the first half of the season. The pitching roster is strong enough that it could be a solution to team injuries and slumps later on in the season.

A.J. Burnett leads off the starting rotation. He was the team leader last season with 16 wins, 180 strikeouts, and a 3.51 ERA.

Survey says...

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Inked and tatted

BY NATE MARSH
CO-EDITOR

If your parents have tattoos, chances are you do too.

In a recent survey of La Roche College students, 41 percent of the participants have tattoos, and of that, 60 percent of their parents also had tattoos. Eight percent of students whose parents have tattoos have not followed in their parents' footsteps and gone under the gun.

This survey was done on La Roche College's campus. The survey comprises 100 of the school's 1,419 students.

Parents aren't the only ones that influence people to get tattoos. Eighty-six percent of La Roche students say that they believe kids are influenced by their favorite athletes, musicians and actors.

Our friends are possibly the most influential factor in students getting tattoos. All 41 people who admitted to having tattoos said that they had at least one friend that had tattoos as well. Thirty-four of those said that they had over five friends with tattoos.

Everyone has different reasons to get tattoos. If you get something that you have to display on your skin for the rest of your life, you generally want it to be sentimental or meaningful. "There are many reasons [that people get tattoos]," junior Rachel Spontak said. "Although I do believe some people do it for the right reasons, there are a lot who do it for the wrong reasons because it's a lot more accepted now. They don't think before they go under the needle."

However, Caily Amann, a sophomore, said she thinks a tad differently. "To me," she wrote, "tattoos have a meaning - whether to a person or a point in life." Though some of the tattoos people get are, at a glance, probably regrettable or dumb or immature, Amann is saying that they still have meaning. They may not be in honor of your grandparents or fallen comrades, but they tell us who you were at the moment you got that tattoo. They tell the story of you.

Though it is hard to pinpoint a single overall reason why most people get tattoos, there is one easy way to sum it all up: self-expression.

Alexandrea Hanyc, a freshman management major, wrote that tattoos are "a form of art and a way to express yourself in a unique way."

Kaylyn Zeff, a sophomore psychology major, also indicated that "tattoos are for showing off something that you love."

Dylan Thomas, a junior majoring in national security, for example, has "JOKER" written down his ribs to represent his playful personality.

Tributes in the form of ink to past family members or friends are also an ever-popular memorial and reminder of who helped us become

who we are. "If it isn't for a tribute or spiritual reason I feel it is pointless," sophomore Jonathan Monahan indicated. Some of these are in the forms of Bible verses and crosses. Others are more creative.

"I got mine as a tribute to my Nana who passed away because I was very close to her," Carly Sorco, a junior psychology major, said. On her hip, she has "Bella Principessa"

"To me tattoos have a meaning - whether to a person or a point in life."

- Caily Amann

written meaning beautiful princess in Italian. "That is what she called me in Italian," Sorco said.

Even our furry companions memories are being attributed. Trevor Donley, a computer science major in his sophomore year, wrote: "I got the paw print of my dog because he is my best friend and I didn't want to lose a memory."

Tattoos have become such a big part of our culture today that even the 59 percent without tattoos have at least one friend with the. Thirty-two percent of those students have five or more friends with tattoos.

Of course our favorite stars continue to influence us as adults. Of the un-inked of La Roche's students, 33 said that they want tattoos in the future, while 23 said they did not want to, and four said maybe they would go under the gun. Shows like "Ink Masters" and "LA Ink" only increase the desire for tattoos further than the stereotypical biker or misfit. Now ink is becoming increasingly common in all walks of life.

Those who don't plan on getting tattoos do have one less thing to worry about, however. Many employment opportunities, against the growing trend of tattoos, prohibit tattoos from being visible in the workplace. However, 17 percent of those who have modified their fleshy canvas indicate they may have concerns that their alteration will hinder their ability to find a job.

College students say they don't agree with the appearance restrictions in the workplace, however. Thirty-four percent of students, both tattooed and not, say that the expressions of one's self on their skin should not be a deciding factor for a job. Twenty-three of the unblemished of La Roche wrote that visible tattoos should not be allowed in the workplace.

Coffee drives college life

BY GRANT WENTZEL

A recent survey showed that La Roche College students spend enough money on coffee equivalent to a down payment on a house.

This survey was conducted to see if college students, targeted at La Roche College, were relying on coffee as a dependency to get them through the work week. The results of the survey show that coffee drinking is a costly dependence.

Out of the 100 surveyed college students, there were 20 freshman, 19 sophomores, 24 juniors, 37 seniors. Thirty-eight percent were males and 62 percent were females.

Thirty-seven out of 100 La Roche college students said they drink coffee more than twice a day. "I need the energy," sophomore Julia Scott said, "Without coffee, I cannot make it through my day."

The majority of the surveyed population, 66 percent, admitted to typically drinking coffee in the morning. Twenty percent said they drink during the afternoon, four percent reported to drinking during the evening, and eight percent drink coffee at night.

The survey revealed that 66 percent of students prefer retail coffee than a home brew. This could be the reason why 60 students reported to drinking specialty coffees such as lattes, cappuccinos, and americanos. Jalyn Evans, a junior American studies major, said she drinks specialty coffees for the taste and energy.

Employers using Facebook?

BY GRANT WENTZEL

Recent studies are proving that social media is a tool for employers to gather information about applicants.

Popular social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn are now being used to screen candidates for job positions. Reppler, a social media monitoring service, conducted a 300 person study involved in the hiring process. Ninety-one percent of the employers polled use social networking sites to screen prospective employees with forty-seven percent of employers screening the profiles once receiving the candidate's applications.

With a 1.06 billion population, Facebook has been reported to be used by 76 percent of employers during the hiring process. Twitter, with 500 million users, is used by 53 percent of employers. Lastly, LinkedIn with 200 million users, was deemed to be used by 48 percent of hiring employers.

Sixty-eight percent of Reppler's

"It keeps me awake, it is delicious, and somewhat of an addiction," Derek Meeder, a mid level math education major said.

When asked about the average amount of money spent on a cup of coffee, five students said they pay less than one dollar. Sixty-two reported to spending \$2 to \$4 and 25 reported to drinking \$5 to \$6. Only eight students said that they pay more than seven dollars per cup.

The survey showed that 21 students drink one to three cups of coffee a week. Nineteen students drink four to six cups of coffee per week. Forty-four reported to drinking seven to nine cups and 16 students said they consume more than 10 cups of coffee a week.

The major responses that resulted from this survey was that 64 percent preferred retail coffee. 44 reported drinking about seven to nine cups a week and 62 percent spending two to four dollars. That averages that about 59 percent of the surveyed students who answered with the most popular answer. Each student spends about 12 dollars on coffee a week, concluding to \$708 a year. If 59 percent of the surveyed selection each spend about \$708 on coffee a year, that leads to an annual \$36,816 of money going to coffee.

That being said, 100 students only reported to the survey, and there are approximately 1419 students that attend La Roche College. If out of every 100 students, 59 people spend \$36,816 combined a year, then how much will 1419 students pay? Well, you do the math.

Student Government Association wraps up 2012-2013 school year

BY ELIZABETH SCHWARTZ

Over this past school year, the Student Government Association (SGA) coordinated many events that have proved themselves very successful.

In the fall they held a voter registration drive and on Election Day they even provided a shuttle for students to get to the local polling station.

In honor of Veterans Day, a panel discussion was held consisting of three veteran La Roche students. These veterans spoke to a group of students in the Ryan Room about what it is like to have served in the military, their individual experiences, and how it is to be back in school. This event was a great success and plans are already being made to do it again next year.

The SGA also held a "Pinkout" for breast cancer awareness in October. Everyone entered to win prizes and was invited to wear pink.

They had an open forum with Sister Candace. This gave the students an opportunity to pose questions to the President of the college.

The SGA has also approved a few new clubs, such as LFI (La Roche Fashion Innovators) and an Ultimate Frisbee Club.

The SGA has also invested in a



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new battery charger for public safety. It is available for use when a car battery dies in the parking lot which, as it turns out, happens frequently. Thanks to the SGA, we will no longer be in fear of being stranded!

During the Festival of Lights they did "Cans for Cocoa," where people donated non-perishable food items in exchange for hot chocolate. They also assisted with a Christmas party at a retirement home in Bethel Park. The participants made puzzles and

sang Christmas carols with the seniors. They were even kind enough to help them back to their rooms.

This spring, they had a great success with the Burundi Dinner to support female victims of the destruction of the country's central market this winter. They raffled off some goody baskets and were able to raise \$647 for the Burundi girls, exceeding their goal of \$500. The SGA also held an Easter Bunny Brunch, for which they purchased a new Easter

bunny costume.

The SGA will be attending a leadership conference in Philadelphia this April hosted by the American Student Government Organization and hope to learn some new skills to apply to the La Roche campus. On April 7th the SGA participated in a highway cleanup. On April 3rd, Aaron Cooksey led an event to speak on the dangers of drunk driving. "We're expecting a good turnout" said SGA president Nick Yund.

Penguins GM make major moves for Stanley Cup

BY STEVE YOUNG

As the trade deadline approached, general manager Ray Shero worked his magic yet again and acquired three veteran players.

Shero has pulled off some amazing trades before but his latest acquisitions might be just what the Penguins need to win another Stanley Cup. Jerome Iginla was acquired on March 27 from the Calgary Flames for college prospects Kenneth Agostino, Ben Hanowski, and a 2013 first round pick. Losing two prospects to gain the veteran Iginla is a small price to pay considering what he brings to the ice. He has played 1220 games and has a career record of 525 goals and 570 assists.

His leadership could help the Pens at playoff time and could be a huge asset towards the quest for the cup. Iginla has been a solid hockey player and potential future Hall of Famer. He has won two Olympic Gold Medals and had the assist on

the goal from Sidney Crosby that captured the 2010 Olympic gold medal for team Canada.

Douglas Murray was acquired on March 25 from the San Jose Sharks for a 2013 second round pick and a conditional 2014 second/third round pick. Murray is 6'3" at 245 pounds and provides the tough physical play that can make him a fan favorite in Pittsburgh. With veteran defenseman Paul Martin is out for 4 to 6 weeks with a broken hand. Murray has the ability to fill Martin's role as a shutdown defenseman.

Brenden Morrow is another veteran whose acquisition provides leadership on the already exemplary Penguins roster. He has been the long-time captain of the Dallas Stars and provides a strong presence in front of the net and the ability to score big goals. He was acquired on March 24, along with a 2013 third round draft pick for minor league defenseman Joe Morrow and a 2013 fourth round draft pick.

These trades could have huge potential for the Penguins and could be just what the penguins need to go



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deep into the playoffs. If these trades prove to be a success, this wouldn't be the first time that Shero has made some incredible moves before the trade deadline.

In 2007-08 he acquired Marian Hossa and Pascal Dupuis from the Atlanta Thrashers for Erik Christensen, Colby Armstrong, Angelo Esposito, and a first round pick. Hossa only played one year for the Pens and opted out of a contract extension to play for Detroit Red Wings. Dupuis, however, became a big part of the Penguins team and is on the top line with Sidney Crosby and Chris Kunitz.

His biggest acquisition before the trade deadline was in the 2009-10 season. Defenseman Alex Goligoski was traded to the Dallas Stars for

forward James Neal and defenseman Matt Niskanen. Goligoski is a solid offensive defenseman with 38 career goals and 116 assists, but when it comes down to the trade it has been in the Penguins favor. Niskanen has turned into a solid defenseman with a hard slap shot and Neal finished last season with 81 points by way of 40 goals and 41 assists.

Pending the outcome of the season, acquiring Iginla, Murray, and Morrow may be another genius set of trades by Ray Shero. These players might be what the Penguins need right now, especially with injuries to key players Kris Letang, Paul Martin, and Sidney Crosby. When the history books are written, Ray Shero might be considered the master of the trade deadline.

SGA president is more than meets the eye

BY IVAN KOSTOV

The always polite, blonde man we see working in the cafeteria day in and day out and leading the Student Government meetings has a more interesting story than what meets the eye. Nick Yund, the Student Government Association (SGA) President has had a lifetime of experiences already in his young age.

After graduating from North Hills High School in 2004, Nick joined the United States Army. He was stationed in Texas, where he was trained.

In his five year career in the Army, Nick was deployed to Iraq twice. The first time he was in Iraq for three months and was on active duty for one month. Nick replaced a guy over in Iraq who was stealing from the mail room. "Usually you go to Iraq to replace injured or killed soldiers," Nick said.

The superior officers over in Iraq saw Nick as a young blood. "My superiors in Iraq were good people, I was told to lay low." Nick was only eighteen at the time and the superior officers didn't want him to get injured.

Nick operated tanks, guarded a bridge and looked around the city with the other soldiers. The second time that Nick was deployed to Iraq the stakes were raised. At the actual day of deployment, Nick and the other soldiers didn't know where they were being deployed. "Some of the soldiers were very stressed," Nick said. Nick and the others were later told they were deployed to Samara, a city in Iraq. There Nick and the others patrolled a highway.

"The city of Samara was very

dangerous," Nick said. There were bridges on the highway that Nick and the soldiers patrolled, which were often blown up by the anti-coalition forces. After bridges were blown up USA engineers would rebuild them. It didn't take long for the Iraq anti-coalition forces to set up attacks on the American engineers.

"We had to escort the engineers and protect them," Nick said. "My tank got blown up twice. The one time the tank was sent back for repair because it was permanently damaged. I am happy I was inside the tank both times. Thank God I didn't get injured. It's one of those things that can end up very badly," Nick said.

The Iraq anti-coalition forces planted hidden bombs around the city. "The more time that passes away from those events in Iraq the crazier they seem," Nick said. The military experience which Nick went through impacted him. "I was there in Iraq and I survived, as a result I gained a lot of confidence that helps me deal with life," Nick said.

Nick is very grateful to be home. He is in a wonderful relationship with his wife. Nick likes La Roche College very much and is a junior in the education program. "The teachers give us plenty of homework, but we learn things, and nothing seems bad after the experience I had in the army," Nick said.

Nick is president of Student Government. As president of the student government Nick manages people. "You have to be very sensitive with people, you don't really know what is going on in their lives," Nick said. His kind approach and clear understanding of people is a key for his contribution to the student government.



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"My tank got blown up twice. The one time the tank was sent back for repair because it was permanently damaged. I am happy I was inside the tank both times."

- Nick Yund

A bitter-sweet farewell

BY SHAY BADOLATO
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Well, I'm graduating in May, peace suckers!

Before I got to this mentality of being almost done with school and therefore not putting in the effort to my schoolwork as I once did, I was on a journey that allowed me to discover my talents, my weaknesses, my confidences, my fears, my positives, and my faults, in every aspect of my life.

As a freshman at La Roche I was in Dr. Jordan's English class, where during the first week of classes she pulled me into the hall. Terrified that my college career was ending even before I could declare a major, she asked me, "What are you doing in this class? I think you have been misplaced." Of course I assumed that I could not live up to the college's standards of English and that I was going to be told to leave the premises at once. But to my surprise, a college professor noticed my ability to write and suggested that I be in a higher-level English course and to consider being an English major. So, Professional Writing it is, which means I'm stuck with Ed Stankowski.

People can complain about La Roche all they want. The classroom is too warm and too cold, the food is unappetizing, the rules for on-campus housing suck, this



© SHAY BADOLATO

school is too small, the MyLa-roche page is slow, I'm bored, my swipe card won't work, why is the Redhawk Café closed, the class I want isn't offered for another three years, I NEED MORE WRITERS FOR THE COURIER.

That last rant really only pertains to me and maybe the entire English Department.

All we do is whine, and yes I confess I have too. But what it comes down to is what YOU do with your education and your time spent here. I have the confidence

now to say that I have utilized my resources and took full advantage of what La Roche had to offer me. When Ed asked if I wanted to be Fashion Editor, I said yes. When Ed asked if I will be Editor-in-Chief of The Courier, I said yes. When my friend Marvin asked me model in the GLOBE Fashion Show I said yes. When the next year he asked me to be Treasure of GLOBE, I said yes. When he asked me the following year to take his place and be Co-President of GLOBE, I said yes. When Dr. Maher asked me to

be Co-President of the English International Honors Society, I said yes. When Dr. Maher asked me to be a Nuance editor, I said yes. When Janine Bayer said to apply for this internship, I said ok.

You see, saying yes isn't always a bad thing; it allowed me to build a resume, a portfolio, and to network. My education was and is the most important thing to me and I can only hope that my fellow La Roche classmates share the same outlook.

So, I leave you all with this: bye.

Help Wanted

BY SHAY BADOLATO
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Do you enjoy reading, writing, learning, and helping others?

Ok, this isn't an advertisement flyer. But if you do enjoy those things, consider working in La Roche's Writers' Center. I have had the privilege to work alongside Dr. Christine Abbott, the Director of the Writers' Center, for the past two years. The experience has broadened my knowledge and skills, not only as a writer and

reader, but also as a student taking part in the learning process. Being a part of the Writers' Center is like being a part of a family; we work together, learn together, and grow together. The Writers' Center is not a work-study job, it's a paid on-campus job, that allows you to become a certified tutor. English major, or not, you are welcome to apply for the Writing Consultant position.

Please contact Dr. Christine Abbott at 412.536.1227, or stop by her office at AB 208.

Interested in writing, layout, or photography?

The La Roche Courier needs writers for news articles, feature stories, sports coverage, and entertainment. Photographers, illustrators, and page designers are always wanted.

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